

MEET THE NEW AUTHORS

ECSA defends author's rights at Reda conference

On Monday 20th April 2015 ECSA attended a controversial conference organised by MEP Julia Reda at the European Parliament. Entitled "Meet the New Authors", it was clear from the start that the event was somehow more an opportunity for the Pirate Party to regroup than a platform for in-depth discussion on authors' rights and the review of the EU copyright acquis.

Panellists were introduced with the title 'new authors' and outmatched themselves with violent statements against author's rights, collective management societies, publishers and the content industry. Whilst ECSA participated in many events at the European Parliament where copyright triggered heated debates, all of them maintained a fair degree of balance in the representation of views and opinions. Yesterday's event, however, reached a critical point of aggressiveness and intimidation.

Statements such as "fucking GEMA" and "I hate GEMA" (Alexander Bard) were made without any concerns. ECSA believes that inviting panelists with such clear lack of tolerance at the European Parliament is not only inappropriate and disrespectful, but a serious impediment to the principles of having a fair, open and democratic discussion. How can a fruitful argumentation take place in an environment, in which panelists intimidate conference participants with such aggressive statements?

Irrespectively of this, ECSA Vice-President Bernard Grimaldi and Secretary General Patrick Ager took the floor in order to support the principles of copyright, author's rights and moral rights for creators. Grimaldi stressed the importance of his collective rights management society in ensuring that he receives an appropriate return of value when his compositions are exploited.



(Bernard Grimaldi, source: <http://greenmediabox.eu/en/ct/82-Meet-the-New-Authors>)

Ager in turn emphasized the importance of strong author's rights and copyright, which are vital for composers and songwriters to make out of their passion a profession.

Finally, the event organized by MEP Reda proves once more that Mrs. Reda and her supporters are only prepared to consider one reality. This goes in line with MEP Reda ignoring the many comments left on her blog, following her call upon creators to give their opinion on her report, none of which were taken into consideration in yesterday's event.

See the views of creators on Reda's blog [here](#).

EUROPEAN FILM MUSIC DAYS IN CANNES – 17 MAY 2015

ECSA is happy to announce its partnership with the Federation of European Film Directors (FERA), Soundtrack Cologne and the renowned Directors Fortnight for its next event in Cannes. The European Film Music Day will offer a platform for film directors and composers to meet and present their creative work to the audience and stakeholders. It will also be the opportunity to address key issues in light of the upcoming copyright review. More information to follow soon!

For more information visit our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#)!



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