

What is Arcom?

Created on 1 January 2022, the Audiovisual and Digital Communication Regulatory Authority (Arcom) is the result of the merger between the French broadcasting regulator (CSA) established in 1989, and the authority overseeing the dissemination of works and the protection of property rights online (Hadopi), created in 2009. The major changes in the audiovisual and digital landscape required the creation of a new regulator with strengthened and expanded powers. As the guarantor of freedom of communication and expression in audiovisual and digital spaces, Arcom's role is to oversee the democratic and social responsibilities of audiovisual media and online platforms, to ensure pluralism in audiovisual news media and the independence of public broadcasting, to provide economic equilibrium to the sector, and to support creation.

Arcom, an independent public authority, is composed of a board of nine people: its chair and eight other members, four men and four women. They are appointed by five separate authorities, to ensure independence and to encourage diversity of backgrounds.

Every board member chairs one working group and is vice-chair of a second group. Together, they lead the group and set its objectives, under the impetus of the board and in conjunction with Arcom's directorates. They are also key partners of stakeholders in the audiovisual and digital sectors with regard to issues falling within their group's sphere of competence. The board meets weekly in plenary session to decide on matters where a decision by Arcom is expected or required - deliberations, opinions, recommendations and sanctions. This is the framework within which it examines alerts sent.

1 board of 9 members	370 staff members
1 board secretariat	1 directorate general
10 directorates and 1 general secretariat for territories	16 Arcom regional offices
8 working groups covering its entire role	

Radio and digital audio

Arcom deals with all issues relevant to the economic and technological development of radio services. One of its historical missions is to allocate and manage radio frequencies and to monitor changes in order to guarantee the public optimal reception of programmes, and to ensure the quality of radio broadcasting and pluralism of audio services. In addition to monitoring FM broadcasting, the Authority is organising and pacing the roll-out of terrestrial digital radio, under the DAB+ standard, which constitutes a major technological advance, allowing for an increase in the offering available to listeners and an improvement in sound quality. Arcom analyses and supports economic and competitive changes in the sector and in how audio is used (podcasts, access to online music etc.).



"In 2023, **18** cities
will be covered by **DAB+**"

Television, ODAVMS, distribution and digital uses

Arcom regulates on-demand audiovisual media services (SMAD). It allocates licences for the use of radio frequencies by television services and signs agreements with television services and SMAD. More generally, it deals with issues relating to their economic regulation and to the broadcasting and distribution of audiovisual services. It ensures the modernisation of the terrestrial digital television platform, and publishes research, including economic research, into new digital audiovisual uses and services.

**Subscription
video-on-demand offerings**

148 specialist or general
interest subscription
video-on-demand (SVOD)
services in France
in 2022¹



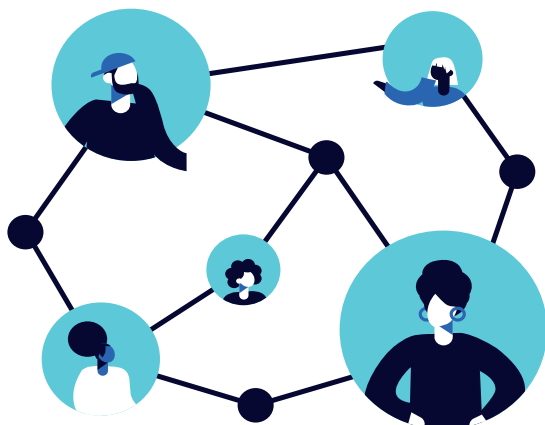
Supervision of online platforms

Arcom is responsible for regulating online platforms (social media, search engines, video sharing platforms, etc.), including overseeing the means they use to combat information manipulation and hateful, infringing and harmful content.

Within ERGA, the European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services, Arcom has followed and contributed to work on the Digital Services Act (DSA), which provides Europe with an innovative and ambitious regulatory framework to address the risks posed to the protection of audiences and the stability of our democratic societies by online platforms. This legal framework will ensure both freedom of communication and a safer digital environment in the European digital space.

**Combating information
manipulation**

5.8 m fake accounts
were deleted by Facebook
in 2022²



Education, audience protection and social cohesion in audiovisual and digital media

Arcom works to protect audiences in the face of major social issues affecting audiovisual media and on online platforms, in particular: protection of minors, respect for women's rights, combating discrimination, balanced representation of French society, accessibility and disability, the defence and promotion of the French language, public health, ecological transition, the exposure of sport, and consumer protection.

Arcom implements media and information literacy actions for all audiences and raises awareness of legal and secure Internet use.



Representation of women on air
46% on TV & **42%** on radio
share of representation in 2022³

Pluralism and ethics in programming

Arcom ensures that a full range of expression of schools of thought and opinion is respected. This means that the Authority has to make sure that political figures benefit from equal speaking time in audiovisual media. Arcom also ensures that the obligations on audiovisual media in terms of programme ethics are met, in particular the accuracy and independence of information and respect for rights, civil liberties and personal dignity.



Audiovisual, film and music creation and production

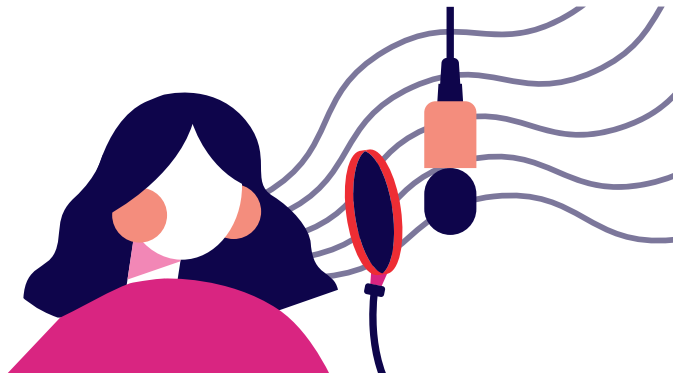
Arcom contributes to the development of French and European production and creation in audiovisual media. In this regard, it works to protect copyright.

It ensures that television- and video-on-demand services meet their obligations to broadcast and finance audiovisual works (fiction, documentaries, animation, etc.) and cinema films.

It monitors the application of rules on the broadcasting of original French songs by radio stations and the promotion of musical diversity. Finally, Arcom contributes to discussion on the promotion of musical diversity by online music services.

92% of Internet users

consider that the rules put in place by platforms to allow authors to be paid are justified⁴.



Protection and broadcast of creative work and sports content on the Internet

Arcom fights against online piracy of cultural and sports content and encourages the development of legal offers in these areas.

The Authority identifies infringing websites and enforces court rulings against services illegally broadcasting protected works or sports competitions. Arcom also organises cooperation between cultural and sports stakeholders on the one hand, and digital operators who can act to prevent access to infringing services, on the other.

In addition, Arcom is interested in the design and deployment of the means to raise awareness of copyright and to direct Internet users to these offerings.

The Authority consequently provides users with a service enabling them to search for a legal platform suited to their needs, based on their criteria (free or paid, subscription or pay-per-view, etc.). Arcom also allows French Internet users to install an Internet browser add-on (called "EOL", the French abbreviation for legal service add-on) so they may be directly informed of the legality of any service providing cultural content. Legal service offerings protect creatives as well as users from the hazards caused by use of infringing services.

Sources:

¹ Arcom, publishers' declarations to end 2022.

² Figures for the Facebook platform in 2022.

³ Representation of Women in Television and Radio - Report on the year 2022 - Arcom.

⁴ Arcom, report on changing the days on which cinematographic works are broadcast on television, 2022.



From local to international

Faced with phenomena that are common to most countries and global stakeholders, but also with the audience requiring a domestic body, Arcom operates at local, European and international levels.

16 branch offices in France's regions and territories, in metropolitan France and overseas, ensure that Arcom is working as closely as possible to audiovisual stakeholders and local audiences. These offices work for local regulation in the areas of reception protection and spectrum management, media and information literacy, copyright protection and appropriate use of screens.

The regulation of audiovisual and digital communication also increasingly falls under a European remit, based on close cooperation with the various regulators of the other European Union Member States, in particular within ERGA, the European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services. Arcom also maintains regular relations with its counterparts and plays host to many foreign delegations each year.

Finally, Arcom is a member of the French-speaking Network of Media Regulators, REFRAM, which has 31 members from three continents. IN this capacity, the Authority works to consolidate the rule of law, democracy and human rights. Since the 7th REFRAM Presidents' Conference held in Paris on 6 and 7 October 2022, Arcom has held the Presidency of REFRAM.

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