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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure on press concentration

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Motion for a European Parliament resolution on press concentration

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas excessive concentration of the media is directly contrary to Article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, which stipulates that 'the freedom and pluralism of the media shall be respected';
- B. whereas the French press market is characterised by strong horizontal and vertical concentration;
- C. whereas certain large groups (Lagardère, Dassault, LVMH, La Dépêche, Rossel, etc.) own most of the French press, giving rise to situations in which there are local monopolies or national oligopolies;
- D. whereas the French media are to a large extent controlled by industrialists or billionaires from the telecommunications industry, which endangers media pluralism;
- E. whereas direct and indirect public aid to the press amounted to €1.2 billion in 2012, equivalent to 11% of the industry's turnover;
- F. whereas this concentration is dangerous and worrying for the proper functioning of democracy in France;
- 1. Calls on the Commission and Member States to prevent such excessive concentration in order to ensure pluralism of information and independence of the media.

