



26/01/2018

AMENDMENTS: 7

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Media pluralism and media freedom in the European Union

Motion for a resolution PE613.557 - 2017/2209(INI)

Amendments created with



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Amendments per language:

EN: 7

Amendment 1

Ana Gomes

Motion for a resolution

Recital E

Motion for a resolution

E. whereas citizens are confronted with a radical evolution of the media system, the emergence of new online media and new powerful actors, such as search engines and social media platforms; whereas this development represents both a challenge and opportunity for the promotion of freedom of expression by involving citizens in the public debate, and for converting a growing number of information users into information producers; whereas, however, the concentration of power of media conglomerates, platform operators and internet intermediaries **risks** negative consequences for the pluralism of public debate **and** access to information;

Amendment

E. whereas citizens are confronted with a radical evolution of the media system, the emergence of new online media and new powerful actors, such as search engines and social media platforms; whereas this development represents both a challenge and opportunity for the promotion of freedom of expression by involving citizens in the public debate, and for converting a growing number of information users into information producers; ***but it also generated the emergence of platforms spreading fake news or distorted information, purposely aiming to manipulate public opinion, namely as a propaganda tool in “hybrid war” contexts;*** whereas, however, the concentration of power of media conglomerates, platform operators and internet intermediaries ***has impacted the freedom and integrity of the professionals of journalism and broadcast media, thus hindering and threatening quality and editorial independence;*** whereas ***privatisations and media control by economic corporations and business and political tycons is determining*** negative consequences for the pluralism of public debate, access to information ***and is fostering the spreading of bigotry and extremist ideologies.***

Or. en

Amendment 2

Ana Gomes

Motion for a resolution
Recital F

Motion for a resolution

F. whereas the effect of the economic crisis, coupled with the simultaneous growth of social media platforms and other high-tech giants and highly selective advertising revenues, have dramatically increased precariousness in the working conditions and social insecurity of media actors, leading to a dramatic drop in professional and social standards in journalism;

Amendment

F. whereas the effect of the economic crisis, coupled with the simultaneous growth of social media platforms and other high-tech giants and highly selective advertising revenues, have dramatically increased precariousness in the working conditions and social insecurity of media actors, ***including independent journalists who are the target of psychological harassment, violence, threats, intimidation, defamation and libel cases*** leading to a dramatic drop in professional and social standards in journalism;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Ana Gomes

Motion for a resolution
Recital G

Motion for a resolution

G. whereas, in the context of the enlargement policy, the Commission has the duty to demand full compliance with the Copenhagen criteria, including freedom of expression and the media; whereas, once Members of the EU, States are ***continuously*** bound by human rights obligations by virtue of the EU Treaties and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights;

Amendment

G. whereas, in the context of the enlargement policy, the Commission has the duty to demand full compliance with the Copenhagen criteria, including freedom of expression and the media; whereas, once Members of the EU, States are ***unequivocally*** bound by human rights obligations by virtue of the EU Treaties and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Ana Gomes

Motion for a resolution
Recital H

Motion for a resolution

H. whereas unlawful and arbitrary surveillance, particularly when carried out on a mass scale, is incompatible with human rights and fundamental freedoms, inter alia freedom of expression – including freedom of the press and protection of confidentiality of journalistic sources –, the right to privacy and data protection; whereas security and counterterrorism laws and activities, as well as measures aimed at countering and preventing violent extremism, should always be the subject of fundamental rights obligations;

Amendment

H. whereas unlawful and arbitrary surveillance, particularly when carried out on a mass scale, is incompatible with human rights and fundamental freedoms, inter alia freedom of expression – including freedom of the press and protection of confidentiality of journalistic sources –, the right to privacy and data protection; whereas security and counterterrorism laws and activities, as well as measures aimed at countering and preventing violent extremism **and hate spreading** should always be the subject of fundamental rights obligations;

Or. en

Amendment 5

Ana Gomes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

1. Calls on the Member States to take adequate measures to safeguard and promote a pluralist, independent and free media landscape in the service of democratic society, including the independence and sustainability of public service media and community media, which are crucial elements of a favourable environment for freedom of expression;

Amendment

1. Calls on the Member States to take adequate measures, **including adequate public funding**, to safeguard and promote a pluralist, independent and free media landscape in the service of democratic society, including the independence and sustainability of public service media and community media which are crucial elements of a favourable environment for freedom of expression;

Or. en

Amendment 6

Ana Gomes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 6

Motion for a resolution

6. Expresses its concern, once again, at the negative and chilling effects of criminal defamation laws vis-à-vis the right to freedom of expression, freedom of the press and public debate – tools which put pressure on journalists and are essentially designed to protect public figures from criticism; reiterates its call to abolish, without delay, any criminal defamation laws and replace them with appropriate civil provisions, while avoiding excessively punitive measures and penalties;

Amendment

6. Expresses its concern, once again, at the negative and chilling effects of criminal defamation, ***anti-terrorism and public order*** laws vis-à-vis the right to freedom of expression, freedom of the press and public debate – tools which put pressure on journalists and are essentially designed to protect public figures from criticism; reiterates its call to abolish, without delay, any criminal defamation laws and replace them with appropriate civil provisions, while avoiding excessively punitive measures and penalties;

Or. en

Amendment 7

Ana Gomes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 a. Calls on the Commission to ensure that any acquisition of co-ownership by outside investors, any partnership agreements or contracts established between broadcasting services funded by the European Union or any media outlets that offer public service using the credibility of a European label, such as Euronews, do not compromise editorial independence, objectivity and integrity of analysis; in this context, expresses its deep concern over contracts entered by Euronews with entities such as Grecima, the now closed propaganda department of the Angolan government, and on the contract maintained by Euronews with the government of Azerbaijan since 2006, sustaining a pro-regime propaganda cover which is incompatible with

***European values and interests in
promoting truthful and pluralistic public
information.***

Or. en