

Question for written answer E-008847/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Syed Kamall (ECR)

Subject: Concerns about copyright fees in the Digital Single Market

I have been contacted by constituents who have concerns over the Commission's proposal for a Directive on copyright in the Digital Single Market, claiming that this would create new monopolies for publishing giants to charge fees for snippets of text that automatically accompany hyperlinks.

My constituents claim that this will prevent innovative EU digital start-ups being launched if they are forced to pay these fees.

1. Can the Commission confirm whether it is aware of any negative impacts this proposal could have on smaller search engines and aggregators which may be unable to afford to pay any hyperlinking fees?
2. Can the Commission confirm if it has assessed whether the proposal would impede citizens' rights to receive and impart information and ideas as set out in Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights?