

Society of Audiovisual Authors

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@saabrussels #WeLoveAuthors

Market

Role of remuneration

Major exploiters are noncontractual parties

Capet

Contractual bargain: access to production & exploitation – assignment of ©

Weaker position of creators

The contract

Life of contract: from negotiation to enforcement Evolving environment and forces



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Society of Audiovisual Authors

Raquel Xalabarder

Copyright law specialist and Universitat Oberta de Catalunya Intellectual Property Chair Professor

Article 18 of the EU Copyright Directive

- Principle of appropriate and proportionate remuneration
- Applies to ANY license or transfer of exploitation rights
- Applies to NEW as well as OLD productions
- Not only a binding principle, but an obligation!
- Art. 18 justifies the "contractual corpus" of Art. 19-22 + other mechanisms
- * "Copy pasting" Art. 18 will not suffice!



Member States need to go further

Art.18(2): In the implementation in national law of the principle set out in paragraph 1, Member States shall be free to use <u>different mechanisms</u> and take into account the principle of contractual freedom and a fair balance of rights and interests.

 Recital 73: Member States should be free to implement the principle of appropriate and proportionate remuneration through <u>different</u> <u>existing or newly introduced mechanisms</u>, which could include collective bargaining and other mechanisms, provided that such mechanisms are in conformity with applicable Union law.



Statutory remuneration right

"Residual" rem. retained by authors after transferring exclusive rights	Sanctioned by EU acquis: Art.5(1) Rental & Lending Dir.	Used (successfully) in national laws to secure rem. in complex markets	Do not duplicate rights / depend on transfer + license of rights
Do not turn exclusive rights into statutory licenses	Do not disturb the pre-existing contract (transferred rights)	lus prohibendi, licensing & revenue streams in hands of producers	Flow of remuneration to authors, via CMOs, also new exploitation means





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Dominik Skoczek, Managing Director at ZAPA, Poland

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The film industry in Poland

- + Buy-out contracts
- Presumption of transfer of rights to the producer
- Statutory right to remuneration (may not be waived, transferred or executed)
- Wide range of co-authors of audiovisual works entitled to seek for remuneration
- Mandatory collective management

The problem

Actual users (end distributors) have been obliged to pay statutory royalties but:

 Only a few entities willing to conclude contracts and clear their status,

- Lack of binding tariffs,
- Problems with enforcement,

Users take advantage of every situation to avoid payment - dozen years of court proceedings and negotiations.





The solution

- Unwaivable right to remuneration is the best way to ensure a fair share of revenues for authors
- The concept weighs economic interests of the producer, authors of the audiovisual work and users
- Poland lacks a similar regulation in relation to the "digital" exploitation
- Implementation of Art 18 of EU Copyright Directive is the opportunity to fill the gap and introduce a right to remuneration for authors for the online uses

