

Amendment 330/rev1
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on behalf of the Verts/ALE 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 22 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 22a

Investigation of media market concentrations

1. In the absence of reply or where the reasons provided by the competent national regulatory authority pursuant to Article 22(2) are deemed unsatisfactory, or at the request of the European Parliament, or following a recommendation from the Board, or on its own initiative, the Commission may conduct an investigation of a media market concentration for the purpose of examining whether such a concentration seriously risks affecting the independence, plurality and freedom of the media. The Commission shall conclude the investigation within 6 months. Where the findings of the investigation show that the media market concentration concerned has breached the obligations laid down in this Regulation and that there is a clear risk of seriously undermining the independence, plurality and freedom of the media, the Commission may, by means of a decision, require the undertakings and associations of the undertakings which are part of the media market concentration concerned to bring such a breach to an end. For that purpose, the Commission may impose on them any behavioural or structural remedies which are proportionate to the

breach and necessary to bring it to an end.

2. The remedies imposed in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article may include the prohibition, during a limited period, for the undertakings or associations of the undertakings which are part of the media market concentration under investigation to remain or enter into a further media market concentration. The Commission shall regularly review the remedies that it imposes and shall be entitled to modify them if it finds that they are not effective.

3. A media market concentration shall be deemed to pose serious risks to the independence, plurality and freedom of the media where it has not complied with the obligations laid down in this Regulation and where the opinions of concentrations issued by the Board or by the Commission pursuant to Article 22 of this Regulation conclude that there is a potential risk to the independence, plurality and freedom of the media. For the purposes of its investigation, the Commission shall take into account procedures launched under Article 7 TEU and compliance with commitments requested by national regulatory authorities pursuant to Article 21(6a).

4. In the course of the investigation of the media market concentration concerned, the Commission may extend its duration, where necessary, up to 6 months. The Commission shall inform the European Parliament and the Council of such extensions.

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