

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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PLURALISM AND MEDIA CONCENTRATION

IN THE INTERNAL MARKET

An assessment of the need for Community action

Commission Green Paper

NOTICE TO THE READER.

On a number of occasions, the European Parliament has requested that the Commission should propose measures aiming to safeguard pluralism in view of mergers and acquisitions taking place within the media sectors. The questions arising as to the necessity and timeliness of such possible actions are both complex and sensitive requiring, prior to taking a final decision, the wide canvassing of views from interested parties as well as the initiation of a public debate. To these ends the Commission has decided to propose this Green paper.

The Green paper analyses the need for action and considers potential options. The Commission has not committed itself to any of these options to date and would be willing to consider others that might arise.

In addition to the views of the European Parliament and competent national authorities, the Commission seeks to receive the opinions of all interested parties and particularly the European organisations representing television broadcasters, radio broadcasters, publishers, journalists, audio-visual creative artists, audio-visual producers, satellite distributors, cable distributors and advertisers.

The Commission plans to invite these European trade organisations to a hearing on this issue in the spring of next year.

Written comments should be submitted before the hearing and mailed to the following address:

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