



GERMANY MOVES TOWARDS MANDATORY STREAMING INVESTMENT QUOTAS

Germany's ruling coalition has agreed on draft legislation that would require streaming platforms and broadcasters to invest a fixed share of revenues in European productions. The proposal introduces a minimum investment obligation of 8% of annual net turnover for providers operating in the German market.

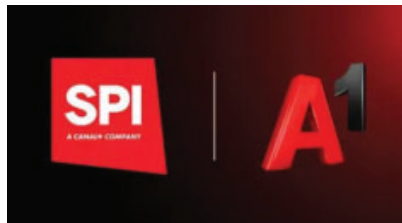
The agreement would also unlock additional federal funding, increasing annual economic film support to €250 million once the law is passed. An opening clause would allow companies investing more than 12% of turnover to deviate from certain requirements.

Producers have welcomed the proposed framework, with industry body Produktionsallianz calling it a breakthrough that could release €120 million in previously blocked federal funds. Platform and broadcaster group VAUNET, however, criticised the plan as overly rigid, warning of constitutional and EU law risks and arguing that tax incentives would be a more effective approach.



A1 GROUP ADDS YOUTUBE PREMIUM TO ENTERTAINMENT PORTFOLIO

A1 Group has announced a strategic partnership with Google that will see YouTube Premium added to its entertainment offerings, starting with A1 Croatia from 6 February 2026. Additional markets across the operator's footprint are expected to follow.



The move builds on A1's existing content partnerships and is positioned as a value-added service aimed at increasing customer engagement and retention.

Sky to Relaunch Sky One and Consolidate Entertainment Channels

Sky is relaunching Sky One later this month, restoring a brand that was retired in 2021. The channel will replace Sky Showcase and Sky Max, consolidating Sky's comedy and entertainment output into a single linear destination.

The launch slate includes new originals alongside returning titles, with Sky saying customers will not lose access to any content previously carried on the outgoing channels.

OFCOM REVOKES MATV LICENCES OVER COMPLIANCE BREACH

UK regulator Ofcom has revoked the broadcasting licences for MATV National and MATV Music with immediate effect. Following an investigation, Ofcom determined that the licensee, Middlesex Broadcastin



Corporation Limited, had ceased to provide the services, which were instead being operated by an unlicensed entity.

Ofcom said opportunities were given to rectify the situation, but insufficient steps were taken, leading to licence revocation.

HBO MAX LAUNCHES DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER IN UK AND IRELAND

HBO Max will launch in the UK and Ireland on Thursday, 26 March, marking the first time audiences in both markets can access Warner Bros. Discovery's full HBO Max offering via a direct-to-consumer platform. The service consolidates content from HBO, Warner Bros. Pictures, Warner Bros. Television, DC Studios and Max Originals under a single brand.



Until now, HBO programming in the two markets has largely been distributed through third-party partners, most notably Sky, which remains a launch partner. HBO Max is already available in more than 110 territories worldwide.

At launch, HBO Max will also become the new streaming home of TNT Sports in the UK, combining live sport with entertainment programming. Discovery+ will continue to carry TNT Sports until the transition completes on 26 March. ■