Amendment 4
Gunnar Beck
on behalf of the ID Group

Report
Tiemo Wölken, Roberta Metsola
Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU
(2021/2036(INI))

Motion for a resolution
Recital T a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Tₐ. whereas NGOs and civil society organisations are exempt from most anti-money laundering, transparency and financial reporting requirements; whereas the European Court of Auditors’ Special Report No 35/2018 highlights that NGOs are prone to being used for money laundering purposes; whereas many such organisations are multi-billion-euro multinationals;

Or. en
Amendment 5
Gunnar Beck
on behalf of the ID Group

Report
Tiemo Wölken, Roberta Metsola
Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU
(2021/2036(INI))

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

3a. Recalls that certain NGOs and their staff have been found guilty of serious crimes, including fraud and paedophilia; whereas any legislative initiative to curb SLAPPs must not hamper civil or criminal investigation into the activities and finances of NGOs, civil society organisations, their staff and volunteers, or journalists;

Or. en
Amendment 6
Gunnar Beck
on behalf of the ID Group

Report
Tiem Wölken, Roberta Metsola
Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU
(2021/2036(INI))

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

4. Emphasises that public participation also has an important role to play in the proper functioning of the internal market, as well as in the enforcement of Union legislation and policies, as it is often through public participation that breaches of Union law, including violations of fundamental rights, corruption and other abusive practices threatening the proper functioning of the internal market, are made known to the public; underlines that protective measures against the practice of SLAPP suits are essential to addressing the risks that this abusive practice poses to the enforcement of EU law and policies;

Or. en
Amendment 7
Gunnar Beck
on behalf of the ID Group

Report
Tiemo Wölken, Roberta Metsola
Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU
(2021/2036(INI))

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10 a (new)

10a. Stresses that any allegations made by NGOs, civil society organisations, journalists and media organisations should be adjudicated by an independent court of law;

Or. en
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11

11. Highlights that in recent years hate speech and discrimination in the media, both online and offline, as well as cyber-violence, have become increasingly widespread against journalists, NGOs, academics, rights defenders and other civil society actors, including those defending LGBTIQ rights, gender equality issues, religion or belief, thus threatening media freedom, freedom of expression information and assembly, as well as public safety; recalls that online hate speech can incite offline violence; recalls the need to promote the Commission’s code of conduct on countering illegal hate speech online; emphasises that female journalists face the same pressures as their colleagues for content-related issues, but are more often the victims of sexual violence and harassment;
Amendment 9  
Gunnar Beck  
on behalf of the ID Group

Report  
Tiemo Wölken, Roberta Metsola  
Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU  
(2021/2036(INI))

Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 12

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<td>12. Stresses the importance of common European standards and a coordinated approach for dealing with hate speech, particularly in the online environment;</td>
<td>12. Stresses the importance of not labelling politically controversial opinions as hate speech, particularly in the online environment;</td>
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Amendment 10
Gunnar Beck, Jean-Paul Garraud
on behalf of the ID Group

Report
Tiemo Wölken, Roberta Metsola
Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU
(2021/2036(INI))

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 a (new)

  Motion for a resolution  Amendment

12a. Believes that an overly broad and vague definition of ‘hate speech’ could be ineffective and lead to the disproportionate and arbitrary use thereof; considers that this could endanger freedom of expression and media freedom;

Or. en
Amendment 11
Gunnar Beck, Jean-Paul Garraud
on behalf of the ID Group

Report
Tiemo Wölken, Roberta Metsola
Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU
(2021/2036(INI))

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 b (new)

Motion for a resolution
12b. Expresses concern that hate speech laws could be abused to file SLAPPs against NGOs, civil society organisations and journalists for providing politically incorrect information to the public;

Amendment

Or. en
Amendment 12
Gunnar Beck, Jean-Paul Garraud
on behalf of the ID Group

Report
Tiemo Wölken, Roberta Metsola
Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU (2021/2036(INI))

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12c. Points out that, under the rule of law, EU institutions and bodies must not seek to muzzle those opposed to their policies and practices by instituting legal proceedings or threatening prosecution;

Or. en