

## Myth: “This Directive only favors big rightsholders and does nothing for creators”

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### FALSE!

So much biased disinformation (to say the least) is circulating on the Copyright Directive that the first thing you should do is to ... READ it! It's [here](#). Do you often hear that it will only favor big rightsholders and do nothing for creators? Nothing is falsier!

**In fact, the Directive includes unprecedented EU harmonized provisions to the benefit of all authors and performers** including small ones, to rebalance their systemic weak bargaining position when they sign contracts with producers and publishers and improve their remuneration. **Despite a fierce opposition, the European Parliament succeeded to include additional protections for creators (Article - 14 and 16a) and to strengthen the provisions proposed by the European Commission (Articles 14, 15 and 16).**

- **The European Parliament fought hard to include Article - 14**, which establishes a right to appropriate and **proportionate** remuneration to the benefit of all authors and performers. It is the first time the EU recognizes such a right.
- Article 14 now includes **a strong transparency obligation to ensure authors and performers have access to relevant information about the exploitation of their works and performances** across the whole value chain, including from sub-licensees. Thanks to the European Parliament, this will enable creators to compare deals and better exploit new opportunities, including across borders. Today, creators are too often unable to effectively monitor the use, measure the commercial success and assess the economic value of their works.
- Article 15 introduces for the first time in EU law a strong **contract adjustment mechanism** (often called the “best-seller” clause) **to ensure that creators can benefit from their successes**. It includes a right to claim “additional, appropriate and fair remuneration”, in case the remuneration originally agreed turns out to be disproportionately low compared to all the exploitation revenues.
- **Article 16 sets out a voluntary, alternative dispute resolution procedure to help creators enforce their rights** under Article 14 and 15, as a possible alternative to costly and lengthy legal procedures against publishers and producers.
- **The European Parliament also fought hard for Article 16A, which would introduce for the first time in EU law a right of revocation, based on a simple “use it or lose it principle”, allowing both creators to take back their rights when their works are not exploited and giving citizens** access to our cultural diversity. In the current situation, authors are too often trapped into contracts applying for the entire duration of the copyright term (70 years after the death of the author) and for all territories in the world.

If the European Parliament rejects the Copyright Directive, it will throw to the bin all those improvements, showing to citizens and creators the EU's failure to improve the livelihoods of millions of creators, who have been waiting 20 years to see those improvements adopted at EU level.

**Time to make the right choice and adopt the Copyright Directive!**