Resolution on the future EU financing of the radio network Euranet Plus

2021/2708(RSP) - 10/06/2021 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 584 votes to 92, with 7 abstentions, a resolution on the future EU financing of the radio network Euranet Plus.

Euranet Plus, founded in 2007, is a **unique network of radio channels in the EU** that reports on events in Europe from a transnational perspective. Since the network's establishment, its operational activities have been mainly financed by EU funds. The current grant agreement with Euranet Plus, amounting to EUR 2.16 million per year, is due to expire on 31 December 2021.

The European Parliament was informed of the Commission's decision of 18 January 2021 on the future funding model for multimedia actions, according to which the grant agreement with Euranet Plus would not be renewed and would be replaced by an annual call for proposals to be launched in 2021.

Parliament urged the Commission to recognise the **unique character of Euranet Plus** as an independent radio network enabling European citizens to better understand and debate all areas of EU policy.

In this respect, Members recalled that Euranet Plus acts as a unique portal for its 13 leading public and private broadcasters, which, with content in 12 of the EU's official languages, reach more than 15 million listeners every day who might otherwise not be interested in European issues.

Parliament therefore called for the current core funding of Euranet Plus to be renewed in the form of a **transitional grant agreement of at least two years** to enable it to draw up a long-term development plan to develop the network further by the end of 2027, with the aim of increasing its membership and geographical and linguistic coverage, preparing for the digital shift and investing in further improvements to its products and services.

Members called for the creation of an inter-institutional working group with Euranet Plus and Parliament's CULT Committee to find appropriate technical solutions to implement a multi-annual operational framework.

The Commission is invited to revise its decision of 18 March 2021 to ensure that the EUR 2.2 million earmarked for the financing of broadcasting activities in 2022 in point 2 of its annex is not allocated by means of an open call for tenders, but directly to Euranet Plus.