Meeting with delegation from the cultural and creative industries – 15 February 2021

Participants:

(European Grouping of Societies of Authors and Composers)
(Sports Rights Owners Coalition)
(European Visual Artists)
(Society of Audiovisual Authors)
(International Video Federation)
(European Federation of Joint Management Societies of Producers for Private
Audiovisual Copying)
(IMPALA)
Werner Stengg (Cabinet EVP Vestager)
(SG E1)

The meeting was requested by the delegation following a previous meeting with other members of Cabinet EVP Vestager. They presented a study on the economic and social importance of the cultural and creative industries (CCIs). The study concluded on the need for recovery of the sector and for the creation of the necessary regulatory framework to reboot the CCIs. The delegation highlighted the importance of the Copyright Directive and its effective implementation for the sector. The debate on liability of online platforms in the context of the DSA is also important. The delegation advocated for more transparency of platforms' operations to protect European interests and ensure their compliance with EU laws. The delegation inquired about the Commission's position, about the challenges of implementing the Copyright Directive (especially Article 17) considering national complexities, and about the timeline for the adoption of the DSA.

Mr Stengg confirmed that there is a wide recognition of the sector's importance within the Commission. There has been a change in platform policy compared to the previous mandate, with this mandate fundamentally reviewing the platform economy. COVID-19 has further accentuated existing issues but the platform economy has also grown stronger because of it. The European Parliament and Council have also become more aligned with the general philosophy pursued by the Commission, which is cause for optimism. Mr Stengg emphasized that the CCIs would benefit from the DSA and DMA, which will ensure fairer competition. The choice of legal instrument will guarantee a more straightforward transposition compared to the Copyright Directive. Negotiations on the DSA and DMA are a priority for the Portuguese Presidency and the French Presidency has made a firm commitment to complete negotiations during their Presidency. The European Parliament is also aiming for this objective.