

## **Working Group of the Committee on Legal Affairs on Intellectual Property Rights and Copyright Reform**

Meeting of 17 December 2014, from 14.00 to 15.30, Strasbourg

Meeting room: Louise Weiss building, room S4.4

Minutes

### **1. The agenda was adopted.**

### **2. Presentation of the Working Group and its Members.**

Mr Cavada recalled that the Working Group was created by the Committee on Legal Affairs on 25 September 2014 and comprises one member of each of the political groups: Mr Pavel Svoboda (EPP), Mr Dietmar KÖSTER (S&D), Mr Angel DZHAMBAZKI (ECR), Mr Jiří MAŠTÁLKA (GUE), Ms Julia Reda (Greens), Ms Laura FERRARA (EFDD), and Mr Jean-Marie CAVADA (ALDE). He was himself nominated as coordinator of the Working Group on 10 November 2014. In addition, one member of each of the ITRE, IMCO and CULT committees has been invited to join the Working Group.

Objective of the Working Group: to pave the way to the copyright reform but also to keep an eye on other IPR issues (e.g. patent) as reflected in the name of the Working Group which goes beyond copyright and would enable Members to discuss other related matters.

A project team has been settled to prepare and support the work of the Working Group: representatives of the committee Secretariats, the political groups, and other services able to contribute expertise, such as the Legal Service, the Research Service (EPRS) and the Policy Department. The first meeting of the project team will take place on 8 January 2015 at 3:00 pm in Brussels. Close cooperation with the Commission is important and it will be invited to attend the meetings.

There is a need for transparency of the works. To this aim, a specific webpage open to the public will be created with relevant information such as agenda of the meetings, reports of the work as well as interesting studies.

### **3. The meetings' calendar for the January-July 2015 period was adopted.**

The Working Group will meet in Brussels according to the following calendar: 21/01/2015 (9:00-11:00), 25/02/2015 (15:00-17:00), 25/03/2015 (15:00-17:00), 22/04/2015 (15:00-17:00), 13/05/2015 (15:00-17:00), 17/06/2015 (9:00-11:00), 01/07/2015 (15:00-17:00).

### **4. Exchange of views with Commissioner Günther Oettinger on Copyright.**

The following spoke: Mr Jean-Marie CAVADA, Mr Günther OETTINGER, Mr Jerzy BUZEK, Mr Pavel SVOBODA, Mr Dietmar KÖSTER, Ms Julia REDA, Ms Helga TRÜPEL, Ms Catherine STIHLER, Mr Angel DZHAMBAZKI.

Commissioner Oettinger presented the general approach of the Commission regarding the reform of copyright rules, and the possible steps for achieving it.

The Commission and MEPs insisted on the need for dialogue and transparency, not only between institutions but also with the public opinion, considering it is important in order to get an accepted and successful outcome.

Among the issues discussed can be mentioned the possible scope of the forthcoming rules on copyright and exceptions, the respective competence of the EU and of the Member States in this matter, harmonisation and territoriality.

**5. The next meeting of the Working Group will take place on Wednesday 21 January 2015 in Brussels.**