

**Question for written answer E-000066/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Pina Picierno (S&D), Massimiliano Smeriglio (S&D)**

**Subject:** Copyright over products available to stream on digital platforms

The digital platform Spotify has announced the introduction of new rules as of 1 January 2024 on remuneration for the artists whose songs it hosts and provides. Under the new rules, artists will not see a penny from or receive royalties for any songs that have fewer than 1 000 hits, with all proceeds going to the platform instead.

Given that most of the artists featured on Spotify either have small followings or belong to niche genres, the new rules will apply to around three quarters of the 100 million songs hosted by the platform, whose proceeds (EUR 40 million) will go to Spotify, not to their respective authors and performers.

Beyond raising ethical concerns because of their failure to help small artists and producers, these new rules also run counter to Article 18 of Directive (EU) 2019/790 of 17 April 2019 on copyright and related rights in the Digital Single Market, which states that ‘authors and performers... are entitled to receive appropriate and proportionate remuneration.’

In the light of the above, can the Commission say whether any measures can be taken or sanctions applied following Spotify’s decision and, if so, which ones?

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