

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001697/26
to the Commission**

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(24 April 2026)

Subject: Transparency of EU funding for the German-Austrian Digital Media Observatory (GADMO)

The EU Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) network has received significant public funding from the Commission since the former's creation in 2020 and has so far received over EUR 30 million in funding. In addition, the network now includes 15 regional hubs, including the German-Austrian Digital Media Observatory (GADMO). The Financial Transparency System put GADMO's total budget for the periods from 1 November 2022 to 30 April 2025 and from 1 May 2025 to 31 October 2027 at EUR 2 704 893.66 and EUR 2 399 051.28 respectively. Despite this considerable level of funding, it remains largely unclear how these funds are being used specifically and which organisations or projects ultimately benefit from them.

1. Exactly how were the EU funds for the GADMO network used in detail, and which organisations were supported, when, with what amount, and for what purpose or scope?
2. Why is detailed information on the actual use of funds and on the final beneficiaries of funding in the Financial Transparency System not publicly available and does the Commission intend to ensure more comprehensive, traceable, and citizen-friendly transparency in this area in the future?
3. Why are there no conservative or EU-critical organisations in the GADMO network and why are no projects being funded that critically explore, for example, internal EU disinformation narratives?

Submitted: 25.4.2026

Answer given by Mr Serafin on behalf of the European Commission

(4 August 2026)

The Commission invites the Honourable Members to consult the Funding and Tenders Portal ⁽¹⁾ (F&T Portal), which provides detailed information on the objectives and actions implemented under the German-Austrian Digital Media Observatory (GADMO) network ⁽²⁾.

The EU contribution amounts to EUR 1 502 671.00 for the GADMO ⁽³⁾ project and EUR 1 299 303.14 for the GADMO 2.0 ⁽⁴⁾ project. The remaining share of the total budget for both projects is covered through co-financing.

The Financial Transparency System ⁽⁵⁾ (FTS) makes available to the public information on recipients of funds financed from the EU budget and implemented directly by the Commission and other EU bodies such as executive agencies ('direct management') or implemented indirectly by other international organisations or non-EU countries ('indirect management'), and beneficiaries of the European Development Fund.

The annex contains an extract from the FTS showing the recipients of funding under both GADMO projects, including their names, the subject of the funding, the project's start and end dates, and the amounts awarded.

The Commission will increase completeness of information provided in the FTS through the implementation of the Single Gateway ⁽⁶⁾, by extending the publication requirement to data on the recipients of Union funds under indirect and shared management for programmes adopted under and financed from the 2028-2034 Multiannual Financial Framework, subject to the conditions set out in the Financial Regulation ⁽⁷⁾.

European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) ⁽⁸⁾ hubs were established through open calls for proposals, in response to which organisations and institutions independently formed consortia at national or multinational level.

⁽¹⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-results?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=10&sortBy=es_SortDate.

⁽²⁾ The amounts referred to in the question are based on the information published on the F&T Portal.

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43152860/101083573/DIGITAL?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=10&sortBy=es_SortDate&keywords=GADMO. GADMO — Project ID 101083573.

⁽⁴⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43152860/101226174/DIGITAL?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=10&sortBy=es_SortDate&keywords=GADMO. GADMO 2.0 — Project ID 101226174.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/budget/financial-transparency-system/index.html>. The annual publications are based on Article 38 of the Financial Regulation (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1-222), and in accordance with the third paragraph of the article, data on recipients is not disclosed for very low value contracts below EUR 15 000 and where disclosure risks threatening the rights and freedoms of the persons or entities, or harming the commercial interests of the recipients, among others.

⁽⁶⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:bb24b1ec-62fc-11f0-bf4e-01aa75ed71a1.0001.02/DOC_4&format=PDF.

⁽⁷⁾ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/990fe2a6-8f52-11ef-a130-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>.

⁽⁸⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/DIGITAL-2024-BESTUSE-TECH-07-EDMO>.

The Commission played no role in determining the composition of these consortia or in selecting the members and partners involved. Awarded proposals were selected solely by independent experts based on the award criteria defined in the calls.
