

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1729/00

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to the Commission

Subject: Safeguarding of European music copyright in the United States

According to existing legislation in the United States, restaurants, bars and similar enterprises in the country are exempted from paying copyright fees on music played at their premises. Consequently, European music played at these enterprises loses its share of copyright payments. Recently, the WTO accused the USA of violating the international copyright standards on music. To date, no measures have been taken in the United States to correct the situation. Therefore, European music production still loses a large amount of income.

What measures will the Commission take to safeguard the rights of European music played in the aforementioned enterprises in the United States?