

TABLED BY: Rui Tavares, on behalf of the Greens/EFA group

SECTION III: COMMISSION

	Commission Draft Budget 2012		EP Amounts	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
Budget Line N° & Heading:				
Budget Line N° 33 02 10 - Heading 3a				
Appropriations			2 000 000	2 000 000
Reserve				

NOMENCLATURE:

Create the following new line:

PP 33 02 10: Pilot Project to enable the implementation of an already existing Media Pluralism Monitoring Tool (MPM) for assessing media freedom across the EU

REMARKS:

Add the following:

The main objective of this pilot project is to assess media pluralism across the EU and investigate threats to media freedom with differentiated comparable sets of indicators covering pertinent legal, economic and socio-cultural-demographical considerations.

The Pilot Project will cover the following actions:

- to adapt the Media Pluralism Monitoring tool on the basis of the framework already developed and described in an independent study on "Indicators for Media Pluralism in the Member States - Towards a Risk-Based Approach"¹,
- to assemble resources in order to enable the implementation of the MPM tool,
- to coordinate the work of national regulatory agencies, international organisations, academic research and other relevant entities,
- to gather and consolidate the already existing databases,
- to set up panels of experts who are familiar with specific aspects of media pluralism across Europe in the legal, socio-demographical and economic areas as well as national experts who can access national data sources,
- to process and analyse the results of the monitoring,
- to publicly share and make available to a wide and democratic debate the results obtained,
- to consult a broad range of stakeholders on regulatory, policy or other actions to be taken in reaction to reported risks, also considering the costs of the measures in comparison with the probability that a risk occurs and its possible impact,
- to give a detailed plan of recommended actions based on the results of the monitoring and on the conclusions of the earlier consultations,
- to compare data of the Member States and develop benchmarks and/or best practices,
- to carry out the monitoring at regular intervals in order to obtain a clear view of trends and developments concerning media pluralism in EU Member States.

JUSTIFICATION:

In 2000, the EP, Council and Commission explicitly committed to respecting media pluralism via the Charter of Fundamental Rights, which states that *"the freedom and pluralism of the media shall be respected"*.

The EU has spent resources on a media pluralism monitoring tool (MPM) that can assess risks for media pluralism and freedom when it is applied to the reality of a given Member State but has not yet implemented it.

This Pilot Project aims for the implementation of the MPM tool following the recommendations of the EP to assess the state of media freedom in the 27 member states.