

Interim Ethnic Television Service to start 29 April

Special Broadcasting Service Press Release

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The SBS is very keen to hear viewer opinions and has made arrangements with the Telephone Interpreter Service to take the telephone calls for them.

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The interim Ethnic Television service will start on 29 April at 8.00 am with a three hour program. At a later stage, the service may be extended to five hours using time on Saturday mornings.

The programs are being produced by the Special Broadcasting Service in co-operation with the Australian Broadcasting Commission and will be shown on ABC Television Station ABN-2, Sydney and ABV-2, Melbourne.

Various languages will be used. To ensure accessibility to a wide audience programs will be sub-titled where the sound-track is not in English.

The first program will include: an Italian fantasy musical about Naples; two Greek singers from Melbourne, Kristos and Tassos Ioannides; a Yugoslav cartoon; a beautiful Claude Lelouch film on Turkey; a sports round up; and, a magazine program of Australian stories. Programs will include different presenters who will introduce segments in their own languages and there will be studio discussion on topics raised by some of the segments.

During the first thirteen programs viewers will be invited to telephone numbers that will be given to express their opinions and ideas.

The telephone numbers are: Sydney - 221 1111;
Melbourne - 662 3000.