



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 12 May 2017
(OR. fr)

9029/17

AUDIO 64
CULT 57
PI 55
DIGIT 128

INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council

Subject: An effective and balanced enforcement system against commercial scale infringements of copyright in the audiovisual and cultural sectors in the context of the mid-term review of the Digital Single Market
- Information from the Commission, requested by the Spanish delegation

Delegations will find attached a note from the Spanish delegation requesting information by the Commission on the above subject, which has been put on the agenda under 'Any other business' for the next Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 22-23 May 2017.

An effective and balanced enforcement system against commercial scale infringements of copyright in the audiovisual and cultural sectors in the context of the mid-term review of the Digital Single Market

Since the publication of the Communication on the Digital Single Market in 2015, the European Commission has put forward six legislative proposals, which affect the European Cultural Sector, mainly through copyright reform and that of the audio-visual sector.

The DSM Communication indicated that “*an effective and balanced civil enforcement system against commercial scale infringements of copyright is central to investment in innovation and job creation*”. Despite the fact that the new digital context has somewhat stimulated unfriendly behaviours regarding copyright (cultural contents are among those most requested by internet users; as a matter of fact, 56% of European use internet for cultural purposes), the European Commission has not launched – for the time being - any initiative on this regard.

On 10 May, the College of Commissioners approved the mid-term review on the Digital Single Market. In this context, Spain has the greatest interest in knowing about the plans of the European Commission in pursuing a balanced reform of the European copyright system and developing an effective enforcement system against commercial scale infringements of copyright, strengthening Member States’ efforts in combatting piracy.