DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on Legal Affairs


Rapporteur: José Blanco López
SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy calls on the Committee on Legal Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Stresses that the European cultural and creative industries are an engine for economic growth and job creation in the EU, as they employ more than 7 million people and generate more than 4.2% of EU GDP; emphasises that cultural industries continued to create jobs during the economic crisis of 2008-2012;

2. Underlines that copyright and related rights constitute the legal framework for the European cultural and creative industries and form the basis for their ability to generate economic activity and employment;

3. Acknowledges the need to review Directive 2001/29/EC in order to ensure appropriate remuneration for copyright holders and appropriate protection of these rights in a changing and constantly evolving technological environment, which brings both opportunities and challenges;

4. Considers it necessary to develop a legal framework to strengthen the negotiating and contractual position of authors and performers in relation to other right holders and intermediaries;

5. Welcomes the multi-territorial licensing of rights under Directive 2014/26/EU as an example and a way of overcoming the fragmented internal market; encourages the development of balanced and flexible solutions that help overcome the existing barriers to cross-border access and availability of products and services;

6. Stresses that protection of copyright and related rights must respect technological neutrality;

7. Stresses that any legislative change in this area should ensure accessibility for people with disabilities to products and services protected by copyright and related rights;

8. Urges the Commission to take into account the rapidly growing user-created content on the internet when reviewing copyright rules; any new proposal should aim to find a fair balance between protecting IPR and fostering a dynamic and creative internet.