



Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Sam Graves
Chairman

Rick Larsen
Ranking Member

Jack Ruddy, Staff Director

Katherine W. Dedrick, Democratic Staff Director

March 5, 2025

Her Excellency Jovita Neliupšienė
Ambassador
Delegation of the European Union to the United States of America
2175 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Madam Ambassador:

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (Committee) has serious concerns regarding the recent *Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA)* filing on behalf of the European Union (E.U.), which describes E.U. efforts to lobby United States lawmakers and policy officials in an effort to secure modifications to the *Jones Act* (46 U.S.C. § 55102), an important American national and economic security law.¹ The Committee urges the E.U.'s halt efforts to bypass traditional diplomatic channels and undermine American public trust in Federal law and policy.

The *FARA* filing was required by the E.U.'s financing of a United States firm to create "one or two funny but informative"² TikTok-like videos to criticize the *Jones Act*.³ In the *FARA* filing, the TikTok-like videos were described as part of a broader, multi-faceted, multi-phased lobbying and public relations campaign financed by the E.U. to challenge the *Jones Act*. That broader lobbying campaign to challenge the *Jones Act* was outlined in detail in a document included in the *FARA* filing and is also attached to this letter. We understand that the E.U. lobbying document was removed from the *FARA* filing shortly after its existence was publicly disclosed.

The lobbying efforts by the E.U. raise significant concerns. In response to media reports about the filing, a spokesman for the E.U. stated that "the European Union has long conducted outreach in the United States on the question of market access for various maritime services,"⁴ citing previous trade negotiations.⁵ However, the activities described in the attached lobbying

¹ StorySquad Media, LLC, Initial Registration Statement, U.S. Dep't of Justice, Foreign Agents Registration Act Filing (Oct. 17, 2024), available at <https://efile.fara.gov/docs/7476-Exhibit-AB-20241017-1.pdf>.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ gCaptain, *EU Delegation's Campaign to Dismantle Jones Act Exposed in Government Filing* (Dec. 12, 2024), available at <https://gcaptain.com/eu-delegations-campaign-to-dismantle-jones-act-exposed-in-government-filing/>.

⁵ *Id.*

Her Excellency Jovita Neliupšienė

March 4, 2025

Page 2 of 2

campaign document go far beyond trade negotiations. Rather it appears, that the E.U. is seeking to influence United States policy on the *Jones Act* not through diplomatic means, but instead through an advocacy campaign, including collaboration with previously undisclosed United States organizations and social media influencers.

Constructive dialogue and collaboration, not TikTok videos, is a far better way for the E.U. and the United States to address international matters of concern, while respecting the sovereignty and security interests of both parties. The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has a significant interest in understanding why the E.U. is attempting to employ social media to sway Federal policy. We encourage you to utilize traditional diplomatic channels and direct engagement with United States lawmakers to discuss any proposed modifications to the *Jones Act*.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response and to the continued strong relationship between the European Union and the United States. If you have any questions, please contact John Rayfield, Republican Staff Director, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, at John.Rayfield@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-9446, or Matt Dwyer, Democratic Staff Director, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, at Matt.Dwyer@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-4472.

Sincerely,



Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure



Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure



Mike Ezell
Chairman
Subcommittee on Coast Guard and
Maritime Transportation



Salud Carbajal
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Coast
Guard and Maritime
Transportation

Enclosure

Attachment A: StorySquad FARA Filing

U.S. Department of Justice
 Washington, DC 20530

**Exhibit A to Registration Statement
 Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
 1938, as amended**

INSTRUCTIONS. Furnish this exhibit for EACH foreign principal listed in an initial statement and for EACH additional foreign principal acquired subsequently. The filing of this document requires the payment of a filing fee as set forth in Rule (d)(1), 28 C.F.R. § 5.5(d)(1). Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit A form at <https://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required by the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide this information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the FARA Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the FARA Unit's webpage: <https://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <https://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .22 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, FARA Unit, Counterintelligence and Export Control Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant StorySquad Media, LLC	2. Registration Number 7476
--	--------------------------------

3. Primary Address of Registrant
 4842 DAVENPORT ST NW, Washington, DC, DC 20016

4. Name of Foreign Principal IBF Connect SA	5. Address of Foreign Principal Avenue Louise 209/A, 1050 Brussels, Belgium BELGIUM
--	--

6. Country/Region Represented
 BELGIUM

7. Indicate whether the foreign principal is one of the following:

- Government of a foreign country¹
- Foreign political party
- Foreign or domestic organization: If either, check one of the following:
 - Partnership
 - Corporation
 - Association
 - Committee
 - Voluntary group
 - Other (*specify*) _____
- Individual-State nationality _____

8. If the foreign principal is a foreign government, state:

- a) Branch or agency represented by the registrant

- b) Name and title of official(s) with whom registrant engages

¹ "Government of a foreign country," as defined in Section 1(e) of the Act, includes any person or group of persons exercising sovereign de facto or de jure political jurisdiction over any country, other than the United States, or over any part of such country, and includes any subdivision of any such group and any group or agency to which such sovereign de facto or de jure authority or functions are directly or indirectly delegated. Such term shall include any faction or body of insurgents within a country assuming to exercise governmental authority whether such faction or body of insurgents has or has not been recognized by the United States.

9. If the foreign principal is a foreign political party, state:

- a) Name and title of official(s) with whom registrant engages

- b) Aim, mission or objective of foreign political party

10. If the foreign principal is not a foreign government or a foreign political party:

a) State the nature of the business or activity of this foreign principal.

IBF Connect is a private company based in Brussels, with over 200 staff through the EU. IBF Connect organises events, congresses, and projects of cooperation and development of the European Union, European Commission, European Parliament, European Directories and European Agencies.

b) Is this foreign principal:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Supervised by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Owned by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Directed by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Controlled by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Financed by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Subsidized in part by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

11. Explain fully all items answered "Yes" in Item 10(b).

Item 10(b) Supervised: Supervised by the European Union Delegation for the United States in Washington DC, which is a public organisation that refers to the European Union.

Item 10(b) Directed: IBF is a private company that organises events, congresses, and projects of cooperation and development of the European Union, European Commission, European Parliament, European Directories and European Agencies.

12. If the foreign principal is an organization and is not owned or controlled by a foreign government, foreign political party or other foreign principal, state who owns and controls it.

IBF is a Belgian private company

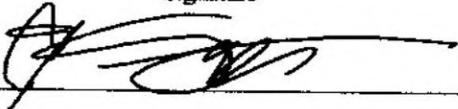
EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date	Printed Name	Signature
10/17/2024	Casey Murray Sattler	<input data-bbox="886 401 954 443" type="text" value="Sign"/> /s/Casey Murray Sattler
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="886 491 954 533" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="886 575 954 617" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="886 659 954 701" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date	Printed Name	Signature
10.17.24	CASEY SATLER	

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, DC 20530

**Exhibit B to Registration Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

INSTRUCTIONS. A registrant must furnish as an Exhibit B copies of each written agreement and the terms and conditions of each oral agreement with his foreign principal, including all modifications of such agreements, or, where no contract exists, a full statement of all the circumstances by reason of which the registrant is acting as an agent of a foreign principal. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit B form at <https://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the FARA Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the FARA Unit's webpage: <https://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <https://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .32 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, FARA Unit, Counterintelligence and Export Control Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant

StorySquad Media, LLC

2. Registration Number

7476

3. Name of Foreign Principal

IBF Connect SA

Check Appropriate Box:

4. The agreement between the registrant and the above-named foreign principal is a formal written contract. If this box is checked, attach a copy of the contract to this exhibit.
5. There is no formal written contract between the registrant and the foreign principal. The agreement with the above-named foreign principal has resulted from an exchange of correspondence. If this box is checked, attach a copy of all pertinent correspondence, including a copy of any initial proposal which has been adopted by reference in such correspondence.
6. The agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal is the result of neither a formal written contract nor an exchange of correspondence between the parties. If this box is checked, give a complete description below of the terms and conditions of the oral agreement or understanding, its duration, the fees and expenses, if any, to be received.
7. What is the date of the contract or agreement with the foreign principal? 09/21/2024
8. Describe fully the nature and method of performance of the above indicated agreement or understanding.

Project involves developing a schedule and specific requirements for IBF to determine goals and development of the project, which also involves discussing the Jones Act, creating a short script/storyboard for designing and creation of two short videos (under 1 minute approx.)

9. Describe fully the activities the registrant engages in or proposes to engage in on behalf of the above foreign principal.

Produce two catching, informative, short videos (ex Tik-Tok-style videos) on the effects of the Jones Act. Storysquad is not involved in distributing the videos produced.

10. Will the activities on behalf of the above foreign principal include political activities as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act¹.

Yes No

If yes, describe all such political activities indicating, among other things, the relations, interests or policies to be influenced together with the means to be employed to achieve this purpose. The response must include, but not be limited to, activities involving lobbying, promotion, perception management, public relations, economic development, and preparation and dissemination of informational materials.

See Appendix for Response

11. Prior to the date of registration² for this foreign principal has the registrant engaged in any registrable activities, such as political activities, for this foreign principal?

Yes No

If yes, describe in full detail all such activities. The response should include, among other things, the relations, interests, and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored, or delivered speeches, lectures, social media, internet postings, or media broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers, and subject matter. The response must also include, but not be limited to, activities involving lobbying, promotion, perception management, public relations, economic development, and preparation and dissemination of informational materials.

Set forth below a general description of the registrant's activities, including political activities.

Set forth below in the required detail the registrant's political activities.

Date	Contact	Method	Purpose
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12. During the period beginning 60 days prior to the obligation to register³ for this foreign principal, has the registrant received from the foreign principal, or from any other source, for or in the interests of the foreign principal, any contributions, income, money, or thing of value either as compensation, or for disbursement, or otherwise?

Yes No

If yes, set forth below in the required detail an account of such monies or things of value.

Date Received	From Whom	Purpose	Amount/Thing of Value
---------------	-----------	---------	-----------------------

13. During the period beginning 60 days prior to the obligation to register⁴ for this foreign principal, has the registrant disbursed or expended monies, or disposed of anything of value other than money, in connection with activity on behalf of the foreign principal or transmitted monies to any such foreign principal?

Yes No

If yes, set forth below in the required detail an account of such monies or things of value.

Date	Recipient	Purpose	Amount/Thing of Value
------	-----------	---------	-----------------------

¹ "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act, means any activity which the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting, or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

^{2,3,4} Pursuant to Section 2(a) of the Act, an agent must register within ten days of becoming an agent, and before acting as such.

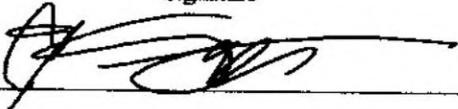
EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date	Printed Name	Signature
10/17/2024	Casey Murray Sattler	<input data-bbox="889 457 959 485" type="text" value="Sign"/> /s/Casey Murray Sattler
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="889 541 959 581" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="889 630 959 669" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="889 709 959 749" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date	Printed Name	Signature
10.17.24	CASEY SATLER	

Appendix Response to Item 10

Item 10: Will the activities on behalf of the above foreign principal include political activities as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act. If yes, describe all such political activities indicating, among other things, the relations, interests or policies to be influenced together with the means to be employed to achieve this purpose. The response must include, but not be limited to, activities involving lobbying, promotion, perception management, public relations, economic development, and preparation and dissemination of informational materials.

The specific objective of this action is to facilitate the participation of companies from the European Union in the US market in both offshore wind power and dredging. The strategy to obtain these results is working alongside interested US stakeholders to help show communities the negative effects of the Jones Act: for instance, the current duopoly of US companies, which in turn lead to a rise in costs that affect local budgets, curtail the deployment of green energy, or prevent the roll out of preferred coastal resiliency strategies, and to help them see how much they would benefit when bringing in EU companies. The video productions will help with a portion of the above statement



Service Contract

IBF Connect SA
Avenue Louise 209A
1050 Brussels
Belgium

(hereinafter referred to as “**IBF**”),

on the one part,

and

StorySquad Media, LLC
4842 Davenport Street, NW, Washington DC 20016
VAT: AMERICAN SERVICE PROVIDER DOES NOT USE VAT

(hereafter referred to as the “**Service Provider**”)

on the other part,

have agreed as follows:

(1) Subject

This Service Contract is for **Maritime Service Restrictions** in the framework of the project “**EU Policy and Outreach Partnership in the US and Policy Dialogue Support**”; financed by the “**European Commission**”, and implemented by the EU Delegation in the United States, hereinafter referred to as the “**Contracting Authority**”. The Service Provider shall execute the tasks assigned to them in accordance with the Terms of Reference annexed to this Contract (Annex 1).

(2) Structure of the Contract

The Service Provider will carry out the services on the terms and conditions set out in this Contract, which also comprises the following annexes:

Annex 1: Terms of Reference

Annex 2: Budget

(3) Contract Value

This agreement, established in Euro, is a **global price contract** with no minimum value. The maximum value for this contract amounts to EUR 7,000.00.

(4) Term

The term of this contract runs from 25th September 2024 through 31st January 2025.

(5) Delivery Date

The outputs will be delivered according to the provisional schedule below:

Realization of two short "Tik-Tok style" videos on the effects of Jones Act	End of January 2025
---	---------------------

(6) Services and Deliverables

A detailed description of the services and deliverables to be provided by the Service Provider is listed in the Terms of Reference, Budget and Methodology (Annexes to this Contract).

(7) Non-Exclusivity

The Service Provider acknowledges that IBF may, at any time, procure or acquire the same or similar services from another supplier.

(8) Service Price

	Description	Maximum Unit Cost EUR	No of Units	Maximum Total Cost EUR
	Realization of two short "Tik-Tok style" videos on the effects of Jones Act	3.500,00	2	7.000,00
	Total			7.000,00

The rates are fixed and not subject to any price revision. The above stated fees include all expenses directly related to the required services (such as delivery, professional taxes, communication costs, transportation etc.). No extra costs will be paid to the Service Provider unless agreed otherwise. Only services with approved deliverables will be paid.

(9) Cancellation of Services

In case of request by the Contracting Authority for modifications to the services of this contract, or cancellation of the services, IBF is entitled to modify or cancel the present agreement.

(10) General Conditions and Terms of Payment

- a. The agreement shall be exempt from all duties and taxes, including VAT. The service provider recognizes that IBF, acting on behalf of the European Commission is, as a rule, exempt from all taxes and dues, including VAT, pursuant to the provisions of Articles 3 and 4 of the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities (except invoices for Belgian companies which may invoice with VAT).

- b. The invoice needs to be sent to IBF by email to the following address: minelli@ibf.be
- c. Payment will be executed only after receipt of the invoice and approved by IBF and the Contracting Authority.
- d. The payments to the Service Provider shall be executed in Euro and payable into the bank account specified by the Service Provider to IBF, in line with the tentative schedule as per Article 11.
- e. The following information has to be included in the invoice:
 - 1. *IBF Connect SA*
 - 2. *Avenue Louise 209/A, 1050 Brussels, Belgium*
 - 3. *Sales TAX/ VAT number* [REDACTED]
 - 4. *Document titled as "invoice"*
 - 5. *Invoice issue date*
 - 6. *Service Provider's name, full registered address, phone and fax numbers, VAT number and registration number*
 - 7. *Contract reference: ToR 62 Maritime Service Restrictions*
 - 8. *Services/ items supplied, please describe*
 - 9. *Service Provider's Bank details: name, full address, bank account number (IBAN format), SWIFT or BIC code and complete bank references*
 - 10. *On receipt of the invoice IBF will ask to fill in, sign and return, the "Declaration of TAX Registration and Financial Identification" FIF.*

(11) Particular Conditions and Terms of Payment

Invoices shall be issued after approval by IBF of the relevant output in accordance with the following tentative schedule:

Delivery and approval of two short "Tik-Tok style" videos on the effects of Jones Act	7.000 € payable in 2 installments of 3.500 € upon delivery of each video
---	--

(12) Compliance with Foreign Agents Registration Act and Other Applicable Laws

- a. Service Provider and IBF shall comply with any and all restrictions and requirements of the Foreign Agents Registrations Act, and any other applicable laws and regulations of the United States.
- b. IBF represents and warrants that it has supplied Service Provider with accurate and complete information concerning its operations, objectives, and personnel, recognizing that Service Provider will be required to complete and file public disclosure forms in connection with this engagement. IBF agrees that it will immediately notify Service Provider in the event of any changes to this information.

(13) Law and Language of the Contract

- a. The laws of Belgium shall govern all matters not covered by the contract.
- b. The language of the contract and of all written communications between the Service Provider and IBF shall be English.

(14) Subcontracting

Subcontracting is not allowed. Should both parties agree to additional video production that falls outside the short-term video production described in Article 8, both parties acknowledge the possibility that a third party contractor could be considered.

(15) Dispute Settlement

Any disputes arising out of or relating to this contract which cannot be settled amicably shall be referred to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Brussels, Belgium.

(16) Suspension of the Contract

IBF reserves the right to suspend the present Contract for the following reasons:

- a. Failure of the Service Provider to meet the quality standards provision of the requested services;
- b. Incapacity of the Service Provider to deliver the final product in the specified timeframes;
- c. Gross negligence in the performance of the services by the Service Provider;
- d. Severe mistakes of the Service Provider in the performance of this Contract;
- e. The invoices of the Service Provider not submitted on time or incorrectly.

(17) Duration/Termination of the Contract

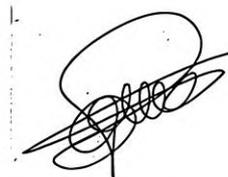
IBF reserves the right to terminate the present Contract with 7 days' notice due to:

- a. Failure of the Service Provider to meet the quality standards provision of the requested services;
- b. Gross negligence in the performance of the services by the Service Provider;
- c. Severe mistakes of the Service Provider in the performance of this Contract;
- d. Submission of untrue information by the Service Provider;
- e. Decision from IBF or the Contracting Authority to re-launch the tender procedure;
- f. Force majeure.

Completed in English in two originals: one original for IBF and one original for the Service Provider.

For the Service Provider

For IBF



Name: Casey Sattler

Name: Philippe Madry

Title : StorySquad Media, LLC

Title: Director

Date: 10/21/2024

Date: 3 October 2024

Annex 1: Terms of Reference

Annex 1: Terms of Reference**TERMS OF REFERENCE N.62****FPI/2022/441-490 EU POLICY AND OUTREACH PARTNERSHIP IN THE US & POLICY DIALOGUE SUPPORT****MARITIME SERVICE RESTRICTIONS**

Number and Title of Request for Assignment	Nº 62 Approval request for Maritime Service Restrictions
Activit/ies as per Proposal	Provision of specialised technical/research/advocacy assistance in key priority sectors related to off shore wind and dredging
Target Audience	Coastal communities in the US; environmental groups; labor unions; economic development agencies; power/energy developers; port authorities; state and local governments; community activists
Dates and location	Fall 2024 - early 2025 - Washington, DC and three locations to be determined (most likely one in the Gulf Coast, one in the southeast, and one in the northeast region of the United States)
Partnership	CATO Institute (for CATO's specific contribution to the action, please see below)
Total incidental expenditure	EUR 49,864.50 (47,490.00 EUR plus 5% contingency, 2,374.50 EUR, upon FPI approval)
Output	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mapping of interested stakeholders 2. Map EU companies affected by Jones Act 3. Closed-door brainstorming seminar in DC 4. Paper / Op-ed on the Jones Act's effects on the development of offshore wind turbines 5. Paper/op-ed on the Jones Act's effects on dredging operations and coastal resilience 6. Public community meeting in Gulf Coast 7. Public community meeting in the Southeast coastal area 8. Public community meeting in the Northeast coastal area 9. Two informative videos on the effects of the Jones Act

SUMMARY

The main objective of this action is to facilitate the participation of companies from the European Union in the US market in both offshore wind power development and dredging. To do so, a workplan in two parts is envisaged. Phase One is going to take place in the remainder months of 2024 and early 2025. It shall lead to:

Creating synergies: a mapping of interested stakeholders (at federal / state / local level, including think tanks and non-profits) and reaching out to European Union companies in wind power and dredging, as well as those affected by lack of adequate access to wind installation and dredging services, and to map their positions related to the Jones Act.

Listening phase and call to action: Organize a closed-door brainstorming seminar with local and national stakeholders, experts etc. Closed door event designed to lead to phase one public events with the influencers we are hoping to reach with this program.

Public diplomacy: Organize 3 local public outreach events in US Coastal communities affected by the Jones Act. Commission and publish two papers / Op-eds on the Jones Act effect on the development of offshore wind turbines and on dredging operations or related issues like the Jones Act's impact on flood insurance premiums in US coastal communities.

BACKGROUND

The Jones Act is a 1920 federal law that regulates maritime commerce in the United States. The Jones Act requires goods shipped between U.S. ports to be transported on ships that are built, owned, and operated by United States citizens or permanent residents.

EUDEL wants to illustrate that the Jones Act has negative effects on coastal communities, as it results in a duopoly of two American companies who have all contracts without competition. It also prevents European Union companies from contributing to dredging for U.S. harbor improvement and coastal resiliency in hurricane-affected areas, and participation in the installation of wind energy towers, despite the excellence of European companies in the field.

Thanks to the significant costs of the Act on coastal communities, anti-Jones Acts sentiment is rising, including in New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina and the Gulf States. Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) introduced in January 2024 the Open America's Waters Act, which seeks to repeal the cabotage requirements of the Jones Act, allowing all vessels that meet U.S. legal standards to engage in domestic trade between U.S. ports. By fostering competition and reducing barriers to entry, this legislation aims to enhance economic efficiency, reduce costs for American consumers, and promote a more dynamic maritime sector. EUDEL is informed that the North Carolina Lt. Governor, at a coastal wind event, quipped "we need more Jones Act ships, or less Jones Act."

For this action, the EUDEL would engage and educate affected communities regarding how these restrictions negatively affect their community, and empower them to seek the change they want

A partnership with CATO was developed for executing this activity. The CATO Institute is at the forefront of the battle against the Jones Act. Its #endtheJonesAct work aims to shine a spotlight on the Jones Act's myriad of negative impacts and expose its alleged benefits as entirely hollow. In doing so, the CATO Institute's project on Jones Act Reform is meant to raise public awareness and lay the groundwork for its repeal or reform. CATO's lead researcher on the Jones Act, Dr. Colin Grabow, and CATO's team, will cooperate with the following activities:

- Mapping of interested stakeholders
- Reaching out to European Union companies in wind power and map their positions related to Jones Act and related activities

- Organize and host a closed-door brainstorming seminar
- Write an op-ed / paper either on the Jones Act's effects on the development of offshore wind turbines or on the Jones Act's effects on dredging operations
- Give scientific advice on videos

CATO's contribution to the action will be in kind, except for catering at the DC event.

OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED RESULTS, & TARGET AUDIENCE

Overall Objective

The main objective of this action is to facilitate the participation of companies from the European Union in the US market in both offshore wind power and dredging.

Specific Objectives (Outcomes)

The specific objective of this action is to facilitate the participation of companies from the European Union in the US market in both offshore wind power and dredging. The strategy to obtain these results is working alongside interested US stakeholders to help show communities the negative effects of the Jones Act: for instance, the current duopoly of US companies, which in turn lead to a rise in costs that affect local budgets, curtail the deployment of green energy, or prevent the roll out of preferred coastal resiliency strategies, and to help them see how much they would benefit when bringing in EU companies.

Expected results – Outputs

In this first phase of the project, the following actions are expected:

Mapping and creating synergies:

- Mapping of interested stakeholders (at federal / state/ local level, including think tanks and non-profits)
- Identities 5-7 communities in the mainland coastal USA particularly affected by ancillary Jones Act issues. These should be balanced between wind and dredging issues.
- Reach out to European Union companies and map their positions related to Jones Act and related activities

Listening phase:

- Organize a closed-door brainstorming seminar with local and national stakeholders, experts etc.

Public diplomacy:

- Organize three public community meetings in three coastal locations in 2024, more in phase 2.
- Commission and publish two papers / Op-eds on the Jones Act's effects on the development of offshore wind turbines, dredging operations or other related issues like the impact on flood insurance premiums in coastal areas
- Produce two catching, informative, short videos (ex Tik-Tok-style videos) on the effects of the Jones Act.

Phase one will be followed by a Phase Two in 2025, with a more hands-on operative approach including study visits to EU, additional local outreach to influencers and activists on the issue, a public conference. Phase 2 will depend on the results of Phase 1 and will be object of a separate TOR.

WORK TO BE PERFORMED

Activity Request

PDSF seeks to engage three experts to coordinate and implement the above activities.

Specialists Profiles

IBF will seek a reputable senior advisor with extensive experience (10+ years) in the following areas:

- Public relations, lobbying, advocacy and strategic counsel supporting the engagement of the U.S. Congress and the private sector.
- International trade, infrastructure, environment and energy policies and international negotiations
- Effects of the Jones Act on offshore wind and dredging, including ancillary and regulatory issues.
- Infrastructure projects and green energy projects
- Events organization, convening thought leaders, creating networks and coalitions

IBF will seek reputable senior analyst with extensive experience (10+ years) in the following areas:

- High-impact research and analysis on climate and extreme weather and related problems
- Communication strategies for a variety of different environments
- Turning data into clear, succinct visual and text stories to support decision making
- Organization and moderating events like town halls, leadership forums, panels, and networks.

IBF will seek an experienced senior scientific copywriter with proven expertise in:

- Developing content, narratives, storytelling and video scripts in Energy and Climate Change
- Transforming scientific data into compelling visual elements

The contracts may be granted to firms or individuals with appropriate references.

ACTIVITY TIMELINE AND MILESTONES

The proposed time of activity is August 2024 – early 2025, and is to be followed up by a 2nd phase in 2025. NKEs will work alongside IBF and PDSF Program Manager KE2 to define a workplan including regular updates and interim deliverables.

LOCATIONS:

U.S. coastal areas / Washington, D.C. / remote

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND FOLLOW-UP

All outputs will be regularly supervised by PDSF Program Manager KE2 who will supervise the NKEs’ work and ensure the outputs timely delivery. IBF will prepare a final report summarizing its services delivered.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

KE2 will supervise the NKEs’ work. Authorization is requested for 42 WDs of KE2’s time on the development, launch, overviewing and reporting of this activity.

WORK PLAN, TIMESHEET AND REPORTING

All experts will work according to the work plan developed by PDSF Program Manager KE2 in coordination with the EU Delegation in the US and will submit monthly timesheets providing duly justified itemized duration and activity descriptions.

FEES

	Description	Number of WDs (Max)
Senior NKE #1	NKE1 will be the main contact for the EUDEL and PDSF. Work to be performed: a. Mapping and creating synergies: - Mapping of interested stakeholders (at federal / state/ local level), including think tanks and non-profits)	99

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify 5-7 coastal communities in mainland USA that particularly affected by ancillary Jones Act issues. These should be balanced between wind and dredging issues. - Reach out to European Union companies in wind power and map their positions related to Jones Act and related activities. <p>(CATO will contribute to the mapping.)</p> <p>b. Listening phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In coordination with CATO, which will host the event, organize a closed-door brainstorming lunch seminar with local and national stakeholders, experts etc. <p>(CATO will host and help organize the event)</p> <p>c. Public diplomacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize a public community educational meeting in the Gulf Coast - Organize a public community educational meeting in the Southeast coastal area - Organize a public community educational meeting in Northeast coastal area - Coordinate the creation of one or two funny but informative videos (ex. Tik-Tok-style videos) on the effects of the Jones Act. <p>(CATO will provide input on the scientific content of the videos.)</p>	
NKE #2	<p>Work to be performed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write an op-ed/paper either on the Jones Act's effects on the development of offshore wind turbines or on the Jones Act's effects on dredging operations or other related issues like the Jones Act's impact on flood insurance premiums in US coastal communities; - Provide support in the organization of the events in US coastal communities in the Gulf Coast, southeast , and northeast regions 	20
NKE #3	<p>Work to be performed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write the scripts of the videos, find images, develop visual aids, and other activities related to the creation of the content of the videos etc. 	18
Total		137

INCIDENTAL EXPENDITURES

#	Description	Maximum Unit Cost EUR	No of Units		Maximum Total Cost EUR
	Closed-door brainstorming event at CATO (DC):				
1	Travel to Washington DC for 4 panelists	500,00	4	1	2.000,00
2	Per diem (4 panelists x 3 days each)	343,00	4	3	4.116,00
3	Refreshments (25 pax)	20,00	25	1	500,00

4	Venue rental	-	1		-
	Community meeting #1 (TBD in Gulf Coast)				
5	Travel to Houston, TX for up to 2 NKEs (1 and 2)	500,00	2	1	1.000,00
6	Per diem in Houston for up to 2 NKEs 1 and 2 (3 days each)	343,00	2	3	2.058,00
7	Refreshments	20,00	50	1	1.000,00
8	Rental of the venue and venue equipment	6.900,00	1	1	6.900,00
	Community meeting #2 (TBD in Southeast, USA)				
9	Travel to Southeast region for up to 2 NKEs (1 and 2)	500,00	2	1	1.000,00
10	Per diem in location TBD for up to 2 NKEs 1 and 2 (3 days each)	343,00	2	3	2.058,00
11	Refreshments	20,00	50	1	1.000,00
12	Rental of the venue and venue equipment	6.900,00	1	1	6.900,00
	Community meeting #3 (TBD in Northeast, USA)				
13	Travel to Northeast region for up to 2 NKEs (1 and 2)	500,00	2	1	1.000,00
14	Per diem in location TBD for up to 2 NKEs 1 and 2 (3 days each)	343,00	2	3	2.058,00
15	Refreshments	20,00	50	1	1.000,00
16	Rental of the venue and venue equipment	7.900,00	1	1	7.900,00
17	Realization of two short "Tik-Tok style" videos on the effects of Jones Act	3.500,00	2	1	7.000,00
18	Contingency (5% with additional approval from FPI)		5%		2.374,50

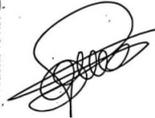
	Total	49.864,50
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ORDER FORM

Project Title	EU Policy and Outreach Partnership in the US and Policy Dialogue Support		
IBF reference	[REDACTED]	Funding reference	FPI/2022/441-490
Date	13/09/2024		
Purpose	Senior NKE 3 ToR 62 - Senior		
Contact details	StorySquad for the provision of services of the consultant Christina Maria Babarovic [REDACTED] Address: 4842 Davenport Street, NW Washington DC 20016 Email: tina@storysquadmedia.com casey@storysquadmedia.com Telephone: 202-595-4249		
Service	See Annex 1 - ToR 62 MARITIME SERVICE RESTRICTIONS Work to be performed: - Write the scripts of the videos, find images, develop visual aids, and other activities related to the creation of the content of the videos etc.		
Duration and termination	Maximum 18 working days The proposed time of activity is September 2024 – early 2025		
Location	As per work description in ToR		
Unit fee & Total fee	18 working days x 500 USD = 9.000 USD		
Liabilities – insurances	Due the Expert's independent status, he/she will do whatever is necessary in order to comply with the legal provisions related to accident, permanent disability, medical insurances and covers and underwrite personally all other insurance policies he/she deems necessary. Upon request, he/she will provide IBF with any proof thereof.		
Invoice	IBF Connect SA Project 17581 EUPOP Avenue Louise 209A, B – 1050 Brussels, Belgium [REDACTED]		
Payment terms	Fees shall be payable by IBF to StorySquad upon approval of the final outputs by the Contracting Authority. Approval is intended to be received within the timeframe indicated in the “Duration and Termination” section of the present agreement. StorySquad engages to be available for three rounds of revisions to the submitted output. Payment will be issued within 30 days after receipt by IBF of an original invoice, including time sheet duly signed and countersigned by the Contracting Authority/Beneficiary. These amounts shall be payable in USD to a US bank account.		



Confidentiality	During the term of this agreement and at any time thereafter, the contracted party in question shall keep secret and shall not disclose to a competitor of IBF, or to any person, the know-how of IBF and shall not exercise, or cooperate to, any unfair competition undertakings whether it is directly or indirectly through a natural or legal person. Furthermore, the contents of the outputs shared during the course of this service must not be shared, or disseminated, for purposes other than to successfully complete the work in question.	
Competent Court and Applicable Law	Any dispute between the parties relating to the validity, interpretation, execution and termination of the present agreement shall be exclusively submitted to, and resolved by, the competent court of Brussels, the parties agreeing on the applicability of Belgian law.	
Contact	Contact person: Chiara Minelli e-mail: Minelli@ibf.be	
Signatures	<p>Philippe Madry Director IBF Connect SA</p> 	<p>Christina Babarovic StorySquad Media, LLC</p>



TERMS OF REFERENCE N.62

FPI/2022/441-490 EU POLICY AND OUTREACH PARTNERSHIP IN THE US & POLICY DIALOGUE SUPPORT

MARITIME SERVICE RESTRICTIONS

Number and Title of Request for Assignment	N° 62 Approval request for Maritime Service Restrictions
Activit/ies as per Proposal	Provision of specialised technical/research/advocacy assistance in key priority sectors related to off shore wind and dredging
Target Audience	Coastal communities in the US; environmental groups; labor unions; economic development agencies; power/energy developers; port authorities; state and local governments; community activists
Dates and location	Fall 2024 - early 2025 - Washington, DC and three locations to be determined (most likely one in the Gulf Coast, one in the southeast, and one in the northeast region of the United States)
Partnership	CATO Institute (for CATO's specific contribution to the action, please see below)
Total incidental expenditure	EUR 49,864.50 (47,490.00 EUR plus 5% contingency, 2,374.50 EUR, upon FPI approval)
Output	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mapping of interested stakeholders 2. Map EU companies affected by Jones Act 3. Closed-door brainstorming seminar in DC 4. Paper / Op-ed on the Jones Act's effects on the development of offshore wind turbines 5. Paper/op-ed on the Jones Act's effects on dredging operations and coastal resilience 6. Public community meeting in Gulf Coast



- | | |
|--|---|
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Public community meeting in the Southeast coastal area 8. Public community meeting in the Northeast coastal area 9. Two informative videos on the effects of the Jones Act |
|--|---|

SUMMARY

The main objective of this action is to facilitate the participation of companies from the European Union in the US market in both offshore wind power development and dredging. To do so, a workplan in two parts is envisaged. Phase One is going to take place in the remainder months of 2024 and early 2025. It shall lead to:

Creating synergies: a mapping of interested stakeholders (at federal / state / local level, including think tanks and non-profits) and reaching out to European Union companies in wind power and dredging, as well as those affected by lack of adequate access to wind installation and dredging services, and to map their positions related to the Jones Act.

Listening phase and call to action: Organize a closed-door brainstorming seminar with local and national stakeholders, experts etc. Closed door event designed to lead to phase one public events with the influencers we are hoping to reach with this program.

Public diplomacy: Organize 3 local public outreach events in US Coastal communities affected by the Jones Act. Commission and publish two papers / Op-eds on the Jones Act effect on the development of offshore wind turbines and on dredging operations or related issued like the Jones Act's impact on flood insurance premiums in US coastal communities.

BACKGROUND

The Jones Act is a 1920 federal law that regulates maritime commerce in the United States. The Jones Act requires goods shipped between U.S. ports to be transported on ships that are built, owned, and operated by United States citizens or permanent residents.

EUDEL wants to illustrate that the Jones Act has negative effects on coastal communities, as it results in a duopoly of two American companies who have all contracts without competition. It also prevents European Union companies from contributing to dredging for U.S. harbor improvement and coastal resiliency in hurricane-affected areas, and participation in the installation of wind energy towers, despite the excellence of European companies in the field.

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OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED RESULTS, & TARGET AUDIENCE

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Expected results – Outputs

In this first phase of the project, the following actions are expected:

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WORK TO BE PERFORMED

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Specialists Profiles

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The proposed time of activity is August 2024 – early 2025, and is to be followed up by a 2nd phase in 2025. NKEs will work alongside IBF and PDSF Program Manager KE2 to define a workplan including regular updates and interim deliverables.

LOCATIONS:

U.S. coastal areas / Washington, D.C. / remote

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FEES

	Description	Number of WDs (Max)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mapping of interested stakeholders (at federal / state/ local level), including think tanks and non-profits) - Identify 5-7 coastal communities in mainland USA that particularly affected by ancillary Jones Act issues. These should be balanced between wind and dredging issues. - Reach out to European Union companies in wind power and map their positions related to Jones Act and related activities. <p>(CATO will contribute to the mapping.)</p> <p>b. Listening phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In coordination with CATO, which will host the event, organize a closed-door brainstorming lunch seminar with local and national stakeholders, experts etc. <p>(CATO will host and help organize the event)</p> <p>c. Public diplomacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize a public community educational meeting in the Gulf Coast - Organize a public community educational meeting in the Southeast coastal area - Organize a public community educational meeting in Northeast coastal area - Coordinate the creation of one or two funny but informative videos (ex. Tik-Tok-style videos) on the effects of the Jones Act. <p>(CATO will provide input on the scientific content of the videos.)</p>	
NKE #2	<p>Work to be performed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write an op-ed/paper either on the Jones Act's effects on the development of offshore wind turbines or on the Jones Act's effects on dredging operations or other related issues like the Jones Act's impact on flood insurance premiums in US coastal communities; - Provide support in the organization of the events in US coastal communities in the Gulf Coast, southeast , and northeast regions 	20
NKE #3	<p>Work to be performed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write the scripts of the videos, find images, develop visual aids, and other activities related to the creation of the content of the videos etc. 	18
Total		137

INCIDENTAL EXPENDITURES

#	Description	Maximum Unit Cost EUR	No of Units		Maximum Total Cost EUR
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4	Venue rental	-	1		-
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9	Travel to Southeast region for up to 2 NKEs (1 and 2)	500,00	2	1	1.000,00
10	Per diem in location TBD for up to 2 NKEs 1 and 2 (3 days each)	343,00	2	3	2.058,00
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13	Travel to Northeast region for up to 2 NKEs (1 and 2)	500,00	2	1	1.000,00
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18	Contingency (5% with additional approval from FPI)		5%		2.374,50



	Total	49.864,50
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DECLARATION ON TAX REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL IDENTIFICATION

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and LATIN CHARACTERS when filling in the form. **All fields are mandatory**

CONTRACTOR DATA



BANKING DETAILS

BENEFICIARY NAME ON ACCOUNT ³	
IBAN ⁴	
ACCOUNT N ^{o4}	
SWIFT CODE/BIC CODE ⁵	
CURRENCY ⁶	
BRANCH CODE	
ABA ⁷	
BANK NAME	
STREET & NUMBER	
TOWN/CITY/ POST CODE	
COUNTRY	
INTERMEDIARY BANK NAME ⁸	
INTERMEDIARY ACCOUNT NUMBER ⁸	
SWIFT CODE/BIC CODE ⁸	
STREET & NUMBER ⁸	
TOWN/CITY/POST CODE ⁸	
COUNTRY	



By signing I hereby declare that the information provided is true and correct. I also understand it is my obligation to update and correct the above information.

DATE
9/24/2024

Signature 

EXPLANATIONS AND FOOTNOTES

1. Registration number: Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), fiscal ID, tax registration number, fiscal identification of a non-EU company, personal identification number in combination with the reference to a law exempting from the tax registration.
2. The official address of the tax registration.
3. Beneficiary Name on Account – name of the account holder/owner to be mentioned.
4. IBAN / Account #: International Bank Account Number. (IBAN) or Account Number.
5. Swift Code / BIC Code: The identification Bank Code.
6. Currency: If the account is only for one currency, the currency to specified. Or to mention “multi-currency”
7. ABA: Used to identify banks in the United States and is requested to make a transfer along with the account number.
8. Only if your bank has intermediary bank.