



# EU-FUNDED PROJECTS TO SUPPORT MEDIA FREEDOM AND PLURALISM IN THE EU

June 2020

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Currently, there are **six ongoing projects**, representing close to **€7 million** of EU funding.

These projects aim to map violations of media freedom and defend journalists under threat and support collaborative journalism, cooperation and exchange of best practices.

**In March 2020, the Commission announced the following projects:**

## 1. A EUROPE-WIDE RESPONSE MECHANISM FOR VIOLATION OF PRESS AND MEDIA FREEDOM



The Europe-wide rapid response mechanism for violations of press and media freedom encompasses fact-finding, advocacy, monitoring, and awareness raising. It will bring violations to the forefront, and provide practical help to journalists under threat. This action will be carried out in collaboration with European, regional, and local stakeholders in the field of media freedom.

Total budget: **€1,400,000**

[The selected project](#) started on 1 March 2020. It is a consortium led by the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom.

## 2. CROSS-BORDER INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM FUND



The action will fund grants supporting investigative journalism involving journalists from at least two countries covered by the action. Its aim is to highlight issues of common interest to citizens of several Member States and thus strengthen the European media sphere.

Total budget: **€1,500,000**

[The selected project](#) started on 1 March 2020. It is a consortium led by the International Press Institute. **The first call launched by the International Press Institute is open until 14 June 2020 and the second one is expected to open in August 2020.**

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## 3. SUPPORTING INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM AND MEDIA FREEDOM IN THE EU



This project will fund five beneficiaries who will set up a range of activities (such as training and practical guides) that will be geared towards providing support to independent and collaborative journalism, and at promoting media freedom across the EU.

Total budget: **€1,275,000**

A first project has started on 1 June 2020: Media4Change – Future Investigative Story Lab  
The four other beneficiaries will be announced in the coming weeks.

## 4. MONITORING MEDIA PLURALISM IN THE DIGITAL AGE



The [Media Pluralism Monitor](#), a scientific tool designed to identify potential risks to media pluralism, has been extended for an additional year. The 2020 report will be published in the coming weeks.

Total budget: **€1,000,000**

## Last year, two projects started:

### 5. EXCHANGE OF MEDIA RISING STARS TO SPEED UP INNOVATION AND INCREASE CROSS-BORDER COVERAGE



[This project](#) facilitates the mobility of young media professionals and cross-border cooperation between these professionals and media outlets.

Total budget: **€ 1,200,000**

Starting date: 1 November 2019

### 6. MEDIA COUNCILS IN THE DIGITAL AGE



[This project](#) supports cross-border cooperation between media professionals and self-regulatory bodies.

Total budget: **€ 500,000**

Starting date: 1 October 2019

Three new calls for Pilot Projects will be published in the coming weeks for a total of €3,150,000

The [Multimedia Actions budget](#), supporting independent coverage on EU affairs, also plans two additional calls by the end of June 2020 for a total of **€3,732,000**.

**Stay tuned:** all of the above calls will be published on:

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/newsroom-agenda/funding-opportunity/supporting-media-and-digital-culture/>

## OTHER OPEN CALLS FOR MEDIA

### A EUROPEAN PUBLIC SPHERE: A NEW ONLINE MEDIA OFFER FOR YOUNG EUROPEANS



This [call](#), open until 22 July 2020, seeks proposals of consortia gathering at least 5 media organisations from at least 5 Member States, to produce daily, thought-provoking content from across Europe around current affairs, particularly targeting young Europeans.

Total budget: **€ 2,500,000**

Deadline for applications: 22 July 2020

### MEDIA LITERACY FOR ALL



Media Literacy for All is a European Parliament Preparatory Action that enables the funding of a wide range of actions, from traditional educational actions for schools to innovative fact-checking projects aimed at both citizens and journalists.

Total budget: **€ 2,250,000** (from 2016-2020)

The [call for proposals](#) of the final year of the preparatory action will be published by the end of June 2020.

### EUROPEAN DIGITAL PLATFORM OF QUALITY CONTENT PROVIDERS



The main objective of this call for tender is to acquire a feasibility study setting out the viability of creating a European online platform for the creation and distribution of news and/or content of general interest.

Total budget: **€ 390,000**

Deadline for receipt of tenders: 20 July 2020

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