

FEDERATION
OF EUROPEAN
PUBLISHERS

REPORT
OF
ACTIVITIES

/

2012

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FÉDÉRATION
DES ÉDITEURS

2013

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PIOTR
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In June 2012, I had the honour of being elected President of the Federation of European Publishers. I am the very first Polish publisher to be chosen and also the first of the 'new' Member States' representatives. This shows how inclusive our organisation is, an aspect we should be truly proud of.

European publishers, what do we have in common? Well, our markets are all very different, varying in size and language, the level of reading and the many supporting policies which differ greatly from country to country. This being said, we all add value to text and images; we have an indispensable role in selecting, editing, producing, marketing and distributing creative content, to mention just a few of our roles. Yet, too often, we hear cries that with digital technologies authors will no longer need publishers who 'simply' print and distribute books. How wrong a judgement this is! With the number of publications exploding year on year, the brand, the certification and the value added by publishers is - and will continue to be - of critical importance for readers, who cannot - and should not - lose precious time trying to judge the quality of the content floating around on the Internet.

There will be new business models; in fact we are already experimenting them, and new ways of accessing books. Nonetheless, the role of publishers while adapting to new market realities will remain as crucial as ever. So, we at the FEP believe that this needs to be the red thread of our communication: Publishers add value.

From the author-publisher dialogues we organised last September (and will organise again this September), to the Get Caught Reading exhibition this June in the European Parliament and the new communication tools we are developing, the message is the same: Books need publishers.

Our mission is therefore to make sure that our interlocutors better understand what the roles of publishing houses are, so that they will be more inclined to support positive policies for our sector, whether in the field of value added tax, copyright, or even toy safety.

Every day, the FEP team and our colleagues from all over Europe are busy meeting the politicians and officials of the European Institutions to explain the needs of the book sector so that we can continue to offer high quality, culturally diverse and innovative books in a vast number of languages so as to reflect the diversity of the cultures surrounding us.

The Internet has not changed the publishing ecosystem for the worse; in fact, the (new) technologies surrounding us bring many improvements to our supply chain. However, we must not lose sight of what is truly important: The ability to read, be it for education, for work, or for leisure. Whether you read a printed book or an electronic one, the knowledge and enjoyment that you derive

from that activity is the same. Reading is a modern and enduring activity and the pleasure of reading derives from the content, not the medium.

Lest I be misunderstood, I am not against new forms of reading. With more and more digital natives, we are bound to see the market evolve and for some types of publications, digital is a true asset. So, there are books - be they print or digital - and what is important is that they are books. You will learn from them, or educate with them. And behind these books, there are women and men who create and edit and design, and who need to be encouraged to keep doing so:

"Until I feared I would lose it, I never loved to read. One does not love breathing." Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

I hope that in the whole debate about copyright, sanity and reasonableness will prevail and the system will remain as an incentive for authors and publishers to invest in the creation of books. Too often, we hear calls for an entire revamping of the system, sounding as if intellectual property was an enemy to be weakened, that if copyright disappeared into oblivion then this would solve all the challenges Europe is facing. I think this is very simplistic viewpoint. We as publishers, authors, and other actors in the book chain, need to be enabled to invest time and money into the publishing process, knowing that if our books meet their desired audiences we benefit from - and reinvest - the seeds of this success. Europe is the world leader as far as publishing is concerned and it would be a sincere pity if we were forced to abandon this position because the incentive driven backbone of copyright was no longer there to support our sector.

To end with, I leave you with some astute words: "Books are a uniquely portable magic." Stephen King, *On Writing*.

Indeed, in this time of crisis, we could use some portable magic... Finally, if books are magic, then so are my fellow Board members, Pierre Dutilleul, Rudy Vanschoonbeek, Anne Bergman-Tahon and the FEP team; Enrico Turrin, our Deputy Director, Liv Vaisberg, our Legal Advisor and Laura Houlgatte, our Policy Advisor. Thank you for all the hard work, and thank you also to all the FEP member associations and their publishers' members visiting Brussels to strengthen our message.

Yours, with my best regards,

Piotr Marciszuk

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FEP MEETS

Between June 2012 and May 2013, we held four meetings. We had the summer General Assembly in Cascais, Portugal, at the invitation of the Portuguese Publishers Association APEL. There, we elected Piotr Marzicuk as President and Pierre Dutilleul as Vice-President. It was also the occasion to thank Fergal Tobin for all his hard work for FEP. I also wish to extend my gratitude to our Portuguese colleagues for their friendly welcome and great social events. Our autumn and winter meeting and General Assembly were held in Brussels in September and November 2012. Our spring meeting was organised during the London Book Fair in April 2013. In addition, we met on the occasion of the Frankfurt Book Fair for our now traditional Rendez-Vous, where we were regaled by a powerful speech by the former French Culture Minister and the special envoy of the French President on taxation, Jacques Toubon, who made a vibrant advocacy in favour of our sector.

FEP IN
BRUSSELS AND IN
EUROPE

Bringing publishers to meet politicians and officials is absolutely essential for better explaining the importance of their role. FEP therefore regularly organises meetings with Members of Parliament and their assistants, and with the Commission both at the level of services and cabinets.

We organised a high-level roundtable with Commission Vice-President Neelie Kroes, who is also the Commissioner for the Digital Agenda. The object was to explain the realities of e-publishing and the challenges the industry is facing, for example highlighting the importance of interoperability of platforms, devices and content.

FEP ADVOCACY

AUTHOR-PUBLISHER
DIALOGUES

The FEP has been organising author-publisher dialogues since 2011, inviting creative tandems to discuss the challenges facing the publishing sector, as well as the mutual opportunities and benefits brought about by the author-publisher relationship, including the way in which this helps to nurture new talent, encourage creativity and ensure quality.

The work of publishers and authors is inextricably linked. The unique combination of creative talent, instinct and editorial skill is an integral part of the magic of publishing, a sector which remains crucial for the digital economy across the whole of Europe. This event seeks to foster a better understanding of the unique and important role of the author-publisher relationship so that, together, we can continue to support a culturally rich and diverse Europe.

The second edition took place on 19th September 2012. The three tandems were Donato Carrisi and Stefano Mauri, Asa Larsson and Eva Bonnier and Jean Duffaud and François Pernot introduced by three MEPs, Marielle Gallo, our host, Luigi Berlinguer and Cecilia Wikström and moderated by Jacques Toubon. The third edition will take place at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, on Tuesday 10th September 2013, still under the patronage of MEP Marielle Gallo.

GET CAUGHT READING

In January, the FEP launched the 2013 edition of the "Get Caught Reading" campaign to promote books and reading. The project originates from a US campaign organised by the Association of American Publishers, at the initiative of its former President and CEO Patricia Schroeder. The FEP successfully ran the first European edition in 2005.

The campaign has two main purposes: to promote and celebrate reading by European citizens, and to increase the importance of books and reading on the political agenda. Through this campaign, we want to remind people that reading is both a real joy and the gateway to a world of opportunities.

The 2013 edition will feature black and white photographs of European personalities reading their favourite book, who are invited to send a picture of themselves, along with a short text, explaining why they have chosen their book and/or why reading is so important to them. The pictures will be displayed during an exhibition at the European Parliament, under the patronage of MEP Luigi Berlinguer and supported by the President of the European Parliament MEP Martin Schulz and the President of the Culture Committee MEP Doris Pack, between the 17th and the 20th June 2013, with an official launch on 18th June. A book will be published at the end of the year, gathering the pictures of all the participants. The website for the campaign is: www.getcaughtreading.eu. You can also follow the campaign on Facebook and on Twitter (@GetCaughtEU).

FEP NETWORKS

Authors and booksellers, the book chain partners, are our first allies in our daily work to demonstrate the vitality of our sector. We work very closely with the European Booksellers Federation (EBF) and the European Writers' Council (EWC).

Scientific publishers, magazines and newspapers publishers, the International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM), the European Magazines Media Association (EMMA), the European Newspapers Publishers Association (ENPA) and the European Publishers Council (EPC) share many issues with book publishers and we are therefore coordinating our work and advocating together on a vast range of subjects ranging from copyright to VAT. We are in close contact with other rightsholders - music and audio-visual - both at the level of their respective Associations and through the Creative and Media Business Alliance (CMBA) and Creativity Works!

As licensing is very high on the agenda of the European Institutions, it is only natural that we liaise closely with the International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations (IFRRO). We are also active in the Cultural and Creative Industries Platform as well as other platforms gathering the whole spectrum of cultural actors. Working together is a necessity as we all need to keep reminding our audience that without authors, publishers, and the right regulatory framework, books - the first cultural industry in Europe - would be quite different and would no longer be able to fulfil their essential role.

FEP STATISTICS

FEP continued its regular collection of data on the book sector in Europe, through a reviewed and improved version of its questionnaire.

FEP continued its effort of revision, integration and harmonisation of statistics on the book sector.

FEP produced a new yearly set of figures on book publishing.

FEP prepared regular reports on the results of its surveys in the field of statistics.

FEP looked into ways to improve the collection of data on the e-book market through a dedicated working group.

FEP cooperated with IPA (International Publishers Association) by providing data and advice for their global publishing statistics publication.

BACKGROUND

The FEP has been gathering the best available information for a number of identified core data in order to produce a series of tables for the period 2004-2011. Through processes of correction and integration, our FEP statistics - although some difficulties remain - are now quite complete, clear, accurate, and reflect our needs well.

There is agreement on the need to continue improving the collection of statistics on the book industry in order to support publishers' lobbying activities in Brussels. Such a need is based on the importance of providing the FEP's counterparts in the European Institutions with a reliable picture of the value of the book publishing industry (in terms of income generation, employment, the contribution to cultural diversity, etc.). It is also important for us to be able to build a series of fairly consistent data over a given period that allows us to assess, at least broadly, the impact of different variables (policy, economic conditions, etc.). The digital migration has further highlighted the importance of reliable figures to understand how several factors impact market dynamics.

According to the latest information collected, in 2011 European publishers (EU Member States plus Norway and Iceland) generated a turnover of some € 22.8 billion. This was down from € 23.5 billion in 2010, thus resuming a decreasing trend after the mild recovery of the previous year. They published some 530,000 new titles (up from 525,000) and employed around 135,000 people full time (as the year before). Close to 8.5 million titles were commercially available, the large increase being explained mainly by the fast growth of digital catalogues. The digital share of sales was estimated at some 2-3% of the total.

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EDUCATION, CULTURE, MULTILINGUALISM AND YOUTH

The Education and Culture Directorate-General's (DG EAC) mission is to reinforce and promote lifelong learning, linguistic and cultural diversity, mobility and the engagement of European citizens, in particular the young. It has three key objectives: building a Europe of knowledge, developing the European cultural area and involving citizens in European integration. The Commission's Agenda for Culture is founded on three common sets of objectives: Cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue; culture as a catalyst for creativity; and culture as a key component in international relations.

The cultural and creative industries play an essential role in Europe's competitiveness, as shown by the EC commissioned study on the economy of culture. Even if culture is a subsidiary

competence of the European Union, its regulatory environment is set in Brussels in relation to copyright, competition, the single market and VAT.

The Commissioner responsible is Androulla Vassiliou.
The Director General is Jan Trzczyński.

FEP met with the Commissioner in the framework of the European Union Prize for Literature and with regard to DG EAC's initiatives in the field of education. On several occasions, FEP also met with members of the Commissioner's cabinet.

MULTILINGUALISM

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP participated in the meetings of the 'translations' Working Group of the Multilingualism Platform, with representatives of writers and translators.

FEP upheld the message that books are the fundamental vehicle of European culture, knowledge and languages.

FEP highlighted regularly (including at public hearings and EC meetings) the importance of translations for the circulation of books at the intra-community and international levels, in particular those from small linguistic areas, as well as the promotion of books abroad and of the linguistic training for book professionals.

The Multilingualism Platform was re-launched in June 2012 and will continue to promote multilingualism and policy developments that align with the new challenges and priorities that the European Commission has outlined for the coming years.

The FEP participated in all meetings since the re-launch. In a statement sent by the Platform to the Commission in reaction to the communication



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ANDROULLA VASSILIOU

"I chose Geert Mak's book *In Europe, Travels through the 20th century*, the book that I am reading these days. It is a book-portrait of the European continent's past through the colours of contemporary Europe. Retracing the history of the once divided European continent, Mak illustrates the long path to peace and stability in our continent, thereby bringing to the fore the significance of the European project. People left behind the dust and the brutality of the past in search of a democratic and prosperous future and building on common European values a freedom based on solidarity. A thought provoking book indeed that sends out a positive message about what Europe stands for – and in the midst of the crisis Europe is traversing, hope and faith in the future are essential."

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'Rethinking Education', the FEP insisted on the importance of the translation and circulation of cultural works between different linguistic areas for enhancing cultural diversity and added that these issues must remain at the top of the multilingualism agenda even in time of economic crisis.

From the 1st to 3rd December 2011, the FEP attended the PETRA congress on literary translation and literary translators in Europe. A number of recommendations aimed at creating better conditions for literary translation and literary translators in Europe were formulated and prepared for publication. The FEP, actively participating in the conference, insisted on outlining the path for national legislations in relation to the improvement of copyright and to future regulation of digital rights, as well as issues of use and distribution of protected works on the Internet, digital copies and conditions of lending digitalised works in public or private libraries.

On 22nd October 2012, the FEP attended the presentation of the PETRA recommendations in 'Towards New Conditions for Literary Translations in Europe'. Those recommendations deal with five topics, namely: Education and learning of literary translators; copyright and e-management; cultural situation and visibility; editorial policies and the market; and the economic and social situation of literary translators. The report can be found at www.petra2011.eu.

BACKGROUND

Languages are one of the key features of cultural identity. The European Union's motto "Unity in diversity" is a reflection of the multilingualism which lies at the heart of the EU. The EU has always considered its many languages as an asset, rather than as a burden. While committed to political and economic integration among its Member States, the EU actively promotes the freedom of its citizens to speak and write in their own language. The three strands of the EU's multilingualism policy are: Encouraging language learning and promoting linguistic diversity in society; promoting a healthy multilingual economy; and promoting social integration through improved knowledge and acceptance of languages.

The Commission published a study in July 2009 on the contribution of multilingualism to creativity. In October 2009, DG EAC launched a platform on multilingualism in order to create a forum for exchange of best practices for civil society stakeholders and to make recommendations on multilingualism. The Platform presented to the European Commission its recommendations on translation and terminology in June 2011. The mandate of the civil society platform terminated with the submission to the Commission of the final report in June 2011. This report was examined by the Council's Education Committee, led by the Polish Presidency of the European Union, which in its Conclusions on language competences to enhance mobility of 28 November 2011 invites the Commission to pursue its support for the platform. The Commission has re-launched in 2012 the civil society platform with new, revised objectives.

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EUROPEAN
CULTURAL PLATFORMS
/ GREEN PAPER
ON CULTURAL INDUSTRIES
/ CREATIVE EUROPE PROGRAMME

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP took part in the two cultural platforms and actively contributed to the Working Group on artists' rights within the platform on access to culture and to the Working Groups on legal environment, mobility and interface artist-industry within the cultural and creative industries platform.

The FEP is also a member of the board of the platform on the cultural and creative industries.

FEP expressed concerns on the importance of encouraging the creation of innovative content and respecting intellectual property rights. We advocated for the platforms to adequately voice the concerns of the cultural industries, both for concerning regulatory measures taken at European and national levels and to develop structural policies to support cultural industries.

FEP worked with the platform on cultural and creative industries in order to issue a common position on the new proposed "Creative Europe" funding programme for culture.

The FEP issued its own position, supporting the proposed increase in budget for culture as well as providing on-going support for literary translation and the circulation of literary works.

FEP actively participated in workshops organised by the cultural and creative industries platform with the themes of digital distribution and production as well as finance and taxation.

On 12th May 2011, the report on Unlocking the Potential of Cultural and Creative Industries was adopted at the plenary session of the European Parliament.

On 29th June 2011, the European Commission published its budget proposal for the EU for the period 2014-2020, with €1.6 billion dedicated to the cultural sector.

On 6th October 2011, the European Commission published draft regulations for the next generation of Structural Funds. FEP worked with the cultural and creative industries platform on the paper expressing concern with regard to the absence of reference to cultural and creative sectors in the European Commissions' draft regulations for the next generation of Structural Funds. The position was presented to President Barroso.

On 20th and 21st October, FEP attended the European Culture Forum organised by the European Commission which addressed some of the most topical questions for culture in the current context of economic crisis and globalisation. Platforms presented the recommendations addressed to the European Institutions and Member States. Through policy recommendations and public advocacy, the platform aimed to highlight the fundamental role of cultural and creative industries in Europe and unlock their full potential.

On 23rd November, the European Commission announced its detailed proposal for "Creative Europe", the new programme for the cultural and creative sector.

On 1st February 2012, FEP attended the Official Opening Ceremony of the EU-China Year of Intercultural Dialogue.

On 10th May 2012, the Culture Council held a debate on the "Creative Europe" programme. FEP worked with the platform on culture and creative industries on the response to the debate. A statement was issued, calling on the Council and the European Parliament to approve the proposed overall budget of €1.8 billion, supporting the creation of a Financial Facility instrument and

welcoming the priorities of the Culture strand, like the transnational circulation of cultural and artistic works and products in Europe, such as literature.

FEP also sent its comments on Creative Europe to the rapporteur on the new programme, MEP Silvia Costa, and to other members of the Culture Committee. FEP is attending regularly the Culture Committee meetings, and pays particular attention to the talks on Creative Europe and those relating to the cultural and creative industries.

On 26th September 2012, the European Commission unveiled a new strategy entitled "Promoting Cultural and Creative Sectors for Growth and Jobs in the EU", which highlights the contribution that the cultural and creative sectors make to growth and jobs - and how to boost this in future. FEP is following the debates and policy initiatives within this framework closely.

On 16th and 17th October 2012, the European Commission organised a "European Audiences" conference for over 800 participants from various cultural and creative sectors. FEP took part in the conference and attended the follow-up seminar on Creative Europe.

FEP will attend the general assembly of the Culture and Creative Industries Platform on 13th June 2013. FEP will attend the Access to Culture Platform plenary session on 14th June 2013.

BACKGROUND

In order to implement its three strategic objectives (promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue, promotion of culture as catalyst for creativity in the framework of the Lisbon strategy, and promotion of culture as a vital element in EU external relations), the European Agenda for culture introduced cooperation methods with various stakeholders. The Commission proposed that civil society should concentrate its work within two platforms on two topics of the European Agenda for culture: Access to Culture and the Cultural and Creative Industries.

The platforms produced a set of policy recommendations, which were presented and discussed in a broad Cultural Forum in September 2009. In April 2010, the Commission issued a Green Paper on Unlocking the Potential of Cultural and Creative Industries (based also on the recommendations by the platforms) and a related consultation; in September 2010, the Commission launched a consultation on the review of the Culture programme after 2013.

In reaction to the Green Paper, the European Parliament started an own initiative report, also called Unlocking the potential of Cultural and Creative Industries, by MEP Marie-Thérèse Sanchez-Schmid (EPP, France). The report was adopted by the Culture Committee of the EP in March 2011 and was voted in Plenary in May 2011.

In November 2011 DG EAC proposed a single 'Creative Europe' framework programme for the years 2014-2020. The proposal includes separate strands for Culture, MEDIA, and a cross-sectoral strand (the latter includes a financial instrument for the cultural and creative sectors (CCS)). The programme will complement EU culture policy by reaching cultural operators directly and thereby helping to bring about a systemic change in terms of EU policy priorities.

The multi-annual financial framework attributed to the programme an amount of € 1,6 billion for the period 2014-2020, from which € 180 million is foreseen for the financial instrument.

The Member States reached a first agreement on "Creative Europe" on 10th May 2012, highlighting in their position the "intrinsic value of arts and culture" and aiming at ensuring a better balance between the economic objectives and the promotion of cultural diversity. With a large majority, the European Parliament's Culture and Education Committee adopted a Report on the Programme on 18th December 2012. Amongst the adopted amendments, a clear support was given to the circulation of literary works, and literary translations. Moreover, literature is now specifically mentioned as such in the Programme.

Following the Council of Europe's budget meetings for 2014-20, the budget section dedicated to Creative Europe would be cut by € 2.4 billion compared to the 18 extra proposed by the European Commission. The way in which the funds are divided internally will be the object of a debate between the Council and Commission, followed by the Parliament.

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DG RESEARCH & INNOVATION

EUROPEAN UNION
PRIZE FOR
LITERATURE

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

In November 2012, the Commission confirmed the consortium responsible for the first four editions: the European Booksellers Federation (EBF), the European Writers' Council (EWC) and the Federation of European Publishers (FEP), to coordinate the initiative in 2013. The three associations are jointly responsible for the setting up of the national juries and the practical organisation of the award ceremony. The FEP is the project leader.

The selected countries for 2012 were Austria, Croatia, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Sweden. The winning authors were announced in October 2012 by Commissioner Vassiliou at a press conference during the Frankfurt Book Fair. FEP and the rest of the Consortium cooperated to organise other promotional events for the Prize at the Fair.

During a high-profile ceremony on 22nd November 2012, in the presence of public figures from the field of culture, literature and politics as well as a broad European audience, Commissioner Vassiliou and MEP Doris Pack (EPP, Germany), Chairwoman of the EP Culture Committee, handed out an award to each of the emerging talents, in the presence of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The selected countries for 2013 are Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Germany, Luxembourg, Romania, Slovenia and Spain.

FEP and the rest of the Consortium promoted the Prize in April 2013 at the London Book Fair. The 12 authors selected for 2013 will receive their award on 26th of November 2013.

BACKGROUND

The aim is to put the spotlight on the creative and diverse wealth of Europe's contemporary literature, promote more circulation of literature within Europe and greater interest in non-national literary works. Each year, in a three-year cycle, the juries representing part of the 37 countries participating in the EU Culture Programme select one emerging fiction writer from their own country. The first edition of the Prize was awarded on 28th September 2009; the second edition of the ceremony took place on 18th November 2010, and the third on 28th November 2011. The new three-year cycle started in 2012 and the winners were awarded the Prize on 22nd November 2012. www.euprizeliterature.eu

HIGH LEVEL EXPERT GROUP ON LITERACY

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP contacted all the members of the HLG offering support and expertise for their task. FEP contributed to the informal input gathering of the High Level Group (HLG) on Literacy and presented the collected material on literacy initiatives by publishers.

On 6th September 2012, the HLG published its final report during the "Literacy for all" conference. The report presents the benefits of literacy and proposes solutions to tackling the problem of low literacy in Europe. The HLG proposed publishers the setting up of book-gifting schemes for young children, developing and publishing age- and gender-appropriate reading materials, as well as e-reading material for adolescents, providing adult learners with 'easy to read' materials, books, newspapers and websites, supporting awareness raising campaigns and developing books for people with special needs.

FEP provided input for the report through its reply to a consultation of stakeholders by the HLG. FEP attended the presentation of the HLG report on 22nd of January 2013.

BACKGROUND

On 1st February 2011, the European Commission launched a High-Level Expert Group on Literacy, with the aim of giving visibility and more political importance to the issue of raising literacy levels in Europe. The Group set out to analyse scientific evidence and best practices and evaluate what policies can be the most effective. The group, chaired by Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands, consisted of 11 experts on literacy from the fields of academia, politics and business. The final report and its conclusions were published in September 2012.

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INITIATIVES IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP replied to the Commission consultation on 'Opening up Education' in November 2012, stressing the role of publishers and illustrating some OER and ICT experiences in schools and drawing conclusions from these.

FEP organised a roundtable with DG EAC on 6th November 2012 to which many educational publishers from all over Europe participated to present their views and initiatives.

FEP brought the issue of the role of professionally published educational resources to the attention of Commissioner Vassiliou at a meeting at the Frankfurt Book Fair on 9th October 2012, together with EWC and EBF.

FEP met several times with officials of DG EAC in order to discuss the Commission's initiatives in the field of education.

On 16th January 2013, FEP participated in the launch event of the eTernity initiative (European Textbooks Reusability Networking and Interoperability).

FEP participated in subsequent distance meetings of the eTernity initiative and facilitated the provision of input by publishers.

FEP participated in the meetings of the IPA Educational Publishers Forum in Milan (January 2013) and London (April 2013).

On 26th March 2013, FEP participated in a policy debate organised by MEP Katarina Neved'alová (S&D, Slovakia), rapporteur on "Rethinking Education"; FEP subsequently had an individual meeting with MEP Neved'alová.

FEP invited Pierre Mairesse, Director for Policy development and country analysis (the Directorate in charge of the educa-

BACKGROUND

There have been several cases of governmental initiatives in the educational publishing market, in particular involving support for Open Educational Resources (OER), often linked to digitisation projects in schools, which concern publishers insofar as they envisage the substitution of quality, professionally published educational resources.

The European Commission (DG EAC) has also started getting involved in the issue. It first issued a Consultation on 'Opening up Education' in August 2012, focused on stimulating the use of OCT and OER in schools, with several ideas of potential concern for publishers. Amongst others, these concerns included: requiring Open Access to educational resources publicly funded and making school books available for free in digital some time after publication.

In November 2012 the Commission issued a Communication on "Rethinking Education: Investing in Skills for Better Socio-Economic Outcomes", which illustrates the new strategy, focusing on "bringing the learning experience closer to the reality of the working environment", with a view in particular to combating youth unemployment by delivering the right skills for employment and increasing the efficiency and inclusiveness of education. One of its stated aims is to scale up the use of ICT and OER in education.

The strategy also envisages some preparatory work to feed into the "Opening up Education" initiative. Following analysis of the consultation replies, the Commission issued in April 2012 a roadmap. This places great emphasis on improving the quality of and access to education by exploiting the potential of digital technologies and content, including OER. However, it says explicitly that IPR issues are outwith the scope of the initiative. The Commission has prepared an Impact Assessment for this initiative, which has not yet been made public as it will first be used as a basis for a Staff Working Document and a Political Communication, due most likely in July 2013.

The European Parliament has started, on its own initiative, a report on the strategy. MEP Katarina Neved'alová (S&D, Slovakia) is the rapporteur for the CULT Committee and an initial draft is expected in May 2013.

DG EAC has also tasked the Joint Research Centre (JRC, the Commission's in-house research arm) to carry out a study on OER in Europe (the OEREU project). Meanwhile, the European Standardisation Committee (CEN) is working on the eTernity initiative (European Textbooks Reusability Networking and Interoperability), which intends to bring European stakeholders together to develop "a common vision, frameworks and specifications for e-textbooks for educational purposes".

tion initiatives) at DG EAC, for a discussion at its Spring Meeting in London on 17th April 2013.

FEP organised a meeting with Commissioner Vassiliou on 29th April 2013 together with EWC and EBF.

On 16th May 2013, FEP participated in a seminar organised in the EP by the Liberal group on 'Rethinking Education', hosted by Lyam Aylward (ALDE, Ireland) and Hannu Takkula (ALDE, Finland).

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The Communications Networks, Content and Technology (CNECT) Directorate-General (previously DG Information Society and Media) supports the development and use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for the benefit of all citizens. This includes fostering the growth of content industries drawing on Europe's cultural diversity.

**TASK FORCE FOR
THE COORDINATION
OF THE MEDIA**

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP has been working closely with the media task force and publishers on crucial issues for our sector, such as VAT. FEP organised with the Media Task-Force, in June 2012, the round-table with publishers and retailers.

This concluded with a joint declaration signed by a number of publishers and booksellers, although not the large US Internet retailers, requiring the signatories to step up interoperability and crossborder availability of books across Europe.

FEP maintains regular contacts with the Task Force to fully brief them on the main developments in the publishing field so that they can fully appreciate the impact of future EU legislation or other initiatives, and has met its officials on several occasions including during the Frankfurt Book Fair.

The Commissioner responsible is Neelie Kroes (Commissioner for the Digital Agenda), Vice-President of the European Commission.
The Director General is Robert Madelin.

FEP met on several occasions with members of the Vice-President's cabinet. FEP organised a round-table with Mrs. Kroes on digital publishing in June 2012.

BACKGROUND

Responsibility for the publishing industries has been allocated to DG Connect. Therein, the Media Task Force monitors all the Commission's policies that affect the media sector.

Publishing sub-sectors are as follows: newspapers, periodicals, books, directories and databases. The publishing sector is of major importance to the European Union and its citizens. It has a key economic role to play and is vital to the development and preservation of culture, information, education and democracy at large.



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NEELIE KROES

"Here I am reading my favourite book *Stoner* by John Williams. It's just a tale about an ordinary man leading an ordinary life – the kind of person who could be your neighbour. Yet that simple story makes it all the more realistic and readable – a very deep and moving book you can really dive into. In fact the book itself has its own sad story – written in the sixties, within twenty years it had almost stopped selling. Yet thanks to one New York bookseller (who I once had the pleasure to meet) it was rightfully resurrected – this time with a success that carried across the Atlantic. That story itself is a reminder of how fragile our cultural heritage can be, how easy to lose – and how important it is that we make the effort to keep it alive."

**EUROPEAN DIGITAL
LIBRARY- EUROPEANA**

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP attended several Board meetings and the Europeana Network Annual General Meeting in November 2012 in Berlin. FEP participated in the PPP Task Force meeting in Leuven in June 2012.

FEP organised seminars with publishers and Europeana in Brussels in May 2012 and an ARROW-Europeana seminar at the London Book Fair in April 2013.

FEP organised a meeting between Europeana and representatives of the main creative content producers' organisations in Brussels in May 2012.

FEP holds also a dialogue with the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) and just had had its 35th meeting at the end of May in Brussels. FEP is working on a statement on deposit of non - print works.

FEP has regular meetings and calls with other Networks officers. FEP will attend the Europeana Conference on Funding Digitisation in Dublin on 20-21 June 2013.

FEP also works with the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) to find balanced solutions for the legal deposit and subsequent uses of contemporary works.

FEP has, with the CENL, adopted a joint statement for the deposit and harvesting of books and journals, and have informed the EU of this important achievement.

BACKGROUND

Europeana sets out to make all Europe's cultural resources and scientific records – books, journals, films, maps, photographs, music, etc. – accessible to all, and preserve it for future generations. FEP has been encouraging publishers to participate and has, through ARROW, developed an instrument to facilitate the use of orphan works - as well as out of commerce works - once agreements have been made with rightsholders (who are now easier to identify thanks to the ARROW project).

The initiative focuses on two areas: cultural heritage – creating electronic versions of the materials in Europe's libraries, archives and museums, making them available online, for work, study or leisure, and preserving them for future generations; and scientific information – making research findings more widely available online and keeping them available over time. FEP has been an early supporter of Europeana and has been extremely actively involved in finding ways for publishers to be able to bring their publications to Europeana.

Since its launch in 2008, FEP has fully backed the Europeana project. In the early years, FEP was a member of the High Level Group on digital libraries and afterwards participated in a number of consultations. Since last year, FEP Director Anne Bergman-Tahon has been elected as officer of the Europeana Network and is therefore represented in the Board of the Foundation, advocating the views of publishers. FEP is also striving to find solutions to issues raised by librarians.

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ARROW / ARROW +

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP actively participated in Management Board meetings of the ARROW+ project all along the period concerned.

FEP prepared the reports and deliverables within its competence, and coordinated the involvement of project partners and FEP members in the collection of information for the project.

In its capacity of WP3 leader, FEP coordinated several project partners to organise ARROW+ meetings with national stakeholders in the target countries; the latest meetings took place in Bulgaria in May 2012, in Belgium in September 2012, November 2012 and March 2013 and in Hungary in February 2013. FEP also presented the project in Romania in May 2012.

FEP cooperated closely with WP4 and WP5 in order to facilitate the development and deployment in the target countries that need new data infrastructure.

FEP coordinated the work on the sustainability plans needed at national level in the target countries that will develop data infrastructure in the framework of the ARROW+ project.

FEP participated actively in the discussions on the establishment of an ARROW legal entity and in the drafting of its Articles of Association, and agreed to become a Charter Member of the entity.

FEP contributed to the dissemination activities of the project through a number of meetings with Commission officials, Members of the European Parliament and other stakeholders.

Throughout the year, FEP coordinated a series of live demonstrations of the functioning of the ARROW system for various stakeholders and representatives of the EU institutions. FEP reported regularly to its member associations on the goals and status of the project.

BACKGROUND

Together with the emergence of digital libraries, the need to provide pragmatic solutions to the challenges of orphan works, out of print books and clearance of protected material has arisen. In 2008, under the leadership of the Italian Publishers Association (AIE), FEP undertook a project under the EC programme eContent+, called ARROW: Accessible Registries of Rights Information and Orphan Works towards Europeana.

The project aimed at creating an interoperable search infrastructure, a distributed network of national databases to facilitate retrieving information about the rights status of works and a set of tools for both public and private organisations who wish to contact active rightholders to seek copyright clearance for the reuse of content; it also collected information on current and emerging business models and explored possible systems facilitating co-existence and interoperability between public institutions and commercial publishing initiatives, drawing from the emerging European solutions driven by the private sector.

This infrastructure will include, but is not limited to, the creation of a European distributed registry of orphan works and access to a network of existing clearance centres for out of print works, in line with the recommendations of the High Level Expert Group on Digital Libraries. The system will also provide the infrastructure for the management of any type of rights information, thus facilitating the actual implementation of innovative business models for both digital libraries and private e-content providers.

The rights information infrastructure will facilitate the search for rightholders and the identification of public domain works, orphan works, out of print works and other copyrighted works, which could be released for inclusion and access if only the rights information infrastructure existed. The broad involvement of rightholders, collective management organisations and libraries provides critical mass to approach the problem at pan-European level.

The project ran for 2.5 years, from September 2008 to February 2011; it led to the setting up of the planned infrastructure and to the piloting of the system in four countries: France, Germany, Spain and the UK.

Since 2010, most of the project partners worked also on the enhancement and extension of the project: This led to the setting up of the ARROW+ project under the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme 2007-2013. The project aims at sustaining the current developments by enhancing the system already in place following case usage requirements and integrating a wider range of countries, as well as piloting the inclusion of images embedded in books in its scope. ARROW+ started in April 2011; FEP is leader of Work Package 3: Organising and coordinating national initiatives.

Work is progressing in the target countries in order to integrate the existing sources of bibliographic information and to develop new infrastructure where needed, as well as to plan for its sustainability in the long term. A legal entity is being established to manage the system after the end of the project phase.

**REVISION OF
THE DIRECTIVE 2003/98/EC
ON THE RE-USE OF PUBLIC SECTOR
INFORMATION**

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP has been monitoring the developments on this file and has reiterated to the various parties involved the need to improve the access for private companies such as publishers to public sector information at equitable costs, including public domain works contained in cultural institutions.

FEP attended conferences and discussions at the EP. Each time, we presented the views of publishers, who are favourable to the new changes in the PSI Directive, as long as the exclusion of third party intellectual property is respected.

BACKGROUND

Public bodies produce, collect and share vast amounts of information. Most of this public sector information (PSI) has commercial potential for re-use as the basis for new added value products and services. According to a survey of 2006, the overall market size for PSI in the EU is estimated at € 27 billion. Despite its economic value, much of Europe's PSI is not fully re-used. The EU adopted the PSI Directive in 2003 to overcome barriers that limit the re-use of PSI. The Directive regulates how public sector bodies should make their information available for re-use and deals with key issues like transparency of what is available and under which conditions, fair competition and non-discrimination between all potential re-users. For publishers it is, inter alia, essential that the Directive recognises that IP rights from third parties are not affected by it and ensures that the public sector will not compete unfairly with private offers.

The Commission concluded a review of the Directive in 2009, assessing its impact and application; it published a Communication on Re-use of Public Sector Information - Review of Directive 2003/98/EC, accompanied by a Staff working document.

In December 2011, the Commission proposed its Open Data Strategy, presented in a Commission Communication to the European Parliament and to the Council. The Communication was accompanied by a proposal for modifying the Directive on the Re-Use of Public Sector Information (the main element of the regulatory framework for re-use) and a revised Commission decision on the re-use of the Commission's information. The revised legislative framework will change the scope of application as it will include "libraries, archives, museums and university libraries", whilst maintaining its derogation for third party intellectual property rights. The general principle will be that all public information that is not explicitly covered by one of the exceptions is re-usable for commercial and non-commercial purposes. The amount that can be charged for PSI cannot be more than the marginal costs of dissemination (in certain cases charging for the full cost of producing and disseminating is possible).

A draft report was issued in July 2012 by rapporteur Ivailo Kalfin (S&D, Bulgaria). Discussions at the EP and the Council ensued. The proposed Directive should be adopted before the summer 2013. However technical details are still in discussion in dialogue, which has resulted in the postponement of the adoption of the updated Directive.

NET NEUTRALITY

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP has been following the issue to identify possible implications for its general strategy in other fields.

FEP attends regularly parliamentary sessions and conferences organised on the issue of net neutrality.

BACKGROUND

The EU regulatory framework for communications was created in the 1990s to open up markets and culminated in 1998 with the liberalisation of national markets. The current sets of rules were adopted in 2002 and the European Commission launched a reviewing process in 2006 to modernise these rules, with the adoption of the final text in 2009. The Telecoms Package was an opportunity to improve the cooperation framework with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and telecommunication companies in the fight against piracy, which proved to be one of the most controversial issues.

Following up to its commitment – one of the prerequisites for the successful conclusion of the EU

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Whenever possible, FEP presented its views in favour of net neutrality, a regulated Internet market which warrants fair competition, protects intellectual property rights and encourages the development of new business models. Yet, at the same time, net neutrality should not be used as a shield for illegal practices. Any policy taken on this must be framed to firmly maintain freedom of speech, media pluralism and cultural diversity, which are the core values upheld by FEP members.

FEP answered the public consultation in October 2012 restating this position.

telecoms reform package – to closely scrutinise the open and neutral nature of the Internet and to report on the state of play to the European Parliament and the Council, the Commission decided in early 2010 to take forward the net neutrality debate. In June 2010, it launched a public consultation covering traffic management practices, such as whether Internet providers should be allowed to prioritise one kind of Internet traffic over another; whether the level of competition between different ISPs and the transparency requirements of the new telecom framework may be sufficient to avoid potential problems by allowing consumers' choice.

While the Council adopted net neutrality as a policy objective in July 2011, the Commission issued a Communication on "The Open Internet and Net Neutrality in Europe" on 19th April 2011. The Communication suggests that there is no need for legislation to protect net neutrality and that the market and competition would ensure the neutrality of the Internet. However, the Commission vowed to be vigilant that new EU telecoms rules are applied in a way that ensures that open and neutral Internet principles are respected in practice. At the Parliament, the issue is regularly debated and a resolution was adopted in Plenary on 17th November 2011 calling the EU to enshrine its concept in its law.

The Commission has also asked the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) to undertake a fact-finding exercise on issues crucial to ensuring an open and neutral Internet, including barriers to changing operators, blocking or throttling Internet traffic, transparency and quality of service. On 29th May 2012, BEREC issued a report with the final results of the questionnaire on traffic management practices. BEREC also investigated transparency and switching. The Commission subsequently launched a detailed public consultation on "specific aspects of transparency, traffic management and switching in an Open Internet" that closed in October 2012. The Commission is working on a guidance that will include measures related to those specific issues. In May 2012, Commissioner Neelie Kroes has indicated her intention to legislate on net neutrality.

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Consumer policy is central to the EU objective of continuously improving the quality of life of all EU citizens. The aim of promoting the interests, health and safety of consumers in the EU is enshrined in articles 153 and 95 of the Treaty establishing the European Community.

The Directorate-General monitors the application of EU laws on the safety of food and other products,

on consumers' rights and on the protection of people's health.

The Commissioner responsible is Tonio Borg.
The Director General is Paola Testori Coggi.



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TONIO BORG

"Il-enn li j omni f'sikti is an autobiography enriched with humorous and nostalgic episodes, written by Trevor Zahra, a prolific Maltese author. Reading such books helps me relax or rather unwind. Reading also leads me to learn new skills that can help me cope with challenges I encounter in everyday life. Whilst I strongly recommend reading it, I shall repeat what William Styron said: "A great book should leave you with many experiences, and slightly exhausted at the end. You live several lives while reading."

REVIEW OF
THE CONSUMER
ACQUIS

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP actively attended several Parliamentary debates and public hearings regarding the proposed Directive on Consumer rights.

FEP continued to monitor the status of the proposal made by the Commission and informed its members of its possible consequences for publishers.

BACKGROUND

Following a 2007 Green Paper on the review of the consumer Community acquis and a related consultation, on 8th October 2008 the European Commission adopted a proposal for a Directive on Consumer Rights. The EP voted for this in plenary on 24th March 2011. The deadline for transposition of which is December 2013. The new Directive will apply from June 2014 and aims at strengthening consumer protection and establishing a true internal market for retail, making it easier and less costly for traders to sell cross-border and providing consumers with a larger choice and competitive prices. The Consumer Rights Directive merges 4 existing EU consumer Directives (Directive 85/577/EEC on contracts negotiated away from business premises, Directive 93/13/EEC on unfair terms in consumer contracts, Directive 97/7/EC on distance contracts and Directive 1999/44/EC on consumer sales and guarantees) into one set of rules and adopts a full harmonisation approach (i.e. Member States cannot maintain or adopt provisions diverging from those laid down in the Directive). It should update and modernise existing consumer rights, bringing them in line with technological change and strengthening provisions in the key areas where consumers have experienced problems in recent years – particularly in sales negotiated away from business premises (e.g. door to door selling).

Although books are not mentioned explicitly with regard to any of the provisions of the Directive, for publishers, this Directive will play an important role in the digital environment. It provides that information on compatibility, in particular of hardware and software and the application of any technical protection measures (e.g. limiting the possibilities for consumers to make copies) must be clearly stated. Further, it specifies that consumers have a right to withdraw from any digital purchases up until the moment the download begins.

The Directive will also have effects on physical distribution. Some examples of changes are that consumers will be able to withdraw from the sales contract within 14 days starting from the moment when the goods are received (rather than at the point when the contract is concluded, as is presently the case) and that refunds – including delivery charges - must be paid within 14 days of withdrawal.

On 22nd May 2012, the Commission released a Communication on "A European Consumer Agenda – Boosting Confidence and Growth Directive". The Consumer Agenda was proposed both by Commissioners Dalli (DG Health and Consumers) and Reding (DG Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship) to propose a strategic vision for consumer policy placing the consumer at the very heart of the EU Single Market through the notion of 'consumer empowerment'. It proposes key actions to be implemented before 2014 around 4 pillars: reinforcing consumer safety, enhancing information and education, improving enforcement and securing redress and aligning policies to societal changes.

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The main role of this DG is to initiate and define new environmental legislation and to ensure that previously agreed measures are actually put into practice in the Member States.

The Commissioner responsible is Janez Potočnik.
The Director General is Karl Falkenberg.



JANEZ POTOČNIK

"I know what is my task, but I simply can't choose only one book. It would be unfair. Five, or six ... maybe.

Muriel Barbery: *The Elegance of the Hedgehog*; Iztok Geister: *Stol za enega*; Haruki Murakami: *Kafka on the Shore*; Arto Passilinna: *The Year of the Hare*; J.D.Salinger: *The Catcher in the Rye*; Natsume Soseki: *Kokoro* ... in alphabetical order. Fantastic stories, colourful, full of passion, humour, simplicity, (re)search ... hymns to life."

ECO LABEL

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

Since 2003, FEP has been following the debate on the eco-label for printed paper products, initiated by the European Commission.

FEP is part of the Print Media Group, which gathers the paper, printing and publishing industries to make sure that our views on environmental issues are properly represented.

FEP regularly attends the PMG meetings, amongst others those on 'Carbon footprint for the paper-value-chain'. The Group produced the brochure on Print Media and their contribution to the strategy EU 2020.

FEP continues to monitor developments in this field, participating in ad hoc meetings organised by the Print Media Group.

BACKGROUND

The aim in this area is to award a Community Eco-label to products and services with reduced environmental impacts. The scheme is voluntary. Criteria are established for individual product groups, such as paper products, shoes, textiles, detergents, paints and appliances such as refrigerators or dishwashers. The European eco-label is part of a broader strategy aimed at promoting sustainable consumption and production. Following the current discussion in the European Commission, the European Eco-label can also be adopted by book publishers. The Eco-label is part of a broader strategy aimed at promoting sustainable consumption and production.

In July 2008, the European Commission published a proposal for a regulation revising the European Eco-label scheme. The revised scheme will reduce the administrative process for developing criteria, allowing the number of product groups covered by the label to grow considerably, and will speed up the procedure for applicants to begin using the label. This legislative act provides the framework for the European Eco-label system, so there is no direct impact on publishing sector.

Proposal for new criteria on printed paper products was restarted again at the end of 2009, when a new criteria proposal on printed paper products was introduced in the context of the EU Eco-label criteria revision for copying and graphic paper. However, based on the input from stakeholders, it was decided to exclude printed paper products as a product group from the scope and proceed to a vote only on the inclusion of copying and graphic paper. It was considered that the printed paper products product group still needs to be further worked on: In this regard, in October 2010, the EC started the development of new draft criteria for printed matter together with a new set of criteria for newsprint paper. In March 2012,

FEP also attended two meetings organised by the Confederation of European Paper Industries on Sustainability, discussing them such as environment, social affairs, economics and resource efficiency.

the Commission confirmed its decision that because the chemicals used in printed paper products may hinder their recyclability, and may be hazardous for the environment and for human health, it is appropriate to establish EU Eco-label criteria for the product group 'printed paper'.

The Commission presented the 2011-2015 Work Plan to set a number of realistic and achievable objectives for the next five years. As the Regulation was revised in 2009/2010, the next evaluation will take place in 2014 in order to submit a report on the implementation of the scheme to the Parliament and the Council in 2015. That report should also identify elements for a possible revision.

OBLIGATIONS OF OPERATORS WHO PLACE TIMBER AND TIMBER PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET

BACKGROUND

In October 2008, the Commission proposed a regulation laying down the obligations of operators who place timber (wood) and timber products on the market with the aim to support the international fight against illegal logging and its related trade. The objective of this regulation is to minimise the risk of illegal timber being sold on the EU market. As a major consumer of timber and timber products, the EU has an obligation to take effective action against deforestation and illegal logging.

The regulation requests to operators who place timber and timber products on the market for the first time to exercise a full due diligence (to provide information - principles of the chain of custody - to comply with risk assessment procedures and to participate in risk migration procedures) and to operators who make timber and timber products available on the market to exercise a due care system (basic information).

European publishers have for many years been paying close attention to issues of sustainability and environmental responsibility, notably regarding the choice of paper that is used for the printing of their various publications. However, publishers should not be held responsible for due diligence along the supply chain, as they are not directly involved in the sourcing process and therefore don't have direct access to the necessary information.

In March 2013, the requirements of the EU Timber Regulation came into force.

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP joined forces with the newspaper and magazine industry representatives to advocate for the exclusion of the publishing sector from the scope of the regulation.

FEP is closely monitoring any further debate issued by the European Commission on illegal logging as the EC will have to prepare an Impact Assessment study on the issue. FEP attends the meetings of the Advisory Committee on Full stop Forestry and Forest-based industries.

FEP upheld the necessity of avoiding burdening publishers with a responsibility they are not in the capacity to sustain. This file is an excellent example of the importance of a trade organisation in raising awareness and mobilising support on behalf of its individual members.

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The Internal Market and Services Directorate General (DG MARKT) coordinates the European Commission's policy on the European Single Market, which aims to ensure the free movement of people, goods, services and capital within the Union. In this context, DG MARKT is directly responsible for proposing and controlling the implementing of a European legal framework in the following specific areas: regulated professions, services, company law and corporate governance, public procurement, intellectual and industrial property and postal services.

The Commissioner responsible is Michel Barnier.
The Director General is Jonathan Faull.

Within DG MARKT, the Copyright Unit deals with the important task of enforcing the "acquis" on copyright and

related rights, its further advancement, modernisation and adaptation to new developments in technology or the markets concerned. It plays a particularly important role evolving market scenario and as such the FEP has regular meetings and contacts with the Unit.

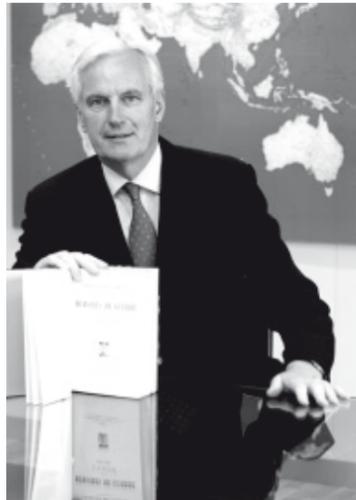
The European Commission also created a specific unit dedicated to the fight against counterfeiting and piracy, charged with looking at the correct implementation of the Enforcement Directive and its review as well as other broader aspects concerning the fight against counterfeiting and piracy. FEP maintains regular contacts with this Unit as well. Both units are gathered under a Directorate on Intellectual Property, reflecting Commissioner Barnier's holistic approach to intellectual property rights and their enforcement.

MICHEL BARNIER

" Beyond their historical value and the incomparable, often lyrical, style of their author, *Mémoires de guerre (War Memoirs)* is first and foremost a record of one man's relentless fight for his country, France, which he always believed had "an eminent and exceptional destiny". These memoirs also serve indirectly to measure the progress made by a Europe which in our parents' or grandparents' time was deeply divided, with its bomb-ravaged cities and families impoverished by war.

Our success in rebuilding this Europe in ruins is thanks to the remarkable intuition of individuals like Schuman, Monnet, Spaak and de Gasperi, and to a tenacious will to achieve reconciliation, personified in the formidable characters of De Gaulle and Adenauer.

Sixty years later, it is now time to combine the vision of de Gaulle and that of the founding fathers. Would this be such a utopian ambition? In this age of globalisation, the digital revolution and the ascendancy of BRICS States such as China, India and Brazil, I am convinced that de Gaulle would agree that the defence of national interest can no longer be national alone, and that France, like its partners, will fulfil its "destiny" only through a united European front."



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EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF COPYRIGHT

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP continued to monitor the correct implementation in all EU countries in order to provide publishers with the necessary instruments to enforce their legitimate rights. FEP continues its informal anti-piracy working group amongst its members to enhance information exchange on piracy.

FEP follows the review of the IPRED and keeps contact with the relevant officials in the European Commission.

BACKGROUND

The Directive on the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRED) requires all Member States to apply effective, dissuasive and proportionate remedies and penalties against those engaged in counterfeiting and piracy and so create a level playing field for rightholders in the EU. Implementation was due in all Member States by 29th April 2006 and even though the Directive did not entail important changes in national legislation the implementation process took a long time.

Still, some difficulties in the implementation remain in some Member States, in particular since some provisions are seen as conflicting with data protection laws, and also due to diverging interpretations. For this reason, the Commission in April 2010 announced it would issue an implementation report on the Enforcement Directive, to assess its transposition in Member States and analyse potential problems. The report was published in December 2010; the analysis showed that certain provisions of the Directive, including the relationship with other Directives, were understood in different ways in the different Member States and had given rise to different

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Whenever FEP took part in a conference or roundtable on enforcement issues organised by the institutions, it explained European publishers' position, upholding the principle that copyright must be respected and protected in the digital environment as well.

FEP answered the questionnaire on civil enforcement of IPR which posed very specific questions on civil litigations in Member States.

interpretations and applications in practice, and also addressed the extra, challenging dimension to enforcing intellectual property rights that the Internet and digital technologies present. These provisions could warrant further clarifications to make the Directive fully effective. The Commission therefore started a process which could set out possible legislative amendments to the IPRED, starting with the launch of a public consultation, in January 2011, to feed into the Commission's evaluation on whether a review of the IPRED is needed. A public hearing took place on 7th June 2011 and a report on the results of the public consultation was published in June 2011.

In April 2012, the Commission issued a Communication on the Single Market Act, a list of proposed measures to boost growth and strengthen confidence, which included effective enforcement of IPR as one of the recommended actions.

The Commission has started to review the IPRED. An extensive consultation was carried out on the application of the IPRED, culminating with a conference/hearing entitled "Enforcement of IPR: the Review of Directive 2004/48/EC" organised with stakeholders in April 2012, followed by a report. The Commission continued its review and issued a targeted survey on "Civil Enforcement of IPR", which closed in March 2013. The aim was to gather a detailed and holistic evaluation of the efficiency of national IP civil enforcement systems, including those implementing IPRED. The result of the survey will be made public in June 2013. After an Impact Assessment they will decide whether or not they will re-open the Directive.

LICENCES FOR EUROPE

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP accepted the invitation to participate in the works of the Licences for Europe Dialogue.

FEP attended the launch meeting of Licences for Europe on 4th February 2013 and committed to take part to three out of the four working groups: the first on cross-border access and portability, the second on user-generated content and small-scale licensing and the fourth on text and data mining.

In March, April and May 2013 FEP participated actively in the first 3 meetings of each working group, presenting the views and the solutions offered by publishers, with support from several of its members:
• Catherine Blache (SNE) and Nathalie Mosquet (EDITIS) represent FEP at working group 1, assisted by the FEP Deputy Director.
• Jessica Sängler (Börsenverein) and Karl-Peter Winters (Dr Otto Schmidt Verlag)

BACKGROUND

Following an orientation debate on the Modernisation of Copyright in the Commissioners College on 5th December 2012, on 18th December the Commission issued a Communication on "Content in the Digital Single Market", where it announced two parallel tracks of work. On the one hand, the launch of a structured stakeholder dialogue with the assigned objective of delivering, by the end of 2013, practical solutions to a number of identified issues on which rapid progress is deemed possible. On the other, the Commission continues its review of the EU copyright framework conducted by external experts.

The dialogue, called "Licences for Europe", was inaugurated on 4th February and is jointly led by Commissioners Michel Barnier (Internal Market and Services), Neelie Kroes (Digital Agenda) and Androulla Vassiliou (Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth). It seeks progress in 4 areas: cross-border access and the portability of services; user-generated content and licensing for small-scale users of protected material; facilitating the deposit and online accessibility of films in the EU; and promoting efficient text and data mining for scientific research purposes. Four Working Groups have been created accordingly.

For the first working group, the Commission aims at creating a Digital Single Market for cultural products in Europe, by removing barriers to cross-border sales of electronic books, music, movies, etc. According to the Communication of December 2012, the dialogue should identify the main categories of restrictions on cross-border access and portability by sector [...] and the main reasons behind these restrictions. On this basis it should take stock of current industry initiatives and deliver practical solutions to promote multi-territory access.

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represent FEP at working group 2, assisted by the FEP Legal Adviser.

- Richard Mollet (UK Publishers Association) represents FEP at working group 4, assisted by the FEP Director.
- STM and the other publishers' associations ENPA, EPC and EMMA - are also participating in these working groups.

E-COMMERCE DIRECTIVE AND NOTICE AND ACTION PROCEDURES

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

In March 2012, FEP answered an informal questionnaire sent by the E-commerce unit on notice and actions procedures.

FEP sent the E-commerce Unit information on the sector and explained that piracy is affecting the E-commerce of books. Moreover, FEP highlighted how provisions intended to foster the digital market should not be abused as a shield from IPR enforcement.

In September 2012 it answered the official questionnaire on notice and actions procedures providing facts and figures on notice and action procedures and evaluating whether it functions, upholding that improvement is needed in that field. Whenever possible, FEP showcases solutions developed at national level such as web crawlers sending automated notice-and-take-down to websites hosting illegal content, while explaining these are not a replacement for improved legislation.

The second working group seeks to find solutions to problems claimed by users for creating user-generated content such as mash-ups and new work from copyright protected works, and to identify and encourage easy licensing solutions for small scale users. For the latter, the Commission had in mind the example of SMEs that want to use protected material for their websites.

Finally, the fourth working group covers text and data mining. Big data is seen as a way to revitalise Europe's growth and books (and journals) are caught in the middle of a much wider discussion (which is not actually taking place at copyright level). The Communication of December 2012 reads: The Commission's objective is to promote the efficient use of text and data mining (TDM) for scientific research purposes. This work strand should identify the scale of demand for TDM access at EU level for text mining of scientific publications and underlying data for research purposes, and appropriate means of meeting this demand. It should explore the potential and possible limits of standard licensing models, as well as assess the appropriateness and feasibility of technology platforms to facilitate TDM access.

BACKGROUND

The E-commerce Directive, adopted in 2000, provides a framework for the cross-border provision of online services in Europe. In 2010, the Commission issued a Consultation on e-commerce, where most respondents did not ask for the revision of the Directive but rather for further clarification of the existing provisions.

The E-commerce Directive includes so-called exemptions from liability for online 'intermediary service providers' on condition that the provider does not have 'actual knowledge' of illegal content and is not 'aware' of facts or circumstances from which the illegal content is apparent, or that the provider, upon obtaining such knowledge or awareness acts 'expeditiously' to remove or disable access to the content (Article 14 E-commerce Directive).

Art 14 forms the basis for so-called 'notice-and-action' procedures. These procedures start whenever someone 'notifies' a hosting service provider about illegal content on the Internet. The procedures are concluded when an online intermediary acts against the alleged illegal content. Acting may take the form of removing or disabling access to the illegal content. In early 2012, the Commission issued a Communication on the Directive where it announced an initiative on Notice and Actions procedures. This was followed in summer 2012 by a consultation whereby they wished to assess the current notice and action procedures and implementation stated in Art 14. However, the Commission has restated to have no intention whatsoever to reopen the E-commerce Directive.

The Commission has announced it will adopt a horizontal initiative on notice-and-take down procedure in 2013. The nature of the instrument is still unknown, although DG MARKT would tend to be more willing to have a Directive with light-touch general rules and a communication giving a policy explanation and outlining best practices.

DIRECTIVE ON ORPHAN WORKS

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP has been very active in the run-up of the adoption of the Directive by providing policy makers within the three institutions with the views of publishers on the draft proposal on orphan works. FEP's position was to reach a balanced directive enabling the digitisation and making available of orphan works across Europe whilst respecting copyright principles and publishers' interests.

FEP continually stressed that to be able to determine the status of a work, it is essential that a due diligence search be conducted prior to the making available of each work on the Internet, as well as the possibility for rightholders to easily access the results of the diligent search. This is why FEP has initiated the ARROW project, which will facilitate the due diligent search for libraries.

FEP has opposed commercial use of orphan works under an exception; however this could have been agreed under a licence scheme, which was not withheld.

FEP has been drafting and coordinating common positions on the draft directive with trade organisations of the print sector as well as larger coalition of creative industries.

FEP has been working on an implementation plan within its membership to think about how the directive could best be implemented with the use of ARROW.

BACKGROUND

The Commission Communication on Copyright in the Knowledge Economy of October 2009 suggested a series of preparatory actions for follow up initiatives in the next Commission's strategy on IP. The Communication proposed tackling the issue of orphan works by providing for an EU wide solution in order to create legal certainty. It announced that the Commission would examine the problem in an Impact Assessment which would explore several options.

The issue was also dealt with by the High Level Group on Digital Libraries where its Copyright Sub-group issued a set of recommendations on rights clearing centres and databases for orphan works. In October 2009, the Commission held a hearing on orphan works; in November 2009, the European Parliament organised a workshop on orphan works and access for visually impaired people. In May 2010, Commissioner Barnier announced at the European Parliament that the Commission would publish a Directive on Orphan Works to increase legal certainty and support digitisation efforts of our cultural heritage. Mr Barnier called for a European definition of orphan works.

The Commission issued a draft proposal together with an Impact Assessment on 24th May 2011. On 4th October, the Council adopted the Orphan Works Directive, after a compromise was reached with the European Parliament. Following the dialogue agreement of the Commission, Council and Parliament last June, the Parliament approved the Directive by a very large majority in a single reading at its September plenary session on 13th September 2012. The Council's approval marks the final step in the legislative procedure.

The Orphan Works Directive is now published in the Official Journal of the European Union, thus becoming Directive 2012/28/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25th October 2012 on certain permitted uses of orphan works. Member States will have two years to transpose it into national law.

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OUT OF COMMERCE
DIALOGUE

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP supported the idea of having DG MARKT coordinate a dialogue on facilitating licensing for libraries of out-of-commerce works which rightholders no longer wish to digitise and make available commercially. This was followed by a series of meetings in which FEP actively participated.

FEP's position is that out-of-commerce works are in-copyright works, therefore any initiative should respect rightholders' discretion to digitise and make those works available online themselves; for works that they do not wish to digitise themselves and for which they do not object to making available online, voluntary agreements can be reached at a national level. In September 2011, the stakeholders dialogue led to the signature of a memorandum of understanding on key principles in the digitisation and making available of out-of-commerce works by the authors, RROs, libraries and book and learned journals publishers.

FEP met with Commissioner Barnier on the occasion of the signature of the memorandum of understanding on out-of-commerce works.

FEP also met on several occasions with members of the Commissioner's cabinet.

FEP has contributed to starting up the implementation task force informally named OMIT (out-of-commerce MoU taskforce) and have attended regular conference calls and face-to-face meetings together with other stakeholders in order to map projects at national levels and trigger some ideas. After a year of meetings, it was found out that funding was the main obstacle to projects, which appeared to be very scarce. Together with OMIT (the implementation task force), the FEP wrote to Commissioner Barnier to explain that funding was a barrier to having out-of-commerce projects across EU.

FEP wrote on behalf of OMIT to Commissioner Johannes Hahn in charge of region-

BACKGROUND

Part of the work done in the High Level Group on Digital Libraries focused on the issues of out-of-print works. In 2008, two model licences were drafted, and the Copyright Subgroup issued recommendations on rights clearing centres and databases.

The questionnaire of the Reflection Group on Digitisation of August 2010 also covered the issue of out-of-commerce works; the European Commission started showing an interest in the subject as a further step after tackling the issue of orphan works. Commissioner Barnier announced in June 2010 that he intended to start a round-table on the out-of-commerce issue. The initiative started in November 2010 and was facilitated by the Copyright Unit of DG MARKT. It gathers national and European stakeholders from both the library and rightholders communities. Seven roundtables took place and on 20th September 2011 a Memorandum of Understanding on "Key Principles in the Digitisation and Making Available of Out-of-Commerce Works" was signed by all parties, in the presence of Commissioner Barnier.

In March 2012, the implementation task force OMIT set up by the signatories was to encourage projects to take place along an action plan. Some large scale projects have been mapped already, namely in France and Germany, and some small scale projects in the UK. The Commission has written to all Member States to encourage them to support digitisation projects and to ask what their intentions are in terms of legislation.

al policy, in order to ask that structural funds which are distributed in some EU countries in order to support mass-scale digitisation also cover licensing fees.

FEP fostered relationships between the Europeana network and OMIT. FEP has posted resource pools on its website, in order to better publicise the MoU and the work of OMIT.

VIP STAKEHOLDERS'
DIALOGUE

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

Following the signature of a memorandum of understanding with the visually impaired community in 2010, FEP has been very active in the setting up of ETIN (European Trusted Intermediaries Network).

FEP participated in many face-to-face meetings and conference calls.

Together with IFRRO and trusted intermediaries participating in ETIN, FEP has been drafting a model licence, a model mandate and by-laws for an ETIN board.

ETIN complements the gaps in a single European digital market for visually impaired persons by enabling converted copies to be sent across borders thanks to licences within a network of trusted intermediaries.

FEP has nominated Geert van Den Bossche from the Vlaamse uitgevers vereniging (Flemish book publishers' association) to be part of the board.

FEP sent a letter on behalf of ETIN to Commissioner Kroes to ask financial support for the management of ETIN and contacted on several occasions its services, unfortunately so far without any success.

Without financial support, it is very difficult to manage ETIN to its best efficiency.

FEP wrote, and when possible met, with MEPs who showed an interest in a WIPO

BACKGROUND

The Green Paper on Copyright in the Knowledge Economy of July contained a chapter on persons with disabilities pointing out the importance of providing accessible content to the visually impaired persons (VIP) community and the remaining obstacles in Europe to achieving this objective. As a follow up to the Green Paper, the Communication on Copyright in the Knowledge Economy of October 2009 identified as a following step the organisation of a stakeholder forum to consider the range of issues facing persons with disabilities and possible policy responses. In November 2009, the European Parliament organised a workshop on orphan works and access for visually impaired people.

Starting in December 2010, the European Commission (Copyright Unit) organised a series of meetings of the dialogue between representatives of visually impaired and the rightholder communities. The MoU was signed on 14 September 2010 in the presence of Commissioner Barnier; the signatories include EBU, EDA (European Dyslexic Association), EWC, IFRRO, STM and FEP. It foresees that accessible copies created under national copyright exceptions can be transferred in the EU, after receiving a license at national level, through the network of TIs. Furthermore it recommends specific licenses allowing the cross-border transfer in the EU of licensed accessible copies, through the network of Trusted Intermediaries (TIs).

Work ensued to establish a network of TIs, ETIN – The European Trusted Intermediary Network, although the EBU withdrew from the project in early 2011. The first kick-off meeting took place in April 2011 and several TIs joined the efforts to set up the network, despite the withdrawal of EBU. In September 2011, a model licence/agreement was agreed upon by rightholders and trusted intermediaries and in April 2012 by-laws for an ETIN European Board were finalised. The board was officially set up in December 2012 and meets regularly to work on an implementation plan. Representatives of TIGAR, an international project of files exchanges between trusted intermediaries, set up at WIPO level, took part in order to coordinate both projects.

Meanwhile, in Geneva at the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), discussions took place and should lead to a diplomatic conference to take place in June 2013 in Marrakesh and hopefully also to a Treaty to benefit visually impaired communities with a new exception. Member States have mandated the Commission to negotiate a treaty, but the text is still under discussion. A report should be drafted at the Parliament (rapporteur MEP Lichtenberger, Green, Austria) but it will all depend on the legal nature of the Treaty, which will determine the Parliament's exact competence (exclusive or shared).

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treaty to facilitate access to published works by visually impaired persons and persons with print disabilities (WIPO treaty for visually impaired persons), stating that European publishers are in favour of a balanced treaty that provides visually impaired people what they need in the easiest and least bureaucratic manner. However, the treaty must be in line with international copyright commitments and respect the efforts of publishers to make accessible books for visually impaired persons available on equal terms insofar as timing and pricing are concerned. This is clearly taking off thanks to the epub3 standard developed in collaboration with DAISY community.

FEP has been closely collaborating with the International Publishers Association (IPA) in the context of the WIPO discussions on a treaty for visually impaired persons.

FEP regularly gave feedback from the European and international community to the Commission negotiating at WIPO.

COLLECTIVE MANAGEMENT

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP has been following this issue and reminding the European Commission and Parliament about the role of collective management in the book field, including the fact that book publishers can grant world-wide or at least Europe-wide licences as these are generally granted on a language basis.

Additionally, RROs normally manage only secondary uses and represent both publishers and authors. FEP has welcomed the intention to improve transparency and governance in the field, but also clarified that collective management in the book sector does not present particular problems.

FEP has taken part in different hearings and roundtables organised at the Parliament, for

BACKGROUND

Collective rights management has kept the attention of the European Commission for many years. In 2005, it put forward a recommendation on the management of online musical works, which was blamed afterwards for interfering negatively with the functioning of collective rights management organisations (CMOs) in the music sector. The idea behind this was to adapt to new online music services that operated cross-border or at pan-European level.

In 2010, the Commission organised a public hearing on the governance of collective rights management in the EU, in order to explore how relationships between stakeholders had evolved over time, mainly between rightholders, CMOs and users. In May of the same year, the Commission announced in its European Digital Agenda that it would propose a Directive on Collective Rights Management in order to establish general rules for the operation of collecting societies.

The Commission has confirmed this intention in several occasions, including in occasion of the publication of the Communication on the Single Market Act of April 2011 and its IPR Strategy. It was not until July 2012 however that the Commission finally released its proposal for a Directive on Collective Rights Management and Multi-territorial Licensing of Rights in Musical Works for Online Uses. The Directive aims at improving rightholders say in the management of their rights through general rules on governance, accountancy and transparency, while at the same time improving the licensing of authors' rights for the use of music on the Internet.

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example by rapporteur Marielle Gallo (EPP, France) in the Legal Affairs Committee or rapporteur Helga Trüpel (Green, Germany) in the Cultural Committee.

LEVIES

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP has conveyed to the Commission its position that individual management, whenever possible, is the preferred option for publishers. However, it is not always possible to manage rights individually (e.g. reprography) and in those countries where levies are in place, publishers are satisfied with the system. Moreover, the peculiarities of the publishing sector (Reproduction Rights Organisations (RROs) mainly manage secondary rights) must be taken into account before any conclusions are drawn.

FEP met the mediator Mr Vitorino on 8th May 2012 and followed up by providing information relevant to his mission.

FEP is paying close attention to the follow-up of Vitorino's report and to what steps the Commission will take.

BACKGROUND

Discussions are currently taking place at the Parliament and the Council. It is hoped that the Directive will be adopted in a single reading before the end of the current legislature in mid-2014. At the EP, the rapporteur in Legal Affairs Committee is Marielle Gallo (EPP, France).

In April 2008, the European Commission finalised a new consultation aimed at deepening the understanding of the functioning of private copying levy schemes set up at national level.

Subsequently, in May 2008, the Commission organised a public hearing on Private Copying Levies, in order to try and develop a common approach amongst all stakeholders. At the forum, which focused on levies in the digital environment, Member States' experiences and the future of policies, Colin McCreevy (then Commissioner for Internal Market and Services) called for the creation of a dialogue of stakeholders. The dialogue started a series of meetings in September 2008 and continued throughout 2009, but no agreement was reached and in early 2010 reproduction machine manufacturers' industry representatives Digital Europe abandoned the platform.

In May 2011, the Communication on a single market in intellectual property rights announced a new dialogue facilitated through a mediator. In November 2011, Commissioner Barnier announced the mission was given to Mr Vitorino, the former Portuguese Commissioner. The mediation process started in April 2012 when Mr Vitorino began to meet stakeholders individually. The scope of the dialogue is both private copying levies and reprography levies. The objective of the mission of Mr Vitorino is to explore possible approaches to harmonisation of both the methodology used to impose levies and the systems of administration of levies. He held a second round of interviews in June 2012.

In January 2013, Mr Vitorino's long awaited report was issued. It contains a set of recommendations for improving two areas: Firstly, business models and licensed services; and secondly the levies systems in the internal market area. Concerning levies, it proposes that collection be made in the country of destination and that a shift of responsibility be made towards retailers. The Commission will subsequently decide what action it will take on levies, but so far it has said that it does not intend to remove them altogether. To what extent it will take Mr Vitorino's recommendations into account is, however, also unknown. This topic will be discussed at the Council level towards the end of May 2013.

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DG Enterprise ensures that EU policies in general contribute to improving the competitiveness of businesses in the EU. It promotes entrepreneurship and innovation and supports the European growth and jobs strategy, focusing especially on the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises. Its aims include reducing administrative burden, stimulating innovation, encouraging sustainable production, ensuring the smooth functioning of the European Union's internal market for goods. It also makes sure the single market for goods benefits the EU industry and citizens.



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ANTONIO TAJANI

"Reading is what really allows me to disconnect after a long busy day at work or during my trips. When people ask me what my favourite book is I don't hesitate. *Los asesinos del emperador*, by Santiago Posteguillo was given to me as a birthday present by my chief of Cabinet and dear friend Diego Canga Fano, and I have fallen in love with it from the very first page. It is the story of Trajan, the first Emperor of Rome with a Spanish origin. I myself am Italian, from Rome, and I am very keen on the history of the Urbe, but I consider Spanish to be my second mother tongue, so this book is the perfect match. Furthermore, I come from a family of military tradition and have also been in the army. Trajan is a fascinating personality.

He was a highly respected general and a strategic genius and the whole book, even if it is fiction, describes all battles and strategies with a pedagogic approach, there are maps to follow the events, perfectly detailed descriptions, and a Latin glossary to understand the life and habits of the time; in short the writer is a real artist of historical reconstruction. It is also a great human history: not only was Trajan humble and attentive to the needs of the poorest, but as first provincial emperor he also opened the way for more equality among roman citizens. It is a book meant to entertain and educate. In one word: *apasionante*."

The Commissioner is Antonio Tajani, Vice-President of the European Commission.
The Director General is Daniel Calleja Crespo.

FEP met with several members of Vice-President Tajani's cabinet.

TOY SAFETY

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP continued collecting all the available information on the European legislation and standards, from the Institutions and directly from the standard setting bodies.

FEP maintained contacts at CEN with the people responsible for the management of the Technical Committee in charge of the toy safety standards. Thanks to the liaison status obtained with the CEN Technical Committee 52, in charge of toy safety issues, FEP has appointed an observer to attend the discussions of the committee, and in particular of Task Group 4 'Toy Books'; the expert, Jean-François Lyet of Hachette, participated in the meeting of April 2013.

FEP provided information and advice to its members in order to reach out to the national standardisation bodies, which are the main decision-makers in the CEN Committees.

FEP attended regularly the Expert Group meetings on Toy Safety organised by the European Commission. In August 2012, FEP met with the Toy Safety Unit of DG Enterprise for an update and to renew the collaboration with them.

After a change in the Toy Safety Unit's staff, in April 2013, FEP organised a new meeting with the unit, together with the French Publishers Association

and the manager of the Publishing Industry Product Safety (PIPS) initiative, an online database that captures information on the chemicals used in books, to provide an example of best practice on behalf of the publishing industry.

FEP agreed with the Toy Safety Unit to keep an open dialogue with regard to the guidance document on the interpretation of the Toy Safety Directive on toy books. In particular, FEP submitted some suggestions to amend the Commission's Guidance Document on the interpretation of the Toy Safety Directive with regard to children's books, for the national experts to discuss them.

BACKGROUND

When implementing the Directive 88/378/EEC on the safety of toys, some Member States considered children's books as toys. This led in several cases to considerable difficulties for the European children's book publishing industry, especially in complying with the extra requirements applied to paper and cardboard books.

In January 2008, the European Commission proposed a new Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety of toys, repealing the existing one. The revised Directive entered into force in July 2009 and aims to improve the quality of toy safety regulations and simplify legislation. The technical product specifications are left to the European standardisation bodies CEN and CENELEC to regulate. Among the main objectives of the updating process was the clarification of the scope and definitions of the Directive; neither the old nor the new Directive explicitly mention children's books, but toy books are presumably covered. The application of the Directive to economic operators (such as publishers) was subject to a transitional period of 2 years, which expired in July 2011.

Upon adoption of the Directive, the Commission officially charged CEN with the task of revising the standards on toy safety. The mandate contained a specific reference to books, in particular those made of paper and cardboard, which prompted CEN to create a Task Group on toy books within its Technical Committee on Toy Safety. The Task Group, which met in March 2010, April 2011, April 2012 and April 2013, has proposed an amendment aimed at exempting all types of paper and cardboard from certain extra mechanical tests; the amendment is under consideration by the CEN Technical Committee on Toy Safety, which agreed to put it to Formal Vote in September 2013.

Independently from the process of revision of the Directive, the Commission issued interpretative guidelines on the classification of books in the light of the Toy Safety Regulation, found unsatisfactory by publishers. The document, which evolves constantly, is being reviewed by the national experts.

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The Directorate General for Trade is in charge of implementing the common trade policy of the European Union. Among others, it works for more effective protection of intellectual property rights worldwide.

ANTI COUNTERFEITING TRADE AGREEMENT (ACTA)

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP has been reminding the European Commission that having legislation in place is just as important as following up on enforcement issues and this issue is especially relevant when it comes to external trade.

FEP has met with relevant officials and keeps monitoring any developments in this field.

FEP followed the ACTA debates in the European Parliament.

FEP joined a large coalition of rightholder representatives in a campaign in support of ACTA aimed at MEPs and Member States.



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KAREL DE GUCHT

"I'm reading here *A History of the World in 100 Objects* by Neil MacGregor, a master piece about 100 objects of ancient art, industry, technology and arms, all of which are in the British Museum's collections. It is a fascinating introduction to human history, based on a joint project of BBC Radio 4 and the British Museum. By travelling back in time and across the world globe, it helps you understand how two million years of human history shaped our world and how mankind has been shaped by it. During my busy days it is a real pleasure to put myself during some moments back in time, reading through the story of a cooking pot or a golden galleon, from an Egyptian mummy to a credit card. It's the story of my living room and I'm keen on knowing more on it. Most of all, it helps to understand the real sense of what's happening these days."

The Commissioner responsible is Karel De Gucht.
The Director General is Jean-Luc Demarty.

BACKGROUND

In 2007, the EU and a number of other WTO members began work on a new international agreement - the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA). This initiative is related both to the Lisbon Agenda (under which the Commission identified intellectual property as one of EU's key competitive assets) and to the Global Europe strategy (of which better enforcement of IPR is one of the key objectives).

The negotiating parties of ACTA were a mix of developed and emerging economies: Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland and the United States. It is hoped that major countries facing the same counterfeiting and piracy problems will eventually join.

The EU's objective with ACTA partners was to have a new plurilateral treaty improving global standards for the enforcement of IPR, to more effectively combat trade in counterfeit and pirated goods and help in the fight to protect consumers from the health and safety risks associated with many counterfeit products. This goal would be pursued through three primary components of ACTA: (i) international cooperation; (ii) enforcement practices; and (iii) legal framework.

Discussions about the Agreement started in 2007; formal negotiations were launched in June 2008. 11 rounds of negotiations took place, between June 2008 and October 2010. On November 15th 2010, participants in the negotiations announced that they had finalised the text of the Agreement. Following legal verification of the drafting, the proposed agreement was submitted in early 2011 to the participants' respective authorities to undertake relevant domestic processes and ACTA was open for ratification. However, the European Parliament needed to approve the Agreement as well.

In March 2010, the European Parliament adopted a rather negative resolution on the transparency and state of play of ACTA. In November, the EP adopted another resolution, this time expressing support for the Agreement. In April 2011, a political group of the EP asked the Parliament's President to refer the ACTA to the Court of Justice of the EU in order to make sure it was in line with the Community acquis. As the ratification opened and ACTA started its parliamentary process, the debate raised further controversies. In March 2012 the International Trade Committee of the EP, responsible for the file, decided not to refer ACTA to the CJEU but rather to follow the established procedure. A number of Committees presented negative opinions on ACTA and the INTA Committee adopted its report in June 2012, recommending to the EP to reject the Agreement. Several political groups openly called for its rejection, which eventually happened at the vote in plenary in July 2012.

Meanwhile, the Commission, under pressure from the EP and the public reaction, decided in February 2012 to refer ACTA to the CJEU. The decision, made formal in April, suspended the ratification process. In December 2012, the Commission withdrew its request to the CJEU.

ACTA has sparked a strong opposition on behalf of activists on the front of the freedom of the Internet and by a number of MEPs, concerned by the alleged secrecy of the negotiations and by the effects that certain provisions of the treaty could have on fundamental rights and freedoms, according to some analysts. The Commission has always refuted such accusations, confirming that ACTA will not affect the acquis. The debate has affected the discussions around all trade agreements negotiated by the Commission ever since.

EXTERNAL EU ACTIONS AGAINST PIRACY AND COUNTERFEITING

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP took part to a hearing organised by DG Trade on 10th May 2011 on their IPR strategy.

FEP is regularly attending all the DG Trade civil society dialogues organised around trade issues and IPR.

FEP attends preparatory meetings organised by the Commission to discuss IP issues with third countries such as Turkey, China, Ukraine, Thailand and Brazil.

FEP presented a submission on behalf of its British member on the draft Chinese copyright legislation. On May 2012, FEP participated in a seminar on the latest developments in China's IP system entitled "IP in China – Experience and Reform" organised by FTI consulting and Bird & Bird.

In May 2012, FEP participated in a stakeholders meeting organised by DG Trade to prepare their Working Group on Piracy in Russia, taking place in June 2012.

FEP intervened in support of its Canadian counterparts by addressing messages to a number of Canadian authorities as well as Commissioner Barnier of DG Internal Market and Commissioner De Gucht of DG Trade.

FEP met officials at the Irish presidency to raise issues relating to current and upcoming negotiations on FTAs.

FEP met officials at DG Trade and DG EAC in order to discuss the upcoming TTIP, the FTA between the US and the EU to discuss publishers priorities in the IPR chapter and the question of the exclusion of cultural services of the FTA.

BACKGROUND

A number of EU companies suffer from the extensive counterfeiting and piracy activities in third countries that affect their markets on a large scale. Activities in China, India and Russia have been among the most harmful from this point of view.

In order to improve the protection of IP in China, the Commission has been active on a number of fronts including the setting up of a structured EU-China Dialogue focused on IP that began in October 2003. To complement this Dialogue and allow the participation of the industry and other rightholders in the IP discussions between the EU and China, an EU-China IP Working Group was created in July 2004 and approved at the occasion of the 2005 Summit. The EU continues its IP dialogue with China and regularly consult stakeholders for feedback, most recently on the current review of Chinese copyright legislation.

The European Commission also holds periodic meetings with stakeholders on IPR issues in Russia twice a year. A special technical Working Group on Internet Piracy has been created and a meeting will take place in June 2012.

As a general matter, the Commission includes IPR provisions in its trade agreements with third countries; the ones of the Free Trade Agreement signed with South Korea in October 2010 are quite robust as regards the enforcement of IPR. The Commission is now negotiating a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada. The Canadian government adopted a bill aimed at modernising Canada's copyright system which includes provisions on exceptions that could potentially negatively affect EU publishers, in particular academic and educational. The EU has failed to use the CETA as a leverage to influence a domestic legislation. Negotiations with Canada are still on-going. There are also currently negotiations with India, which are blocked on the IPR chapter. This is regrettable as there is a lot of printed and online piracy affecting publishers in India. The Commission has also announced future negotiations with Japan which should not affect European publishers too much due to the language and the high level of protection of IPR in both.

Finally, following a Working Group established in 2011 between the EU and the US to discuss the prospect of a free-trade agreement, Presidents Barroso and Obama announced on 13th February 2013 that the EU and the US will enter into free trade agreement negotiations. They both decided that there will be a chapter on IPR, which might be subject to controversy, and voices are heard in the EU to exclude explicitly cultural services from the agreement. The Council is expected to give a mandate to the Commission by 14th June 2013.

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The objective of this DG (formerly DG Justice, Freedom and Security) is to seek practical solutions to cross-border problems, so that citizens feel at ease about living, travelling and working in another Member State and trust that their rights are protected no matter where in the European Union they happen to be. This involves, amongst other things, promoting and enforcing the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

DATA PROTECTION

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP has been following closely the discussions concerning the Data Protection package debated at the Parliament.

Several issues affect publishers who handle data in the course of their business and any provision should respect the right to privacy concerning citizens' reading and freedom of speech. Besides this, there has been a tension between the right to information enshrined in the Enforcement Directive and privacy concerns under the Data Protection and Data Retention Directives that deserves to be elaborated upon, although this is not a priority.

FEP attended several conferences on data protection and privacy issues.

The Commissioner responsible is Viviane Reding (Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship). Vice-President of the European Commission. The Director General is Françoise Le Bail.

BACKGROUND

The current EU Directive governing data protection and privacy was created in 1995 (Data Protection Directive 1995/46/EC), and since then the rapid evolution of technology and the expansion of the digital world have introduced many new ways in which data can be created, exchanged and manipulated. The issue of privacy and data protection in the digital world is regarded with increasing interest by decision-makers and stakeholders, and is followed also by the cultural industries due to its possible interaction with the protection of intellectual property rights. The intersection of legislative provisions on data protection and copyright enforcement has in fact created tensions in a number of cases in the past years.

The judgment of the European Court of Justice "Promusicae vs Telefonica" of 5th February 2008 stated that Member States, when implementing the various Directives on IPR, E-commerce and data protection, must strike a fair balance between the fundamental rights they protect – including the right to property in civil proceedings – as well as respecting the principle of proportionality.

With a view to modernising the data protection legislative framework, the Commission organised in May 2009 a wide stakeholders' conference on data protection and launched a public consultation about the future legal framework for the fundamental right to protection of personal data in the EU. On 4th November 2010, the Commission adopted a strategic Communication on a comprehensive strategy on data protection in the European Union, highlighting its main ideas and key objectives on how to revise the current rules on data protection, and opened a new public consultation.

The European Parliament in turn started in March 2011 an own initiative report on data protection in the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs; the rapporteur is MEP Axel Voss (EPP, Germany).

In January 2012, the Commission issued a proposal for a Comprehensive reform of the EU 1995 Data Protection rules consisting in a Policy Communication and two legislative proposals: A new general data protection Regulation, and a new Directive on protecting personal data processed for the purposes of the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of criminal offences or execution of criminal penalties and free movement of data. The Committee on Legal Affairs for the Civil Liberties, Home Affairs and Justice Committee (LIBE) issued an Opinion on the Regulation in March 2013. Both the proposals for a Regulation and for a Directive are now awaiting first reading in the Parliament and should go to vote in June 2013.

Working on a country of origin basis, the Regulation aims to provide a one-stop-shop for businesses to deal with regulators and cut red tape. For consumers, it includes the "right to be forgotten", provision for easier access to their own personal data and 'opt-in' rather than assumed consent for data to be processed. These key changes will affect publishers who do handle private data in the course of their activities.

A further data protection issue stems from the Commission's Proposal of 14th June 2012 for a Regulation on electronic identification and trust services. After several Parliamentary Committee opinions and discussions of the Council, this proposal is now awaiting first reading by the Parliament, scheduled for early September.

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BRUSSELS I REGULATION

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS
FEP has been defending the maintenance of exequatur procedure for media and has been active at the EP together with other organisations representing the media in the context of the draft report of MEP Zwiefka on Brussels I.

BACKGROUND

Lastly, 3rd April 2013, data protection authorities of six Member States launched a formal joint action against Google, in a move to force the company's compliance with EU privacy rules of which it is allegedly in breach.

On 21st April 2009 the European Commission published a Report and Green Paper on the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 44/2001 on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters ("the Brussels I Regulation"). It sought views from interested parties by 30th June 2009. In October 2009, and in January 2010, it is understood that there were hearings of experts at which the Commission's proposals in the Green Paper were discussed. The Commission identified reform of the Brussels Regulation as a strategic priority for 2010.

At the heart of this reform exercise was the Commission's desire to remove the remaining obstacles to the free circulation of judgements, that is, its proposals to abolish exequatur (the procedure by which a court authorises enforcement of a foreign judgment), which the publishers wish to be kept maintained in cases of defamation.

On 2nd December 2009, MEP Tadeusz Zwiefka (EPP, Poland), the rapporteur who sits on the European Parliament's Legal Affairs Committee, published a working document on the review of the Brussels Regulation (December Report). MEP Zwiefka issued a report that was voted on in September 2010 and brings balanced views on the topic of exequatur and calls for proper safeguards.

On 14th December 2010, the Commission adopted a draft Brussels I Regulation in which the exequatur procedure was maintained for judgements 'concerning non-contractual obligations arising out of violations of privacy and rights relating to personality, including (Article 37 (3) (a)).

On 20th November 2012, the European Parliament voted, in plenary session, to adopt the report of the JURI Committee on the Commission's Proposal to recast the Brussels I Regulation. A substantial majority expressed support for the Proposal, subject to the JURI Committee's amendments. The Council adopted on 6th December the recast of the Regulation on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters (Brussels I). It aims at simplifying Brussels I by abolishing exequatur. However, publishers can still have recourse to their own court to contest enforcement of judgements made in the courts of one Member State, where they are contrary to public order. Without this, the possibilities for so-called forum-shopping would be expanded and press freedom would have been under serious threat.

The Brussels I Regulation Recast has been published in the Official Journal, OJ 20 December 2012, L 351/1. The Brussels I Regulation Recast will apply from 10th January 2015.



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VIVIANE REDING

"Usually, I have several favourite books on the go at the same time. Books are part of my life. A big library is a must and books are piled up all around my home. This time, I chose *Une femme libre* by Françoise Giroud because I admire this strong, beautiful, appealing woman. She did it her way, in her private and professional life, decades before other women had the courage to follow her steps."

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DG RESEARCH & INNOVATION

The Directorate General's mission is to propose and develop EU policies in the field of taxation, as well as to ensure the proper implementation of taxation measures that the Council and the Parliament have adopted. Amongst these, it aims at developing a coherent, modern and simple Value Added Tax system.

REDUCED RATES OF VAT

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP met with several members of Commissioner Šemeta's cabinet. FEP has always pleaded for books to be taxed at the lowest rate for the intrinsic educational, cultural and social values they carry, and is now committed to advocating for equal fiscal treatment for all kinds of books, regardless of their format or the way they are delivered.

FEP has gathered information to support its arguments for equal treatment of all kinds of books and also intelligence on the position of the European Institutions on the subject, working especially within the Working Group on VAT established within its members.

FEP regularly collects information about the implementation of the new VAT Directive in the EU Member States.

FEP frequently presented the issue of VAT on electronic publications to European Commission officials, MEPs and Permanent Representations in Brussels.

On 29th June 2012, the FEP General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for equal and favourable treatment of cultural products offline and online.

On 20th July 2012, a FEP delegation met with the cabinet of Commissioner Šemeta to follow up on the meeting with the Commissioner of some months earlier.

FEP provided input in several occasions to the inter-service consultation initiated by the Commission regarding the possibility to apply reduced rates of VAT to e-books.

The Commissioner responsible is Algirdas Šemeta.
The Director General is Heinz Zourek.

FEP met with several members of Commissioner Šemeta's cabinet.

BACKGROUND

In July 2008, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 2006/112/EC as regards reduced rates of VAT. The proposal included a series of technical adaptations to the list of products and services for which reduced rates are allowed; one of these would extend the possible application to "audio books, CD, CD-ROMs or any similar physical support that predominantly reproduce the same information content as printed books".

The proposal was welcomed by the European Parliament, which on taxation matters only has a consultative role. The reception of the proposal in the Council was much more controversial, as unanimity was needed to reach an agreement and several Member States were opposed in principle to the use of reduced rates of VAT. The economic crisis also influenced the debates on the issue.

Finally, after a political agreement reached by the Council in March 2009, on 5th May 2009 Council Directive 2009/47/EC amending Directive 2006/112/EC as regards reduced rates of value added tax was adopted; it allows the application of reduced rates to books on all physical means of support. The Directive entered into force on 1st June 2009. In 25 of the 27 Member States of the European Union, books benefit from reduced rates of VAT; two countries even provide for a zero VAT rate for books: Ireland and the United Kingdom. Several more countries have extended reduced rates to books on all physical supports, or allow reduced VAT for audio books. As of May 2013, France, Hungary, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain and the Netherlands have taken advantage of the new provisions to extend the reduced rates to books on all physical supports (and so have Iceland and Norway), while Sweden allows reduced VAT on audio books.

However, differences remain in the fiscal treatment of books with regard to their format (printed or electronic) and means of delivery (online or offline). In December 2010, the Commission issued a Green Paper on the Future of VAT, with the aim to launch a debate on how to reform the European VAT system. The Commission envisages a review of VAT to strengthen its coherence with the single market and its capacity as a revenue raiser by improving its economic efficiency and robustness whilst reducing the cost of compliance and of collection. The Green Paper – which includes a public consultation – points out, among others, the current inconsistencies in the VAT rates applied to comparable products or services; it highlights how, for instance, Member States may apply a reduced VAT rate to certain cultural products but have to apply the standard rate to competing on-line services such as e-books and newspapers.

In September 2011, the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee of the European Parliament adopted a report on "The Future of VAT", following the Green Paper. In October, the EP adopted the report in plenary; it states that "all books, newspapers and magazines regardless of format should be treated in exactly the same way, which means that downloadable and streamed books, newspapers and magazines should be subject to the same VAT treatment as books, newspapers and magazines on physical means of support". On 17th November 2011, the EP adopted a motion for a resolution on the modernisation of VAT legislation in order to boost the digital single market, which calls for eliminating the discrimination between VAT rates applicable to online and offline cultural products, with particular attention to books, and recommends

In January 2013, FEP replied to the Commission consultation on reduced rates of VAT, tackling the main arguments against reduced VAT and proposing a dynamic definition of e-books.

FEP continued campaigning together with representatives of newspaper and magazine publishers through meetings with a number of members of cabinets of relevant Commissioners and with representatives of the EU Presidencies in order to raise support for the cause and convince the Commission to consider the issue of equal treatment of cultural products online and offline.

the adoption of reduced rates of VAT for digital cultural products in general. Members of the EP continue to express their interest in the issue via Parliamentary Questions to the EC.

Following the results of the consultation, in December 2011 the Commission issued a Communication on the future of VAT entitled "Towards a Simpler, More Robust and Efficient VAT System Tailored to the Single Market." While generally unfavourable to the use of reduced rates, the document recognises the need to address the issue of equal treatment for products which are available in both traditional and online formats and does not rule out the application of reduced rates in selected cases. An inter-service consultation started, involving a few DGs in the Commission regarding the assessment of the VAT structure. The Commission is also conducting a study to estimate the impact of changes in VAT rates.

On 15th May 2012, the Council adopted a set of Conclusions on the future of VAT, in which it basically endorses the Commission's position; the conclusions do not mention the issue of discrimination of online and offline products but it accepts to take into consideration the assessment that the Commission plans to do of the current rate structure.

A new Consultation from the Commission was issued from October 2012 to January 2013, focused on reduced rates of VAT; large attention was devoted to the issue of different treatment of online and offline cultural products, with a specific question on the definition of e-books for VAT purposes and one on the opportunity of having a precise definition of online cultural goods in EU legislation. A legislative proposal is expected from the Commission, most likely in late 2013.

As of January 2012, France and Luxembourg started applying reduced VAT rates to all kinds of books, regardless of the support. As a consequence, in July 2012, the Commission started an infringement procedure against France and Luxembourg. In October 2012 the Commission entered the second stage of the procedure, asking the two Member States to change their position or find an acceptable justification. On 21st February 2013, the Commission referred France and Luxembourg to the Court of Justice of the European Union.



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ALGIRDAS ŠEMETA

"Notwithstanding my busy work schedule, I always try to find time to read a good book. Gabriel García Márquez is by far my favorite author. I find all of his books impossible to put down. He is a true literary giant, an amazing storyteller and his works are a source of inspiration to millions of readers across our planet."

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DG RESEARCH & INNOVATION

This Directorate-General for Research and Innovation's mission is to develop and implement the European research and innovation policy with a view to achieving the goals of Europe 2020 and the Innovation Union.

The Commissioner responsible is Máire Geoghegan-Quinn.
The Director General is Robert-Jan Smits.

FEP'S INTERVENTIONS

FEP met with members of Commissioner Geoghegan-Quinn's cabinet and attended the Innovation Summit with the Commissioner in October 2012.

FEP coordinates with the International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM) so that the views of our respective industries are well represented in Brussels.

FEP regularly attends meetings and conferences organised by DG Research, the European Parliament and other institutions and stakeholders on the issue of access to scientific publications and information.

FEP follows the debates and initiatives related to the development of the EU research and innovation funding programmes. FEP attended a Question and Answers session in October 2012 in the context of Horizon 2020 and a workshop in April 2013.

FEP attended the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) Foundation Innovation Forum in March 2013, which was attended by Commissioners Vassiliou and Kroes.

BACKGROUND

The issue of access to scientific output is high on the agenda of the institutions. A Communication recommending access policies is in the pipelines. FEP is insisting that the sustainability of the sector is taken into account.

It is essential to distinguish between the principles of intellectual property and the access policies to scientific information published in Scientific, Technical and Medical (STM) journals. FEP works closely with STM publishers to make sure that any policy in the field of access to scientific publications is a balanced one and recognises the added value of the publishing process. FEP has been making interventions in the framework of the future programme Horizon 2020 to support the position of STM.

FEP recurrently recalls, in talks with its counterparts, that in the case of scholarly journal publishing, publishers are offering 90% of their products in digital form having successfully covered the objective of providing access to the content. Higher education establishments can make use of the licences offered to provide those services for distance learning purposes. In this case, there is no need for the exception to be extended because the market has successfully provided the desired result of facilitating access to knowledge.

FEP has a particular stake in the debates around Horizon 2020, the financial instrument that will combine all research and innovation funding currently provided through the Framework Programmes for Research and Technical Development, the innovation related activities of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). Running from 2014 to 2020 with an €80 billion budget planned by the Commission, the EU's new programme for research and innovation is currently under discussion within the European Parliament and the Council.

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PIOTR MARCISZUK

"This is a picture of myself reading the book by Bruno Schulz *The Book of drawings*. Bruno Schulz is one of the most distinguished Polish-Jewish writers, murdered by the Gestapo in 1942. His work consists of many short-stories (embraced in one not very thin book) and of uncanny drawings, which depict the diversity of human nature: myth is intermingled with fantasy, rationality with perversion. Love is glory, desire and humiliation at the same time... The reader is still anxious while reading his works and looking at his drawings - uncertain of his own status and feelings..."



PIERRE DUTILLEUL

"It is quite tough to pick a single book amongst all those that were important in my life. It would indeed be even hard to give a full list. By definition, the publisher is on a quest for new talents and his curiosity must always be alert. Amongst my recent crushes are the new *Century* trilogy by Ken Follett. *Winter of the World* is the second volume, the third one will be out in 2014. Thus huge saga tells the story of the 20th century- grippingly, it goes through the most unsettled, violent and complex

period of modern times, from WW1 to the fall of the Berlin wall. The writer chooses to tell how European and Americans lived these events, in a very human way, through the destiny of five families- American, Russian, German, English and Welsh. In 2008, Ken Follett received the title of the world's most popular writer and he's considered by many as the Alexander Dumas of our time, a compliment which says a lot!"



RUDY VANSCHOONBEEK

"I chose *Night train to Lisbon* by Pascal Mercier, since this novel is one of my all-time favourites: an overwhelming voyage into the mind of the protagonist, and time throughout Europe"



JOSÉ MANUEL BARROSO

"Fernando Pessoa, frequently considered one of the greatest if not the greatest Portuguese poet of the 20th Century, has among his heteronyms Bernardo Soares," assistant bookkeeper in the city of Lisbon," who wrote this extraordinary *Book of Disquiet* which is the source of so many reflections that I like to return to. I open the book randomly and I read: "Knowing not to have illusions is absolutely necessary to be able to have dreams." I identify with this sentence and I often say that throughout our human journey, as we lose our illusions, it is essential not to lose our enthusiasm for life."



MARTIN SCHULZ

"Eric Hobsbawm's books, and among them *The Age of Extremes*, have deeply inspired my political thought, my understanding of history and my commitment to the European project. His dissection of the horrors of the short twentieth century and the interconnectedness of European and global affairs are a constant warning and at the same time a dispassionate critique of the status quo, of its inequalities and social injustices. Thanks to his thorough, lucid and gripping analysis he remains an intellectual reference of our times."



HERMAN VAN ROMPUY

"I've chosen this book not because Luuk van Middelaar is my speechwriter, but because after I read his book, he became my speechwriter! I was pleased by this history of the European idea, and what I especially like in his book is the mix of history and philosophy. This combination is very appealing to me because, deep in my heart, I have also a combination of both. I've read all my life, starting when I was a kid. Books establish some kind of distance between yourself and the subject of the book. It makes you think, you are invited to reflect on it. At the same time, each book is a meeting. A meeting with people of the past, of the present, of the future. Beyond the book, there are people; that is what attracts me."

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31 rue Montoyer - Box 8
1000 Brussels • +32 2 770 11 10
info@fep-fee.eu • www.fep-fee.eu