

ORAL QUESTION H-0234/09
for Question Time at the part-session in May 2009
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Seán Ó Neachtain
to the Commission

Subject: Internet piracy Canada

Canada has one of the world's highest levels of Internet piracy. This is exacerbated by serious legislative and enforcement deficiencies. In fact, Canada's Copyright Act is in urgent need of revision in order to bring it into line with current international standards of protection in the on-line environment, such as those laid down in the WIPO Internet Treaties of 1996 and the EU Copyright Directive (2001/29/EC). The longer this situation lasts, the longer European rights holders - in particular the creative sector (authors, composers, performers, songwriters and phonogram producers) - will be deprived of the legal tools they need to stop the large-scale online infringement of their rights in Canada. Their losses to Internet piracy are huge. The situation is such that legislative action needs to be taken now rather than after the upcoming EU-Canada Trade Summit in May and subsequent bilateral trade negotiations.

Given the urgency of this issue, what is the Commission doing to ensure that Canada amends its relevant legislation without any further delay?

Tabled: 02.04.2009
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