

EWC-Statement – WIPO SCCR 48 – **Agenda item 7**, Other matters: Copyright in the digital environment.  
On the documents SCCR 47/7 and SCCR 48/4.  
Written input, 977 characters.

It is noticeable that the intentions mentioned in the different documents on Copyright in the digital environment to provide authors with appropriate remuneration within the evolving digital economy is close to the heart of the document drafters. However, we have two reasons to be sceptical to implant it in the SCCR:

(Firstly) It is not copyright that needs adjusted: it is its enforcement in the digital environment. Be it value gaps of revenues between intermediaries and the share for authors, as well as dominant distribution companies ignoring the fair principles of usage transparency and appropriate, reliable shares.

(Secondly) Contract law and remuneration are the core missions of authors' organisation. But: they are linked especially to national conditions, as well as to the fragmented frameworks of competition law or of market situations.

We appreciate the vision behind the proposals - but do not endorse to making these a permanent working item within the SCCR.

### About the European Writers' Council (EWC)

The EWC is the world's largest federation of writers in the book sector and of all genres (fiction, non-fiction, academic, children's books, poetry, etc.). With 52 organisations and professional guilds from 34 countries of the EU, the EEA and of non-EU areas, the EWC represents 250.000 writers and translators, writing and publishing altogether in 37 languages. The EWC is the world's leading federation for the defence of book authors' rights since 1977.

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