



SABC DETAILED ANALYSIS

20241016_GNU / ANC and DA at loggerheads.en

Broadcast: SABC-Sendung | Analyzed: 2026-05-25 10:26

Version 3.0-detail | Universal 3.0-detail | Konverter 3.4 (2026-05-20) | Standard: Broadcasting Act s. 6

OVERALL SCORE

4.4/10

Significant imbalance

0 = balanced, 10 = strongly biased/manipulative

POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Classification based on Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES) 2024

The Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES 2024) is an academic survey of 609 political scientists in 31 countries. Each party is rated on a scale from 0 (far left) to 10 (far right).

Party	EFF	MK	ANC	IFP	DA	ActionSA	PA	FF+
CHES	1.50	3.50	4.50	6.00	6.50	6.50	7.00	8.00
Spectrum	<i>Left</i>	<i>Left</i>	<i>Center</i>	<i>Right</i>	<i>Right</i>	<i>Right</i>	<i>Right</i>	<i>Right</i>

The overall tendency is presented on a 0–10 scale (0 = strongly left-favoring, 5 = balanced, 10 = strongly right-favoring). The calculation is based on the difference in average favoritism of left vs. right parties (grouping per CHES 2024).

TENDENCY (L – R)

4.2 / 10

Balanced

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — chesdata.eu | [Jolly et al., Electoral Studies, 2022](#) | Thresholds: [Pew Research Center](#)

This section provides political context and does not contribute to the overall score.



POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

South Africa has been governed by a Government of National Unity (GNU) since the 2024 general elections (29 May 2024), following the ANC's loss of its 30-year parliamentary majority. The GNU is a broad coalition led by the ANC.

Coalition: ANC (159) + DA (87) + IFP (17) + PA (9) + FF+ (6) + 5 smaller parties = 287/400 seats

Main Opposition: MK (58, Zuma) + EFF (39, Malema) + ActionSA (6) + ACDP (3) = 106 seats

Party	CHES L-R	Seats	Government/Opposition	Core Position
EFF	1.5	39	Opposition	Far-left: land expropriation, nationalisation
MK	3.0	58	Opposition	Left-populist, Zuma personality cult
ANC	4.0	159	Government (GNU)	Centre-left, broad church
UDM	4.5	3	Government (GNU)	Centre-left, rural base
Rise Mzansi	4.5	2	Government (GNU)	Centre-left progressive
GOOD	4.5	1	Government (GNU)	Centre-left progressive
Al Jama-ah	4.0	2	Government (GNU)	Left economics, conservative social
DA	6.0	87	Government (GNU)	Centre-right, free market, liberal
ActionSA	6.5	6	Opposition	Centre-right, anti-immigration
IFP	6.5	17	Government (GNU)	Right-wing, Zulu nationalist
PA	7.0	9	Government (GNU)	Right-wing populist
ACDP	7.5	3	Opposition	Right-wing Christian conservative
FF+	8.0	6	Government (GNU)	Right-wing, Afrikaner interest

The historic ANC–DA coalition creates constant ideological friction, most visibly over the NHI Act and the BELA Act, where the two parties hold diametrically opposed positions. The MK and EFF opposition represents a radical populist challenge from the left, threatening the ANC's traditional base. The legacy of state capture under Zuma and the ongoing accountability debate remain politically explosive, particularly given SABC's own history of editorial capture during the Motsoeneng era.

The SABC is South Africa's public broadcaster, mandated under the Broadcasting Act 4 of 1999 (Section 6) to provide significant news and public affairs programming meeting the highest standards of journalism, including fairness, accuracy, and impartiality. The BCCSA Code (Clause 16 and 18) requires news to be reported truthfully, accurately, and in a balanced manner, with opposing views presented on controversial issues of public importance. SABC's credibility remains contested given its documented history of political interference during the Motsoeneng era (2012–2016), raising ongoing questions about whether subtler forms of ANC-aligned editorial influence persist.



CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

Representation Accuracy by Party

Party	Score (-5..+5)	Broadcast Representation vs. Party Programme Position
ANC	+2	00:40 "we signed the Bella act... we also signed the nhi act... we are going to implement the National Health System" — Programme position: ANC supports NHI, BELA Act, expanded state role in health and education — Correctly represented but framed as achievement without critical context on implementation challenges or fiscal risk
DA	+2	01:41 "da leader Jon Sten haen said his party will not agree to more bailouts for the state-owned Enterprises... the implementation of the nhi in its current form" — Programme position: DA opposes SOE bailouts, NHI, BELA clauses 4&5 — Correctly represented; DA's five priorities summarised accurately
MK	0	Not mentioned in broadcast — Programme position: left-populist, anti-GNU, Zuma-aligned — Absent
EFF	0	Not mentioned in broadcast — Programme position: far-left, land expropriation, nationalisation — Absent
IFP	0	Not mentioned in broadcast — Programme position: right-wing, Zulu nationalist — Absent
PA	0	Not mentioned in broadcast — Programme position: right-wing populist, anti-immigration — Absent
FF+	0	Not mentioned in broadcast — Programme position: Afrikaner interest, property rights — Absent
ActionSA	0	Not mentioned in broadcast — Programme position: centre-right, anti-immigration — Absent

Score Legend:

+5 = Party programme positions correctly and fully represented

0 = Party/topic not present in broadcast

-5 = Party programme positions actively distorted or misrepresented

Party Bias Summary

- Most Accurate Representation: DA (Score +2) — DA's stated red lines on NHI, SOE bailouts, and BELA Act clauses 4 and 5 are quoted directly and accurately from party leader Steenhuisen's own words.
- Strongest Distortion: ANC (Score +2, but with framing caveat) — ANC positions are represented correctly in terms of policy content, but the broadcast frames ANC legislative achievements (NHI, BELA) as positive milestones without presenting the substantive counter-arguments beyond a brief DA rebuttal.
- Average Deviation from 0: 0.5 (across all 8 parties; only 2 parties scored non-zero)
- Conclusion: The broadcast covers only two of eight relevant parties (ANC and DA), leaving six parties — including the two largest opposition parties (MK and EFF) — entirely absent. While the ANC and DA positions are represented with reasonable accuracy, the structural exclusion of opposition voices outside the GNU creates a significant representational gap. The analyst (described as a "political and ideological analyst") provides a broadly pro-GNU framing that further narrows the political range presented.



CHAPTER 2 — BROADCAST INFORMATION AND THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

Broadcast Data

- Title: SABC News Report — 100 Days of the Government of National Unity
- Date: Not explicitly stated in transcript; contextually consistent with September 2024 (approximately 100 days after 29 May 2024 election)
- Estimated Length: Approximately 4 minutes 15 seconds (based on transcript timestamps 00:00–04:15)
- Presenter/Reporter: Not named in transcript; identified as "SABC News Johannesburg" (04:12)
- Persons Interviewed/Featured:

Actors	Function	Party/Affiliation	Political Spectrum
President Cyril Ramaphosa	President of South Africa	ANC	Centre-left (4.0)
John Steenhuisen	DA Party Leader	DA	Centre-right (6.0)
Unnamed analyst	"Political and ideological analyst"	Unspecified	Unspecified

Main Topic

An assessment of the first 100 days of South Africa's Government of National Unity, focusing on ANC and DA positions on key legislative and policy disputes within the coalition.

World-Knowledge Context

The 100-day mark of any new government is a conventional journalistic benchmark for accountability reporting. South Africa's GNU is historically unprecedented — the first time since 1994 that the ANC has governed in formal coalition with its traditional rival, the DA. The GNU was formed after the ANC received only 39.8% of the vote in the May 2024 elections, its worst result since the end of apartheid. Key fault lines within the GNU include the NHI Act (signed by Ramaphosa but opposed by the DA as fiscally ruinous), the BELA Act (opposed by the DA on mother-tongue education grounds), and SOE bailouts. Outside the GNU, the MK party and EFF represent a significant bloc of voters (approximately 24%) who reject the GNU entirely, while COSATU and the SACP — the ANC's tripartite alliance partners — have expressed serious reservations about the coalition with the DA.



CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS

Hard Facts — 9 techniques that are countable and scientifically verifiable

1. EXPERT SELECTION

6/10

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Expert 1: Unnamed "Political and Ideological Analyst"

Timestamp	03:02
Statement	**as part def politically and ideologically analy say this is part of the Dynamics of a coalition government like the government of national Unity um and there will be lots of interaction sometimes difficult differences of opinion but for example they've agreed on a mechanism to resolve disputes in it very recently**
Classification	The analyst is not named, not affiliated, and not identified by institutional home. The characterisation "political and ideological analyst" is a generic descriptor that provides no basis for assessing expertise, independence, or potential conflicts of interest.

Missing Counter-Voice: An analyst critical of the GNU — for example, from a left-aligned think tank, or an academic specialising in coalition failure — would have provided a contrasting expert perspective.

Source Depth Check:

(a) Funding: Unknown — the analyst is unnamed and unaffiliated. No institutional home is provided. This makes funding verification impossible.

(b) Mandate: Unknown — without institutional identification, it is impossible to assess whether the analyst's mandate is compatible with neutral assessment.

D1 Conflict of Interest: -1 — Unknown affiliation creates unverifiable conflict of interest risk; cannot be cleared.

D2 Personal Risk: 0 — Anonymity means no personal risk is visible, but also no accountability.

D3 Subject Competence: 0 — "Political and ideological analyst" is a self-description; no credentials, publications, or institutional affiliation are provided to verify competence.

D4 Opinion Consistency: 0 — No prior statements available for comparison.

D5 Emotionalisation vs. Data: +1 — Commentary is measured and analytical in tone, not emotionally charged.

D6 Source Level: -1 — Secondary source at best; no primary data cited.

TOTAL: -1 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

(c) PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE: The analyst's commentary is framed as neutral expert analysis ("politically and ideologically") but functions structurally to normalise the GNU and minimise the significance of internal coalition tensions. This is consistent with Technique No. 2 (Source Selection) — a source presented as neutral that structurally favours one political outcome.

IMPORTANT: "Recognised" or "analyst" is not a substantive qualification. It is a social attribution that must itself be scrutinised.

Missing Expert Groups:

- Independent fiscal economist to assess NHI and SOE bailout claims
- Constitutional law expert on BELA Act and NHI legal challenges



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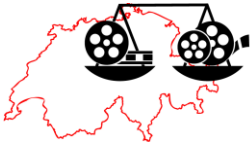
- Academic political scientist with documented coalition governance expertise

Source Credibility Overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
Unnamed "Political and Ideological Analyst"	-1	0	0	0	+1	-1	-1	YELLOW

Summary (Matrix Result):

- Unnamed analyst: **YELLOW** (-1/12) — Unverifiable credentials, unknown funding, structurally pro-GNU framing presented as neutral expertise.



2. SOURCE SELECTION

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Claims without primary source = penalty points (rumour check)

Source 1: President Cyril Ramaphosa (ANC)

Timestamp

00:40 — Statement: *"in the last 100 days we signed the Bella act the basic education law Amendment I for we also signed the nhi act nhi that is going to ensure that there is equal access to health has been signed into law and is our implement nhi we are just making sure that those who May well have had issues come forward but we want to be make it clear that we are going to implement the National Health System"*

(a) Funding and Governance: ANC party leader and sitting President — a primary political actor, not an independent source.

(b) Structural Conflict of Interest: Ramaphosa has a direct political interest in presenting the GNU's first 100 days as successful. His statements are political advocacy, not independent assessment.

(c) Missing Counter-Source: An independent health economist or the DA's health spokesperson would have provided evidence-based challenge to the NHI framing.

Source 2: John Steenhuisen (DA)

Timestamp

01:41 — Statement: *"South Africa has spent over 350 billion Rand in bailouts for S soes over the past 10 years and this is one of the reasons why we are in such a very difficult uh fiscal crisis money that should be available and readily available for teachers and nurses is now gone"*

(a) Funding and Governance: DA party leader — a primary political actor, not an independent source.

(b) Structural Conflict of Interest: Steenhuisen has a direct political interest in presenting ANC-era SOE policy as fiscally catastrophic. The R350 billion figure is presented without independent verification.

(c) Missing Counter-Source: National Treasury data or an independent economist should have been cited to verify or contextualise the R350 billion claim.

Rumour Check (Penalty Points): No explicit rumour markers ("allegedly," "sources say," "reportedly") are detected in the transcript. No penalty points applied.

Summary: Both primary sources are partisan political actors with direct interests in the narrative they present. The unnamed analyst is the only nominally independent voice, but their credentials and affiliation are undisclosed. No independent academic, civil society, or expert source is cited. Source diversity is critically insufficient for a 100-day accountability report.



3. AIRTIME DISTRIBUTION

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Estimated Speaking Time:

- President Ramaphosa (ANC): approximately 1 min 10 sec (approx. 27%)
- John Steenhuisen (DA): approximately 1 min 20 sec (approx. 31%)
- Unnamed Analyst: approximately 1 min 15 sec (approx. 29%)
- Presenter/Narrator: approximately 30 sec (approx. 13%)

Summary: Airtime between the two GNU coalition partners (ANC and DA) is broadly balanced. However, the distribution is structurally skewed in that 100% of substantive speaking time is allocated to GNU-aligned voices. The 24% of South African voters who supported MK and EFF — the two largest opposition parties — receive zero airtime. COSATU and SACP, mentioned by the analyst, receive no direct speaking time despite being named as dissatisfied GNU-adjacent actors.



4. SELECTIVE OMISSION

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Omission 1:

Context

The MK party (58 seats, 14.6% of the vote) and EFF (39 seats, 9.5%) are entirely absent from a broadcast assessing the GNU's first 100 days.

Relevant at: Throughout — particularly 00:00–00:40 (framing of the GNU as broadly celebrated)

Effect

The broadcast implies that the GNU's 100-day assessment is a matter primarily between ANC and DA, erasing the perspective of nearly a quarter of the electorate who voted for parties that fundamentally reject the GNU.

Omission 2:

Context

The NHI Act is presented by Ramaphosa as a milestone and by Steenhuisen as fiscally ruinous, but no independent fiscal or health system expert is consulted. The NHI is currently subject to legal challenge.

Relevant at: 00:50–01:10 (Ramaphosa on NHI) and 02:55–03:00 (Steenhuisen: "which will bankrupt South Africa")

Effect

Viewers receive two partisan positions on a highly contested policy without any independent evidence base, making informed assessment impossible.

Omission 3:

Context

COSATU and SACP are mentioned as "not happy with the gnu" (04:08) but are given no direct voice. Their specific objections — that the GNU represents an ideological capitulation to DA neoliberalism — are not articulated.

Relevant at: 04:08

Effect

The tripartite alliance's dissatisfaction is acknowledged but immediately minimised by being filtered through the analyst's normalising commentary rather than presented directly.

Summary: The broadcast systematically omits all voices critical of the GNU from outside the coalition, reducing a complex multi-party political moment to a bilateral ANC–DA dialogue. This selective omission structurally favours the GNU narrative and marginalises significant democratic opposition.

Missing Voices

- MK Party spokesperson: Would have contributed the perspective that the GNU represents an ANC betrayal of liberation movement values and the interests of the majority of Black South Africans.
- EFF representative: Would have contributed a critique of the GNU as a capitulation to white monopoly capital and DA neoliberal economic policy.
- COSATU General Secretary: Would have provided direct voice to the tripartite alliance's documented discomfort with the DA coalition, rather than the passing reference provided by the unnamed analyst.
- Independent fiscal economist (e.g., from SAIRR or Wits School of Economics): Would have provided evidence-based assessment of the R350 billion SOE bailout figure and the NHI's fiscal projections.



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- Constitutional law expert: Would have addressed the legal challenges to the NHI Act and the BELA Act currently before the courts.
- Civil society representative (e.g., Section27, Equal Education): Would have provided a public interest perspective on whether the GNU's first 100 days have produced tangible improvements in health and education delivery.
- Ordinary citizen/community voice: Would have grounded the political debate in lived experience, providing accountability journalism beyond elite political statements.
- ActionSA or FF+ representative: Would have provided the perspective of GNU-external right-of-centre parties on whether the coalition is serving South African interests.



5. NUMERICAL MANIPULATION

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Complete figures include: absolute value, proportion (%) and trend

Finding 1:

Timestamp 02:21

Number: "South Africa has spent over 350 billion Rand in bailouts for S soes over the past 10 years"

Dimensions:

- (a) Absolute value — R350 billion over 10 years: SHOWN
- (b) Proportion — as percentage of GDP, per capita, or relative to total government expenditure: NOT SHOWN
- (c) Trend — whether bailout amounts are increasing, decreasing, or stabilising: NOT SHOWN

Missing Context: R350 billion over 10 years represents approximately 5–6% of annual GDP per year in aggregate, but without proportional context, the figure functions primarily as an emotional anchor. The trend dimension is particularly important: if bailouts have decreased under recent administrations, the figure is misleading as a current-state indicator.

Effect

The absolute figure creates a strong negative impression of ANC SOE policy without enabling viewers to assess whether the situation is improving, stable, or worsening — which is the policy-relevant question in a 100-day review.

Summary: One significant instance of incomplete statistical presentation is identified. The R350 billion SOE bailout figure is presented as a standalone absolute without proportional or trend context, functioning as rhetorical amplification rather than analytical evidence. The broadcast does not independently verify or contextualise this figure.



6. GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

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Association 1:

Timestamp

04:08

Quote

the tripartite alliance Partners KATU and sap who are not happy with the gnu

Technique: COSATU and SACP are mentioned in a context that implicitly frames their dissatisfaction as a problem the ANC must manage, rather than as a legitimate political critique deserving direct engagement.

Effect

The framing subtly positions COSATU/SACP dissatisfaction as an internal ANC management challenge rather than a substantive democratic objection to the GNU's ideological direction.

No persons are labelled as "conspiracy theorists" or subjected to guilt-by-association discrediting in this broadcast. The technique is present only in mild form through the framing of COSATU/SACP dissatisfaction.

Summary: Guilt by association is not a dominant technique in this broadcast. One mild instance is identified in the framing of COSATU/SACP dissatisfaction as a management problem rather than a legitimate political position.



7. TIMING

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Finding 1:

Position: 00:00–00:40 (Opening)

Content: "our country has entered a new era... South Africans are interested in the durability of the paack with President sarapa having been branded as the second Miracle since 1994 several political parties have been celebrating the 100 days of the government of national Unity most of them noting its achievements"

Timing Effect: The broadcast opens with explicitly positive framing — "new era," "second Miracle since 1994," "celebrating," "noting its achievements." This establishes a celebratory baseline before any critical content is introduced. Viewers who disengage early receive only the positive framing. The critical DA counterpoint does not appear until 01:41, nearly halfway through the broadcast.

Finding 2:

Position: 04:00–04:15 (Closing)

Content: "the aenc on the other hand will have to face the reality that if it fails it would have to account the tripartite alliance Partners KATU and sap who are not happy with the gnu"

Timing Effect: The only substantive critical note — ANC accountability risk and alliance partner dissatisfaction — is placed at the very end of the broadcast, after the normalising analyst commentary. This placement minimises its impact and ensures the dominant impression is one of managed coalition dynamics rather than fundamental political tension.

Summary: The broadcast's opening and closing are strategically positioned to frame the GNU positively. Critical content is sandwiched in the middle and at the very end, reducing its salience. The "second Miracle since 1994" framing in the opening is particularly significant as an agenda-setting device.



8. SELECTIVE OUTRAGE

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Outrage = bias. Selective outrage amplifies the finding. Score = outrage level (0–5) + selectivity (0–5)

Methodological Principle (v2.2): Before each assessment, the triggering event must be documented. A reaction can only be assessed as selective if comparable triggers from other positions produced no analogous reaction.

Finding 1:

Timestamp

No explicit outrage is expressed by the presenter or analyst in this broadcast.

Triggering Event: N/A

Reaction: The broadcast maintains a consistently measured, descriptive tone throughout. Neither the presenter nor the analyst expresses visible outrage, indignation, or emotional reaction to any statement by either Ramaphosa or Steenhuisen.

Comparison

No asymmetric emotional response is detectable between treatment of ANC and DA positions.

Asymmetry: Not demonstrable.

Outrage Degree: 0/5

Selectivity: 1/5 (mild implicit selectivity in the positive opening framing, but not outrage in the technical sense)

Summary: Selective outrage is not a significant technique in this broadcast. The tone is consistently measured. The mild selectivity identified in the opening framing is better categorised under Framing (Criterion 10) than Selective Outrage.



9. SELECTIVE OMISSION — OVERALL PICTURE							7/10		
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Finding 1:

Timestamp 00:00–00:40

Missing Perspective/Fact: The broadcast states "several political parties have been celebrating the 100 days... most of them noting its achievements" without identifying which parties are celebrating or what specific achievements are being noted beyond ANC legislative milestones.
 Relevance: A 100-day review of a multi-party coalition government requires identification of which parties are satisfied and which are not, with direct quotation.

Impact The vague reference to "several political parties" celebrating creates a false impression of broad political consensus around the GNU's first 100 days.

Finding 2:

Timestamp Throughout

Missing Perspective/Fact: No citizen or civil society voice is included. No polling data on public satisfaction with the GNU's first 100 days is cited.
 Relevance: Public accountability journalism requires grounding elite political statements in evidence of real-world impact.

Impact The broadcast functions as a platform for political party statements rather than as accountability journalism assessing the GNU's actual performance.

Finding 3:

Timestamp 02:55–03:00

Missing Perspective/Fact: Steenhuisen's claim that NHI "will bankrupt South Africa" is presented without independent fiscal verification or challenge.
 Relevance: This is a significant empirical claim about a major piece of legislation that requires independent expert assessment.

Impact Viewers cannot distinguish between political rhetoric and evidence-based fiscal analysis.

Summary: The broadcast's completeness failures are structural rather than incidental. The systematic exclusion of opposition voices, independent experts, and citizen perspectives reduces a complex 100-day accountability exercise to a bilateral political statement exchange between the GNU's two dominant partners.

Share of covered perspectives

Inverted: original value measures coverage (higher = better). Shown as deviation (higher = larger gaps).

- [A] ANC government perspective on GNU achievements (legislative milestones, NHI, BELA)
- [B] DA perspective on GNU red lines and policy objections (NHI, SOE bailouts, BELA clauses 4: 5)
- [C] MK party perspective: rejection of the GNU as a betrayal of liberation movement values
- [D] EFF perspective: critique of the GNU as a capitulation to white monopoly capital
- [E] COSATU/SACP perspective: tripartite alliance partners' discomfort with the DA coalition

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[F] Civil society/public interest perspective: what have ordinary South Africans experienced in 100 days?

[G] Economic/fiscal expert perspective: independent assessment of NHI fiscal viability and SOE bailout costs

[H] Constitutional/legal expert perspective: legality and implementation challenges of NHI and BELA Act

[I] Opposition parties outside GNU (ActionSA, ACDP, FF+): their assessment of the GNU's first 100 days

[J] International/comparative perspective: how do other coalition governments manage similar tensions?

Assessment: Was Each Perspective Covered?

[A] COVERED

Timestamp: 00:40 — Quote: "in the last 100 days we signed the Bella act... we also signed the nhi act... we are going to implement the National Health System" — Assessment: ANC perspective presented directly through Ramaphosa's own words; framed as achievement.

[B] COVERED

Timestamp: 01:41 — Quote: "da leader Jon Sten haen said his party will not agree to more bailouts for the state-owned Enterprises the implementation of the nhi in its current form and the changing of the structure of the Reserve Bank" — Assessment: DA red lines presented accurately and with some detail.

[C] OMITTED

Timestamp: N/A — Quote: N/A — Assessment: MK party's fundamental rejection of the GNU is entirely absent despite MK holding 58 seats (14.6%) and representing a major political force.

[D] OMITTED

Timestamp: N/A — Quote: N/A — Assessment: EFF's critique of the GNU as ideologically compromised is entirely absent despite EFF holding 39 seats (9.5%).

[E] ANECDOTALLY MENTIONED

Timestamp: 04:08 — Quote: "the tripartite alliance Partners KATU and sap who are not happy with the gnu" — Assessment: COSATU and SACP dissatisfaction is mentioned in passing by the analyst but not developed or given direct voice; no COSATU or SACP representative is interviewed.

[F] OMITTED

Timestamp: N/A — Quote: N/A — Assessment: No citizen voices, no polling data, no community-level impact assessment of the GNU's first 100 days.

[G] OMITTED

Timestamp: N/A — Quote: N/A — Assessment: No independent economist or fiscal expert is consulted on the NHI's financial viability or the R350 billion SOE bailout figure cited by Steenhuisen.

[H] OMITTED

Timestamp: N/A — Quote: N/A — Assessment: No constitutional or legal expert addresses the implementation challenges or legal disputes surrounding the NHI or BELA Act.

[I] OMITTED

Timestamp: N/A — Quote: N/A — Assessment: No GNU-external opposition party beyond MK and EFF (e.g., ActionSA, ACDP, FF+) is represented.

[J] OMITTED

Timestamp: N/A — Quote: N/A — Assessment: No comparative or international perspective on coalition governance dynamics is offered.

Completeness Score: 2/10



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Reasoning: Of ten relevant perspectives identified, only two are substantively covered (ANC and DA positions), one is mentioned in passing without direct voice (COSATU/SACP), and seven are entirely absent. The broadcast presents the GNU exclusively through the lens of its two dominant partners, creating a structurally incomplete picture of a politically complex moment. The absence of opposition voices, independent expert analysis, and citizen perspectives is a significant editorial failure for a 100-day accountability report.



Soft Facts — 6 qualitative techniques

10. FRAMING

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Finding 1:

Timestamp

00:00–00:19

Quote

"our country has entered a new era and it is an important era yes it's an era full of challenges counted as the much needed change for a prosperous country"

Manipulation

The GNU is framed from the outset as a "new era" representing "much needed change for a prosperous country." This is an evaluative, optimistic framing that presupposes the GNU is a positive development rather than presenting it as a contested political arrangement.

Why Problematic: Viewers who reject the GNU (MK, EFF supporters, COSATU members) would not recognise this framing as neutral. The phrase "much needed change" is a political value judgement, not a journalistic description.

Finding 2:

Timestamp

00:19–00:26

Quote

"President sarapa having been branded as the second Miracle since 1994"

Manipulation

The comparison to the 1994 democratic transition — South Africa's most symbolically charged political moment — elevates the GNU to near-mythological status. The passive construction "having been branded" provides the broadcaster with deniability while still deploying the comparison.

Why Problematic: The "second Miracle" framing is a political characterisation, not a journalistic description. It is presented without attribution to a specific source, making it impossible to assess who is making this claim and on what basis.

Finding 3:

Timestamp

03:02–03:50

Quote

"this is part of the Dynamics of a coalition government like the government of national Unity um and there will be lots of interaction sometimes difficult differences of opinion but for example they've agreed on a mechanism to resolve disputes in it very recently and will deal with some issues where they cannot find each other so it's as a result of that they are at a very early stage and developing a culture a political culture a government culture um that over time will have to assist him to deal with differences of opinion"

Manipulation

The analyst frames all GNU tensions as normal, expected, and manageable features of coalition governance. This normalising frame pre-empts any structural critique of the GNU's ideological contradictions.

Why Problematic: The framing treats the ANC–DA coalition as analogous to any coalition government, ignoring the specific South African context in which these parties have been ideological opponents for 30 years and in which the coalition excludes the second and third largest opposition parties.



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Summary: The broadcast's dominant frame is one of cautious optimism about the GNU, established in the opening seconds and reinforced by the analyst's normalising commentary. This frame structurally favours the GNU narrative and marginalises perspectives that challenge the coalition's legitimacy or viability.



11. WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY									5/10
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Finding 1:	
Timestamp	00:04–00:14
Quote	<i>**it is an important era yes it's an era full of challenges counted as the much needed change for a prosperous country**</i>
Manipulation	"Much needed change" is a politically loaded phrase that implies the GNU represents an improvement over the previous political dispensation. It is presented as a factual description rather than a political evaluation.

Why Problematic: Neutral alternative would be: "a significant political development that has been welcomed by some and criticised by others."

Finding 2:	
Timestamp	00:19–00:21
Quote	<i>**President sarapa having been branded as the second Miracle since 1994**</i>
Manipulation	"Second Miracle" is a superlative political characterisation. "Branded" provides grammatical distance but does not neutralise the evaluative content. The phrase is presented without quotation marks or explicit attribution.

Why Problematic: Neutral alternative would be: "which some supporters have described as a significant political achievement" — with explicit attribution to the source of the characterisation.

Finding 3:	
Timestamp	02:44–02:52
Quote	<i>**the implementation of clause 4 and5 of Bella which needless opens the door to depriving children of mother tongue education in single medium schools**</i>
Manipulation	"Needless opens the door to depriving children" is Steenhuisen's political characterisation of the BELA Act, presented in the broadcast's narration without being clearly attributed as DA party rhetoric rather than factual description. The word "needless" is particularly loaded.

Why Problematic: The broadcast's narration appears to adopt Steenhuisen's framing of the BELA Act as fact. Neutral alternative would be: "which the DA argues would undermine mother-tongue education in single-medium schools" — clearly attributing the characterisation to the DA.

Summary: The broadcast's word choices in the opening framing and in the narration of DA policy positions reflect a degree of editorial adoption of political language as factual description. The "second Miracle" characterisation and the "needless opens the door to depriving children" phrasing are the most significant instances.



12. MODERATION BEHAVIOUR

3/10

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Methodological Principle (v2.2): Before each assessment, the triggering event must be documented. An intervention can only be assessed as asymmetric if comparable triggers from other guests produced no analogous intervention.

Finding 1:

Timestamp Throughout

Triggering Event: Both Ramaphosa and Steenhuisen make significant empirical claims — Ramaphosa on NHI implementation, Steenhuisen on the R350 billion SOE bailout figure and the claim that NHI "will bankrupt South Africa."

Presenter Reaction: No follow-up questions, no challenges, no requests for evidence are directed at either speaker.

Comparison Both speakers are treated identically — neither is challenged.

Asymmetry: Not demonstrable between ANC and DA treatment. However, the absence of any challenge to either speaker's empirical claims represents a moderation failure that applies symmetrically.

Finding 2:

Timestamp 03:02–04:15

Triggering Event: The unnamed analyst makes a series of normative claims about coalition governance dynamics without citing evidence or comparative examples.

Presenter Reaction: No challenge, no follow-up, no request for evidence.

Comparison Consistent with treatment of Ramaphosa and Steenhuisen — no speaker is challenged.

Asymmetry: Not demonstrable.

Summary: Moderation behaviour is consistently passive across all speakers — no follow-up questions or challenges are directed at any participant. This represents a general moderation failure rather than a directional asymmetry. The absence of challenge to Steenhuisen's "will bankrupt South Africa" claim and to Ramaphosa's NHI implementation assurances is equally problematic for both.



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13. QUESTION ASYMMETRY

2/10

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Asymmetry 1:

This broadcast does not appear to involve a live interview format with direct questions from a presenter. Both Ramaphosa and Steenhuisen appear to be speaking from pre-recorded statements or press conferences, and the unnamed analyst provides commentary. No direct questions from a presenter to guests are identifiable in the transcript.

Summary: Question asymmetry cannot be meaningfully assessed in this broadcast format, as no direct presenter-to-guest questioning is evident. The absence of any questioning of any participant is itself a journalistic concern but does not constitute directional asymmetry.



14. FALSE BALANCE									4/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Finding 1:

Timestamp 01:41–03:00

Construct: The broadcast presents the GNU's first 100 days as a bilateral ANC–DA dialogue, giving roughly equal airtime to both parties' positions. This creates a surface appearance of balance.

Analysis

The false balance operates at two levels. First, the ANC–DA bilateral framing excludes the 24% of voters who supported MK and EFF — parties that fundamentally reject the GNU. Second, the broadcast presents Steenhuisen's claim that NHI "will bankrupt South Africa" as equivalent in evidential weight to Ramaphosa's claim that NHI will ensure equal access to health. Both are political assertions; neither is independently verified. The appearance of balance between two partisan positions does not constitute journalistic balance.

Summary: The broadcast achieves surface balance between ANC and DA positions while creating a structurally false impression that the GNU's 100-day assessment is a matter of bilateral agreement and disagreement between two parties, rather than a contested political arrangement involving multiple parties, civil society, and the broader public.



15. AGENDA-SETTING

6/10

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Finding 1:

Agenda Element Set: The GNU is presented as a legitimate, broadly welcomed, and durable political arrangement whose internal tensions are normal features of coalition governance.

Timestamp

00:00–00:26 — Evidence: *"our country has entered a new era... counted as the much needed change for a prosperous country... having been branded as the second Miracle since 1994... several political parties have been celebrating the 100 days"*

Alternative Agenda: A broadcast that set a different agenda might have asked: Is the GNU constitutionally and politically sustainable? What do the 24% of voters who supported MK and EFF think of the GNU's first 100 days? Has the GNU produced measurable improvements in service delivery, crime reduction, or economic growth?

Finding 2:

Agenda Element Set: The NHI and BELA Act are framed as the central policy disputes of the GNU's first 100 days, with the ANC defending them and the DA opposing them.

Timestamp

00:50–03:00 — Evidence: Ramaphosa on NHI and BELA; Steenhuisen's five red lines.

Alternative Agenda: Other significant 100-day issues — crime statistics, load shedding progress, unemployment figures, land reform developments — are entirely absent from the agenda.

Summary: The broadcast's agenda-setting function is significant. By framing the GNU as a "second Miracle" and limiting the 100-day assessment to ANC–DA policy disputes on NHI and BELA, the broadcast normalises the GNU and narrows the accountability frame to two policy areas, excluding the broader governance performance assessment that 100-day journalism conventionally requires.



CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL EVALUATION

Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (Average Criteria 1–9): 4.4 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (Average Criteria 10–15): 4.3 / 10

Dominant Techniques

The 3 strongest techniques in this broadcast:

- 1. Selective Omission / Completeness (Score 7):** The broadcast systematically excludes all voices critical of the GNU from outside the coalition — MK (58 seats), EFF (39 seats), COSATU, SACP, and independent experts are entirely absent or given no direct voice. This structural exclusion creates a false impression of broad political consensus around the GNU's first 100 days and prevents viewers from accessing the full range of democratic opinion on a historically significant political arrangement.
- 2. Framing (Score 6):** The broadcast establishes a celebratory frame in its opening seconds — "new era," "much needed change," "second Miracle since 1994" — that pre-structures viewer interpretation of all subsequent content. This frame is never challenged or contextualised, and the analyst's normalising commentary reinforces rather than interrogates it.
- 3. Agenda-Setting (Score 6):** By limiting the 100-day assessment to ANC–DA disputes on NHI and BELA, the broadcast sets an agenda that excludes broader governance performance indicators (crime, unemployment, service delivery, energy) and treats the GNU's legitimacy as self-evident rather than contested. The "second Miracle" characterisation in the opening is the most significant single agenda-setting act in the broadcast.

Core Messages of the Broadcast

****MESSAGE 1 (SUBSTANTIVE):** "The GNU's first 100 days represent a historic achievement, with the ANC delivering on key legislative promises and the DA managing its red lines within a functioning coalition."*

Technique: Framing and Agenda-Setting — Belege: 00:00–00:26, 03:02–04:15

****MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL):** "President Ramaphosa is delivering on his promises and leading a government that is implementing transformative legislation."*

Technique: Selective Omission and Timing — Belege: 00:40–01:40, 00:19–00:21

****MESSAGE 3 (SOCIETAL):** "Coalition tensions are normal, manageable, and a sign of democratic maturity rather than fundamental political contradiction."*

Technique: Expert Selection and Framing — Belege: 03:02–04:15

Manipulation Degree Classification

Reasoning: The overall score of 4.4/10 places this broadcast at the upper boundary of "slight tendency," approaching "clear one-sidedness." The broadcast does not engage in overt propaganda or deliberate distortion of factual content. However, the structural exclusion of opposition voices, the celebratory opening framing, and the use of an unnamed, unverifiable analyst to normalise the GNU collectively produce a broadcast that falls short of the impartiality standard required by Broadcasting Act s. 6. The most significant concern is not what the broadcast says, but what it systematically omits — the perspectives of nearly a quarter of the South African electorate who voted for parties that reject the GNU.

CONCLUSION

This SABC News broadcast on the GNU's first 100 days presents a structurally incomplete picture of a politically complex moment in South African democratic history. While the ANC and DA positions are represented with reasonable factual accuracy, the systematic exclusion of MK, EFF, COSATU, SACP, and independent expert voices reduces a multi-party accountability exercise to a bilateral political statement exchange. The broadcast's opening framing — "new era," "much needed change," "second Miracle since 1994" — establishes a celebratory baseline that is never interrogated or contextualised, in violation of the impartiality standard required by Broadcasting Act s. 6. The use of an unnamed, unaffiliated analyst to provide normalising commentary on GNU coalition dynamics, presented as



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neutral expert analysis, is a further concern under BCCSA Code Clause 16's requirement for accurate and contextually correct reporting. The broadcast does not rise to the level of systematic bias or deliberate manipulation, but it falls measurably short of the "highest standards of journalism" required of the SABC under its public mandate, particularly in its failure to present opposing views on the contested legitimacy and performance of the GNU as required by BCCSA Code Clause 18.



OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

Individual Scores — All 15 Criteria

No.	Criterion	Score	Rating
1	EXPERT SELECTION	6/10	Significant imbalance
2	SOURCE SELECTION	5/10	Significant imbalance
3	AIRTIME DISTRIBUTION	4/10	Slight imbalance
4	SELECTIVE OMISSION	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
5	NUMERICAL MANIPULATION	4/10	Slight imbalance
6	GUILT BY ASSOCIATION	1/10	Unremarkable
7	TIMING	5/10	Significant imbalance
8	SELECTIVE OUTRAGE	1/10	Unremarkable
9	SELECTIVE OMISSION — OVERALL PICTURE	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
10	FRAMING	6/10	Significant imbalance
11	WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY	5/10	Significant imbalance
12	MODERATION BEHAVIOUR	3/10	Slight imbalance
13	QUESTION ASYMMETRY	2/10	Unremarkable
14	FALSE BALANCE	4/10	Slight imbalance
15	AGENDA-SETTING	6/10	Significant imbalance

HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)

4.4/10

Significant imbalance

SOFT FACTS SCORE (9-14)

4.3/10

Significant imbalance

OVERALL SCORE

4.4/10

Significant imbalance

Average of Hardfacts and Softfacts



KEY — Score Definitions

Individual Scores per Criterion (0–10)

0	No finding	No relevant anomaly detected.
1–2	Weak finding	Minor anomaly without substantial impact on balance.
3–4	Slight to moderate finding	Recognizable tendency; low to moderate impact relevance.
5	Moderate finding with impact	Relevant imbalance affecting the audience's opinion-forming potential.
6	Significant finding (threshold)	Scores of 6 and above are classified as 'significant findings.'
7	Significant finding	Clear, well-documented imbalance with distinct impact relevance.
8–9	Severe finding	Pronounced imbalance; multiple documented individual findings in this criterion.
10	Maximum severity	Systematic, pervasive imbalance in this criterion.

Aggregated Deviation Index — Interpretation Ranges

0.0 – 2.5	Unremarkable	No significant patterns detected; broadcast meets the impartiality standard.
2.6 – 4.0	Slight imbalance	Isolated anomalies; statistically visible but within tolerance range.
4.1 – 6.0	Significant imbalance	Multiple significant findings; relevant impairment of perspective diversity.
6.1 – 8.0	Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation	Pronounced, cross-broadcast patterns; high impact relevance.
8.1 – 10	Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high bias degree	Maximum severity across nearly all criteria; systematically one-sided reporting.

Party-Political Bias (-5 to +5)

-5 to -3	Strongly disadvantaged	Party is significantly underrepresented in framing, airtime, or presentation.
-2 to -1	Slightly disadvantaged	Recognizable but minor disadvantage.
0	Neutral	No detectable favoritism or disadvantage.
+1 to +2	Slightly favored	Recognizable but minor favoritism.
+3 to +5	Strongly favored	Party is significantly overrepresented in framing, airtime, or presentation.



CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL CLASSIFICATION (Broadcasting Act s. 6)

Assessment under Broadcasting Act s. 6

Broadcasting Act 4 of 1999, Section 6 (SABC Charter) requires significant news and public affairs programming that meets the highest standards of journalism, including fairness, accuracy, and impartiality. BCCSA Code Clause 16 requires news to be reported truthfully, accurately and fairly, in the correct context and in a balanced manner. Clause 18 requires opposing views to be presented on controversial issues of public importance.

Violation 1:

Standard: BCCSA Code Clause 18 — Opposing views on controversial issues of public importance

Offence: The broadcast covers the GNU's first 100 days — a matter of significant public importance — without presenting the views of the two largest opposition parties (MK, 58 seats; EFF, 39 seats) or the ANC's own tripartite alliance partners (COSATU, SACP) beyond a passing reference. The GNU's legitimacy, the NHI Act, and the BELA Act are all contested issues on which multiple significant political actors hold opposing views that are not represented.

Evidence: Timestamp 00:00–04:15 — the entire broadcast contains no direct voice from MK, EFF, COSATU, or SACP, despite these actors representing a substantial portion of South African democratic opinion on the GNU.

Assessment: This constitutes a prima facie failure to present opposing views on a controversial issue of public importance, as required by Clause 18. The omission is structural and systematic rather than incidental.

Violation 2:

Standard: BCCSA Code Clause 16 — Accurate reporting in the correct context and in a balanced manner

Offence: The broadcast presents the characterisation of the GNU as "the second Miracle since 1994" without attribution to a specific source, without challenge, and without contextualisation. This is a political value judgement presented as a factual description, in violation of the requirement for accurate reporting in the correct context.

Evidence: Timestamp 00:19–00:21 — "President sarapa having been branded as the second Miracle since 1994" — no source is identified for this characterisation; it is presented in the broadcast's own narration.

Assessment: The unattributed use of a politically charged superlative in broadcast narration, without challenge or contextualisation, falls below the standard of accurate and contextually correct reporting required by Clause 16.

Violation 3:

Standard: Broadcasting Act s. 6 — Highest standards of journalism, including impartiality

Offence: The broadcast's sole expert voice is unnamed, unaffiliated, and unverifiable. Presenting an anonymous source as a "political and ideological analyst" without disclosing institutional affiliation, credentials, or potential conflicts of interest does not meet the highest standards of journalism required of the SABC as a public broadcaster.

Evidence: Timestamp 03:02 — "as part def politically and ideologically analy say" — no name, no institution, no credentials are provided.

Assessment: The use of an unidentified analyst as the broadcast's primary independent voice, without any disclosure of credentials or affiliation, falls below the journalistic standards required by Broadcasting Act s. 6 and prevents viewers from making an informed assessment of the source's credibility and independence.

Overall Assessment — Broadcasting Act s. 6

This broadcast falls measurably short of the impartiality and completeness standards required by Broadcasting Act s. 6 and BCCSA Code Clauses 16 and 18. The most significant concern is the structural exclusion of opposing views on a contested matter of major public importance — the GNU's first 100 days — in violation of Clause 18. The unattributed "second Miracle" characterisation in the broadcast's own narration and the use of an unnamed, unverifiable analyst as the primary independent voice further undermine the accuracy and contextual correctness standards of Clause 16. These failures do not individually constitute egregious violations, but collectively they



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represent a pattern of editorial choices that systematically favour the GNU narrative and marginalise democratic opposition, inconsistent with the SABC's public mandate to serve all South Africans regardless of political affiliation.



CHAPTER 6 — Source Depth Check

Source: Unnamed "Political and Ideological Analyst"

- 1. Funding:** Unknown — no institutional affiliation is disclosed. Funding verification is impossible.
- 2. Mandate:** Unknown — without institutional identification, compatibility with neutral assessment cannot be assessed.
- 3. Conflict of Interest:** The analyst's commentary systematically normalises the GNU and minimises the significance of internal coalition tensions. Whether this reflects institutional interest, personal political alignment, or editorial direction from SABC cannot be determined without identification.
- 4. Credibility Matrix (Source Traffic Light, 6D -2/+2):**
 - D1 Conflict of Interest: -1 — Unknown affiliation; conflict of interest cannot be excluded.
 - D2 Personal Risk: 0 — Anonymity provides no accountability but also no visible personal risk.
 - D3 Subject Competence: 0 — "Political and ideological analyst" is a self-description; no verifiable credentials.
 - D4 Opinion Consistency: 0 — No prior statements available for comparison.
 - D5 Emotionalisation vs. Data: +1 — Commentary is measured and analytical in tone.
 - D6 Source Level: -1 — Secondary source; no primary data cited.**TOTAL: -1 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW**

5. Counter-Voice: No alternative analyst or expert is presented to challenge or contextualise the unnamed analyst's normalising commentary on GNU coalition dynamics. An academic political scientist specialising in South African coalition governance, or an analyst from a left-aligned think tank, would have provided a substantive counter-perspective.

IMPORTANT: "Political and ideological analyst" is not a substantive qualification. It is a generic social attribution that must itself be scrutinised. The SABC's failure to identify this source by name and institutional affiliation prevents viewers from exercising informed judgement about the credibility and independence of the analysis presented.

Source Credibility Overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
Unnamed "Political and Ideological Analyst"	-1	0	0	0	+1	-1	-1	YELLOW

Legal and Methodological Notes

No factual determination

The results presented do not constitute factual determinations about individual persons, editorial teams, or broadcasts. They are the product of a standardized operationalization, not a finding of individual responsibility.

No legal judgment

The aggregated deviation index does not replace a legal assessment under Broadcasting Act s. 6. The determination of whether a specific broadcast violates legal requirements is exclusively the responsibility of the competent authorities (in particular BCCSA).

No proof of causation

Statistical correlations are not to be interpreted as proof of causal relationships or editorial intent. Deviation values may be influenced by topic selection, news environment, political controversy, or format logic.



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**No judgment of
intent**

The analysis measures observable structural characteristics of broadcasts. A score of 7 means a significant imbalance was detected — not that the editorial team intended it. The methodology makes no claims about motives or strategic objectives.

**Heuristic
comparison tool**

The index serves comparative pattern recognition across thousands of broadcasts, not precise metric measurement of individual segments. Threshold values serve heuristic orientation, not sharp legal qualification.



APPENDIX 1: NATIONAL BROADCASTING LAW

South Africa — Legal Framework for Broadcasting Impartiality

Primary Legislation

Broadcasting Act 4 of 1999 (as amended)

The Broadcasting Act establishes the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) as a public broadcaster and defines its Charter obligations.

Section 6 — Charter of the Corporation:

The SABC Charter mandates that the public broadcaster must:

- Provide programming that reflects South African attitudes, opinions, ideas, values and artistic creativity
- Offer a plurality of views and a variety of news, information and analysis
- Provide significant news and public affairs programming that meets the highest standards of journalism, including fairness, accuracy, and impartiality

Section 10 — Editorial Independence:

The SABC's news and current affairs programming must be independent from government or political party influence. The Board must ensure editorial policies that safeguard journalistic integrity.

ICASA Act 13 of 2000

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) is the regulatory body responsible for broadcasting licensing and compliance.

Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005

Provides the overarching regulatory framework for electronic communications, including broadcasting standards.

BCCSA Broadcasting Code of Conduct

The Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa (BCCSA) enforces the Free-to-Air Broadcasting Code of Conduct, which includes:

Clause 16 — News:

- News must be reported truthfully, accurately and fairly
- News must be presented in the correct context and in a balanced manner
- Only verified facts may be presented as facts; opinions must be clearly identified as such

Clause 17 — Comment:

- Comment must be clearly distinguished from fact
- Comment must be an honest expression of opinion and must be presented fairly

Clause 18 — Controversial Issues of Public Importance:

- When a programme deals with a controversial issue of public importance, opposing views must be presented, either within the same programme or in a follow-up programme within a reasonable time
- This requirement applies to all broadcasting services

Clause 20 — Elections:

- During election periods, broadcasters must ensure equitable treatment of all political parties
- ICASA issues specific election broadcasting regulations

Regulatory / Complaints Bodies

Body	Role	Binding?
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ICASA (Independent Communications Authority of South Africa)	Licensing, spectrum, compliance enforcement	Yes — can fine, revoke licences
BCCSA (Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa)	Content complaints (bias, fairness, accuracy)	Yes — can reprimand, fine, require corrections
SABC Board	Internal editorial oversight	Internal
Parliament Portfolio Committee on Communications	Political oversight of SABC	Indirect

Notable Enforcement

- May 2024: ICASA fined SABC R500,000 for refusing to broadcast the Democratic Alliance's election advertisement showing a burning South African flag, ruling that SABC violated the right to free political communication.
- 2016: Western Cape High Court ordered removal of COO Hlaudi Motsoeneng for systematic censorship and political interference at SABC.
- 2017: Labour Court ruled that dismissal of the "SABC 8" journalists (who protested censorship of protest footage) was unlawful.

Equivalent to Other Countries

Country	Law	South African Equivalent
CH	Art. 4 RTVG	Broadcasting Act s. 6 (SABC Charter)
SE	Radio- och TV-lagen 5 kap.	BCCSA Code Cl. 16-18
DE	MStV §26	ICASA Act + BCCSA Code
NO	NRK-vedtektene §6	Broadcasting Act s. 10 (Editorial Independence)



APPENDIX 2: SCIENTIFIC REFERENCES

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Unbalanced Reporting is the response to the halving initiative in Switzerland: Manipulation techniques are explained in detail, starting with the selection of staff and sources. Then 15 principles are explained: omission, framing, temporal framing, guilt by association, emotionalisation, context removal and many more, illustrated with numerous examples. Additionally, it becomes apparent where we ourselves apply these techniques – fostering not only awareness but also empathy.

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Essential reading for anyone considering a complaint – and for anyone who wants to understand why genuine media oversight in Switzerland is still pending.