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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(15.6.2026)

The Commission recalls that the European Media Freedom Act (EMFA)¹ is directly applicable in all Member States since 8 August 2025. The Commission continues to monitor and analyse diligently the alignment of national legal frameworks of Member States with the EMFA.

Exchanges with Member States, including the French authorities, concern in particular the application of key EMFA provisions relating to the protection of media pluralism and editorial independence, media market concentration assessments, and the safeguards applicable to public service media.

While the EMFA is directly applicable, national legislative measures may still be necessary in order to designate competent authorities, confer the necessary powers, establish procedural rules and ensure effective enforcement. The need for such measures depends on the existing national legal and institutional frameworks.

The EMFA does not require Member States to establish a new authority where existing structures can ensure effective implementation. It is therefore for France to determine the competent authority or authorities. In that context, the French National Regulatory Authority (*Autorité de régulation de la communication audiovisuelle et numérique* (ARCOM)) already exercises important regulatory responsibilities in the audiovisual and digital sectors, and any extension of its mandate to print media would be a matter for the French authorities.

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).