

EN

E-000562/2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.3.2025)

The Commission is aware of the difficulties encountered by investigative media. The Commission is currently collecting information to better estimate the impact on media organisations within the EU of the decision referred to by the Honourable Member.

Investigative media based on the EU and other eligible countries can receive financing from the Creative Europe programme¹, notably via the ‘Journalism Partnerships’ action. This action has already allowed to finance dozens of investigative and other media in the recent years, including in areas with most issues of media pluralism. A new call for proposals² to support media of special relevance to democracy, including investigative journalism, is under evaluation.

Beyond this, and as stated in the Political Guidelines for 2024–2029³, the Commission is committed to supporting and protecting independent media and journalists. It will continue funding projects through different instruments, such as established programmes (Creative Europe, Multimedia Actions⁴) or pilot projects and preparatory actions⁵, to promote a free, diverse and pluralistic media environment and/or address structural challenges of media sectors.

¹ <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/about-the-creative-europe-programme>

² <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/funding/call-proposals-journalism-partnerships-collaborations-2025>

³ https://commission.europa.eu/document/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en

⁴ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/multimedia-actions>

⁵ For example, one call for proposals which closed on 15 March focused on Russian and Belarusian media established and working in the EU. More here: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/funding/media-freedom-hub-2025>