



PRESS RELEASE ERGA-meeting November 29, 2016

European Regulators further exchange of best practices in AV Media

During its plenary meeting in Brussels the European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services (ERGA) adopted its report on Accessibility and established its Work Programme for 2017 for further exchange of best practices on Audio Visual Media Regulation. Prof. Dr. Madeleine de Cock Buning (The Netherlands) was re-elected as its Chairperson. Mr. Damir Hajduk (Croatia) and Dr. Luboš Kukliš (Slovakia) were both elected as the vice-chairs.

Accessibility

ERGA recommends further research on the accessibility of audiovisual media services to disabled people. Madeleine de Cock Buning: *“Within the European population, there are approximately 80 million people who are aurally or visually impaired. New converged media offer many new possibilities, but this great potential is not yet fully used. Further research should address both linear and non-linear services from the perspective of audio visually challenged media users.”*

Protection of minors

The protection of minors against harmful content will continue to be an important topic for ERGA. Madeleine de Cock Buning: *“We will publish our report on recent market initiatives in 2017. The first results of our report indicate that there is a growing number of interesting initiatives within the media industry to protect our children, also in the online world, which can inspire the industry to take up measures.”*

Connected to this, the topic of self-and co-regulation is taken up in 2017. Codes of conduct will obviously play an important role in the future proof protection of minors, but also in other fields. Especially in the online environment we see a growing interest in the benefits of self- and co regulation. In 2017 ERGA will align requirements of excellence for self-and co-regulation arrangements within the EU.

Launch of ERGA Academia and DET 2.0

To be able to share knowledge and best practices in 2017 the ERGA Academia is launched for i.e. inter-vision, internships and twinning projects. The ERGA's Digital European Toolkit (DET), which was launched in 2016 to share best practices between regulators, will be upgraded for more efficient access. Both the digital and offline exchange of good practices and experiences enhances the cooperation within ERGA and can as a consequence contribute to the single digital market.

Notes for Editors

The European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services consists of the national regulatory authorities in the field of audiovisual media services. [ERGA](#) advises the European Commission and facilitates cooperation between the regulatory bodies in the EU.

Madeleine de Cock Buning, President of the Dutch Media Authority, is the Chairperson of ERGA. The spokesperson of the Chair, Marlies Kolthof, can be contacted at + 31 35 773 7711.