Council of the European Union

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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	AOB for the meeting of the General Affairs Council on 17 November 2025
	"Information Shield" initiative by Deutsche Welle, France Médias Monde and TVP World
	- Information by France, Germany and Poland

In the context of the Commission and High Representative's communication on the European Democratic Shield, France, Germany and Poland wish to present the "Information Shield" initiative jointly launched by our respective public international broadcasters France Médias Monde (FMM), Deutsche Welle (DW) and TVP World to combat disinformation abroad.

The media pressure exerted by disinformation and state propaganda, particularly from Russia but also from China, is intensifying considerably. This development is undermining democratic discourse and processes in countries that are strategically important to the European Union, particularly in the Eastern Neighborhood. Furthermore, the withdrawal of the United States from the global information space— in particular through the closure of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Voice of America—has left an information vacuum that hostile actors are exploiting to spread disinformation.

In this context, France Médias Monde, Deutsche Welle and Poland's TVP World, have joined forces to coordinate their deployment strategies in key regions where independent journalism is most vulnerable, notably through the creation of a network of correspondents as well as a network of transmitters and FM frequencies.

This initiative provides an opportunity to reinforce Europe's voice in the world and would send a strong signal of European commitment to media freedom, journalistic standards, and European values. It is fully in line with the strategic objectives of the European Democratic Shield and would benefit from EU support.

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