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NEWS RELEASE

EMMA and ENPA welcome von der Leyen Commission

EMMA and ENPA welcome the democratic vote cast today for the investiture of the von der Leyen Commission by the European Parliament.

We acknowledge the work of the first von der Leyen Commission towards upholding the free democratic press sector in the European Union. Several legislative initiatives of relevance to the press were adopted over the last legislature, including the Digital Markets Act (DMA), the Digital Services Act (DSA), the European Media Freedom Act (EMFA) and the Artificial Intelligence Act (AI Act).

We call on the second von der Leyen Commission to ensure that press and media freedom and the sustainability of the free press remain at the heart of its upcoming work, including the efficient and coherent implementation of the above-mentioned legislative acts. We also stress the need for a more holistic approach to protecting press freedom, including ensuring that existing business models are not undermined and that market conditions are in place to finance a free press.

Mike Koedinger, President of EMMA, said: “We welcome the von der Leyen Commission and look forward to collaborating to create a balanced, healthy digital single market that allows the press sector to thrive and curtails the dominance of market-dominant platforms.”

François le Hodey, President of ENPA, said: “During the last legislature, we worked intensively to level the digital market playing field and ensure the press sector's sustainability in the market. We welcome the new Commission and expect forward-looking solutions that safeguard media freedom and pluralism, particularly in the face of the AI revolution.”

The mandate of the new European Commission will formally start on 1 December 2024.

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EMMA, the European Magazine Media Association, is the unique and complete representation of Europe's magazine media, which is today enjoyed by millions of consumers on various platforms, encompassing both paper and digital formats. EMMA represents 15,000 publishing houses, publishing 50,000 magazine titles across Europe in print and digital.

See: www.magazinemedias.eu/

ENPA, the European Newspaper Publishers' Association (ENPA) is the largest representative body of newspaper publishers across Europe. ENPA advocates for 14 national European associations and is a principal interlocutor to the EU institutions and a key driver of media policy debates in the European Union. See: www.enpa.eu/