



FEP press release following the final plenary session of Licences for Europe

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A majority of stakeholders welcomed the pledges of the cultural and creative sectors. The Federation of European Publishers, which represents 28 national associations of books' publishers, actively participated in 3 working groups of the European initiative Licences for Europe. Out of the ten pledges recognised by the EC as 'results' of the Licences for Europe's initiative, three come from the book sector.

In working group 1, cross-border access to 'print' content, Authors, publishers and booksellers are committed to promoting cross-border availability, interoperability and discoverability of e-books for the benefit of European consumers. Vice President Kroes said *For eBooks, I hope that your joint roadmap enhances access and interoperability across borders. As the European Council notes, often systems don't work with each other, and content isn't portable. That leads to bottlenecks and barriers in accessing your digital life from different platforms.* FEP will follow-up with the EC how to support this roadmap.

Furthermore, as it was presented during the plenary session, European publishers and authors and booksellers too, stand ready to continue engaging in a dialogue with libraries in order to allow them to provide remote access to e-books while respecting the eco-system essential to the balance of the system.

In working group 2, users' generated content and small scales users, FEP is supporting the development of a "tool kit for licensing, including micro-licensing in text and image works. More generally, Commissioner Vassiliou said *'Licences for Europe' has been about giving users more choice and better access to culture content in full conformity with the law. On the other hand, with technology offering more and more different ways to experience content, users also need more clarity and transparency about both their rights and obligations, and on what they can do with the content they paid for'.*

In working group 4, text and data mining (TDM), FEP supports the positive developments such as standard licensing models as well as technology platforms to facilitate TDM access, with the objective to promote the efficient use of text and data mining for scientific research. Commissioner Barnier said *The « mining-hub » proposed by publishers, gives a pragmatic answers to the researchers who wish to be able to mine automatically scientific publications which access is not currently open. The opportunity is important; to allow concrete developments -in these activities of TDM- to promote European research (free translation the original text was in French).*

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Contact: Anne Bergman-Tahon, Director FEP, Tel: 322-77011-10 Email: abergman@fee-fep.eu