

Author's Group statement on the Copyright Directive

Authors urge MEPs to find a common line and adopt the Copyright Directive without further delay

On 5 July, the European Parliament decided to postpone the adoption of its position on the Copyright Directive.

As representatives of over half a million writers, composers, journalists, film directors, screenwriters and songwriters in Europe, we acknowledge and respect this decision.

However, we **regret that it effectively delays the adoption of the Copyright Directive, which features essential provisions to rebalance the systemic weak bargaining situation of authors**, whose creativity is at the very origin of the copyright value chain, in negotiating their contracts. We now call on all Members of European Parliament to measure the significance of this Directive and to find a common line to ensure that the Directive is finally adopted.

Chapter 3 "Fair remuneration in contracts of authors and performers", as adopted by the JURI committee on June 20th, is a result of balanced compromises supported by an overwhelming, non-partisan majority in the Legal Affairs committee. It secures critical improvements of the situation of creators throughout Europe, and therefore **should not be reopened nor amended**.

In our view, **it is crucial that the European Parliament adopts the Copyright Directive as soon as possible** so that it can soon bring concrete benefits to authors across the European Union.

Throwing the Directive away by postponing its adoption would be a failure to deliver any concrete improvement to the situation of European authors and be an appalling missed opportunity to strengthen the creative community and Europe's cultural wealth in the digital era.

Sincerely yours,

The Authors' Group

The Authors' Group is composed of:

ECSA (European Composer and Songwriter Alliance)

EFJ (European Federation of Journalists)

EWC (European Writers Council)

FERA (Federation of European Film Directors)

FSE (Federation of Screenwriters in Europe)



The European Composer and Songwriter Alliance (ECSA) represents over 30,000 professional composers and songwriters in 27 European countries. With 57 member organizations across Europe, the Alliance speaks for the interests of music creators of art & classical music (contemporary), film & audiovisual music, as well as popular music.

Web: www.composeralliance.org

EU Transparency Register ID: 71423433087-91



The European Federation of Journalists (EFJ) is the largest organization of journalists in Europe, representing over 320.000 journalists in 61 journalists' organizations across 40 countries. The EFJ fights for social and professional rights of journalists working in all sectors of the media through strong trade unions. It strives to maintain or create environments in which quality, journalistic independence, pluralism, public service values and decent work in the media exist.

Web: www.europeanjournalists.org

EU Transparency Register ID: 27471236588-39



EWC, founded in 1977 in Germany and newly constituted in 2006 in Brussels as an international non-profit organisation, the European Writers' Council is the federation of 45 European national organisations of professional writers and literary translators in all genres in 34 countries, writing altogether in 28 languages. EWC's members represent more than 160,000 authors in the text-sector.

Web: www.europeanwriterscouncil.eu

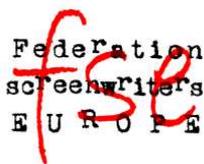
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The Federation of European Film Directors (FERA), founded in 1980, represents film and TV directors at European level, with 35 directors' associations as members from 29 countries. We speak for more than 20,000 European screen directors, representing their cultural, creative and economic interests.

Web: www.filmdirectors.eu

EU Transparency Register ID: 29280842236-21



The Federation of Screenwriters Europe is a network of national and regional associations, guilds and unions of writers for the screen in Europe, created in June 2001. It comprises 25 organisations from 19 countries, representing more than 7,000 screenwriters in Europe.

Web: www.scenaristes.org

EU Transparency Register ID: 642670217507-74