Media sector calls — EU support to the news media sector

The Commission aims to support projects that address structural challenges of media sectors and/or that promote a free, diverse and pluralistic environment.

These projects are aligned with the objectives of the Commission's European Democracy Action Plan and the Media and Audiovisual Action Plan, presented in December 2020. Examples of projects include supporting collaborative and cross-border journalism, monitoring risks to media pluralism, mapping violations of media freedom, defending journalists under threat, media innovation, supporting media literacy and strengthening the European public sphere.

As part of the latter, the Commission launched the ‘News Initiative’, bundling existing and new actions to support the news media sector.

This initiative looks holistically at the challenges facing the news media industry and provides a coherent response, bringing together different policy and funding programmes/instruments under a common banner.

As part of these efforts, the new Multiannual Financial Framework for the first time has a dedicated envelope for media pluralism, journalism and media literacy of at least €75 million under Creative Europe.

1. Media freedom and pluralism calls

Media freedom and pluralism are essential principles enshrined by the European Charter of Fundamental Rights. The Commission has been providing support to these principles through a wide range of pilots and preparatory actions. In the period 2021-2027, actions that monitor and assess risks to media pluralism and freedom are supported through the Creative Europe programme.

2. Collaboration and innovation calls

The Commission aims to support the transformation and competitiveness of the news media sector. Grants under Creative Europe include support to foster cross-border collaboration across news media, through grants. These grants aim to stimulate the testing of viable business models, developing business and editorial standards and training and mobility of professionals. Support to innovative applications for media is offered through Horizon Europe.
3. Citizen engagement and public sphere calls

The Commission wants to stimulate a lively and diverse public sphere, in which citizens have access to reliable information about the EU. Support for independent production and dissemination of news content on EU affairs is available through the Multimedia Actions. In addition, the Commission supports the development of innovative and attractive projects to engage with citizens, as well as media literacy.

See also

Interactive mapping tool on funding opportunities for audiovisual and news media

Follow the latest progress and learn more about getting involved.
Recent calls to support the news media sector

CALL FOR PROPOSALS | 24 February 2022 - 07 September 2022
Journalism Partnerships

The call for proposals for Journalism Partnerships
aims to help the wider European news media sector become more sustainable and resilient, thus contributing to trustworthy reporting on current affairs, to an informed and inclusive democratic debate, to skills development and employment for news media professionals and journalists.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS | 03 February 2022 - 06 April 2022
Creative Europe MEDIA: Media Literacy

Creative Europe offers funding to the news media sector in order to promote media literacy, pluralism and media freedom, as well as activities to help the sector adjust to the structural and technological changes it faces.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS | 17 November 2021 - 22 February 2022
Call for proposals - Digital Transformation

The EU is launching a call for proposals in the field of Digital Transformation under the Digital Europe Programme. Information and procedures on how to apply are on the Funding and Tender Opportunities portal.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS | 16 September 2021 - 29 October 2021
Media freedom and investigative journalism

The European Union is making EUR 3.75 million available for actions to support media freedom and investigative journalism.

All calls dedicated to supporting the news media sector
Browse Support for the news media sector
The Media and Audiovisual Action Plan (MAAP) aims to boost European media and help maintain European cultural and technological autonomy in the Digital Decade.

The 'News Initiative'
A free, viable and pluralistic media environment is key to keeping citizens informed, holding power to account, and strengthening open, democratic societies.

Media sector calls - Citizen engagement and public sphere

The Commission wants to stimulate a lively and diverse public sphere, in which citizens have access to reliable information about the EU.

Media sector calls - Collaboration and innovation

The Commission aims to support the transformation and competitiveness of the news media sector.

Media sector calls — EU support to Media Freedom and Pluralism

The Commission has been providing support to the principles of media freedom and media pluralism through a wide range of pilots and preparatory actions.

Source URL: https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/policies/funding-news-media-sector