

CENTER FOR POLICY STUDIES

INTERNATIONAL POLICY FELLOWSHIPS

NADOR UTCA 11, H-1051 BUDAPEST, HUNGARY (36 1) 327 3863, FAX (36 1) 327 3809

MENTOR CRITIQUE FORM

Your thoughtful and honest appraisal will be most helpful. We appreciate your input and will try to implement as many of your ideas as possible. Continue comments on the back if necessary.

The IPF program pairs each Fellow with one or two mentors who are Soros foundations network-affiliated (usually Open Society Institute and Central European University), as well as one 'external' mentor who is an expert in the field working outside the Soros foundations network. Mentors should: 1) Work with Fellows to devise a brief policy paper in their field(s) of expertise based on a lengthy research paper written over the course of the fellowship year, 2) Maintain contact with Fellows at least once every six weeks or so by telephone, fax or e-mail to discuss the development of projects, 3) If feasible, meet with Fellows at least once during the fellowship year to discuss the project, 4) Facilitate Fellows' contact with other relevant experts and participation in appropriate meetings (IPF has discretionary funds to support Fellow attendance at relevant events), 5) Complete brief mid-term and final critique forms supplied by IPF to provide the program with feedback regarding the Fellow's progress.

Your name, position Associate Professor Poul Erik Nielsen, Ph. D. University of Aarhus, Denmark

Name of Fellow you have assisted Munkhmandakh Myagmar

1. What, in your opinion, have you and your Fellow/program/project gained from your cooperation thus far?

- In 1999 Munkhmandakh and I set up the auditing project Monitoring Mongolian Media. Munkhmandakh has run the project on a daily basis and I have been an external consultant. During those three years Munkhmandakh has developed immensely as a professional academic, a political strategist and leader as well as personally. This process has increased in significance the last year not least as a result of the fellowship programme, and I consider Munkhmandakh as an equal partner.

- Just to mention two examples: Munkhmandakh and I wrote a conference paper together: “The Mongolian Media Landscape in Transition”. We presented the paper at the URAN (Under Represented Areas Network) conference Media & Communication Research in the Age of Globalisation, Sydney, Australia, September 2001, and I presented it at the 15th Nordic Conference on Media and Communication Research, Iceland August 2001. The paper has been published in *Nordicom Review 2001.2*.
- Secondly Munkhmandakh and I arranged a three days seminar on Local Media with local media representatives, local and national politicians, researchers and representatives of NGO’s. The seminar was very successful and the outcome has been overwhelming. The local media representatives have written an open letter to the President and Prime Minister, there has been established a foundation to support local media, and the local media are co-operating in finding ways to solve the structural problems and improve the quality of the media outlets.

2. Do certain areas of this Fellow’s work need improvement? Which areas?

The research paper is an excellent piece of work. Munkhmandakh has made a thorough and comprehensive descriptions of the addressed problems including relevant extensive references to relevant international experiences. She has made keen analyses of the Mongolian media situation and the different draft laws, and she has presented a precise argumentation for the suggested recommendations.

In a final publication of the research paper it might be an idea to include a brief executive resume in the beginning.

3. In your opinion, does your Fellow’s project make a significant contribution to the field?

YES - NO

Yes definitely – the project provides a comprehensive analysis of the Mongolian media situation in general and has contributed with relevant knowledge of the problems that has to be addressed in the transition of government run electronic media to a dual broadcasting system.

4. Would the project be important to other countries in the CEE/fSU region?

YES - NO

Yes. Besides the specific focus on Mongolian media the research paper makes a general analysis of the addressed problems. On this general level the project contributes to similar problems related to the electronic media system in the whole region.

5. Could the proposed policy research make an impact on the policy environment in specific countries or regions? (Policy makers, experts and policy research community)

YES - NO

YES – The project will contribute to a better understanding of the concept public service broadcasting among politicians and media professionals. Dissemination of the

final report, newspaper articles, round tables, etc. can create an environment for more well-considered policies on public service broadcasting.

6. Is the timetable for the project realistic?

YES

7. Could the project benefit a large number of people?

YES - NO

Yes. In the sense that the development of free and independent media in the long run will support a democratic development.

8. Does the Fellow show evidence that he/she can think strategically about the relevant project and/or field?

Yes. Munkhmandakh has in this project and in the position as head of the Monitoring Section, Press Institute of Mongolia, shown a well developed capacity for thinking strategically and for manoeuvring in a complex political situation.

9. If the Fellow were to re-apply for continued OSI funding for follow-up work associated with the project, would you support continued funding?

YES - NO

Yes. The project would benefit if the results was further disseminated to a broader audience nationally as well as internationally. Munkhmandakh has recently established contact with the "Good Governance" project of the UNDP and they are planning to co-organise a round table discussion with main politicians and managers of all broadcasters on the broadcasting policy in Mongolia. Furthermore as the head of the research section at the Press Institute of Mongolia there might be other important media issues that could benefit from support to research projects.

10. Are there other appropriate funders that may support the project?

Yes UNDP should contribute to the Round table on the broadcasting policy in Mongolia.

Recommendations for other potential senior contacts for this Fellow:

Additional Comments (Please comment on your Fellow's work and all aspects of the IPF program using the back of this sheet):