

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003077/25
to the Commission**

Catherine Griset (Pfe), Pierre Pimpie (Pfe), André Rougé (Pfe), Gilles Pennelle (Pfe), Fabrice Leggeri (Pfe)
(24 July 2025)

Subject: What control does the EU have over the European Digital Media Observatory?

The European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) has just published its report on the implementation of the Code of Practice on Disinformation in the first half of 2024 ⁽¹⁾.

Unsurprisingly, this observatory, set up in June 2020 under the aegis of the European Union with EU funding, believes that large digital platforms are not doing enough to fight disinformation and it, of course, recommends the use of fact-checking.

1. In order to ensure the neutrality and impartiality of EDMO members (fact-checkers, media literacy experts and academic researchers), are they recruited through EU civil service competitions?
2. If not, how can the Commission ensure a diversity of political and philosophical views among those working with EDMO, which has become the 'EU's largest interdisciplinary network to counter disinformation' ⁽²⁾?
3. What budget has the EU allocated to EDMO over the last three years?

Supporter ⁽³⁾

Submitted: 24.7.2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(12 September 2025)

The European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) is not an EU body. It is an independent multidisciplinary community composed of fact-checkers, researchers, media literacy experts and media organisations covering the whole EU.

EDMO is supported by the Digital Europe Programme ⁽¹⁾ and is composed of a network of 15 regional hubs, selected by independent experts through a competitive call and a central coordinating unit.

It operates in full independence on the basis of its guiding principles. The EDMO governance structure ensures editorial independence, including for fact-checkers, who are required to adhere to the highest ethical and professional standards.

For the last three years, the Commission has issued several calls to support EDMO activities worth a total of EUR 22 million.

¹ <https://edmo.eu/publications/implementing-the-eu-code-of-practice-on-disinformation-an-evaluation-of-vlopse-compliance-and-effectiveness-jan-jun-2024/>

² https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Observatoire_europ%C3%A9en_des_m%C3%A9dias_num%C3%A9riques

³ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Virginie Joron (Pfe)

⁽¹⁾ See Commission Implementing Decision of 28 March 2025 on the financing of the Digital Europe Programme and the adoption of the multiannual work programme 2025-2027, C(2025) 1839 final. Previous work programmes are available at: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/work-programmes-digital>.