



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1



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Subject:	Lobbying for WRC 2025 to have an allocation in the 88 - 108 MHz		
Society:	UBA	Country:	Belgium
Committee:	C3	Paper Number:	LA17_C3_43
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1. Introduction

In Europe, the FM Broadcasting Band (87,5 – 108 MHz) will close down in 2025. We could now start to obtain a segment for amateur use.

2. Background

In several documents of the RSPG (Radio Spectrum Policy Group, an EU instance) are suggesting that the member states should close down FM broadcasting in favour of DAB. (http://rspg-spectrum.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/rspg10_349_report_futureradio.pdf)

Norway was the first country to shut down FM broadcasting in January 2017 (see <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/01/05/norway-become-first-nation-switch-fm-radio-shift-digital/>)

Several other countries are going the same way. In Belgium, our regulator is in favour of this proposal.

An amateur allocation nearby 100 MHz could cover the gap between 70 and 144 MHz.

3. Key points and proposal:

It would be good to start lobbying to become a part of this segment for amateur use as primary or secondary users. Therefor we need to start action now towards CEPT and/or WRC to put this on the agenda for one of the next WRC's (2025).

4. Recommendations:

IARU Region 1 should take the necessary steps to trying obtain an amateur allocation in the 87,5 – 108 MHz band when FM Broadcasting is officially closed down in Europe