

## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

*(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.*

 *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)*

<b>PROJECT</b>	
Project name and acronym:	Sound of Diversity – Network of Towns
Participant:	FESTIVAL SUVREMENOG ŽIDOVSKOG FILMA ZAGREB (Jewish Film Festival Zagreb)
PIC number:	948800069

<b>EVENT DESCRIPTION</b>	
Event number:	5
Event name:	Festival of Tolerance
Type:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Film screenings</li> <li>● expert panel</li> <li>● public dialogue formats</li> <li>● partner meeting</li> <li>● educational activities</li> </ul>
In situ/online:	in situ
Location:	Zadar, Croatia Kneževa palača (Rector's Palace) and Providurova palača (Providur's Palace), across three venues: Concert Hall, Multimedia Hall and Polyvalent Hall, located within the Zadar city centre.
Date(s):	22-24.10.2025
Website(s) (if any):	<a href="https://festivaloftolerance.com/">https://festivaloftolerance.com/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/festivaloftolerance/">https://www.facebook.com/festivaloftolerance/</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/festivaloftolerance/">https://www.instagram.com/festivaloftolerance/</a>
<b>Participants</b>	
Female:	94

Male:	42
Non-binary:	1
From country 1 [Poland]:	3
From country 2 [Slovenia]	2
From country 3 [Germany]:	1
From country 4 [Italy]:	4
From country 5 [Spain]:	1
From country 6 [Romania]	3
From country 7 [Portugal]	2
From country 8 [Hungary]:	2
From country 9 [France]	1
From country 10 [Croatia]	105
From country 11 [Czechia]	4
From country 12 [Greece]	4
From country 13 [Srbija]	2
From country 14 [Netherlands]	1
From country 15 [Bosnia and Herzegovina]	1
Total number of participants:	136
From total number of countries:	15

#### Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

#### 1. Target groups:

City practitioners, civil society organizations, cultural activists, local activists, youth, ethnic and national minorities, community members, local actors, LGBTQI, organizers of community events, policy makers.

#### 2. Description of the event and its activities/ context.

The 19th Festival of Tolerance took place in Zadar from 22–24 October 2025 within the Sound of Diversity (SoD) programme under the CERV – Networks of Towns strand. As a

culturally diverse city without an independent cinema, Zadar gained meaningful access to human-rights-oriented and intercultural programming. The event included educational film screenings, artistic presentations, moderated dialogue formats, expert discussions and transnational partner cooperation. Key activities were the concert Life Is Impossible Without Music, the SoD Open Stage, the SoD Partners' Meeting, the screening of Hacking Hate and an expert panel on digital extremism. Participants also joined an intercultural city walk focused on minority heritage, followed by a structured debriefing session.

Sound of Diversity joined the Festival of Tolerance in Zadar as its 5th international event, bringing together artists, citizens, city practitioners and policy-oriented experts from across Europe. The SoD strand contributed to the Festival's mission of promoting dialogue, understanding and active citizenship through culture, and introduced the SoD Stage as an open and participatory space dedicated to diversity, inclusion and EU values in action.

All activities were implemented in situ in Zadar's historic centre, within the Knezeva palace and Providur's palace complex (Concert Hall, Multimedia Hall and Polyvalent Hall). The event design combined film screenings with facilitated partner meetings, educational inputs (including refugee integration in cooperation with UNHCR Croatia), thematic public discussions and an expert panel on digital extremism, as well as a guided city tour focused on cultural heritage and minority histories.

### **3. Agenda of the event.**

#### **22 October 2025**

- 15:00-19:00 arrivals and transfers (Zadar Airport); 18:30-19:00 opening ceremony (Polyvalent Hall)
- 19:15-21:00 film screening: The Young Mothers Home (Polyvalent Hall)
- 21:15-22:00 piano concert: Kosta Jakic (Concert Hall)
- 21:15-23:00 film screening: The Bibi Files (Polyvalent Hall)

#### **23 October 2025**

- 09:00-10:30 SoD partner meeting and workshop (Multimedia Hall)
- 12:00-12:30 educational programme on refugee integration: ARTEMATIZATION - The Art of Understanding (with UNHCR Croatia and local partners) (Polyvalent Hall)
- 14:00-16:30 guided city tour: cultural heritage and minorities in Zadar
- 18:30-19:00 SoD Stage testimony and conversation with Simon Gronowski (Holocaust survivor), Kosta Jakic and the film's creative team (Concert Hall)
- 20:30-21:15 Tolerance Talk: Displaced but Not Defeated - Women on the Move (with UNHCR Croatia)
- 20:30-21:45 world premiere: Life Is Impossible Without Music (Concert Hall)

#### **24 October 2025**

- 09:00-10:45 SoD partners' debriefing (Multimedia Hall)
- 11:00-12:30 film screening: Hacking Hate (Polyvalent Hall)
- 12:30-13:30 expert panel: How to Recognize and Counter Digital Extremism (Polyvalent Hall)
- 19:00-19:45 dialogue after the screening: The Commandant's Shadow (Polyvalent Hall)
- 21:45-22:30 Tolerance Talk: Screen and Voice - Zadar Reacts / EU Values in Action (Polyvalent Hall)



SOUND OF DIVERSITY

**22.-24.10.2025**

**Zadar, Croatia**

## **EU Values in Action: Promoting Active Citizenship at the Festival of Tolerance**

As part of its international programme, Sound of Diversity (SoD) joins the Festival of Tolerance 2025 in Zadar as its 5th international event.

By bringing together artists, citizens, and policy experts from across Europe, SoD contributes to the Festival's long-standing mission of promoting dialogue, understanding, and active citizenship through culture. The SoD Stage will serve as an open and participatory space dedicated to diversity, inclusion, and European values in action, linking the event with the broader celebration of EU Diversity Month 2026.

For almost two decades, the Festival of Tolerance has brought audiences unforgettable films, conversations, and artistic programs that open both eyes and hearts. In 2025, the Festival celebrates its 19th edition in Zadar – a city of rich history, layered cultures, and a strong creative pulse.

Zadar is a place where the sea meets history, where tradition meets modernity, and where the local meets the global. This is exactly what the

Festival, in partnership with Kino Zona Zadar, aims to achieve through its program. Also, the Sound of Diversity (SoD) will be part of the Zadar Film Festival through the SoD Stage, promoting art, dialogue, and community engagement in celebrating European diversity and contributing to the EU Diversity Month 2026.

This autumn, Zadar becomes a place where film is not just a screening, but an invitation to dialogue, a space for learning, and an opportunity for connecting generations. Free, accessible, and open to all – from children and students to adults. Our unique blend of stories, discussions, and art finds its true expression here.

All films will be subtitled in both Croatian and English. The official language of the Tolerance Talk discussions will be Croatian, but full translation will be provided for international guests and SoD partners.

Welcome to Zadar – a city that hosts a Festival that inspires, and films that connect.



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SOUND OF DIVERSITY

**Location:**

Zadar has the most beautiful sunset in the world, famously praised by Alfred Hitchcock. The city is both an atmospheric time machine and an open-air museum, showcasing some of the finest architectural and cultural heritage on the eastern Adriatic coast which are rightly part of UNESCO's World Heritage List, as well as contemporary installations celebrating its connection to the sea and light, such as the Greeting to the Sun and Sea Organs.

The Festival takes place in the historic Rector's Palace (Kneževa palača-Providušova palača) — once a Venetian seat, now a vibrant cultural venue, with several halls dedicated to film projections and festival events.

Guests staying longer can explore Zadar's islands and national parks nearby, while those on a short trip can enjoy all the old town's sights—just steps from the festival venue. For SoD partners' stay, we've

chosen the historic Gostinjac, a former monastery right in the heart of Zadar's old town where you can experience the rhythm of life connected to the city's rich history and explore its remarkable cultural heritage.

All meals—breakfast, lunch, and dinner—along with transport from the airport and to any needed locations, will be organized by the hosts, so you can fully focus on the festival and exploring the city's sights. The breakfast is near the accommodation, and the lunch and dinner are in a restaurant near the Palace, on the address: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/2E9oSxv8t-9CXXyf28>

Main Venue: Kneževa palača (The Rector's Palace) – includes the Multimedia Hall, Polyvalent Hall, and Concert Hall

All festival activities take place within the same building.

Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/86sM736zUYLdPjg8>

**Agenda for SoD participants**

Parts of the programme which are not compulsory for SoD participants are highlighted in grey

**22.10.2025**

**15:00-19:00 – Arrivals at Zadar Airport**

(first group expected around 16:00); transfers organized by Croatian host

**17:00-18:00 – LUNCH BOX for partners**

**18:30-19:00 – Opening Ceremony and Welcoming Drink**

Polyvalent Hall

**19:15-21:00 – The Young Mothers Home (100') – Jean-Pierre & Luc Dardenne**

(ENG with Croatian subtitles)

Polyvalent Hall

**21:15-23:00 – The Bibi Files / Dosje Bibi (115') – Alexis Bloom**

Polyvalent Hall

**21:15-22:00 – Piano Concert – Kosta Iakić, from Life Is Impossible Without Music**

Concert Hall



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**23.10.2025**

**09:00-10:30 – Sound of Diversity Partner Meeting & Workshop**  
**Facilitated by hosts and Tomasz Barszcz**

Multimedia Hall

**11:00-11:45 – Island of Hope (58')** – Helle Toft Jensen  
Polyvalent Hall

**12:00-12:30 – Educational programme on refugee integration**  
**ARTEMATIZATION – THE ART OF UNDERSTANDING in cooperation with**  
**UNHCR Croatia**

(Monika Čavlović Daria Kurkina, izbjeglica Lucija Gobin, volonterski centar Zadar)  
Polyvalent Hall

**12:30-14:00 – LUNCH**

Barbakan: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/2E9oSxv8t9CXXyf28>

**14:00-16:30 – Sightseeing - cultural heritage and minorities in Zadar**  
(Guided city tour)

**17:00- DINNER**

Barbakan: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/2E9oSxv8t9CXXyf28>

**17:30-18:45 – Yalla Parkour (89')** – Areb Zuaiter  
Polyvalent Hall

**18:30-19:00 – SoD Stage: Testimony and Conversation**  
**with Simon Gronowski, Holocaust survivor, Kosta Jakić,**  
**and the film's creative team**

Concert Hall

**19:00-20:15 – Unfinished Journey (75')** – Aeyliya Husain, Amie Williams UNHCR  
Polyvalent Hall

**19:30-20:30 – The Disappearance of Josef Mengele (135')** – Kirill Serebrennikov  
Concert Hall



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**20:30-21:15 – Tolerance talk/ DISPLACED BUT NOT DEFEATED:  
WOMEN ON THE MOVE – SOLIDARITY WITH REFUGEES**  
Anna Rich, Natalija Hryschchenko, Olga Luhova In cooperation with UNHCR Hrvatska

**20:30-21:45 – Life Is Impossible Without Music (40')** – World Premiere  
Concert Hall

**21:15-23:30 – Chronology of Water (128')** – Kristen Stewart  
Polyvalent Hall

**24.10.2025**

**09:00-10:45 – SoD / PARTNERS' MEETING DEBRIEFING**  
Multimedia Hall

**11:00-12:30 – Hacking Hate (86')** – Simon Klosse  
Polyvalent Hall

**12:30-13:30 – SoD Stage:  
HOW TO RECOGNIZE AND COUNTER DIGITAL EXTREMISM (45')**  
Panelists: Alen Galović, Arta Dodaj, Nikolina Grubišić Požar  
Polyvalent Hall

**13:30 – Lunch**  
Barbakan: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/2E9oSxv8t9CXXyf28>

**17:30-18:45 – The Commandant's Shadow (103')** – Daniela Völker  
Polyvalent Hall

**18:00-19:30 – Home Game (98')** – Lidija Zelović  
Concert Hall

**19:00-19:45 – DIALOGUE AFTER THE SCREENING – THE COMMANDANT'S SHADOW**  
Daniela Völker (UK), Vesna Domany Hardy (UK), Andreas Capstack - Veleposlanstvo  
UK / British Embassy Zagreb  
Polyvalent Hall



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**19:00–20:45 – Orwell 2+2=5 (119') – Raoul Peck**  
Multimedia Hall

**19:45–20:15 – Najglasnija tišina (28') – Aleksandar Reljić**  
Concert Hall

**20:15–20:30 – Q&A Session Aleksandar Reljić**  
Concert Hall

**20:00–21:30 – The Little Sister (106') – Hafsat Herzl**  
Polyvalent Hall

**21:00–22:30 – Azza (87') – Stefanie Brockhaus**  
Concert Hall

**21:45–22:30 – Tolerance Talk: / SCREEN AND VOICE – ZADAR REACTS**  
**EU VRJEDNOSTI NA DIELU / EU VALUES IN ACTION (45')** Saša Šegrt, Amra Mešić (CZ),  
Nathan Sarfati (FR)  
Uz podršku Ureda za udruge Vlade RH / With the support of the Government Office for  
Cooperation with NGOs  
Polyvalent Hall

**Contact of the host:**

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(accommodation and travel arrangements)

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**4. Main take aways/ findings from the event**

The event effectively combined artistic, educational and expert-led elements to engage participants with key SoD themes such as identity, minority visibility, online hate and democratic participation. The SoD Partners' Meeting strengthened transnational cooperation and exchange on inclusion and community engagement. The expert panel advanced participants' understanding of digital extremism and supported youth-focused media literacy goals. The intercultural city walk deepened contextual awareness of Zadar's minority heritage and demonstrated the value of place-based learning. The debriefing

session identified priorities for future improvements, including earlier agenda planning and expanding artist-led dialogue formats. Gender balance and equal participation were ensured across all activities, and partners recognised the Zadar event as a strong, transferable format.

- **SoD Partner Meeting & Workshop (23.10, 09:00–10:30 CET)**

Facilitated by the host team and **Tomasz Barszcz** (SoD partner; Head of Promotion and International Cooperation Department, Aleksandrów Łódzki City Hall).

Partners compared hosting practices and discussed how SoD formats can be integrated into an existing festival structure. Key operational conclusions: align the SoD agenda with the festival timeline early; define clear internal roles (incl. one person responsible for SoD partner care/logistics); request travel/arrival/departure confirmations and venue details well in advance; and secure structured opening/closing slots to capture learning and make outcomes transferable.

- **Educational programme on refugee integration – “ARTEMATIZATION: The Art of Understanding” (23.10, 12:00–12:30 CET)**

In cooperation with UNHCR Croatia and local integration actors: **Monika Čavlović** (Advisor, Office of the Ombudswoman), **Daria Kurkina** (refugee from Ukraine), and **Lucija Gobin** (Volunteer Centre Zadar).

The session confirmed that arts-based, moderated dialogue creates safer and more engaging conditions to address sensitive topics (arrival experiences, belonging, stereotypes). A core learning point was the value of positioning people with lived experience as active contributors in the discussion, strengthening both credibility and community-level understanding.

- **Place-based learning: Intercultural city walk (23.10, 14:00–16:30 CET)**

The guided walk grounded SoD themes in Zadar’s local context and layered minority heritage. Partners highlighted that contextual immersion increases the relevance of later discussions and helps connect festival programming to local realities and community outreach.

- **SoD Stage: Testimony and Conversation (23.10, 18:30–19:00 CET)**

With **Simon Gronowski** (Holocaust survivor; jurist and jazz pianist) and **Kosta Jakić** (Belgian classical pianist), alongside the film’s creative context.

The testimony format was identified as a highly transferable practice for empathy-building and long-term civic awareness. By linking remembrance with present-day democratic resilience, the session offered a strong model for festivals aiming to counter polarisation and extremist narratives through personal story and cultural expression.

- **UNHCR cooperation – film + public discussion (23.10 evening block)**

Screening “**Unfinished Journey**” and Tolerance Talk “**Displaced but not Defeated: Women on the Move – Solidarity with Refugees**” with **Anna Rich** (UNHCR Representative in Croatia), **Natalija Hryshchenko** (President/Director, Association SVOJA; refugee from Ukraine), and **Olga/Olha Luhova** (refugee from Ukraine; Volunteer Centre Zadar / living and working in Zadar).

Key learning: migration-related programming is stronger and more accurate when it is framed through dignity, agency and solidarity, and when people with lived experience are visible as speakers (not only as “beneficiaries”). The combination of film + moderated dialogue was assessed as particularly effective for engaging broad audiences while keeping the discussion grounded in real-life experience.

- **SoD Partners' Meeting Debriefing (24.10, 09:00–10:45 CET)**

Facilitated through structured small-group work in mixed partner groups. Partners consolidated lessons in three areas: (1) impact of content and formats; (2) gender/non-discrimination mainstreaming; (3) future cooperation. A repeated finding was that participatory formats (small groups, guided reflection, hands-on methods) produce clearer, more transferable outcomes than one-way presentations.

- **Screening “Hacking Hate” + SoD Stage Panel: “How to Recognize and Counter Digital Extremism” (24.10, 11:00–13:30 CET)**

Panelists: **Alen Galović** (Deputy Editor-in-Chief, *24sata*), **Nikolina Grubišić Požar** (Head of the Juvenile Delinquency Department, Zagreb Police Administration), **Arta Dodaj** (Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Zadar).

The session strengthened media literacy and participants' understanding of online radicalisation dynamics (amplification, normalisation, platform incentives) and practical response strategies. The key finding for future SoD programming was the value of pairing a strong documentary with an expert-led but accessible discussion that includes concrete examples and action-oriented guidance—especially effective for youth-facing civic education.

- **Dialogue after “The Commandant’s Shadow” (24.10, 19:00–19:45 CET)**

With **Daniela Völker** (director; Emmy- and Grierson-nominated), **Vesna Domany Hardy** (Holocaust survivor), and **Andreas Capstack** (First Secretary / Head of Political Section, British Embassy Zagreb).

The dialogue showed how post-screening formats can deepen reflection on historical responsibility and contemporary ethics while remaining accessible to diverse audiences. A key takeaway was that moderated discussion can bridge memory work with current democratic challenges, supporting long-term attitudinal impact.

- **Tolerance Talk: “Screen and Voice – Zadar Reacts: EU Values in Action” (24.10, 21:45–22:30 CET)**

With **Saša Šegrt** (Senior Analyst – Coordinator for EU Funds, Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs), **Nathan Sarfati** (Project Manager, Seine-Saint-Denis Department; SoD Partner), **Amra Mešić** (Project Coordinator, Slovo 21; SoD Partner).

The discussion translated programme themes into concrete civic questions (participation, rights, inclusion, local responsibility) and underlined the importance of connecting EU values to practical, local-level actions and partnerships.

### **Summary of key points (transferable learning)**

#### **1. Success factors**

- A multi-format approach (film + moderated dialogue + testimony + expert panel + place-based learning + partner debrief) increased both accessibility and depth of engagement.
- Testimony-based formats were consistently recognised as high-impact tools for empathy-building and long-term civic awareness.
- Strong cross-sector partnerships (UNHCR and local integration actors; media and law-enforcement expertise; academic input) strengthened outreach and credibility.

#### **2. Key findings (what worked and why)**

- Combining remembrance with contemporary issues (digital hate, polarisation, migration/integration) increases relevance and strengthens democratic resilience outcomes.
- Digital extremism topics are most effective when anchored in a film and followed by a structured, expert-led, audience-accessible discussion with practical takeaways.
- Integration topics gain depth and legitimacy when people with lived experience are speakers/co-creators, supported by safe and moderated spaces.

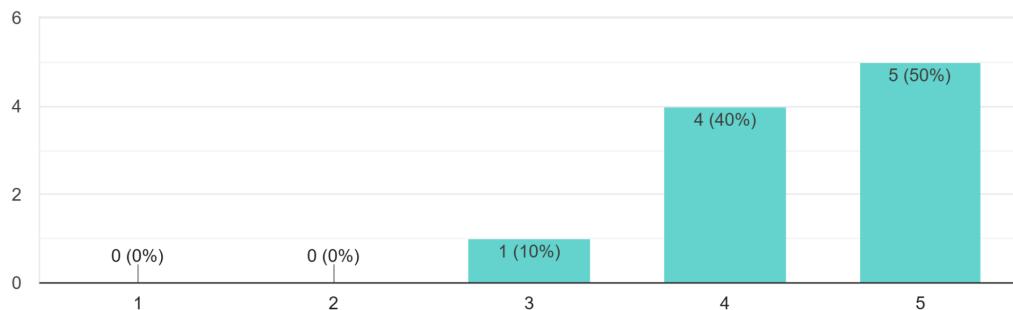
#### **3. Challenges & recommendations (for future hosts)**

- Earlier alignment of the SoD agenda with the host festival; clearer division of responsibilities (incl. a designated SoD logistics lead).
- Earlier logistical confirmation (arrivals/departures, exact locations, partner needs) plus a structured opening session for partner orientation.
- Stronger gender and non-discrimination mainstreaming across content choices and panel composition, supported by inclusive communication and participatory methods.

### **Feedback from the participants**

## 2. How satisfied are you with the event:

10 responses

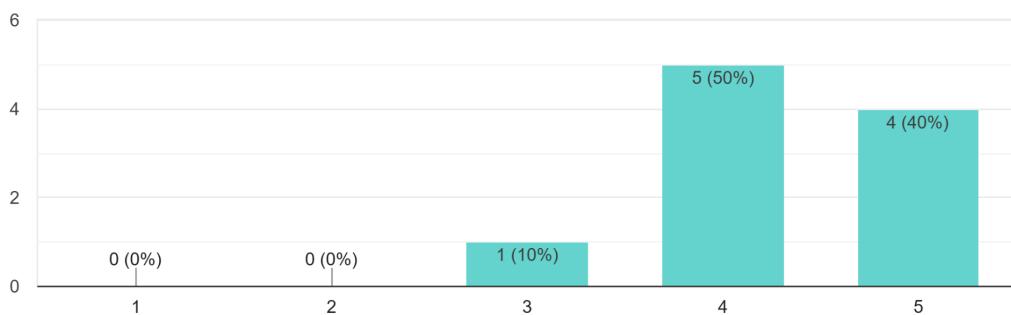


"A positive thing is that the partners have now started organically connecting and sharing their best practices outside the official SOD workshops, especially when it comes to working with specific minorities".

"Possibility to catch-up with SoD partners... With so many personal meetings we are really constructing special relationships for now and the future".

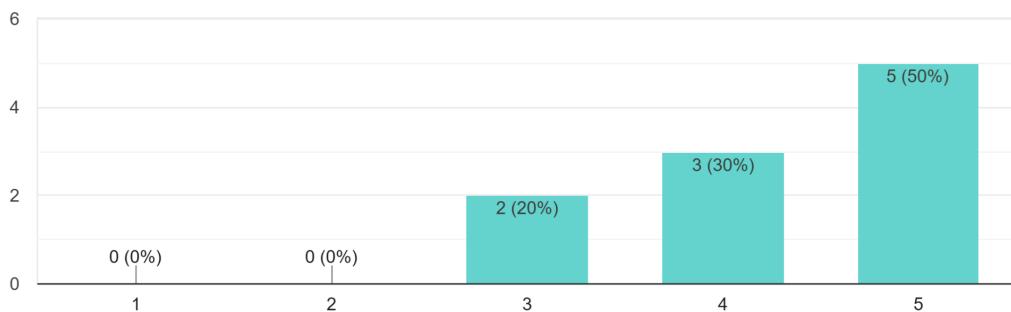
4. To what extent did the event support the aim of improving the quality of community services, policies and programs for diversity and inclusion on the local level in the partnered towns?

10 responses



5. Moderation of the meeting/facilitation methods used:

10 responses



"The dynamics that take place allow us to understand how the different project member countries operate in the aspects being discussed. Sometimes it's surprising how we seem so similar, yet so different in many ways".

## 5. Graphical elements and photos of the event

- a. [Photo selection WP 5](#)
- b. [Media coverage and communication outputs](#) are summarised in the Media Report (attached).

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).