

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003305/25
to the Commission**

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(27 August 2025)

Subject: Suspending or postponing the European Media Freedom Act

The European Media Freedom Act (EMFA) entered into force on 7 May 2024, during the previous parliamentary term — at a time when the co-legislators were in the grip of an almost compulsive obsession with regulation.

Articles 14 to 17 of the EMFA, which relate in particular to the cooperation of national regulators, have been applicable since 8 May 2025, and some Member States still do not have functional regulators. The other provisions of the EMFA have been applicable since 8 August 2025, with the exception of Article 20.

Apart from the legitimate reluctance of some Member States to set up a national regulator, there are many arguments in favour of postponing or suspending the EMFA: the need to simplify and streamline standards; concerns about upholding pluralism of the press; fears about the development of censorship within the EU; and so on.

With that in mind, is the Commission willing to suspend, or at the very least postpone, the application of the EMFA?

Submitted: 27.8.2025

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

The European Media Freedom Act ⁽¹⁾ (EMFA) puts in place a new set of rules to protect media pluralism and independence in the EU, including rules safeguarding the effective editorial freedom of media. Most of the provisions of the EMFA became applicable on 8 August 2025.

The European Board for Media Services (hereafter ‘the Media Board’) has replaced and succeeded the European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services (ERGA), established by the Audiovisual Media Services Directive, hereafter ‘AVMSD’ ⁽²⁾. The Media Board is composed of representatives of national regulatory authorities or bodies that were already members of ERGA, as established by AVMSD. In some cases, national regulators and bodies may require additional powers to fulfil the tasks granted to them by EMFA.

Some of the EMFA provisions require adapting national legal frameworks to ensure their effective implementation. The Commission is in close contact with Member States to make sure that their legal and institutional frameworks are aligned with EMFA and facilitate its full application.

The Commission will take the necessary measures to ensure the enforcement of EMFA.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1083 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a common framework for media services in the internal market and amending Directive 2010/13/EU (European Media Freedom Act) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202401083.

⁽²⁾ Article 30b of Directive 2010/13/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 March 2010 on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services (Audiovisual Media Services Directive) (Codified version) <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32010L0013>.