

**Question for written answer E-002095/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Amending Directive 2006/115/EC to prevent a huge transfer of revenue away from Europe and European music performers and producers

The judgment of the Court of Justice of the EU in Case C-265/19 exposed a significant anomaly in Directive 2006/115/EC on rental and lending rights. As a result, the basic principle of reciprocity enshrined in international copyright law has basically been suspended. This fundamental principle is what allows a country to apply national treatment with third countries only when their own performers and producers enjoy similar rights in those countries.

If the directive is not amended, millions of euros will be transferred out of Europe every year to the US, which does not currently pay European performers and producers when their music is played on US terrestrial radio and TV. As the court itself concluded, the EU can rectify this situation by amending the directive.

In view of the dramatic consequences of the pandemic crisis for the music sector, urgent action must be taken. Now is not the time to further impoverish European music performers and producers. Recent reports underline the vital contribution music makes to Europe's economy and the losses that have already occurred owing to the crisis.

Can the Commission confirm that it is working to amend Directive 2006/115/EC to address this problem? Is it considering triggering an urgent procedure?