

MEPs bring new copyright directive a step closer**BCC welcomes vote as “great news for Europe’s creative community”**

The British Copyright Council is delighted that a new copyright directive for the digital age has moved a step closer following a vote of MEPs in the European Parliament today (12 September).

After two years of thorough and careful debate, Parliament has adopted a mandate to take draft reforms forward into final negotiations with the Council and Commission. This is great news for Europe’s creative community and for all who enjoy and take inspiration from creative works.

The new directive is designed to make the modern internet fair for all by properly valuing creative works online, supporting freedom of expression and ensuring a balance with the rights of internet users. Contrary to some claims, the free and vibrant internet that we all appreciate is not under threat; individuals will still be sharing hyperlinks, parodies and posting content as they always have, just so long as the upload platforms obtain any necessary licences as is standard in the offline world.

As the proposals move forward to trilogue discussions, the BCC thanks all those who have supported this much-needed update of EU laws so far and looks forward to a final text that may further strengthen protection for creators and right holders and ensure a sustainable future for creativity.

ENDS

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