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Press release

## **European media regulators start their work in a crucial year for the development of the EU media framework**

On 25 January, ERGA adopted the terms of reference of its subgroups and action group that will carry out the ERGA work programme for 2022<sup>1</sup>. The latter aims to respond to high expectations in a crucial year for media regulation. *“Our programme is ambitious, but it echoes major regulation projects that should impact all Member States of the European Union”*, declared Karim Ibourki, the ERGA Chair.

The European Commission announced a legislative proposal for a European Media Freedom Act (EMFA), currently planned for the third quarter of the year. Following this initiative will be an important activity of ERGA over the course of the year. Furthermore, the Digital Services Act (DSA) and the Regulation on the transparency and targeting of political advertising, are currently under discussion. *“These initiatives have a very important common point which is to address issues in the European online environment by regulating online platforms, and political advertising in order to affirm Europe’s digital sovereignty and safeguard European democracy. We cannot miss this chance and to succeed, the Commission must use all resources, including national media regulators, which already effectively cooperate within ERGA”*, insisted the Chair.

To carry out its programme, ERGA has set up three subgroups and one action group with specific missions and goals. Subgroup 1 will be chaired by the Italian media regulator (AGCOM) and its mission will mainly be to support the implementation of the AVMS Directive, for example with regard to the Directive’s provisions on video-sharing platforms.

The ERGA subgroup 2 will be steered by the French media regulator (Arcom). This group will focus on three main priorities. Firstly, it will develop ERGA’s position in relation to the upcoming proposal for a European Media Freedom Act (EMFA). Secondly, the subgroup will continue to monitor the EU policy discussions on the Digital Services Act (DSA) as well as to promote ERGA’s views concerning this

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<sup>1</sup> To be noted that the terms of reference for ERGA’s subgroup on the Consistent implementation and enforcement of the AVMSD framework are still in the internal adoption procedure and will be adopted shortly.

important regulation. Finally, it will continue the reflection and make proposals on the future of ERGA, in order to maintain its functioning in the evolving regulatory framework.

The third subgroup, chaired by the Slovak media regulator (CBR), will prepare ERGA's position on the proposed regulation on the transparency and targeting of political advertising. It also has the important mission of contributing to the development of the new Code of Practice on Disinformation and its monitoring. In this regard, the group will also be actively involved in the permanent taskforce as envisaged in the European Commission's Guidance to strengthen the Code of Practice.

Finally, a specific Action Group, led by the Czech media regulator (RRTV), will deal with the implementation of the ERGA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) adopted in December 2020. The action group will aim to strengthen cooperation between the national media regulators in the Union within the framework of the MoU. This should help to ensure a consistent and effective implementation of the EU regulatory framework for media and notably the AVMS Directive.

**More info:**

[Current ERGA activities](#)

[ERGA Work Programme 2022](#)

**About ERGA:**

*The European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services (ERGA) consists of the national regulatory authorities in the field of audiovisual media services. ERGA advises the European Commission and facilitates cooperation between the regulatory bodies in the EU. Mr Karim Ibourki, President of the Belgian CSA (Conseil supérieur de l'audiovisuel) is the current Chairperson of ERGA.*