European Free Alliance

Motions

Motion number	[To be filled in by the Secretariat]
Name of the person introducing the Motion to the GA	Gösta Toft
Member party	SP & SSW
Title (of the Motion)	Abolition of Geoblocking in the EU

Despite Regulation (EU) 2018/302, geoblocking continues to exist within the EU. The provisions do not apply, for example, to audiovisual media such as the media libraries of public-service broadcasters. These broadcasters may make their content available in other EU countries—as demonstrated by examples from Belgium and South Tyrol—but are not obliged to do so.

The European Free Alliance calls on the European Commission to:

- abolish geoblocking for public-service broadcasters in line with the Minority Safepack Initiative
- extend the EU regulation to include audiovisual media
- ensure compliance with the principle of non-discrimination as set out in Article 20(2) of the EU Services Directive

Reasoning:

We are deeply concerned that, given the significant importance of media, geoblocking substantially restricts the European Single Market. EU citizens are denied access to services on the basis of their place of residence.

Furthermore, geoblocking hinders cultural exchange and mutual understanding between peoples across borders. This particularly affects EU citizens in border regions, as well as national minorities and linguistic communities in Europe, and constitutes a violation of Article 11 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

Please see Article 7 of EFA's Rules of Internal Order for the rules regarding motions.