Unterstützen Sie die europäischen Urheber - unterstützen Sie das Urheberrecht!

Online- Petition der SAA – mindestens 5.000 Unterschriften bis zum 5. Dezember notwendig!

Das Kollegium der 27 EU-Kommissäre trifft sich am 5. Dezember 2012, um über die Zukunft des europäischen Urheberrechts zu beraten. Um den Angriffen gegen das Urheberrecht etwas entgegen zu setzen, hat die SAA (Die europäische Dachorganisation der Verwertungsgesellschaften für Urheber im audiovisuellen Bereich) eine Online-Unterschriftenkampagne gestartet, um die Entscheidungsträger daran zu erinnern, dass Urheberrechte essentiell für die Urheber sind, Kreatives erschaffen zu können.

http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/support-authors/#sign_petition

Urheberrechte sind der beste Antrieb für ein kreatives Europa. Bitte unterstützen Sie Europas Urheber – und die Urheberrechte.

Ihre Unterschrift ist wertvoll und kann wirklich etwas bewirken. Bitte ermuntern Sie auch andere, die Ihre Unterschrift zu leisten. Senden Sie den Aufruf an jeden in Ihrem politischen Umfeld, der interessiert sein könnte.

Vielen Dank für Ihre Unterstützung!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Cécile Despringre
Executive Director SAA

The College of the 27 European Commissioners is meeting on 5th December 2012 to decide on the future of European copyright. To answer attacks against copyright, we have launched an online petition to remind decision-makers that authors’ rights are essential for creators to be able to create.

Authors’ rights are the best engine for a sustainable creative Europe. Please support Europe’s creators – support authors’ rights.

Your signature is valuable and makes a real difference. Please encourage others to sign the petition as well. Forward it to your constituency and everyone who might be interested.

Thank you very much for your support!

Best regards,
Cécile Despringre
So many things have been said about copyright. A lot of it nonsense! Over the past few years, copyright has been accused of preventing works from being distributed, creating obstacles to consumer’s access to works, lining the pockets of the rich and worse still, standing in the way of freedom of expression.

Enough is enough!

On 5th December, at the initiative of José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, the College of Commissioners will meet to examine initiatives that the Commission might adopt in the field of copyright.

Should the worst be feared? This is a valid question, especially when you consider the interconnections and almost cosiness that exist between some very powerful private anti-copyright lobbyists and certain departments and directorates of the Commission. Let there be no mistake; the message emerging is that copyright is the enemy of consumers and their desire to access culture. This is not just the opinion of a few personalities marginalized within Europe.

The fight against copyright, and against the right of authors to live from their art and receive fair compensation, forms the focus of an entire coalition: namely lobbyists from the leading companies on the Net who seek to exempt themselves both from their tax commitments to Member States and their obligations towards cultural diversity and creation; certain consumer lobbies who consider the total and immediate satisfaction of their constituency a necessity, regardless of the negative, harmful impact for cultural industries, jobs in culture and for the funding of future creativity; European administrative departments and even commissioners who confine authors’ rights and cultural diversity to old boundaries, thus irremediably excluding them from the digital world.

Authors’ rights are, of course, an old concept, several centuries old, but also surprisingly modern, supple and flexible. Modern authors’ rights are the work of a genius, Beaumarchais, who marked his era with all his battles for freedom. For one hundred years, technological developments have proceeded at an ever increasing pace to say the very least. Authors’ rights have kept pace with those developments and have continued to safeguard a key principle, namely the right of authors to enjoy fair compensation for the use made of their works, while facilitating public access to cultural works.

It is hard to imagine an author wanting to prevent his work, film, book, music from being seen, recommended or discussed by the public. It is however easy to imagine that convenience of the
digital solution might pose a threat to this particular human right (art.27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights): the author’s right to receive compensation whenever exploitation is made of his/her work.

There are basic principles that no tablet, no smartphone, no new service should undermine. Respecting authors’ rights is one of them.

However, every day in Europe, where authors’ rights began, their influence is being contested, their scope is under attack, their collective management criticized. Every day, new exceptions, or rather expropriations, are being proposed; every day, mechanisms that make it possible to finance creation are being contested in the name of free competition; every day, private copying remuneration is being denigrated. In a nutshell, all sources of revenue for authors are under threat and attack.

For the benefit of whom? Obviously not the creators themselves, whose general situation is becoming more and more precarious in many countries! And certainly not the consumers, whose access to works is not facilitated by the questioning of authors’ rights and for whom the cost of acquiring digital equipment is not reduced in any way by lowering the payments to authors!

Commissioners, you are meeting on 5th December under the watchful eye of European creators, who contribute to the future identity of Europe. For these creators, authors’ rights are still the best guarantee of fair remuneration and their greatest hope to be able to continue to create.

‘Europe loves Cinema’, ‘Europe loves culture’? These are catchy slogans, but they must be put into practice and, more importantly, a new one must be coined: ‘Europe loves authors’ rights’!

The following creators have already signed. Support them, sign the petition!