



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

2014/2256(INI)

19.2.2015

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on Legal Affairs

on the implementation of Directive 2001/29/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the information society
(2014/2256(INI))

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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.