Question for written answer E-005350/2021 to the Commission

Rule 138

Emmanuel Maurel (The Left)

Subject: Protecting the cultural diversity of Europe's audiovisual sector: definition of 'European

works'

Since 2018, under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive, providers of on-demand audiovisual media services have been required to have at least a 30 % share of European works in their catalogues.

After three years, it is clear that this obligation has not been effective enough in protecting and promoting European cultural diversity. The content offered by these providers sadly continues to be homogeneous, despite the requirements of this directive.

Providers of on-demand audiovisual media services wield great cultural influence, which is why they need to be strictly regulated to prevent them from having a detrimental effect on the way the film industry works and the European audiovisual landscape.

The definition of 'European works', which has remained more or less unchanged since Directive 89/552/EEC, is one of the causes of this lack of effectiveness.

According to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television (1989), Turkish and Ukranian works are considered European, for example. And despite Brexit, British works – which are often US co-productions – make up more than half of the 'European works' offered by these providers.

- 1. When will the Commission put forward a revised definition of 'European works'?
- 2. Will it limit the scope to works originating from Member States only?