

Global Europe Proposal

Integrating support to independent media and journalism as a strategic priority in EU external action

Context

We welcome the positive developments from **AFET and DEVE's draft report** on the proposed regulation establishing the **Global Europe**. The draft report roots EU's external action in international human rights law (AM 9), seeks to **ensure predictable funding for democracy and civil society (AMs, 33, 34, 42, 48 and 66)**, anchors the Global Gateway to the objectives and principles of Global Europe (AM 95) and, under a new annex, sets common objectives across all geographic pillars (AM 105). **These are important steps toward a more coherent and effective EU external action framework.** However, the current proposal must be further strengthened to recognise media, journalism support and information integrity, not only as a strategic policy priority, but also to operationalise the Parliament's enhanced position on democracy and funding architecture for the Global Europe Instrument.

This document summarises the joint position and recommendations developed by a network of organisations active in journalism support, media development, media freedom, and the broader human rights ecosystem, collectively constituting the EU Media Advocacy Group.

Find the link to our full position and suggested amendments below or by scanning the QR code.



Our core requests

Flexibility in EU external action must NOT undermine **predictable, strategic support for independent media and journalism.**

Therefore, we ask Members of the European Parliament to:

- Guarantee sufficient and predictable funding to support resilient public-interest information ecosystems:** Support the amendments that ensure dedicated and reliable funding for initiatives that support independent media, journalism and information integrity.
- Recognise media and journalism as a strategic priority, explicitly embedded in:**
 - Objectives (Art. 4) - suggested amendment 1
 - Budget (Art. 6) - suggested amendment 2
 - General and Geographic Programming Principles (Art. 9 and 14) - suggested amendments 3, 4 and 6 (including AM 72 from the Draft Report)
 - Mainstreaming (Art. 10) - suggested amendment 4
 - Implementation (Art. 23) - suggested amendment 5
 - New Annex II "Common specific objectives for all geographic pillars" (AM 105) - suggested amendment 9a, 9b and 9c.
- Reflect the cross-cutting nature of information ecosystems, **incorporating support for journalism and the media more systematically**, as suggested in our amendments to the recitals and Annex II (suggested amendments 12 to 28, as well as our full list of amendments available here).

The collapse of information ecosystems is a systemic risk to EU stability and interests

Independent, public interest media and journalism are prerequisites to deliver EU global objectives and uphold EU values

EU international commitments will fall short without funding and policy alignments that support independent, public interest media and journalism