

RULES FOR MEDIA ACCREDITATION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

General provisions

Journalists, photographers and TV crews need media accreditation to enter the European Parliament. They can request interinstitutional media accreditation or European Parliament accreditation.

Interinstitutional media accreditation

The EU institutions have a **joint accreditation scheme** for Brussels-based permanent correspondents, managed by the European Commission. Interinstitutional accreditation is valid for the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

The following link provides all necessary information on interinstitutional accreditation:
https://ec.europa.eu/info/about-european-commission/contact/press-services_en

European Parliament media accreditation

The European Parliament grants media accreditation to journalists, film crews and photographers working for bona-fide media organisations in accordance with the rules set out below. European Parliament media accreditation allows journalists¹ to work only in the EP premises in Brussels and Strasbourg and is not valid for other EU institutions.

The European Parliament Directorate for Media's accreditation committee grants accreditation, and may, in exceptional cases, consult the International Press Association (IPA).

Media accreditation may not be used as proof of professional qualifications.

By accepting media accreditation, all media representatives agree to the [rules regarding recordings by media representatives](#) on the premises of the European Parliament.

Media organisations

Media organisations must fulfil the following criteria:

- Be an editorially independent, commercial organisation with no distribution restrictions;
- Be open about how and by whom it is financed;
- Report on the activities of the EU Institutions;

¹ the term "journalist" covers written press journalists, film crews and press photographers

- Additional requirements for **online media**:
The website must be a professional online media website which adheres to the rules laid down for media organisations (see above), and have a specific, verifiable street address and telephone number;
The majority of the website content must cover EU affairs through original news, commentary or analysis, and be updated at least once per week.
- Regarding **periodicals**:
Generally, daily and weekly publications are accepted; monthly and bi-monthly publications can also be accepted, provided they regularly cover European affairs.

NB: Communications, outreach or advocacy publications (paper or online) from non-governmental or non-profit organisations, think tanks or interest groups do not qualify for media accreditation.

Procedure to obtain media accreditation to the European Parliament

There are two types of accreditation available in the European Parliament:

- Short-term accreditation
- Annual accreditation

Short term media accreditation

Journalists can request short-term accreditation (valid from one to a maximum of five working days). Journalists are required to present a valid press card or a letter from an editor-in-chief justifying the request for accreditation. Valid proof of identity is also required. For information and the detailed list of documents to provide, see [here](#).

A short-term accreditation request must be submitted for approval:

- 1) Via the electronic registration website (to submit a request, please click [here](#))
- 2) Exceptionally, for an ad hoc event, directly at the European Parliament media accreditation desk in Brussels (PHS -1C029) and, during the plenary session in Strasbourg only, at the press entrance in Strasbourg (STR - LOW N00307).

Information needed to submit a short-term media accreditation request:

- A copy of your press card or
- A letter of an editor-in-chief of a recognised media
- The purpose of your visit.

For more information see [here](#).

Annual media accreditation

Annual accreditation can be granted to journalists, working for bona-fide media organisations (see *note Media organisations*) who need frequent access to the European Parliament premises for their work. Journalism must be the main source of income. Annual accreditation is valid for a calendar year (January-December) and can be renewed upon request.

An annual accreditation request must be submitted for approval via an electronic registration website (to submit a request, please click [here](#)). Journalists applying for long-term accreditation to the European Parliament should provide the following documents:

- A recent letter from the editor-in-chief or director of the media organisation you work for, stating that you are covering European Parliament affairs;
- A copy of a valid press card;
- A passport photo;
- Proof that your main or secondary residence is in or near the three seats of the European Parliament (Brussels, Strasbourg, Luxembourg). Please submit a copy of your valid identity card or equivalent, or proof of registration at your municipality, or copy of your lease agreement).

Journalists may be asked for proof that their media organisation fulfils the criteria as set out above.

The media accreditation committee will reject applications from non-journalists, lobbyists and consultants, or those who have a professional side activity that the media accreditation committee may deem incompatible with permanent media accreditation.

Annual accreditation is examined by the accreditation committee to verify that requests and the documents provided are authentic. Based on this, additional documents may be requested. The information supplied will be made available to the relevant services of the European Parliament. The Directorate for Media reserves the right to request the assistance of the European Parliament's Directorate General for Security and Safety in granting media accreditation.

The information provided will be stored by the Press service for one year after the accreditation has expired.

Procedure for withdrawal of media accreditation to the European Parliament

The European Parliament (Directorate for Media) reserves the right to withdraw a journalist's accreditation temporarily if his/her behaviour interferes with the smooth running of the activities of the European Parliament, or s/he otherwise breaches the rules regarding recordings on the premises of the European Parliament. In addition, future applications for accreditation by that person or by the media organisation that person represents may be refused for a period of up to one year depending on the severity of the breach. The Director for Media, acting under the authority of the Quaestor responsible, shall take the appropriate measures.

Journalists whose accreditation has been temporarily or permanently withdrawn may appeal against the Directorate for Media's decision to the Quaestors of the European Parliament within one month from the date on which the established breach was notified.

Procedure for withdrawal of interinstitutional annual media accreditation

Any proposal to withdraw interinstitutional accreditation will follow the procedure laid down in the [rules for interinstitutional accreditation agreed by the Parliament, the Council, the Commission and the International Press Association](#).

Data Protection

Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 applies to personal data processed by the Media Directorate. Personal data are processed for the sole purpose of granting accreditation. In the event of special categories of data being processed, appropriate safeguards are set up by the directorate to prevent any breaches or misuses. Personal data can be transferred to the Directorate General for Security and Safety. Under no circumstances are the data used for purposes other than the one for which they have been transmitted.

If personal data are transferred to a third party established in a country that does not provide an adequate level of protection, the explicit consent of the data subject will be required.