

29.9.2023

A9-0264/303

**Amendment 303**

**Christine Anderson, Catherine Griset**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act

(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Recital 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(1a) Freedom of expression and the right to impart and receive information can only be effectively guaranteed if media service providers remain free to publish a plurality of views, free from state and government interference and censorship.***

Or. en

**Amendment 304**

**Christine Anderson, Catherine Griset**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act

(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023****Proposal for a regulation****Recital 18***Text proposed by the Commission*

(18) Public service media established by the Member States play a particular role in the internal media market, by ensuring that citizens and businesses have access to quality information and impartial media coverage, as part of their mission. However, public service media can be particularly exposed to the risk of interference, given their institutional proximity to the State and the public funding they receive. This risk may be exacerbated by uneven safeguards related to independent governance and balanced coverage by public service media across the Union. This situation may lead to biased or partial media coverage, distort competition in the internal media market and negatively affect access to independent and impartial media services. It is thus necessary, building on the international standards developed by the Council of Europe in this regard, to put in place legal safeguards for the independent functioning of public service media across the Union. It is also necessary to guarantee that, without prejudice to the application of the Union's State aid rules, public service media providers benefit from sufficient and stable funding to fulfil their mission that enables predictability in their planning. Preferably, such funding should be decided and appropriated on a multi-year basis, in line with the public service mission of public service media providers, to avoid potential

*Amendment*

(18) Public service media established by the Member States play a particular role in the internal media market, by ensuring that citizens and businesses have access to quality information and impartial media coverage, as part of their mission. However, public service media can be particularly exposed to the risk of interference, given their institutional proximity to the State and the public funding they receive. This risk may be exacerbated by uneven safeguards related to independent governance and balanced coverage by public service media across the Union. This situation may lead to biased or partial media coverage, distort competition in the internal media market and negatively affect access to independent and impartial media services. ***We can observe that this has happened in several Member States, where certain parties are not not given airtime, thereby limiting media pluralism.*** It is thus necessary, building on the international standards developed by the Council of Europe in this regard, to put in place legal safeguards for the independent functioning of public service media across the Union. It is also necessary to guarantee that, without prejudice to the application of the Union's State aid rules, public service media providers benefit from sufficient and stable funding to fulfil their mission that enables predictability in their planning. Preferably,

for undue influence from yearly budget negotiations. The requirements laid down in this Regulation do not affect the competence of Member States to provide for the funding of public service media as enshrined in Protocol 29 on the system of public broadcasting in the Member States, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

such funding should be decided and appropriated on a multi-year basis, in line with the public service mission of public service media providers, to avoid potential for undue influence from yearly budget negotiations. The requirements laid down in this Regulation do not affect the competence of Member States to provide for the funding of public service media as enshrined in Protocol 29 on the system of public broadcasting in the Member States, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Or. en

**Amendment 305**

**Catherine Griset, Christine Anderson**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act  
(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

A9-0264/2023

**Proposal for a regulation****Recital 24***Text proposed by the Commission*

(24) ***Without prejudice to the powers granted to the Commission by the Treaties, it is essential that the Commission and the Board work and cooperate closely. In particular, the Board should actively support the Commission in its tasks of ensuring the consistent application of this Regulation and of the national rules implementing Directive 2010/13/EU. For that purpose, the Board should in particular advise and assist the Commission on regulatory, technical or practical aspects pertinent to the application of Union law, promote cooperation and the effective exchange of information, experience and best practices and draw up opinions in agreement with the Commission or upon its request in the cases envisaged by this Regulation. In order to effectively fulfil its tasks, the Board should be able to rely on the expertise and human resources of a secretariat provided by the Commission. The Commission secretariat should provide administrative and organisational support to the Board, and help the Board in carrying out its tasks.***

*Amendment*

(24) the Board should actively support the Commission in its tasks of ensuring the consistent application of this Regulation and of the national rules implementing Directive 2010/13/EU. For that purpose, the Board should in particular advise and assist the Commission on regulatory, technical or practical aspects pertinent to the application of Union law, promote cooperation and the effective exchange of information, experience and best practices and draw up opinions in agreement with the Commission or upon its request in the cases envisaged by this Regulation. In order to effectively fulfil its tasks, the Board should be able to rely on the expertise and human resources of a secretariat ***free of any political or economic interference***. The secretariat should provide administrative and organisational support to the Board, and help the Board in carrying out its tasks.

Or. en

*Justification*

*A plurality of media opinions can only be ensured when political and economic interference is restricted.*

29.9.2023

A9-0264/306

**Amendment 306**

**Christine Anderson, Catherine Griset**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act  
(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 3 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Recipients of media services in the Union shall have the right to receive a plurality of news and current affairs content, produced with respect for editorial freedom of media service providers, to the benefit of the public discourse.*

*Amendment*

Media service providers *shall enjoy editorial freedom to produce, publish and disperse any media services of any content they see fit, in accordance with applicable national laws.*

Or. en

**Amendment 307**

**Christine Anderson, Catherine Griset**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act  
(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 5 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. Public service media providers shall provide in an impartial manner a plurality of information and opinions to their audiences, in accordance with their public service mission.

*Amendment*

1. Public service media providers shall provide in an impartial manner a plurality of information and opinions to their audiences, in accordance with their public service mission. ***Member States shall ensure, by means of national law and their actions, that public service media providers have full autonomy and editorial independence from governmental, political, economic or private vested interests in order to provide, in the exercise of their public service remit, in an impartial and independent manner, a plurality of information and opinions to their audiences.***

Or. en

*Justification*

*The original text requires impartiality in outcome, whereas the report demands impartiality in process. For public service media providers both are equally important.*

29.9.2023

A9-0264/308

**Amendment 308**

**Christine Anderson, Catherine Griset**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act  
(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) the name(s) *of their direct or indirect owner(s) with shareholdings enabling them to exercise influence on the operation and strategic decision making;*

*Amendment*

(b) *where the media service provider is a legal person, its name or registered trade name, its registered address, its legal form and the name of its legal representative and of the physical or legal persons holding at least 10% of its capital;*

Or. en

29.9.2023

A9-0264/309

**Amendment 309**

**Catherine Griset, Christine Anderson**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act

(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 6 – paragraph 2 – point b – point 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**1) *Editors shall not be subject to any influence as regards their editorial lines from Member States, the Board or the Commission.***

Or. en



29.9.2023

A9-0264/310

**Amendment 310**

**Christine Anderson, Catherine Griset**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act  
(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 6 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. The obligations under this Article shall not apply to media service providers that are *micro* enterprises within the meaning of Article 3 of Directive 2013/34/EU.

*Amendment*

3. The obligations under this Article shall not apply to media service providers that are *small* enterprises within the meaning of Article 3 of Directive 2013/34/EU.

Or. en

29.9.2023

A9-0264/311

**Amendment 311**

**Christine Anderson, Catherine Griset**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act  
(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Chapter III – Section 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**[...]**

***deleted***

Or. en

*Justification*

*A Commission appointed Board cannot by definition, be independent. National Regulators can cooperate where necessary, without the need for centralising operations under a European Union Board.*

29.9.2023

A9-0264/312

**Amendment 312**

**Catherine Griset, Christine Anderson**  
on behalf of the ID Group

**Report**

**Sabine Verheyen**

European Media Freedom Act  
(COM(2022)0457 – C9-0309/2022 – 2022/0277(COD))

**A9-0264/2023**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 18 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The Board shall **report on the results of the dialogue** to the **Commission**.

*Amendment*

2. The Board shall **not intervene in national media markets, or in the Member States' spheres of competence in that regard, bearing in mind that Article 167 TFEU provides in particular that '[t]he Union shall contribute to the flowering of the cultures of the Member States, while respecting their national and regional diversity and at the same time bringing the common cultural heritage to the fore'**.

Or. en