

## What's happening in European Commercial and VOD Broadcasting 1-5 May 2023

Policy & business developments go hand in hand. This quick snapshot is designed to help EU media stakeholders to keep up with the innovative world of commercial broadcasting.

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### [ACT deplors lack of political commitment in tackling illegal services draining Europe's creative hubs](#)

The Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services wishes to express its dismay at the Commission's Recommendation on combatting online piracy of sports events and other live content. While there is no question that several items within this recommendation are absolutely adequate and necessary; this is eclipsed by the unjustifiable length of the review procedure.



### [Media sector letter on the protection of sources](#)

European organizations, representing thousands of media outlets, journalists and all other media workers across the EU, welcome the intentions of Article 4 of the proposed European Media Freedom Act (EMFA), which “aims to guarantee that journalists and editors can work without interference, including when it comes to protecting their sources and communications”.

### [Joint statement on network fees](#)

Following the announcement by the European Commission of its Connectivity Package” on 23 February 2023, including an exploratory consultation on the “Future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure”, the undersigned entities wish to express their collective concern with regards to calls at EU level to introduce a mechanism establishing significant direct payments (“network contribution”, “network fee”, “fair share”) from content providers and technology companies to large European telecommunication companies.



### [HISTORY Channel delves into the most incredible real robberies in 'Historical Robberies with Pierce Brosnan'](#)

On 8 May, Canal HISTORIA, produced by AMC Networks International Southern Europe, exclusively premieres 'Historical Robberies with Pierce Brosnan'. Presented by the iconic actor, the production reveals the meticulous planning, execution and aftermath of some of the most incredible and elaborate heists in history.



### [CANAL+ Group launches its streaming platform in Czech Republic and Slovakia](#)

CANAL+ Group reinforces its presence in the Czech Republic and Slovakia and launches a new streaming platform under the CANAL+ brand. After the introduction of CANAL+ Sport channel in August 2022 to host the exclusive rights of English Premier League matches and CANAL+ Action just recently in these two countries, CANAL+ now launches a rich content offer within its digital platform, mixing European films and series, international blockbusters, local productions, or content related to the Premier League.



### [ITVX Kids announces Summer holiday lineup](#)

ITVX Kids, the new dedicated destination for kids on ITVX announced earlier this year, has confirmed an initial selection of content that will be available to younger viewers in the 2023 school summer holidays.



### [Paramount+ reached 60 million subscribers in the first quarter of 2023](#)

Paramount+ reached 60 million total subscribers with the addition of 4.1 million subscribers in the first quarter, Paramount Global revealed in its latest earnings report. The company's other streaming service, Pluto TV, hit 80 million monthly active users during the period, becoming the number one Free Ad-Supported Streaming Television (FAST) service globally, as it has increased total global viewing hours 35% year-over-year.



## **WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY**

### **Grand tour season spins onto screens as Warner Bros. Discovery presents its global Giro d'Italia coverage**

Warner Bros. Discovery will show all 21 stages of the Giro d'Italia globally live and on-demand. Viewers in Europe can stream all the action on discovery+, GCN+ and the Eurosport App with television coverage on Eurosport's channels and fans around the world are able to enjoy uninterrupted streaming via GCN+.

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#### **About the Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services in Europe**

The Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services in Europe represents the interests of leading commercial broadcasters across Europe and beyond. The ACT member companies finance, produce, promote and distribute content and services benefiting millions of Europeans across all platforms. At ACT we believe that the healthy and sustainable commercial broadcasting sector has an important role to play in the European economy, society and culture. Our role is to protect and to promote the interests of the European private broadcasters. We engage with the EU institutions to achieve a balanced and appropriate regulatory framework which will encourage further investment and growth in our sector. This will allow the commercial audiovisual industry to continue to do what we do best – getting great content to viewers.