

Programme Sud V

South Program V Launching Event

Lisbon, 13 - 14 March 2023

Thematic Workshop V – Freedom of Expression, Pluralistic Media and Access to information: Areas of possible intervention

Roberta BATTISTA, *Rapporteur of the Workshop V, Project Manager, Division of Cooperation on Freedom of Expression.*

Stemming from the discussions held within the workshop concerning the results of the need assessment carried out in **Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia** and the identified actions proposed by partners in their country profiles, identified **priority actions** can be summarized around **four (4) Areas of possible intervention**:

- 1) To encourage **the transformation of the traditional, legacy media sector** to respond to the digital challenge
- 2) To foster measures aiming at reinforcing **quality journalism** such as capacity building and awareness raising on media reporting on elections, hate speech and disinformation as well as on safety of journalists
- 3) To support the **further alignment of existing or building legal framework on freedom of expression in line with CoE standards**
- 4) To sustain the expressed interests of two countries of the region to initiate the process aiming at examining the possibility of ratification of the **Convention on Access to Official Documents (CETS No205) (Tromsø Convention)**.

Country tailored actions and regional actions have been included in the workplan for the South Program V, Media component, C11.

This component will have a special focus on **LIBYA** where a three-axes-cooperation will be initiated; it will consist of initiatives intending:

- 1) To support **Capacity building of the Central Committee of Local Elections (CCLE)**.
- 2) To clarify the legal framework of the operating environment of the **General Authority for Media Monitoring Content (GAMMC)**.
- 3) To **reinforce professional standards and ethic codes for Libyan journalists**.