

Question for written answer E-015530/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Constance Le Grip (PPE)

Subject: Exception for research and education in the revision of the Infosoc Directive 2001/29/EC

Article 5(3) of the Infosoc Directive 2001/29/EC¹ allows Member States to make exceptions with regard to copyright, and in particular for reproduction for the purposes of illustration for teaching or scientific research.

1. In its draft revision of this directive, is the Commission planning to convert what is an optional exception on copyright into an obligation for Member States, in the knowledge that to do so would jeopardise existing licensing models that ensure respect for copyright and the remuneration of rights holders?
2. Is the Commission aware that imposing this exception in the digital age would make certain musical extracts freely available, or potentially an entire work (given the often short duration of a piece of music), or even certain exercises from school textbooks, and enable people to share these online an infinite number of times?
3. In the light of this, does the Commission feel that the exception granted to reproduction for the purposes of illustration for teaching or scientific research should be clarified and restricted, and if so, in what way?

¹ Directive 2001/29/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the information society (OJ L 167, 22.06.2001 p.10)