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Federica Mogherini

High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission

Andrus Ansip

Vice-President of the European Commission

Neven Mimica

Commissioner for International Cooperation & Development

Brussels, 8 September 2017

Dear High Representative,

Dear Vice-President,

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to you concerning the coverage of the news on Angola by Euronews - a private broadcasting company which is financed by the European Commission and operates under "Euro" label.

Euronews has been biasedly promoting propaganda for the Angolan kleptocracy, grossly misrepresenting the deteriorating living conditions and the tremendous suffering of the people of Angola, because of pervasive corruption and embezzlement. Despite the country's huge potential and wealth, Angola ranks as the highest child mortality-rated country in the world.

In its reporting about the "final results" of the elections which took place on 23 August, 2017, Euronews was biased, namely omitting the denunciation - by the opposition parties of Angola - of the credibility of the election results. Euronews' coverage on the 6th of September, for instance, did not mention the opposition's stand, thus failing to convey that the election results were, in fact, fabricated, in view of the opacity of the counting process.

Although the Commission does not hold formal sway over Euronews' editorial policy, it remains a fact that a considerable portion of its funding still comes from the EU. It's thus important to assure that all pieces of news and reports meet a high standard of journalistic



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independence. That entails covering all the sides impartially, which has not been the case on Angola.

Disturbingly, I have heard that Euronews entered a partnership with GRECIMA, the propaganda/marketing media agency of the government of Angola. A partnership which may follow the model of the contract that Euronews maintains with Azerbaijan since 2006, lending itself to produce similar biased and pro-regime propaganda on both countries.

As earlier on the letter I sent to you on Euronews, dated 16 December, 2016, I urge you to ensure that a broadcasting entity that acts under the European label ensures the highest level of impartiality and credibility. I urge you to immediately investigate the nature of the contract entered by Euronews with Angola, Azerbaijan and possibly others countries and to prevent Euronews from continuing to be a propaganda tool for oppressive and corrupt regimes.

Best regards,
Ana Gomes

Ana Gomes MEP