



NMHH

Nemzeti Média- és Hírközlési Hatóság
Médiatanács

2

ÚRAD RÁDY
pro rozhlasové a televizní vysílání

Jednoznačný identifikátor: RRTV- 415318

DOŠLO DNE: - 1 -07- 2021

Číslo jednací RRTV/ 8532/2021 m

Počet listů: 2 Počet příloh: 3

Počet listů příloh: 5

Druh příloh: 7x DVD

Reference no.: MN/11451-4/2021.

Subject: Notification

Attachment: DVD, Inspection report,
copy of the report

Rada pro rozhlasové a televizní vysílání (RRTV)
(The Council for Radio and Television Broadcasting)

To President Bc. Ivan Krejčí

Skretova 44/6
120 00 Prague 2
Czech Republic

Dear Mr President,

The Media Council of the National Media and Infocommunications Authority (hereinafter referred to as: the **Media Council**) inspected the programmes *I, Frankenstein* (in Hungarian: *Én, Frankenstein*) broadcast between 3:50 and 5:40 pm on 3 May 2021 and between 7.10 and 9:00 pm on 4 May 2021, *Angry spiders* (in Hungarian: *Mérges pókok*) broadcast between 2:10 pm on 6 May and 12.45 pm on 8 May and *SAGA: Curse of the Shadow* (in Hungarian: *SAGA - A holtak átka*) between 12:20 and 2:30 pm on 7 May on the AMC TV (Hungary) channel of the AMC NETWORKS CENTRAL EUROPE, S.R.O. (hereinafter referred to as: the **Media Service Provider**). The inspection was conducted based on a report under the examination of the programmes of the media service providers available in Hungary but being under foreign jurisdiction.

1. I, Frankenstein

During the regulatory investigation, the Media Council established, that the programme often featured violent media content, in which the injuries and suffering of human-like creatures were often portrayed in a realistic way with graphic details. The film contained a number of action sequences, mainly involving fairytale monsters clashing with each other, but portrayed in intense, close-up images.

2. SAGA: Curse of the Shadow

During the regulatory investigation, the Media Council established that the programme features a high number of violent sequences in which various forms of aggression are depicted in an intense and realistic manner and it contains media content triggering frustration and heavy anxiety.

Furthermore, the Media Council established that the execution of the defeated enemy was often portrayed in a bloody and brutal manner (e.g. beheading, strangulation, bone-crushing fight). The suffering and death of the victims is presented in close-ups and in a prolonged manner.

The Media Service Provider broadcast the objected programmes without age rating; however, in view of the topic and the way it was processed, the Media Council considered that the programmes could have endangered the physical, intellectual or moral development of minors.

If the Media Service Provider were under Hungarian jurisdiction, the programme would be in age category IV (not recommended for audiences under the age of 16) and would have had to be broadcast between 9 pm and 5 am.

The recordings of the programmes at issue in the present case, the inspection report and a copy of the report is sent by the Media Council as an attachment for information and in order to carry out the necessary procedure.

Based on the complaint, the Media Council examined the programme entitled “*Angry spiders*”, but no legal infringement occurred in connection with the programme, so the Authority does not forward this programme.

Budapest, ²³ June 2021

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Monika Karas
President

FINDINGS OF INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. Title of the programme in Hungarian: *Én, Frankenstein*

Original title:	I, Frankenstein
Date of broadcast:	3 May 2021
Time of broadcast:	15:50:10-17:32:00
Name of channel:	AMC
Original running time:	88 minutes
Running time:	79 minutes (without credits)
Media Service Provider's rating:	none
Genre:	fantasy action film

Content of the programme:

Victor Frankenstein creates his creature Adam from pieces of corpses. Horrified by his own creature, the doctor tries to destroy him, but fails. Adam returns and kills the doctor's wife. After that, Frankenstein's only goal is to kill Adam. He chases the monster for the rest of his life, and finally, when he dies, Adam lays the doctor to rest at the cemetery of his family. They are then attacked by demons, but Adam manages to kill them. This attracts the interest of the Gargoyle Order, so the gargoyles invite the creature to join them in the ancient war against demons, invisible to humanity. Gargoyles are winged creatures who protect humanity, as the Archangel Michael instructed. Adam trusts no one, so he decides to leave the order behind and wanders alone for hundreds of years, searching for the meaning in his existence. The henchmen of Prince Naberius, the leader of the demons, are not forgetting Frankenstein's creation. Adam seeks out the demons to kill them. Meanwhile, Dr Wade, employed by Naberius, is working on reanimating the dead. Naberius wants to capture Frankenstein's creature to use his secret for his experiments. Zuriel, the strongest warrior among the demons, is commanded by Naberius to catch Adam at all costs. Zuriel fails, but the demons get hold of Dr Frankenstein's journal, which Dr Wade uses to reproduce the 18th century doctor's method. Naberius forces him to use this process to revive hundreds of hosts for the demon army. In the final battle, gargoyles side with Adam to destroy the hosts, while the protagonist kills the demon prince.

Result of the investigation:

According to the IMDB (Internet Movie Database), the programme received a "PG-13" rating from the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) in the US for its action scenes and violent programme segments. The BBFC in the UK has advised the programme to be viewed by people over the age of 12 due to the moderately aggressive sequences. The German FSK classified the DVD version of the film as suitable for audiences over 16. The Hungarian National Film Office has rated the domestic version of the film as not suitable for people under the age of 16 and classified it in age category IV due to the intensity of the detailed action sequences and the close-ups of the injuries.

There are a high number of violent scenes in the programme, the most objectionable of which was a prolonged sequence showing the interrogation of a demon (16:26:25-16:27:25). In this scene, the camera showed close-ups of the victim's suffering. The picture clearly showed blood dripping from his mouth. After getting the information out of his subject, the protagonist killed his opponent. Frankenstein's creation, Adam, the monster in human form, pushed the demon's face into a bowl of holy water, who let out a loud, deathly scream, and then his face was suddenly disfigured before burning to ashes. There is a similarly intense sequence in the scene where the members of the Gargoyle Order, using their human forms, kill Naberius' bodyguards (17:23:16-17:23:25).

Content and scenes at issue:

16:03:46-16:04:11

A demon attacks Adam in the alley. The protagonist pushes his attacker against the wall while pointing his gun at his neck. The close-up clearly shows the man's red bulging eyes and sharp teeth. An armed patrol appears behind them, pointing a gun at the brawlers. Still holding his opponent's neck, Adam shields the human-like demon in front of him, who suddenly breaks free and lunges at the police officer. The demon grabs the officer's neck and suddenly breaks his cervical vertebrae. The camera shows a close-up of the execution, while the cracking of the officer's bones can be heard. The victim falls to the ground. Another demon appears behind the protagonist, and they attack Adam at the same time. The protagonist kills his attackers one by one. The demons' bodies glow and then burst into flames before being blown to bits by Adam's weapon.

16:26:25-16:27:25

Adam captures a demon and begins interrogating him. The monster with chained hands is repeatedly punched in the face by the protagonist during the interrogation. The victim groans in pain and the camera shows close-ups of his suffering. The human-like demon coughs as a result of the blows, and close-ups show his face as blood drips from his mouth. Adam then grabs his enemy and puts him over a bowl of holy water. The evaporating liquid begins to burn the victim's face, causing him to scream loudly. After the protagonist finishes the interrogation, he kills his adversary. He pushes the monster's face into the bowl. The demon lets out a loud scream, his face is suddenly disfigured before it bursts into flame, and then his entire body begins to smoulder, burning to ash with a loud roar.

16:53:42-16:55:01

The scene depicts the death of Zuriel. Adam plunged a dagger into the human-like demon's chest. The camera shows a close-up of the blade penetrating the victim's body. The protagonist twists the knife in his enemy's chest, causing the creature to scream loudly. His suffering is shown in a close-up. His body bursts into flames as he continues to groan until he finally explodes. Small fragments of his exploding head is seen in a close-up.

17:23:16-17:23:25

Wielding his sword, one gargoyle fights the human-like demons attacking him. He slashes one of his attackers in half at the waist. The camera shows in slow motion as the victim's body is split in two and then burst into flames. This is followed by another gargoyle's battle with human-like demons. First the gunman slashes his opponent's right arm with his blade, then decapitates him very quickly. The severed head flies into the air as the victim's body falls to pieces. He then twists the arm of the next enemy to attack him, who explodes from the blow to his chest. The camera shows again the first gargoyle, screaming as he plunges his broad blade into his victim's body. The sabre cuts through the demon's body. The victim begins to glow, then the gargoyle kicks the decomposing body of his adversary off his sword to continue the fight.

17:25:15-17:25:58

Naberius overcomes the protagonist. The demon prince lifts Adam's limp body by the hair and grabs him by the neck. The camera shows a close-up of the protagonist's face, with blood flowing from his mouth. The demon soaks up the blood with its thumbnail, then carves a pentagram on the victim's forehead with his bloody fingernail. Then, still clutching Adam's neck, he lifts his victim into the air, chanting demonic curses.

The programme often featured violent media content, in which the injuries and suffering of human-like creatures were often portrayed in a realistic way with graphic details. The film contained a number of action sequences, mainly involving fairytale monsters clashing with each other, but portrayed in intense, close-up images.

2. Title of the programme in Hungarian: SAGA – A holtak átka

<i>Original title:</i>	SAGA: Curse of the Shadow
<i>Date of broadcast:</i>	7 May 2021
<i>Time of broadcast:</i>	12:20:11-14:23:04
<i>Name of channel:</i>	AMC
<i>Original running time:</i>	105 minutes
<i>Running time:</i>	102 minutes (without credits)
<i>Media Service Provider's rating:</i>	none
<i>Genre:</i>	adventure film

Content of the programme:

The mythical story revolves around a menacing dark force with more and more followers. Members of a secret cult calling themselves the Shadow are working to reanimate an ancient evil. Nemyt, the elven bounty hunter, successfully kills one of the orc shamans, Moonlight Fangtor, who has a price on his head. However, when the orc dies, the mark of the curse is cast on the elf, gradually driving him towards darkness. Keltus, the wandering paladin, learning of Nemyt's plight, shows compassion and resolves to remove the curse from the elven warrior with the help of his mistress and apostles. Nemyt meets Kullimon, an orc who was ostracised by the horde and vowed revenge against his rival Mulgrut. Nemyt knows, thanks to visions, that the Shadow's goal is to obtain the magical bone chalice. Fighting together, Keltus, Nemyt and Kullimon get the relic and offer it to the horde in exchange for payment. The exchange is thwarted by a dark prophet who uses his magic to enlist the orcs, who kidnap Nemyt, in the service of the Shadow. Kullimon goes after the horde to free the elf and kill Mulgrut. The sign also infects Keltus, who loses his faith and his power. The priestess of an ancient deity helps him to restore the knight to the service of the light. Mulgrut gains immortal power, so Kullimon can't handle him, and after freeing Nemyt, they are forced to flee. The three comrades are reunited, and prevent the dark ritual in which the prophet works to reanimate the evil. During the fight, they eliminate the members of the horde and the dark prophet, and Kullimon fulfils his revenge.

Result of the investigation:

The programme is about the alliance of a human, an elf and an orc. The story involves a clash between humans and fantasy creatures. Despite the use of fairytale characters, the victims' suffering and death are presented realistically, in intense, close-up images. The fights, fought with weapons or bare hands, are characterised by meticulously crafted, long duels, rather than quick cuts of action films. The execution of the defeated enemy, often in a bloody and brutal manner (e.g. beheading, strangulation, bone-crushing fight), plays an important role in the clashes.

The international classification associations primarily recommended the film for a more mature audience with a more serious media experience. The BBFC in the UK recommended that the film should only be viewed by people over 15 years of age due to the bloody scenes depicting intense violence. The German FSK classified the programme as suitable for audiences over 16, while it was rated "PG-13" by the MPAA (Motion Picture Association of America) in the United States. The Hungarian classification of the film is not known.

The most problematic scenes in the programme were the segments detailing the murders, with several of the sequences showing close-ups of the details of the wounds (e.g. 12:58:33-12:58:45 or 14:03:33-14:04:08). The most striking of these was the dramatically accentuated, prolonged sequence in which one of the protagonists, Nemyt, killed a shaman. The camera showed the tip of the blade punching a bloody hole through the orc's body, and then a long shot of his wounded face coughing up blood. Finally, the elf pulled the sword from his victim's body and cut off his head. The large amount of blood spurting out covered the camera

(12:26:00-12:26:40). A similarly brutal beheading was seen in a heated battle at the end of the film between two rival orcs, Mulgrut and Kullimon (14:17:03-14:17:22).

There were multiple occasions of violent scenes in the programme and content that caused frustration and high levels of anxiety. In many cases, the violent scenes in the film depicted bloody executions or showed the victim's suffering in a prolonged sequence.

Content and scenes at issue:

12:26:00-12:26:40

After a long battle between Nemyt and an orc called Moonlight Fangtor, the elf emerges victorious. He stabs his adversary through the chest with his sword. The camera shows the tip of the blade punching a bloody hole through the orc's body. This is followed by a long shot of his wounded face as he coughs up blood, while the camera shows close-ups of the orc's mouth dripping blood. Finally, the victim drops his weapon slowly, and the elf pulls the sword from his body and cuts off his head. The large amount of blood spurting out covers the camera, then slowly flows down the screen as the decapitated body collapses. A curse is cast on the elf as a black mist coming from the dead orc's body.

12:51:50-12:52:06

Nemyt attacks his cellmate in prison. He wraps a chain around his opponent's neck in the struggle and strangles him. For a long time, the camera shows a close-up of the victim's suffering, drowning and dying from the chains around his neck.

12:58:33-12:58:45

As Keltus and Nemyt travel through the force, memories flash back to the elf. The images of the battle depict a fight between two orcs. One of the warriors screams, then grabs his opponent's head and with a strong move rips it off, lifting the bloody skull into the air.

14:03:33-14:04:08

Kullimon and the dwarf fight each other. The dwarf is about to give the coup de grace to the orc lying on the ground when Keltus sneaks up behind him. Raising his sword high, he chops the dwarf's head right off. The camera shows the severed head rolling on the ground, and then the dwarf's body slowly falling. Kullimon smiles in satisfaction while Keltus bends down and picks up the severed head from the ground, then tosses it away.

14:14:39-14:14:56

After Mulgrut wounds Nemyt with his bow, he steps up to the wounded elf. The orc grabs the arrow in the belly of the elf and starts to rotate it to inflict more pain on his opponent (Mulgrut: *"I promised you pain and death, elf! Worm!"*). Nemyt groans aloud in pain as close-ups show his suffering face.

14:17:03-14:17:22

The final battle between Kullimon and Mulgrut is shown, in which the two orcs fight each other for a long time, and Kullimon finally stabs his opponent in the stomach with his sword. The blade going deep into Mulgrut's body is heard. The orc screams and tries to break free of Kullimon's grip, but Kullimon cuts off his head right away. The camera shows a close-up of the bloody beheading. The severed head flies far away as blood spurts from the victim's neck.

Data of the complaint:

Case type: TV Content > Protection of minors, pornography, violent content, age rating >

Service Provider: other

Problem description: I was amazed to see that AMC broadcast several films in time slots not suitable for the age-rating of the films on several occasions. AMC 3:50 - 5:40 pm, 3 May, I, Frankenstein -- AMC 7:10 - 9:00 pm, 4 May, Angry spiders-- AMC 2:10 - 4:10 pm, 6 May, Angry spiders-- AMC 12:20 - 2:30 pm, 7 May SAGA - A holtak átka -- AMC 12:45 - 2:45 pm, 8 May Angry spiders -- .In my opinion, this is not the right time slot for broadcasting such content. These films broadcast at such an early hour are particularly destructive to minors. Regards:.....

The reporting person's name:

The reporting person's e-mail address:

The reporting person's address:

The reporting person requests the confidentiality of their data: yes



**RADA
PRO ROZHLASOVÉ A TELEVIZNÍ
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Jedn. identifikátor 423158-RRTV

Naše č. j. RRTV/9644/2021-loj
Sp. zn. RRTV/2021/639/LOJ

Michaela Fuchsová, Voršilská
130/10, 11000 Praha 1

Vyřizuje: Analytický odbor

Datum, místo 12. 8. 2021, Praha

Poskytnutí informace v souladu se žádostí podle zákona č. 106/1999 Sb., o svobodném přístupu k informacím

Vážená paní Fuchsová,

Radě pro rozhlasové a televizní vysílání (dále jen Rada) byla dne 11. 8. 2021 pod č.j. RRTV/9618/2021-vra doručena Vaše žádost o poskytnutí informace, resp. o poskytnutí „stížnosti a kompletní analýzy, kterou obdržela Rada pro rozhlasové a televizní vysílání od maďarského regulátora (Media Council of the National Media and Infocommunications Authority – NMHH), a kterou eviduje pod č.j.: RRTV/8532/2021-vra“.

Rada přezkoumala náležitosti Vaší žádosti v intencích zákona č. 106/1999 Sb. a konstatuje, že jí vyhovuje bez dalšího. Rada dodává, že identifikovala Vámi žádaný dokument, kterýžto zasílá v příloze tohoto písemného přípisu. Požadované informace jsou přiloženy v podobě, v jaké byly Radou obdrženy.

Ing. arch. Václav Menci
předseda Rady
pro rozhlasové a televizní vysílání
elektronicky podepsáno