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Mrs Vicky Ford
Mrs Julia Reda
Mrs Marietje Schaake
Mr Josef Weidenholzer
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60
1047 Brussels

Reform of copyright law in the European Union

Dear Honourable Members of the European Parliament,

Thank you for your letter of 17 December to President Juncker concerning the copyright modernisation.

In its Communication "Towards a modern, more European copyright framework" of 9 December 2015, the Commission has set out political objectives, areas of action with concrete measures as well as the timeline for the next steps of the copyright modernisation.

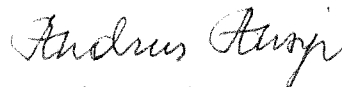
In particular, the Commission's aims are to allow a better circulation of content, create more legal certainty regarding specific uses such as scientific research and education, offer more choice to Europeans, strengthen cultural diversity and provide more opportunities for the creative sector.

With regard to Section 4 "Achieving a well-functioning marketplace for copyright" that you mention, it is the intention of the Commission to assess whether the benefits of the online use of copyright protected works is fairly shared. The Commission continues dialogue in a transparent way with all stakeholders, including press publishers and news aggregators. Let me stress that no decisions have been taken yet in this context. We will in particular consider the results of the public consultation on platforms and online intermediaries.

The Commission is closely following the discussions in the European Parliament concerning the copyright modernisation, including on the so-called ancillary right for press publishers, and will take them into account in our current work.

Finally, let me thank you for the discussions in the past year in which I had the opportunity to learn about your and your colleagues' views on copyright. I would be delighted to continue this constructive dialogue further.

Yours sincerely,


Andrus Ansip