



March 22, 2019

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

We write to you on behalf of Music Creators North America (MCNA), an alliance of organizations representing songwriters and composers in the United States and Canada.

As you know, the European Parliament will soon make a critical choice regarding the Copyright Directive, legislation that will affect creators around the world. As North American creators, we want to add our voices to those of all authors — in Europe and beyond — who strongly support its adoption.

If approved, the Directive will not only protect the livelihoods of creators in Europe, it will demonstrate to the rest of the world that Europe has the courage to stand up to the immensely powerful global tech companies who have used their immense power in the digital space in a predatory and exploitive way.

The Copyright Directive will help re-balance the current unfair relationship between creators, consumers, and global platforms. It is a simple instrument designed to ensure that consumers will continue to be able to access and enjoy creative works, while, at long last, creators will receive a fair share of the enormous value generated by their works. At the same time, digital media companies will continue to derive appropriate economic benefit from the presentation of these works. The Copyright Directive will not “break the Internet” or “lead to censorship,” as some of its opponents have claimed. Clearly, improving the system of remuneration for creators and encouraging freedom of expression go hand-in-hand. And the cultural rewards for all follow from that equation.

In addition, the Directive includes unprecedented harmonized provisions (Articles 14 to 16A). These will correct the imbalance of power and strengthen the positions of all authors and performers in their ongoing contractual relationships with producers and publishers.

We believe that this is the moment for Europe to take the lead with the adoption of the historic Copyright Directive. We know that many countries around the globe will be inspired to follow your example. Please accept our sincere gratitude for your efforts.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Dolgay", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Marvin Dolgay, Co-Chair, Music Creators North America (MCNA)