

Table 4. Independent Media
Ratings History and Regional Breakdown

	1997	1998	1999-2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
New EU Members									
Czech Rep.	1,25	1,25	1,75	2,00	2,50	2,25	2,25	2,00	2,00
Estonia	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,50	1,50	1,50
Hungary	1,50	1,50	2,00	2,25	2,25	2,25	2,25	2,50	2,50
Latvia	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,50	1,50	1,50
Lithuania	1,75	1,50	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75
Poland	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,75	1,75	1,50	1,75
Slovakia	4,25	4,00	2,25	2,00	2,00	2,00	2,25	2,25	2,25
Slovenia	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,50	1,75
Average	1,94	1,88	1,81	1,84	1,91	1,91	1,88	1,81	1,88
Median	1,75	1,63	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,75	1,63	1,75
The Balkans									
Albania	4,75	4,75	4,50	4,25	4,00	4,00	3,75	4,00	3,75
Bosnia	n/a	4,75	5,00	4,50	4,25	4,25	4,25	4,00	4,00
Bulgaria	3,75	3,50	3,50	3,25	3,25	3,50	3,50	3,50	3,25
Croatia	4,75	4,75	5,00	3,50	3,50	3,75	3,75	3,75	3,75
Macedonia	4,00	4,00	3,75	3,75	3,75	4,00	4,25	4,25	4,25
Romania	4,25	4,00	3,50	3,50	3,50	3,75	3,75	4,00	4,00
Yugoslavia	n/a	4,50	5,75	4,50	3,50	3,25	n/a	n/a	n/a
Serbia	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,50	3,25	3,25
Montenegro	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,25	3,25	3,25
Kosovo	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5,50	5,50	5,50
Average	4,30	4,32	4,58	3,96	3,71	3,79	3,94	3,94	3,89
Median	4,25	4,50	4,50	3,75	3,50	3,75	3,75	4,00	3,75
Non-Baltic Former Soviet States									
Armenia	5,25	5,25	4,75	4,75	4,75	5,00	5,25	5,50	5,50
Azerbaijan	5,50	5,50	5,50	5,75	5,50	5,50	5,75	6,00	6,00
Belarus	6,25	6,50	6,75	6,75	6,75	6,75	6,75	6,75	6,75
Georgia	4,50	4,25	3,75	3,50	3,75	4,00	4,00	4,25	4,25
Kazakhstan	5,25	5,50	5,50	6,00	6,00	6,25	6,50	6,50	6,75
Kyrgyzstan	5,00	5,00	5,00	5,00	5,75	6,00	6,00	5,75	5,75
Moldova	4,00	4,25	4,00	4,25	4,50	4,75	5,00	5,00	5,00
Russia	3,75	4,25	4,75	5,25	5,50	5,50	5,75	6,00	6,00
Tajikistan	6,25	6,00	5,75	5,50	5,75	5,75	5,75	6,00	6,25
Turkmenistan	7,00	7,00	7,00	7,00	7,00	7,00	7,00	7,00	7,00
Ukraine	4,50	4,75	5,00	5,25	5,50	5,50	5,50	4,75	3,75
Uzbekistan	6,50	6,50	6,50	6,75	6,75	6,75	6,75	6,75	7,00
Average	5,31	5,40	5,35	5,48	5,63	5,73	5,83	5,85	5,83
Median	5,25	5,38	5,25	5,38	5,63	5,63	5,75	6,00	6,00

NOTES: The ratings are based on a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 representing the highest level of democratic progress and 7 the lowest. The 2006 ratings reflect the period January 1 through December 31, 2005.

In *Nations in Transit 2006*, Freedom House provides separate ratings for Serbia, Montenegro, and Kosovo in order to provide a clearer picture of processes and conditions in the three different territories. Doing so does not indicate a position on the part of Freedom House regarding the territorial integrity of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro; neither does it indicate a position on Kosovo's future status.