

As agreed during the virtual meeting held on 3 April, please find below the written responses to questions 7 and 8 addressed to #PortugalMediaLaw.

7) The Media Plan presented last October commits to allocating around EUR 600 000 to the implementation of the National Media Education Plan. In light of the latest political developments in the country, is it still planned to implement this plan?

Yes.

The National Plan on Media Literacy (PNLM) for the period 2025-2029 has been approved by the XXIV Constitutional Government on 10th March 2025 through the Resolution of the Council of Ministers n.º 65/2025, published on the 18th of March 2025.

The Plan includes:

- a) A Strategy 2025-2029, which is annexed to the Resolution and forms an integral part of it;
- b) Activities to be developed in each calendar year, to be approved by the member of the Government responsible for media policy, based on a proposal from the director of #PortugalMediaLab (established by the Government in August last year).

The general objectives of the Strategy are:

- 1 - Promote media literacy among all audiences;
- 2 - Combat disinformation and fake news;
- 3 - Promote responsible and informed consumption of content;
- 4 - Promoting a more informed and participatory citizenship.

The implementation of the PNLM 2025-2029 is the responsibility of #PortugalMediaLab, which should on its own or through partnerships, develop the respective activities, as well as encourage other public and private entities to contribute to the promotion of media literacy.

The general coordination of the PNLM 2025-2029 is entrusted to the director of #PortugalMediaLab, under the guidelines of the member of the Government responsible for media policy.

The annual amount for the implementation of the PNLM 2025-29, provided is €600,000.

At the request of the director of #PortugalMediaLab, the members of the Informal Group on Media Literacy (GILM) may monitor the implementation of the PNLM 2025-2029 and contribute to the to the preparation of strategic instruments and planning of activities, as well as to their monitoring and evaluation.

The GILM, created in 2009, gathers representatives from public entities, academia, the public service media and media experts.

Furthermore, the revision of the public service media concession contract signed on the 7th of march 2025 foresees media literacy obligations for RTP, including the obligation to produce content to be broadcast on linear services, as well as on-demand audiovisual services and digital services, aimed at different audiences, namely children, young people and senior citizens, besides the obligations already foresaw on the legal framework, namely to design and implement an action plan to promote media literacy [article 51(2)(f)] of the Law on Television and On-Demand Audiovisual Services] and to participate in media education activities, in particular by ensuring the broadcasting of programmes geared towards this objective; Law on Radio [article 49(2)(f) of the Law on Radio].

8) In its written contribution, the Portuguese Government mentions that in the first semester of 2025 a national plan for the safety of journalists will be approved, in line with the EU 2021 Recommendation on the matter, as well as those of the Council of Europe and of the OSCE. Can you give us an update on the state of play of the adoption of this plan?

As previously announced by the Portuguese Government under Measure 16 of its Media Action Plan, the National Plan for the Safety of Journalists was approved (the Resolution of the Council of Ministers no. 51/2025 from 17 of march) and is so now in force. This act will be first followed by the constitution of the National Committee for the safety of journalists and other media professionals a body with support functions for the co-ordination of the implementation and continuous improvement of the plan, as well as

the promotion of dialogue and the articulation of efforts between all relevant stakeholders.

Complying with the EU 2021 Recommendation as with those from the Council of Europe and the OSCE on this matter this Plan aims to

a) Promoting recognition of the role of journalists, through debate, reflection and raising awareness of the importance of journalism and independent, rigorous and impartial information, with access to reliable and diverse sources, to guarantee a press that is freedom of expression and information, which are fundamental to democracy.

b) Development of protection mechanisms against online threats, considering the potential of the digital environment for committing crimes.

c) Strengthening protection against threats in a physical environment, by increasing cooperation and awareness among security forces, armed forces and judicial authorities and with journalists.

d) Increased awareness of the problem of journalists' safety and the challenges it poses.

e) Encouraging the active participation of the media sector in the Plan's initiatives, subject to coordination of action, with a view to ensuring that the needs of journalists and other media professionals targeted by the Plan are met.

In addition to the National Plan for the Safety of Journalists, we would like to draw attention to other measures of the Media Action Plan relevant to promote journalists' economic security, namely the measures to combat unemployment and job insecurity among journalists (14. Supporting journalist hiring and talent retention; 15. Support for hiring the first full-time, permanent journalist) and the measures to support the media sector that impact the journalistic activity such as 11. Conducting a study on the journalistic market and media organisations; 12. Assessing the current legal framework for state support for media at local and regional level; 17. Digital / Artificial Intelligence training for journalists; 18. A white paper on artificial intelligence applied to journalism;

20. Supporting the distribution of periodicals in sparsely populated areas; 21. Ensuring the distribution of periodicals in all municipalities of the country; 22. Doubling of the public contribution to postage paid.

The complete set of measures of the Government's Media Action Plan is as follows:

1. Review of media sector legislation for inclusion in the future Media Code
2. Drafting of the Media Code
3. Revising the public service broadcasting concession contract (with RTP – Radio e Televisão de Portugal)
4. Phasing out of commercial advertising on RTP [“In the Budget Law for 2025, resulting from discussions and voting in the Parliament, this measure was left behind and it was foreseen that there wouldn't be any further obligation imposed on RTP to further reduce television advertisement (article 57 of the Budget Law for 2025)"].
5. Development of a reorganisation and modernisation plan for RTP
6. Fighting disinformation and creating a fact-checking mechanism at RTP
7. Clarification of the shareholder structure of Lusa - Agência de Notícias de Portugal, S.A.
8. The creation of a new model of governance for Lusa
9. Drawing up a plan for the human and technological modernisation of Lusa
10. Creation of benefits for media outlets in their access to Lusa's services
11. Conducting a study on the journalistic market and media organisations
12. Assessing the current legal framework for state support for media at local and regional level
13. Integrating digital platforms into solutions for the sector
14. Supporting journalist hiring and talent retention
15. Support for hiring the first full-time, permanent journalist
16. Action Plan for the Safety of Journalists
17. Digital / Artificial Intelligence training for journalists
18. A white paper on artificial intelligence applied to journalism
19. Promoting the technological modernisation of the media

20. Supporting the distribution of periodicals in sparsely populated areas
21. Ensuring the distribution of periodicals in all municipalities of the country
22. Doubling of the public contribution to postage paid
23. A business training programme for the regional and local media
24. Publicising in the regional and local press the governance model for European funds
25. Publication of local authority decisions in regional or local newspapers, in digital newspapers or on the websites of regional or local radio stations
26. Promotion of the value of local radio stations
27. A new National Plan for Media Literacy
28. Discount for digital media subscriptions
29. Offering digital subscriptions to young people aged 15 to 18
30. Media literacy in schools