

European Directive on Copyright: a positive step ahead

La Scam appreciates the vote, this day, of the European Parliament's Legal Affairs Committee (JURI) for its report on the draft directive on copyright. The text proposed paves the way for a possible better value sharing on the Internet.

The value of a creation is the work of its creator. The meaning of author's right (Copyright) fully lies in the combination of articles 13 and 14a of the draft copyright directive that will soon be put to the vote at a plenary session in the European Parliament.

Article 13 eventually requires platforms to solicit author's authorization or their representatives to exploit their work and remunerate them. This provision brings some equity in platforms' (video sharing platforms, social networks...) and broadcasters' competition.

Article 14a enshrines the principle of a fair and proportionate remuneration of their works, and the possibility of a collective management ensured by author's rights societies. If such a principle has, in France, been acknowledged for a long time for all authors, this is not a reality in other territories for audiovisual authors, like for instance Germany and other Nordic countries. Europe can feel honoured to provide for a level playing field to audiovisual authors within Member States.

Moreover, La Scam takes note of the adoption of a neighbouring right for press publishers, which can be fully successful only if journalists themselves benefit from a fair remuneration. La Scam will pay close attention to that.

Europe relies on its founding principles: harmonization from the top rather than from the bottom. Authors deeply thank MEPs Pervenche Bérès, Jean-Marie Cavada, Marc Joulaud and Virginie Rozière who fought for defending their rights, and French authorities, in particular their Culture Minister Françoise Nyssen.

La Scam fosters all MEPs to vote during the plenary session for a text which, on the basis of the draft text adopted by the Legal Affairs Committee, will be able to safeguard the future of European creation.

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