

[HU] The Media Council Fines TV2 for Content Classification and Human Dignity Violations

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Between January and February 2026, the Media Council of the National Media and Infocommunications Authority (*Nemzeti Média és Hírközlési Hatóság - NMHH*) issued two decisions regarding the commercial broadcaster TV2 Zrt., imposing fines totalling approximately 20 million Hungarian *forints* (HUF) (EUR 52 700). The cases involve a breach of age-rating provisions in a music talent show and a violation of human dignity during a current affairs programme. In both instances, the Media Council also levied personal fines against the media service provider's senior executive due to the nature of the infringements.

In a decision published on 22 January 2026, the Media Council imposed a fine of HUF 16.9 million (approximately EUR 44 530) on TV2 Zrt. for incorrectly classifying the first two episodes of the eighth season of its music talent show, *Megasztár* (Megastar).

The episodes, which aired in September 2025, were broadcast with a "12 and older" rating (Category III). However, following an investigation into the content – which included themes of sexuality and violence – the Council determined that a "16 and older" rating (Category IV) was required. By using the lower age rating, the broadcaster failed to comply with the mandatory late-night time slot requirements (after 9 p.m.) associated with more mature content. In addition to the corporate fine, a personal penalty of HUF 475 000 (approximately EUR 1 250) was levied against the media service provider's senior executive due to the repeated nature of the classification errors.

On 12 February 2026, the Media Council issued a second decision fining TV2 Zrt. HUF 3 million (approximately EUR 7 900) for violating legal provisions regarding respect for human dignity. The infringement occurred during the current affairs programme *Napló* (Diary) on 13 July 2025, in its preview on 12 July 2025. The programme focused on tragic bus accidents involving multiple fatalities. However, the broadcaster integrated a prize contest into the segment, asking viewers to vote on the question: "*Do you think the driver is to blame for every bus accident?*" The Media Council found that linking a prize draw to a discussion of fatal tragedies was incompatible with the constitutional values of a democratic public and the fundamental right to human dignity. As a result, the broadcaster was ordered to pay the fine and publish a formal statement regarding the violation. The senior executive was also fined HUF 25 000 (approximately EUR 66) for this specific

breach.

Megasztár decision: A Médiatanács 30/2026. (I. 20.) számú döntése

https://nmhh.hu/cikk/257150/A_Mediatanacs_302026_I_20_szamu_dontese

Megasztár decision: Decision No. 30/2026 (I. 20) of the Media Council

TV2 Napló decision: A Médiatanács 59/2026. (II. 10.) számú döntése

https://nmhh.hu/cikk/257625/A_Mediatanacs_592026_II_10_szamu_dontese

TV2 Napló decision: Decision No. 59/2026 (II. 10.) of the Media Council

