

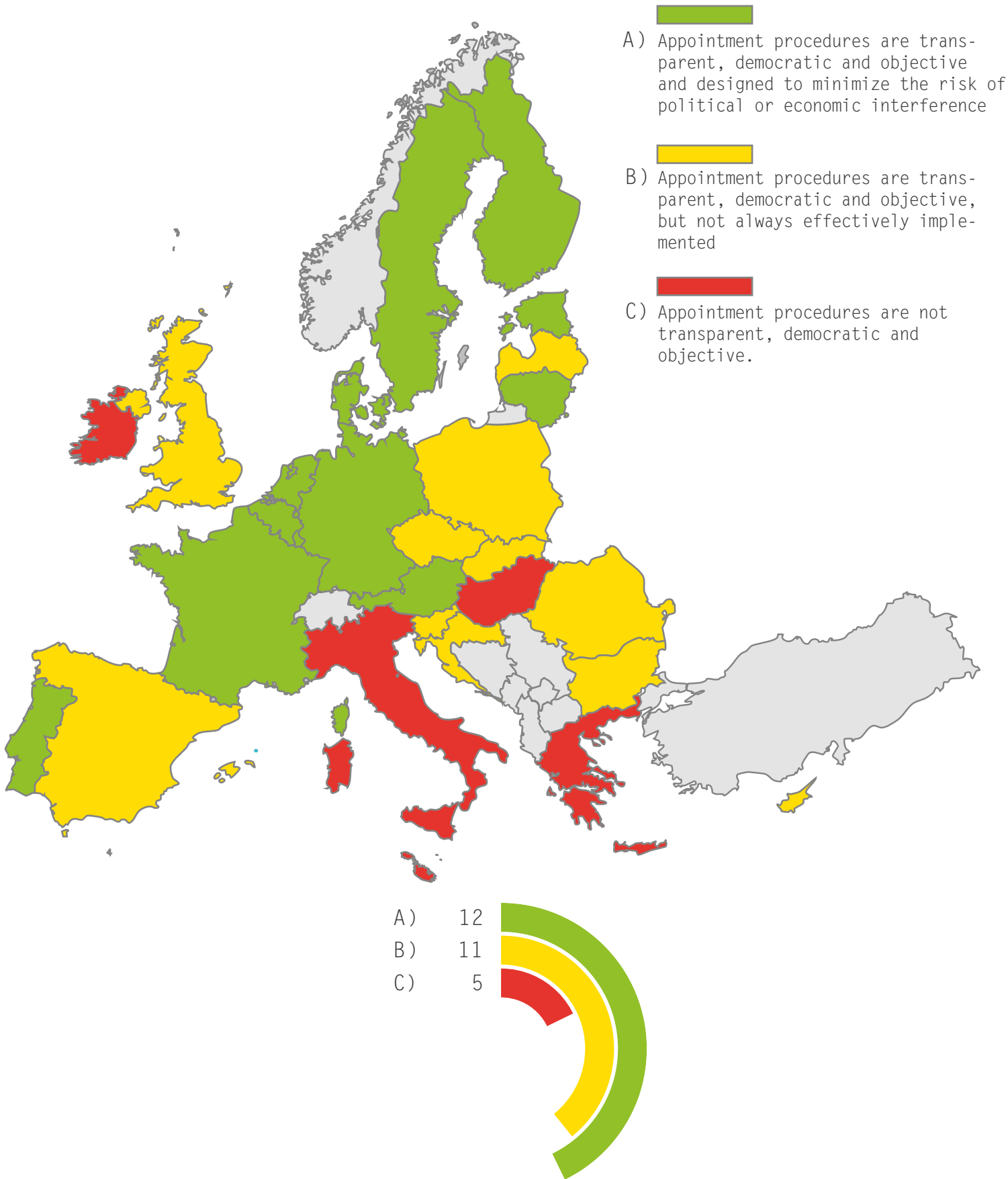
INDEPENDENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MEDIA AUTHORITIES IN EU

Appointment procedures

Media authorities are increasingly becoming key actors in media regulation in Europe. The recent revision of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) stresses their importance and aims to reinforce their independence from political and commercial interests. The reform (articles 30 and 30a) includes a requirement for Member States to designate one or more independent regulatory authorities/bodies for audiovisual media services legally distinct from the executive power, and also functionally and effectively independent of their respective governments and of any other public or private body. The independent authorities should exercise their powers impartially in line with the objectives of the AVMSD, including in relation to media pluralism, cultural and linguistic diversity, consumer protection, accessibility, non-discrimination, the internal market and the promotion of fair competition. They should have adequate resources and enforcement powers in order to carry out their functions effectively. Member States must set up transparent procedures for the appointment and dismissal of the head of a national regulatory authority or the members of the collegiate body. An appeal mechanism against the decision of a regulator at the national level will also be provided. The standards highlighted by the Directive are those the MPM uses to assess the independence and effectiveness of the media authorities.

The Media Pluralism Monitor

The Media Pluralism Monitor (MPM) is a tool that has been developed by the CMPF to assess the risks for media pluralism in a given country. The MPM project is co-funded by the European Union. The Monitor assesses the risks for media pluralism based on a set of twenty indicators covering four different areas: Basic Protection, Market Plurality, Political Independence and Social Inclusiveness. The indicators cover legal, economic and socio-political questions. All types of media are covered: The results of the MPM implementations are available [here](#).



**\*NB:** It must be acknowledged that not all the EU member states have established a specific media authority. This infographic summarises the findings of the MPM2017. The MPM methodology considers a media authority to be a public body which upholds the rules that are formulated in media acts and laws, and oversees the (audiovisual) media market. For those countries that do not have an authority devoted to media regulation, the MPM asks to consider and assess the authority that is part of the European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services (ERGA), or of the European Platform for Regulatory Authorities (EPRA). In Estonia, for instance, the Technical Regulation Authority is considered, while for Spain it is the competition authority that is considered.

**Sources:** The main source for this Factsheet is the Media Pluralism Monitor 2017 (MPM2017) Database, created under the Media Pluralism Monitor 2017 Project. The factsheet relied also on additional information provided by the MPM2017 country teams.

For more information on the independence of media authorities visit <http://cmpf.eui.eu/mapping-media-policy-journalism/>

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CMPF

The Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom (CMPF), established in 2011 at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute - Florence, aims to develop innovative and relevant lines of research on media freedom and pluralism and on fundamental rights in Europe and beyond. The Centre, directed by Prof. Pier Luigi Parcu, coordinated by Elda Brogi, is composed of a team of experts in media markets and economics, law, political science, and communications studies.

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