

EN
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Answer given by Ms Gabriel
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.7.2019)

Concerning the Honourable Member's first and second question, the Commission would like to recall Protocol No. 29 on the system of public broadcasting in the Member States, attached to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which recognises the Member States' freedom to define, organise and finance public service broadcasting. As regards Article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, pursuant to its Article 51(1), the Charter is addressed to Member States only when they are implementing EU law. However, where the EU Charter does not apply as in the case identified by the Honourable Member, the protection of fundamental rights is guaranteed under the constitution of EU Member States and international conventions they have ratified.

Nevertheless, the Commission supports media pluralism within the remit of its competences. The Commission funds - further to the initiative of the European Parliament - several independent projects in the field of media pluralism and media freedom. One of these projects is the Media Pluralism Monitor (MPM). In its 2017 report, MPM assessed "medium" risk in Spain with respect to market plurality in general and political independence of media¹.

The Commission will continue to follow developments in all Member States, including Spain, relating to media pluralism and public service broadcasting.

¹ http://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/61157/2018_Spain_EN.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y