Media and digital culture

The Commission is defending European media and digital culture with policies that empower citizens and encourage media pluralism.

The move to digital brought with it new ways to experience the world around us. We can access news whenever and wherever we are and have a huge choice of the sources and platforms we use. New technologies allow us to explore our past and present cultures more easily, touring heritage sites and museums from the comfort of our homes. And, we can all enjoy a range of different movies, TV and radio shows produced in Europe.

Yet, we also have challenges to face in the area of media and digital culture during the Digital Decade. Disinformation spreads faster online than it ever did in the offline world, with damaging consequences. The fight to ensure media freedom and protect journalists is ongoing. And, as the online world brings us closer together, we need to keep hold of our cultural diversity across Europe.

These concerns among others have fueled the EU’s approach to European media and digital culture, driving actions such as:

- the Code of Practice on Disinformation
- the European Media and Audiovisual Action Plan
- the Audiovisual Media Services Directive
- the Media Pluralism Monitor
- the European Film Forum
- Europeana

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Today, the Commission is launching “MediaInvest”, a new financing tool to boost Europe's audiovisual industry.
Press Release | 19 May 2022
Audiovisual Media Services Directive: Commission refers five Member States to the Court of Justice of the EU

The European Commission has decided to refer Czechia, Ireland, Romania, Slovakia and Spain, to the Court of Justice of the European Union over the failure to transpose the revised Audiovisual Media Services Directive (“AVMSD”, Directive (EU) 2018/1808), with a request to impose financial sanctions in accordance with Article 260(3) TFEU.

Digibyte | 17 May 2022
The European Commission meets audiovisual industry at the Cannes Film Festival

Commissioner for Internal Market Thierry Breton attends the Cannes Film Festival to meet representatives of the audiovisual industry, take stock of the EU support to the sector, and present his vision to build Europe’s cultural sovereignty.

Press Release | 16 May 2022
EU-US Trade and Technology Council: strengthening our renewed partnership in turbulent times

The EU and the US have reaffirmed their close cooperation to address global trade and technology challenges in line with their shared commitment to democracy, freedom and human rights.

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Audiovisual and Media Services

These days we can watch our favourite programmes not just on TV, but also online. These shows are subject to the rules of the single market.

Supporting media and digital culture
The Commission is promoting a coherent approach on media policies, covering legislation on media services and the preservation of European cultural heritage.

Digital cultural heritage

Cultural heritage is evolving rapidly thanks to digital technologies. The momentum is now to preserve our cultural heritage and bring it to this digital decade.

Copyright

The European Commission is adapting EU copyright rules to new consumer behaviours in a Europe which values its cultural diversity.

Media freedom and pluralism

The European Union upholds media freedom and pluralism as pillars of modern democracy and enablers of free and open debate.