

News from Brussels - edition 42 - September 2014



ECSA Vice President Antun Tomislav Šaban meets Commissioner Mimica

ECSA Vice President Antun Tomislav Šaban met in July with European Commissioner for Consumer Protection Neven Mimica, who visited the Croatian Composers' Society premises in Zagreb.

M. Šaban discussed with Commissioner Mimica issues relevant for European consumers and European music creators alike. He stressed the importance of local music repertoires for European consumers, whose choice of music is often rooted in national or regional production. "We music creators prefer another word for our consumers, which is *audience*, and we like to think that they are more

concerned about the music they listen to than about the agent they use to wash their laundry”, M. Šaban stated during the meeting.

As of September 10th 2014 Mr Mimica has been appointed Commissioner designate for International Cooperation and Development in the Juncker's Administration.

President Elect Juncker announces Commissioners Designate

10th

September,

Brussels

President Juncker presented his team of Commissioners-designate on September 10. Significant changes to the structure of the European Commission (EC) and Commissioners' portfolios have been introduced. Several Vice-Presidents will act as “project team leaders” and will be responsible for ensuring better coordination of EU policies within the new EC. They will also have a filtering role. The emphasis of the new EC is clearly on economic issues. Several Directorates will be redesigned in the coming months. Changes will include the transfer of the copyright Unit to a new Directorate for Digital Economy and Society, under the responsibility of German Commissioner Oettinger. The Commissioners-designate must be confirmed by the European Parliament (EP) prior to taking office on November 1st at the latest, and after hearings at the EP that are scheduled for the week of September 29.

CJEU Ruling on copyright

The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) delivered its awaited *Deckmyn* ruling early September. The ruling clarifies what a “parody” is, and gives indications on the interpretation of the parody exception included in the 2001 Copyright Directive. M. Deckmyn, a member of the Belgian (anti-immigration, separatist) Vlaams Belang Party, a few years ago he circulated calendars whose cover was a pastiche of the cover of a Belgian comic book published in the 1960's. Heirs to the original Belgian creator of the comic book claimed that the calendar and its communication to the public was an infringement of their copyright and conveyed a discriminatory message. M. Deckmyn claimed the calendar cover was a parody and therefore was covered by the parody exception. The CJEU ruled that “if a parody conveys a discriminatory message, a person holding rights in the

parodied work may demand that that work should not be associated with that message” and that the exception for parody must “seek to achieve a fair balance between the rights and interests of authors on the one hand, and the rights of users of protected subject-matter on the other hand”.



ECSA is excited to present the new addition to the Brussels based team: Project Manager Clothilde Fery. Clothilde will be in charge of organizing the next edition of the Creators Conference, which is planned for February 2015. Ms Fery previously worked as the executive coordinator of Live DMA network, the European network of popular live music venues and festivals.

ECSA General Assembly

Skopje, Macedonia 29th - 30th September 2014

Delegates of national composer and songwriter unions from 22 countries will meet in Skopje at the end of September for the ECSA autumn session. The meetings will include an opening reception with the Macedonian Minister of Culture. Three genre specific committees of ECSA (apcoe, ecf and fface) will hold their

Save the date! "In need of key Changes! Music for Tomorrow Facing challenges for composers today"

Brussels, 5 November 2014

ECSA partners up with Fondazione Adkins Chiti: Donne in Musica and the Lazio Region to hold an event on November 5 in the framework of the Italian Presidency of the European Union. The event will call upon upon EU decision makers to appreciate that a musical work is

ECSA selected as beneficiary for the Creative Europe Programme

ECSA was selected late August by the European Commission to receive funding under the Creative Europe programme. The Creative Europe programme will support projects from 22 networks across the EU. The full list of beneficiaries can be found [here](#). Creative Europe aims at supporting the

meetings and discuss European policy and the development of the cultural activities of the organization. The session will end with the General Assembly. ECSA members will be hosted by SOKOM, the Macedonian Composers Union.

the result of a process of labour and judgment, necessitating years of study, intellectual reflection, apprenticeship and inspiration and that authors play a key role in society.

networks which encourage the cultural and creative actors' capacity to operate transnationally and internationally, and to adapt to change. Initiatives that strengthen the competitiveness of the sectors are supported as well.

Photos description and credits:

Photo n.1 - Antun Tomislav Saban and Neven Mimica, Photo credit ECSA office



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