

**Statement on the EU copyright directive**

The EU copyright directive recognises an important international consensus on the challenge facing creativity in the digital age. Notably, this legislation confirms without doubt that content-sharing platforms should be held accountable for the copyright works they make available and from which they profit, and through a range of other provisions encourages transparency and accountability for European creators on whose work a richly diverse internet depends.

The final directive is a compromise following two-and-a-half years of debate, negotiation and intense pressure from those seeking to defend an untenable status quo. The result is not perfect, but it is important progress. However, many will now feel the need to be watchful that where certain protections have fallen short, they will not be used to undermine the original overall objective of supporting a fair and sustainable online future for creativity.

As we look forward to adoption of the directive by the European Parliament, the British Copyright Council is grateful to those who have supported this much-needed updating of EU law and will continue to champion measures, both on- and offline, that properly value copyright for the benefit of all.

ENDS