

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION – PREREQUISITE FOR EU MEMBERSHIP

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The freedom of expression and information are important prerequisites for EU membership, the EU Information Society and Media Commissioner Viviane Reding said on Monday. In a special event in Brussels to mark the signing of the first-ever global framework agreement in the media sector, signed by International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ) - a regional group of IFJ, and German media group WAZ, Commissioner Reding backed the historic agreement and welcomed the industry-based effort to strengthen quality journalism in Europe.

Commissioner Reding made it clear that the freedom of expression and the freedom of information are not luxuries. "They must not be at the end of the development process but at the start. We must ensure that our own European media is a strong example of this should not be taken for granted but reconfirmed on permanent basis."

IFJ Secretary General Aiden White expressed hope that similar agreements will be signed with other media groups very soon.

The IFC and German media group WAZ pledged to work together to ensure that journalists produce quality journalism all over Europe.

Source:

http://www.mrt.com.mk/en//index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3184&Itemid=0