

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003702/25
to the Commission**

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(24 September 2025)

Subject: Failure of France's regulatory authority for audiovisual and digital communication to fulfil its obligations in the Pormanove case

France's regulatory authority for audiovisual and digital communication (Arcom), which is responsible for regulating online platforms, allowed a streaming platform to broadcast a programme in which a man was regularly attacked, humiliated and insulted, until his death, after a 298-hour livestream ⁽¹⁾.

Composed of left-wing political activists ⁽²⁾, Arcom is so busy increasing sanctions against conservative or sovereigntist media (fines and withdrawals of broadcasting licences on digital terrestrial television) that it fails to show an interest when truly violent and sordid programmes are being broadcast.

1. Is the Commission not concerned that a national authority, designated as its interlocutor, has a discretionary and opaque recruitment method and that it has been systematically infiltrated by left-wing activists?
2. In order to put an end to this conflict of interest, should national authorities such as Arcom, responsible for ensuring that large digital platforms in their respective countries comply with EU law, not be required to admit members nominated by the parliamentary opposition or appointed by means of competitions?

Submitted: 24.9.2025

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

(10 November 2025)

The Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) ⁽¹⁾ and the Digital Services Act (DSA) ⁽²⁾ include independence safeguards for media and digital regulators. However, the EU legal framework does not prescribe specific recruitment or appointment procedures.

Article 30 of the AVMSD requires Member States to ensure that regulators act impartially, transparently and independently. They must be functionally independent of their governments and of any other public or private body.

Under Article 50 of the DSA, Member States must designate independent authorities, known as Digital Services Coordinators (DSCs), to supervise compliance of intermediary service providers established in their territory with the DSA and to participate in EU-level cooperation mechanisms.

The DSA establishes strong guarantees to ensure that DSCs act impartially and transparently. They must exercise their tasks in full independence and autonomy, free from any external influence, and be provided with adequate resources to perform their duties effectively. The Commission monitors the implementation of these requirements.

In France, Arcom has been designated as independent regulator under the AVMSD and the DSA. The Commission is in regular contact with Arcom, including following the incident on Kick.com.

Under the DSA the supervisory powers concerning Kick.com are with the DSC of Malta, which is the EU Member State where Kick.com has designated its legal representative.

The Commission is ready to support the DSCs in their work and recalls that all online platforms must provide 'notice and action' mechanisms allowing users to flag illegal content pursuant to Article 16 of the DSA and report suspected criminal offences threatening life or safety to national authorities as provided for in Article 18.

¹ Raphaël Graven, aka Jean Pormanove.

² https://x.com/ojim_france/status/1958192806813470903

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2018/1808/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj/eng>.