

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

## News Media Europe - state aid for the media in Europe – last updated April 2022

Please refer questions/updates? Please contact the NME secretariat [www.newsmediaeurope.eu](http://www.newsmediaeurope.eu)

Countries	Direct Support	Indirect Support	VAT	COVID19 Support
<b>Austria</b>	<p>Press subsidies were first introduced in Austria in 1975 and the purpose of the subsidies today is set out by the Press Subsidies Act of 2004. The available subsidies fall under three main headings 1) General distribution subsidies 2) Special subsidies for the maintenance of variety 3) Quality promotion and 'fit-for-future' subsidies. Different subsidies exist for daily and weekly newspapers, and can cover activities such as training new journalists, hiring foreign correspondants, delivering publications to schools, and carrying out research projects. In 2019, the government supported newspapers with direct press subsidies amounting to €8.9 million. Subsidies are given on the basis of grant applications reviewed by the Austrian Communications Authority (KommAustria). In 2021, the government adopted additional state support in the form of a fund for digitalisation of print, television and radio media "Fond zur Förderung der digitaler Transformation – Förderrichtlinien (FFDT-RL)" with a focus on regional offerings related to politics, economy and culture and with a total worth of EUR 143 million for the 2021-2027 period. The available subsidies fall under three main headings 1)</p>	None.	Newspapers benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% for print and digital (standard VAT rate is 20%).	In order to cushion the economic effects of the COVID-19 crisis, the federal government amended the press subsidy act to provide a one-time support in 2020 in addition to the funding measures already regulated by the law with a total of 3 million euros, to be distributed according to 2019 circulation figures.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	modernisation of distribution channels by improving access to online content 2) creation and renewal of digital infrastructure and 3) creation and provision of digital content.			
<b>Belgium</b>	<p>Press subsidies are a regional rather than federal competence. In Wallonia (French-speaking), direct subsidies are available to daily publishers falling under five main headings 1) supporting the launch of new titles 2) initiatives to promote newspaper reading and media literacy 3) employment of journalists 4) digitisation and technology projects and 5) diversity support for less profitable newspapers. In 2018, EUR 10 million was spent in direct subsidies. In addition, Wallonia also introduced in 2009 a project fund to support investigative journalism "Fonds pour le journalisme d'investigation", which in 2020 became law with an annual budget of EUR 500,000.</p> <p>In Flanders (Dutch-speaking) part of Belgium, there are no direct subsidies. However, publishers can benefit from project-based support from the Flemish Knowledge Center for Media Literacy "Vlaams Kenniscentrum voor Mediawijs", the News in the Classroom initiative and the Pascal Decroos Fund for investigative journalism.</p>	<p>The federal government subsidises postal services to secure reduced rates for newspaper delivery, the subsidy is negotiated every two years and is currently estimated to amount to an annual EUR 170 million. Journalists can use the rail network for free.</p>	<p>Daily newspapers are exempted from VAT, and a 0% rate is applied to print and digital single-copy sales and subscriptions.</p>	<p>Belgium has taken a series of concrete measures for the news media as a result of COVID19, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public health advertising campaigns worth almost EUR 4.2 million was launched to support the media sector in general.</li> </ul> <p>The French-speaking part of Belgium launched a support plan for the media sector involving 1) purchase of public interest advertising 2) a fund to support media threatened by the pandemic with a fund of EUR 3 million and making the investigative fund for journalism a permanent feature of media support 3) carry out an audit for the advertising market to understand problems for media.</p> <p>The Dutch-speaking part of Belgium launched a support plan</p>

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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				for the media sector worth EUR 10 million divided between the media fund, regional television, local radios, freelance journalists and the public broadcaster. An extended recovery plan worth EUR 35 million was also launched to support digital transformation in the media, six projects were established 1) cross-media and multiplatform measurement 2) a media hub 3) disinformation 4) digital transformation of regional broadcasters 5) a project group for digital transformation 6) a project group for media innovation.
<b>Bulgaria</b>	None.	After the collapse of the national newspaper distribution monopoly, the government has intervened to ensure that the national post takes over distribution as of March 2020 for which the postal services will receive additional state support, and indirectly subsidise newspaper distribution. National experts note that the government uses	The standard VAT rate of 20% is applied to print and digital.	None.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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		state advertising to channel money to certain media outlets on an "arbitrary" basis.		
<b>Croatia</b>	The Fund for the promotion of pluralism and diversity of electronic media (radio-, TV and e-publications) was founded in 2004 to support public information, culture, education, science, arts, Croatian dialects and minorities, and media literacy. The fund is managed by the Agency for Electronic Media (Vijeće Agencije za elektroničke medije (VAEM) based on the Eletronic Media Act (Zakon o Elektroničkim Medijima). Funds are awarded through public tenders, and financed through a 3% fee levied on the license fee income of public service broadcasters. The fund is opened to public, commercial and non-profit media. The annual budget for the fund amounts to HRK 33 million (EUR 4.4 million).	Allocation of state advertising. There is also a scheme of redistribution of revenues from the lottery games awarded by the Ministry of Culture though a Non-Profit Media Committee.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% (standard VAT rate is 25%). Weekly and monthly magazines benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 13%.	None.
<b>Cyprus</b>	A press support scheme ("De Minimis Aid Payment Plan for the support of the Press") was introduced in 2017, entitling newspapers to grants between EUR 8,000 and EUR 67,000 over a three-year period. The scheme has been created to support print media and aims to support traditional news outlets, digital publications are excluded. Daily and weekly newspapers that have at least five qualified journalists, feature original news reporting and	Free distribution of newspapers: distribution agencies, kiosks and other distribution locations must ensure that newspapers are available to the public freely, without restrictions or discriminations, regardless of the	Newspapers benefit from a lowered VAT rate of 5%. The standard VAT rate of 19% applies to digital publications.	Cyprus introduced a scheme to support newspapers affected by COVID19 worth EUR 106,000. The support will take the form of direct grants to publishers that a loss of turnover. The measure aims at ensuring that sufficient liquidity. The aid is calculated based on journalists employed and weekly circulation.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	have invested in expanding their online presence are eligible for the subsidy. The annual subsidy is calculated according to the number of days the newspaper is published in a week and newspapers are entitled to "an annual €1,000 for each qualified journalist". The annual amount granted amounts to EUR 300,000.	newspapers' political inclinations or views.		
<b>Czech Republic</b>	None, but discussions to create a fund for news media are ongoing. However, publications of cultural significance and for linguistic minorities can obtain grants from the Ministry of Culture under a special fund "Státní Fond Kultury České Republiky" in the form of direct subsidies, loans and refund of contributions. The total amount of this aid was about CZK 20.5 million (around EUR 770,000) for all titles of this category in 2016.	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 10% (standard VAT rate is 21%).	The government planned to launch a CZK 2 billion advertising campaign (EUR 40 million) to support media outlets and promote tourism to be divided based on sales, but the plan was abandoned due to criticism about lack of transparency.
<b>Denmark</b>	Denmark supports the media through direct subsidies mandated by the law on media support "Lov om mediestøtte". Subsidies fall under five main headings 1) distribution support for general interest publications 2) innovation support for news media, in case where new outlets are launched or new technology with an editorial impact is being introduced 3) editorial production support for news media 4) Remediation support for news media at risk of closure 5) support for non-profit radio and tv broadcasters. In 2021, total	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 0% (standard VAT rate is 25%). The reduced rate does not apply to magazines.	The government announced a DKK 180 million support scheme (EUR 24 million). All media companies with a loss of revenue of between 30 and 50 percent should be compensated for 60 percent of the lost, while companies with a revenue loss of more than 50 percent will be compensated with 80 percent of lost profits. Although it is estimated to run up to DKK 180

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	subsidies exceeded DKK 393 million, while the editorial production support subsidies alone amounted to DKK 371 million (EUR 45 million).			million, no financial ceiling has been set on the scope of the relief package.
<b>Estonia</b>	There are no direct subsidies. However, a fund worth EUR 1.3 million has been launched to strengthen Russian-speaking media in Estonia in light of the war in Ukraine.	In Estonia, there is an indirect subsidy for newspaper and magazine deliveries in rural areas is in place with a budget of EUR 4.5 million for 2022. The government also owns a publishing house "Kultuurileht" which supports cultural periodicals. Most municipalities publish their own gazettes that sell advertising space and resemble independent newspapers.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 9%.	As a reaction to the ongoing situation, the government introduced a reduced VAT rate for electronic publications (down from 20% to 9%), with annual savings estimated at EUR 400,000 for the industry in 2020. The government has made available another subsidy worth EUR 450,000 for newspaper home delivery, which is meant to support the sector for a period of 3 months.
<b>Finland</b>	In Finland, there there is no system of general subsidies. However, a system of subsidies exists for minority press, addressed to newspapers in Swedish and other minority languages (eg. Karelian), worth ca. EUR 0.5 million annually. The subsidy is granted through applications and managed at the discretion of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. In 2007, the government discontinued the 2005 Decree on Press Subventions which previously subsidised	Newspapers benefit from distribution support through the postal service. A recent government bill to amend the Postal Act and introduce a newspaper distribution support decree will benefit newspapers with EUR 15	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 10% (Finland discontinued zero-rating of newspapers in 2012 and included in the reduced rate regime at 9%, which was increased to 10% in 2013). For single-copy	The government commissioned a study on measures for media support in Finland in 2020. The report proposes a support model consisting of both rapid forms and a more permanent support system for journalism: 1) Discretionary corona subsidy for media in financial difficulties 2) Non-selective support that would

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	<p>politically affiliated newspapers and transport and delivery expenses for newspapers making less profits. Lastly, the Ministry of Education and Culture also issues subsidies for cultural periodicals and to libraries to secure subscriptions worth EUR 0.8 million.</p>	<p>million during 2023-2027 (the bill is expected to be confirmed this summer). In the 2015-2018 period a specific aid granted for media innovation was available, though it was not addressed only to news media. This funding was established by the Ministry of Transport and Communications, and was governed by Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation. During its 2015-2018 period program, the total sum granted was EUR 20 million.</p>	<p>sales, the standard VAT rate (24%) applies.</p>	<p>be in line with Nordic practice. It would be a percentage subsidy commensurate with the subscription and single copy revenues of 2019 3) a study to be launched on a permanent system of discretionary support and a support board 4) taxation of online platform companies for review. The report recognised that journalism cannot easily be made profitable as long as international social media platforms and search engines distribute the work of journalists free of charge.</p> <p>In addition, a working group under the Ministry of Traffic and Communications proposed an editorial production subsidy for media companies in 2021.</p> <p>The study on measures for media support or the working group initiative did not lead to any concrete actions by the government.</p> <p>During the pandemic, the government provided one-off</p>

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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				support for media companies worth a total of EUR 7.5 million.
<b>France</b>	France has an extensive and complex system of subsidies directed at newspapers and some magazines, exceeding EUR 1 billion annually when combining direct and indirect support measures. In 2019 direct subsidies amounted to EUR 76 million. The purpose of these subsidies is to increase access to information, support media pluralism and support the modernisation of news media. Subsidies are mainly granted to general information news outlets and are allocated only to media registered with the national press register committee (Registre de la commission paritaire des publications et agences de presse "CPPAP") made up of press and government representatives. Subsidies fall under five main headings 1) a fund for the emergence of new media (incubation) and innovation (research and development) 2) a strategic fund for the modernisation of the press 3) a fund for local news media 4) a fund for the distribution of the press (storage, transport, selling points) 5) a fund for the support of media pluralism.	Indirect subsidies fall under three main headings 1) fiscal support measures and tax breaks (communal tax breaks, investment tax breaks, donation tax breaks, subscriber tax breaks) 2) postal support measures through preferential rates 3) fiscal support measures relating to social contributions (for distributors, journalists and local correspondants). Indirect subsidies constitute by far the most significant aid to the sector in terms of financial value: in 2017, it is estimated that the publications of legal notices, exemptions from local business rates, reduced VAT and special tax regimes, also concerning social security,	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a super-reduced VAT of 2.1%. For advertising (standard VAT rate is 20%).	The government introduced 1) COVID19 emergency funding worth EUR 106 million in 2020 via state-backed loans and a solidarity fund for kiosks and news publishers 2) a sector rescue plan worth EUR 337 million over 2 years to support the ecological and digital transitions of the press sector involving EUR 50 million in investment support, a transformation strategy for the print sector worth EUR 18 million, and tax credits for subscriptions worth EUR 60 million.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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		amounted to almost EUR 1 billion.		
<b>Germany</b>	None at federal level. Some states (Länder) have support measures in place eg. Nordrhein-Westfalen and Brandenburg.	Indirect subsidies are granted to newspapers in the form of a relief on turnover tax and there is also a reduction on postal rates.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 7% (standard VAT rate is 19%).	The government launched a support plan for the cultural, creative and media sectors in the form of 1) grants to cover operational costs for self-employed and SMEs worth EUR 50 million 2) easier access to social security and tax deferrals for self-employed persons worth EUR 10 million 3) a loan program for . News media can benefit from state aids measures including short-time working benefits, tax liquidity support and a massive loan program in collaboration with several banks.
<b>Greece</b>	None.	Greek media benefit from reduced postal distribution rates and reduced telecommunication rates. National experts note that the government uses state advertising to channel money to certain media outlets on an "arbitrary" basis.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 6% (standard VAT rate is 24%).	The Government introduced a support scheme worth EUR 20 million with direct grants for newspapers, magazines, regional media service providers and radio stations affected by the pandemic. The government also purchased advertising space worth EUR 11 million to conduct a public health campaign across different media including press and radio and tv broadcasters.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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Hungary	None.	None.	Newspapers in print benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% (standard VAT rate is 27%). The standard VAT rate applies to digital publications.	The government has announced a state aid package, which includes media. As part of the measures, similar to tourism and catering, Hungarian media providers will be granted a tax exemption due to their lost advertising revenues.
Iceland (non-EU)	In 2019 legislation proposing press subsidies was tabled and met with strong opposition. In 2021, following the COVID support package for the media sector of 2020, the government passed a law to extend the support programme for 2 years. The direct subsidies, granted on the basis of applications, cover up to 25% of salary costs and no single company may receive more than 25% of the total funding available. The fund makes available SIK 400 million (ca. EUR 2.7 million) and is directed to publications for the general public and regional media registered with the Icelandic Media Committee.	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 11% (standard VAT rate is 24%).	The government launched a ISK 400 million fund (ca. EUR 2.5 million) to support media companies to cover up to 25% of salary costs. the fund is direct to publications for the general public and regional media. No single company may receive more than 25% of the funding or SIK 100 million.
Ireland	None. The government has established a Future of Media Commission to consider the future of print, broadcast and online media to consider amongst other things what kind of support from the state should be envisaged. The Commission's report was finalised in July 2021 and provided to Government. However, the report and its recommendations have still not been published.	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 9% (standard VAT rate is 23%).	No known COVID19 response.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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Italy	<p>The government grants direct subsidies through a general system of subsidies for the press (which exists alongside a system of subsidies for radios) based on applications to reimburse expenses incurred in production. Press publishers Subsidies for the press are available under 4 main headings: 1) publishers of newspapers and periodicals 2) publishers of newspapers and periodicals for italians abroad 3) publishers for blind and visually impaired 4) publishers of periodicals for consumer associations. Following a 2016 reform, the first pool of subsidies for publishers of newspapers and periodicals are available to journalistic cooperatives, publishing companies owned by cooperatives or non-profits, newspapers in minority languages (in general closed to listed companies). Support for publishers of political newspapers was abolished in 2016. A fund for media pluralim and innovation "Fondo per il pluralismo e l'innovazione dell'informazione" was set up in 2016 in the national budget and was worth EUR 187 million in 2021 to cover the cost of the above subsidies and support additional actions such as purchasing newspapers for schools and reimbursing tax credits.</p>	<p>Newspapers benefit from reduced postal rates for delivering subscriptions, which the state subsidised with EUR 51 million in 2021. This situation is reviewed annually. The state also purchases newspapers on behalf of schools. Reduced telecom rates are also granted to newspapers. Tax credits are also offered to all legal/natural persons purchasing advertising space in newspapers, radios and broadcasters, they were worth EUR 27 million in 2019.</p>	<p>Newspapers benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 4% in print and digital (the standard rate is 22%).</p>	<p>The government included measures to support the media in its "Decreto Rilancio" of May 2020. The measures for media involve tax credits for paper expenses and technological expenditure of news media, 50% tax credits for advertising expenditure on audiovisual media, and EUR 4,000 tax credits for kiosks that sell newspapers.</p>

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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Latvia	The government grants direct subsidies through a Media Support Fund ("Mediju Atbalsta Fonds") established in 2017 to support the creation of quality content of public interest with projects covering news publishers, radio and tv broadcasters. The fund is managed by the Ministry of Culture with an annual budget of EUR 4.5 million for 2022 disbursed in the form of grants to applicants. The fund also contains a dedicated budget for local and regional media.	Postal subsidies are in place for the delivery of subscribed print media. The annual budget of this support mechanism is EUR 5.75 million which covers around 70%-75% of total delivery cost	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% (standard VAT rate is 21%).	<p>The government approved media support measures developed by the Ministry of Culture, the Media Policy Advisory Council and the National Electronic Media Council (NEPLP), allocating EUR 2 million from the state budget for unforeseen cases in 2020.</p> <p>From this funding, EUR 1 million has been allocated to the Ministry of Culture to reinforce the implementation of the Media Support Fund (EUR 0.6 million to support print and commercial internet news, EUR 0.2 to support deliveries and distribution of subscriptions, EUR 0.2 million to support the broadcast of media programs). EUR 1 million has been allocated to the National Electronic Media Council (NEPLP) to inform the public regarding COVID-19 and ensure the security of the national information space in commercial electronic media.</p> <p>In 2021 EUR 3.25 million were allocated to the Ministry of Culture. From this funding EUR 1.1 million for capacity building for</p>

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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				television and radio media organisations; EUR 0.5 million for capacity building for print and digital media; EUR 0.8 million to cover the costs of broadcasting for television and radio programmes; EUR 0.85 million to cover delivery costs of subscribed print media.
<b>Lithuania</b>	The government grants direct subsidies through the Press, Radio and Television Support Foundation "Spaudos, Radijo ir Televizijos Rėmimo Fondas" established by the 1996 Law on Public Information. Subsidies fall under six main headings 1) cultural periodicals 2) national periodicals 3) regional periodicals 4) national radio and television 5) regional radio and television 6) online media. The fund's budget for 2022 is around EUR 3 million, a slight increase from the average EUR 2.75 million in recent years.	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% (standard VAT rate is 21%).	The Lithuanian Post received EUR 0.6 million from the government to compensate delivery of subscriptions for newspapers and magazines.
<b>Luxembourg</b>	Direct subsidies are in place not only the printed and online press, but also for news startups and citizen journalists (under certain conditions) following a reform in 2021. The government Minister can accept or refuse applications for grants based on the advice of a government committee on support for the press composed of sector stakeholders. To qualify for subsidies, news outlets must fulfill	Additionally, there is an indirect aid for distribution. Another indirect aid is the obligation for a commercial company to publish its legal announcements in the press. However, a new	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 3% (standard VAT rate is 17%).	The Government announced a support package for news publishers of general interest content. Publishers may file a request for indemnity support EUR 5,000 for each full-time journalist employee, with a support ceiling of EUR 200,000 per company.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	specific conditions relating to the reach of the publication towards to the general public, the employment of journalists, the nature of the content which should be of general interest and under editorial responsibility and the frequency of the publication. Subsidies fall under two main headings 1) a fixed redactional support subsidy worth EUR 30,000 per full-time journalist employed 2) an innovation support subsidy worth up to EUR 200,000.	commercial law, voted in August 2016, reduces the former obligations by 50%.		
Malta	None.	National experts note that the government uses state advertising to channel money to certain media outlets. There is no legal framework nor transparency in the allocation of state advertising.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% (standard VAT rate is 18%).	The Maltese government adopted a support package worth EUR 946,000 in COVID-19 financial aid for news media with the following ceilings 1) TV up to EUR 45,000 / month 2) Print news up to EUR 10,000 / month 3) Online news up to EUR 5,000 / month 4) Radio up to EUR 3,5000 / month 5) Providing news across multiple channels up to EUR 10,000. Malta Enterprise, the agency overseeing COVID-19 relief funding, has not revealed the identity of the recipients of funding leading to significant criticism.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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<b>Netherlands</b>	<p>There are limited and targeted direct subsidies in the form of grants through a state Journalism Promotion Fund ("Stimuleringsfonds voor de Journalistiek") worth EUR 2 million per year. The fund works on the basis of applications for specific projects and is financed by the Ministry of Culture. The fund can support newspapers or news magazines whose existence is under threat by supporting research and other efforts which could lead to a more sustainable business model. It also supports journalistic websites and innovative projects relating to the press and journalism. The fund is open to public service media. To prevent journalistic media from becoming dependent on government aid, support from the fund is always temporary. As of 2017, the Journalism Promotion Fund and the Dutch Fund for In-depth Journalism ("Fonds Bijzondere Journalistieke Projecten") also make 5 million euros available annually for investigative journalism, financed by the Ministry of Culture.</p>	None.	Newspapers and news magazines in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 9% (standard VAT rate is 21%). The reduced VAT for digital applies only to paid-for content.	During the pandemic the Journalism Promotion Fund established a new temporary support fund for local media (free local weeklies, local newspapers, local news websites and local public service media) worth EUR 5.5 million to continue local information provision. The support scheme was financed by the Ministry of Culture and closed in December 2020.
<b>Norway (non-EU)</b>	<p>There are direct subsidies granted to newspapers in Norway. Subsidies fall under five main headings 1) production grants, which are the most important subsidy awarded in proportion to circulation and market position 2) media activities, including research and training 3) grants to minority (Sami) newspapers 4) distribution support in remote regions (Finnmark) 5) innovation support. In</p>	None.	Newspapers and news magazines in print and digital benefit from VAT zero-rating (standard VAT rate is 25%).	The Government announced an aid package of NOK 300 million due to falling advertising revenue of media companies in the form of a temporary compensation scheme for editorial companies to be ran by the media regulator. Companies can be compensated for up to 60% of lost advertising

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	2021, the total value of subsidies is NOK 444 million (ca. EUR 46 million). Press subsidies in Norway are administered by the Norwegian Media Authority.			revenues with a limit of NOK 15 million. To be eligible, a 20% drop in advertising revenues must have taken place (15% for local and regional media).
<b>Poland</b>	There are no subsidies except for minority press.	The state indirectly and selectively supports the press through state advertising. There are serious concerns about this process which many criticise for being discriminatory and opaque.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% (standard VAT rate is 23%), excluding where 76% or more of the surface is covered with advertisement.	None.
<b>Portugal</b>	Direct subsidies are mandated by Portugal's constitution. Direct subsidies are available in the form of project-based grants to regional newspapers and radios under the government programme for social communications ("Incentivos do Estado à Comunicação Social") managed by the regional development agency CCDR ("Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional"). Subsidies fall under six main headings 1) employment and training 2) technological modernisation 3) digital development 4) accessibility support 5) strategic partnerships 6) media literacy education. In 2021, total subsidies were worth EUR 980,000. To qualify for aid, publications need to employ a certain number of journalists	The state has indirect subsidies in the form of distribution support as 40% of the costs of postal distribution regional newspapers are financed by the government.	Newspapers and magazines in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 6% (standard VAT rate is 23%), excluding where the surface contains mainly advertising.	The government purchased EUR 15 million of advertising space in the press to help offset lost advertising revenues. 75% of the budget was spent in newspapers with national coverage, and the remaining 25% in local and regional ones. The advertising space was used to conduct a health awareness campaign.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	and sell a certain number of copies. Between 120 and 150 newspapers benefit from the aid.			
Romania	None.	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% (standard VAT rate is 19%), excluding where the content is mainly audio or audiovisual content or mainly advertising.	An Emergency Ordinance was approved to support the media through an advertisement campaign with a budget of maximum RON 200 million (ca. EUR 40 million) for an initial campaign duration of 4 months (15.05-31.12.2020) with the possibility to extend if the allocated budget is not finished. The campaign was split amongst media channels: 53% TV, 23% online, 12% radio, 5% print, 4% outdoor, 3% creation and production of materials to be used during the public campaign.
Slovakia	None.	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 10% (standard VAT rate is 20%).	None.
Slovenia	The state provides direct subsidies for the media which are managed by the Ministry of Culture and come mostly in the form of grants for applicants for co-financing of content which are reviewed by an expert commission. Subsidies in 2021 were worth EUR 2.65 million	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 5% (standard VAT rate is 22%).	None.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	and fell under two main headings 1) print, radio, television and electronic publication 2) local, regional, student or non-profit radio or television program.			
<b>Spain</b>	The central government does not use direct subsidies, but some autonomous regions do in the form of grants generally aimed at promoting content in the local language.	The government has a "Bono Cultural Joven" youth culture scheme for the acquisition of products such as newsprint and digital news (EUR 100 per beneficiary) - also adopted as a measure to counter the effects of the pandemic.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 4% (standard VAT rate is 21%) if the content does not consist mainly of advertising or video or audio content.	The Government approved the application of a reduced VAT rate of 4% for digital content in Spain.
<b>Sweden</b>	Sweden offers direct subsidies for news media which are managed by the Media Support Committee ("Mediestödsnämnden") following important reforms in 2019 to make support available across different distribution platforms. The subsidies fall under two main headings 1) press support, primarily aimed at physical publications, which includes operational and distribution support 2) media support, aimed at all other news media regardless of distribution platforms, which includes local journalism support, innovation and development support, and editorial support. To receive support, news media must produce original content with independent editorial resources, observe good	None.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 6% (standard VAT rate is 25%).	The government confirmed a SEK 200 million package (ca. EUR 20 million). The Government then announced an additional SEK 500 million (ca. EUR 50 million) in 2020 to support news media, both printed and digital. The support was allocated to the media support budget for 2020. The purpose of the support was to strengthen the financial conditions for the editorial business and partly compensate for lost advertising revenue during the corona pandemic. In 2021, the

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

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	media ethical practice and promote accessibility. In 2021, total subsidies amounted to SEK 932 million (EUR 93.2 million), an increase of SEK 170 million (EUR 17 million) compared to 2020. It is expect that the reform of the current system will continue in 2022.			government announced another SEK 100 million (EUR 10 million) package to support newspaper desitribution in rural areas.
<b>Switzerland (non-EU)</b>	None. In 2022 legislation proposing press subsidies was put to vote in a referendum, which rejected the proposals.	As indirect subsidies, certain newspapers can qualify and benefit from a discount to their postal distribution fee. The Swiss Post based on the Postal Act is granted CHF 50 million (ca. EUR 46 million), which then grants appropriate discounts to qualifying publications. Article 16 of the Post Law (Loi sur la Poste) determines how the subsidies should be distributed (CHF 30 millino for local and regional press and CHF 20 million for publications of professional societies and foundations).	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from a reduced VAT rate of 2.5% (standard VAT rate is 8%).	The government launched a media support package worth CHF 57.5 million (EUR 57 million). Of this amount, television and radio broadcasters received CHF 30 million in support. The press received CHF 12.5 million to finance the free distribution of newspapers for a period of 6 months as a complement to indirect subsidies in this area.

# NEWS MEDIA EUROPE

Countries	Direct Support	Indirect Support	VAT	COVID19 Support
United Kingdom (non-EU)	None. In 2019, the Cairncross Review into the sustainability of journalism recommended state subsidies to support news media in the areas of innovation and local public-interest journalism. In late 2019, the government worked with Nesta to run the Future News pilot fund worth GBP 2 million (EUR 2.3 million) to support innovation diversification and readership. The government also renewed its commitment to the BBC's local news partnerships scheme which it set up together with the NMA and the BBC to contract local reporters worth an annual GBP 8 million (EUR 9.5 million). However, the government has not followed through with all recommendations on targeted support for publishers.	The government introduced in 2017 temporary GBP 1,500 business-rates discounts for office space occupied by local newspapers in England - the local authority is to be reimbursed by government.	Newspapers in print and digital benefit from VAT zero-rating (standard VAT rate is 20%).	The government scrapped VAT on electronic publications in 2020 and launched its "All in, all together" health awareness campaign worth an additional £35 million over 3 months, to be split between local, regional and national print media. The government also operated a Bounce Back Loan Scheme and Business Interruption Loan Scheme.