

Venice Declaration

3 September 2018

We are numerous screenwriters and directors who signed the FERA/FSE/SAA [petition](#) for a modernized EU copyright framework that includes all creators. Today, the petition is supported by more than 18,400 signatories from over 100 countries worldwide.

Together, we have been calling on the European institutions to adopt a Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market that introduces an unwaivable right to proportional remuneration for authors, collected directly from the on-demand platforms by the collective management organisations representing us, the authors.

Our call has partially been heard: a majority of the Members of the European Parliament supports a compromise amendment introducing a principle of fair and proportionate remuneration for authors and performers for the exploitation of their works, including online. Most importantly, this new provision acknowledges that authors cannot be left to individual contracts with producers only and that complementary mechanisms providing additional remuneration to the authors for the use of the works are necessary (as it already exists in several countries who have statutory remuneration mechanisms using collective management).

However, this achievement is in danger of being wiped out if the European Parliament does not adopt its position on the Copyright Directive in the Digital Single Market on 12 September. This is the last chance for an adoption of the Directive before the European elections.

We, audiovisual authors, absolutely need this Directive to be adopted on time: to ensure freedom of expression and independence of creators as well as authors' rights. The principle of fair and proportionate remuneration, improved measures on the transparency of the exploitation and contract adjustment mechanism will make a big difference. With these provisions, the Directive will improve our position in the industry and pave the way for a much-needed EU right to remuneration for the on-demand exploitation of audiovisual works.

Therefore, we call on the Members of the European Parliament not to further delay the Directive and to adopt a strong position that would put authors at the heart of copyright and of the European cultural industry, including online.

Signatories

Robert Alberdingk Thijm • Nicolas Bary • Julie Bertuccelli • Kristof Bilsen • Icíar Bollaín • Patrick Braoudé • Jan Bultheel • Christian Carion • Olivier Casas • Borja Cobeaga • Stijn Coninx • Gilles Coulier • Costa-Gavras • Luc Dardenne • Camille de Casabianca • Sophie Deschamps • Dante Desarthe • Evelyne Dress • Benedikt Erlingsson • Joël Farges • Jochen Greve • Hans Herbots • Jan Hřebejk • Agnès Jaoui • Pierre Jolivet • Cédric Klapisch • Peter Krüger • Joachim Lafosse • Eric Lartigau • Michel Leclerc • Lars Lundström • Jean Marboeuf • Nathalie Marchak • Roger Michell • Radu Mihaileanu • Steve Moreau • Olivier Nakache • László Nemes • Paul Powell • Raf Reyntjens • Manu Riche • Michaël R. Roskam • Stefan Ruzowitzky • Jean-Paul Salomé • Paolo Sorrentino • Hugh Stoddart • Danis Tanović • Bertrand Tavernier • Laurent Tirard • Eric Toledano • Fernando Trueba • Enrique Urbizu • Jaco Van Dormael • Pieter Van Hees • Joël Vanhoebrouck • Hans Van Nuffel • Frank Van Passel • Jan Verheyen