

and help of RNE, as its controller in Barcelona was Jorge Arandes, “one of the most prestigious figures in Spanish broadcasting”. According to Minobis, Ràdio 4, has been present at all the important events, providing its listeners with the necessary information about each one of them.

A important competitor to Radio 4 emerged following the first autonomous elections: the Radio and Television Catalan Corporation.

Throughout the article, the author analyses the aims behind the setting up of Ràdio 4 and how its stands today: a Catalan personality, not only that of a radio station “in Catalan”.

Today its leading role in the process of linguistic standardisation in the country has been recognised, within the political context of the transition. Montserrat Minobis observes that from its very beginnings, Ràdio 4 has met the needs of a wide cross section of its listeners. The author justifies the existence and subsistence of Ràdio 4 for the good of democratic plurality and for that freedom of expression which is so often mentioned.

Radio during the transition

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XAVIER FOZ

Passing from absurdity to reality, the author remembers the importance that radio had as a political tool, from the first days of the Franco uprising. The radio talks given by General Queipo de Llano from Unión Radio in Seville are remembered. On 6th October 1939 a decree pronounced that “all national and international radio information would be exclusive to RNE”.

Things changed following the approval of the political reform on Franco’s death. Stations were quick to rid themselves of the obligation to connect with RNE for the midday and evening news programmes.

During the years of the transition the press played the role of a paper parliament. Radio was an open, dynamic forum, which tried to reflect ideological plurality. Following the coup of 23rd February the “coming of age of the transition arrived”. With it “radio recovered its important role”,

and the author wonders if the time has arrived to aim towards a more responsible radio, with a more ethical slant.

115 **Catalunya Ràdio, the national radio of Catalonia**

OLEGUER SARSANEDAS

The article points out that the idea of having a public radio station as a basic instrument for standardisation was already a feature of the 1979 Autonomy Statute. It was necessary to wait until 1983 for Parliament to approve the setting up of the Radio and Television Corporation. On the night of 19th June, the journalist Miquel Calzada, known as Miki Moto, started the broadcasts of Catalunya Ràdio. Lluís Llach had composed a signature tune for the occasion which the station christened “les campanetes” (the chimes). The first group of broadcasters on Catalunya Ràdio were young people. “Miki Moto was 17”. The station really got going when it moved to its permanent site on the Avinguda Diagonal. On 2nd April 1984, Ràdio Associació de Catalunya, the continuation of the historic station set up in 1943, became part of Catalunya Ràdio. Catalunya Música, Catalunya Informació and RAC 105 make up the radio network of the Generalitat (the autonomous government of Catalonia). In the authors opinion: “This is the story of a great success”.