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E-002958/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.9.2026)

The Centre for Media Pluralism (CMPF) is an independent research centre specialised in media freedom and pluralism, and the Media Pluralism Monitor (MPM) is a scientific tool analysing risks to media freedom across all Member States and selected enlargement countries. The Commission co-finances the project but in no way directs the CMPF or its country teams in the design and implementation of the MPM. The views expressed in the MPM publication reflect the opinion of individual authors, not of the Commission.

The Commission takes the MPM findings into account to support its analysis of developments in the area of media freedom and pluralism in the annual rule of law report, in particular where they concern structural issues in a given Member State. The Commission does not take a position on the MPM reporting concerning specific cases or statements. The Commission has not reached out either to Conspiracy Watch, the European Digital Media Observatory, or any other stakeholders regarding the MPM findings quoted by the Honourable Member.

Under Article 22 of the Digital Services Act¹ (DSA), the trusted flagger status may be granted by the competent national Digital Services Coordinator to entities that demonstrate that they meet the eligibility conditions set out in Article 22(2). In accordance with Article 22(5) of the DSA, the Commission publishes information concerning entities that have been awarded trusted flagger status in a publicly available database². The DSA does not establish an obligation to publish the identity of entities whose applications for trusted flagger status, submitted to the Digital Services Coordinators in the Member State in which they are established, were unsuccessful.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2022/2065, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj/eng>.

² Trusted flaggers under the Digital Services Act, <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/trusted-flaggers-under-dsa>.