

FSE

FEDERATION OF
SCREENWRITERS
IN EUROPE

The voice
of Europe's
screenwriters



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FSE NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2017

AUTHORS CAMPAIGNING IN BRUSSELS

Fair Remuneration for Screenwriters and Directors

FSE, together with FERA, endorsed SAA's flyer *What's missing in the Directive proposal for the remuneration of audiovisual authors online?*

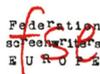
REMUNERATION OF AUDIOVISUAL AUTHORS ONLINE WHAT'S MISSING?

FAIR AND PROPORTIONATE REMUNERATION i.e. linked to exploitation revenues

In the audiovisual sector, thousands of screenwriters and directors need EU legislation to establish such remuneration for online exploitation of their works in the Digital Single Market.

They need:

- 1 A REMUNERATION RIGHT
- 2 UNWAIVABLE & INALIENABLE
- 3 PAID BY THE END DISTRIBUTOR
- 4 COLLECTIVELY NEGOTIATED & ENFORCED



This flyer was published on the occasion of a breakfast briefing organised by SAA at the European Parliament on 2nd March 2017, hosted by Jean-Marie Cavada MEP, Vice-Chair of the Legal Affairs' committee. David Kavanagh (FSE Executive officer) and Marie Roussin (French TV screenwriter, FSE board member) spoke at the event. The programme of discussions included audiovisual authors' testimonies on their different situation depending on their country and why they need EU intervention ; the presentation of the joint SAA, FERA and FSE proposal of an unwaivable remuneration right for the online exploitation of audiovisual works and an interactive discussion on the different elements of the proposal and why it has to be introduced in the Copyright Directive, with the active participation of MEPs, assistants, advisors, authors and CMOs present.

[Click here for more info.](#)

www.saa-authors.eu/en/pages/341-fair-remuneration-for-screenwriters-directors

SAA is busy lobbying the CULT committee of the European Parliament (Culture and Education) and will also propose amendments to the other committees ITRE (Industry, Research and Energy), IMCO (Internal Market and Consumer Protection) and JURI (Legal Affairs).

EPP group hearing on copyright

On 11th January 2017, the Group of the European People's Party (EPP) held a hearing on copyright in the European Parliament. ECSA Secretary General Patrick Ager was invited to present the Authors' Group (ECSA, FERA, EFJ, FSE, EWC) views with respect to the value gap proposals of the copyright directive. Patrick Ager's main argument focused on the necessity to strengthen the directive's provisions with respect to fair contractual remuneration of authors and to support the elements of the directive related to the liability of online platforms.

[Click here for more info.](#)

<http://www.eppgroup.eu/event/Hearing-on-Copyright>

FSE meeting DG Education and Culture

FSE has been convened by DG Education and Culture at EU Commission to an information meeting in Brussels on 4th April 2017 on collective agreements and remuneration of creators. "The purpose is to have an exchange of information on collective agreements in the creative sectors and the challenges creators may face in relation to collective bargaining as a tool to improve their remuneration conditions. This should help us gain a better insight into concrete situations faced by creators and possibilities that can be explored in terms of collective action, also against the background of the findings of recent European Commission's studies on the fair remuneration of authors and performers".

FSE meeting DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology

On behalf of DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology, the consortium consisting of the policy research organisations KEA European Affairs (Belgium), Attentional (UK) and VVA (Italy) are conducting a study on the Promotion of European Works in Audio-visual Media Services. This assignment deals with the measures for the promotion and production of European works and independent productions in linear service providers and the production of and access to European works in non-linear service providers. The aim of the study is to provide the Commission with the tools and information for the monitoring and evaluating of the impacts of art. 13, 16 & 17 of the AVMS Directive. FSE has been invited for an interview by VVA, looking for feedback from stakeholders in order to collect relevant information on the latest market trends and the critical reflections.

FSE RECENT STATEMENTS

FSE co-signed a **letter of support to Croatian filmmakers in their mobilization against political interference**. This letter written by organisations representing film and TV directors, screenwriters and other creators, producers, distributors and publishers of film and TV content and cinema operators, was sent to Croatia President, Prime Minister and Speaker of Parliament.

[Click here:](http://www.scenaristes.org/pdfs/LetterPM090317.pdf) www.scenaristes.org/pdfs/LetterPM090317.pdf

FSE co-signed a **message from the Audiovisual Sector Coalition to the members of the Council IP Working Party** on the proposed Regulation extending the application of the Country of Origin principle.

[Click here:](http://www.scenaristes.org/pdfs/AV%20coalition%20feb%202017.pdf) www.scenaristes.org/pdfs/AV%20coalition%20feb%202017.pdf

FSE co-signed a **letter addressed by SGAE to President of Spanish Government Mr. Rajoy** regarding Private copying regulation.

[Read full letter here:](http://scenaristes.org/pdfs/SGAE%20letter.pdf) <http://scenaristes.org/pdfs/SGAE%20letter.pdf>

FSE supported the **Writers Guilds of America's position on US «Muslim Ban»**, a statement from Robert Taylor, FSE President.

[Read full statement here:](http://scenaristes.org/pdfs/FSE%20statement%20WGA%20Muslim%20Ban.pdf)

<http://scenaristes.org/pdfs/FSE%20statement%20WGA%20Muslim%20Ban.pdf>

THE EUROPEAN AGENDA

The next **European Film Forum (EFF)** will take place alongside the Vilnius Film Festival Kino pavasaris. It will focus on promotion and prominence of the audiovisual works and it will be organised during the 8th edition of **Meeting Point Vilnius** - an international film industry event accompanying the Vilnius Film Festival.

[Read more here.](https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/european-film-forum-goes-vilnius-film-festival-2017)

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/european-film-forum-goes-vilnius-film-festival-2017>

The European Commission is launching a **public consultation in relation with the evaluation of the Creative Europe programme**. It aims to establish the added value of the Programme in relation to the challenges and opportunities of cultural and audiovisual sectors, compared to what could be achieved by Member States only.

[Click here for more info :](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/consultations/creative-europe-2017-consultation_en)

https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/consultations/creative-europe-2017-consultation_en

Digital Single Market / Portability Regulation

EU negotiators agree on new rules allowing Europeans to travel and enjoy online content services across borders.

[Read press release.](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-225_en.htm)

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-225_en.htm

See also the reaction of SAA : "Portability Regulation – Audiovisual authors regret holes in final agreement".

www.saa-authors.eu/en/news/339-portability-regulation---audiovisual-authors-regret-holes-in-final-agreement

The ALDE Group (Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe) of the European Parliament (MEP Jean-Marie Cavada) organised a **seminar on Copyright reform - Sharing of the value in the digital environment** on 29th March 2017 in Brussels.

[Click here for more info.](http://linkis.com/alde.eu/en/events/q7RAB)

<http://linkis.com/alde.eu/en/events/q7RAB>

[Watch the discussions.](https://alde.livecasts.eu/copyright-reform-sharing-of-the-value-in-the-digital-environment)

<https://alde.livecasts.eu/copyright-reform-sharing-of-the-value-in-the-digital-environment>

EUROPEAN AUDIOVISUAL OBSERVATORY

LEGAL NEWS, PRESS RELEASES AND PUBLICATIONS

IRIS newsletters (Legal Observations of the European Audiovisual Observatory)

Read Issue 2017-3 here.

<http://merlin.obs.coe.int/newsletter.php?year=2017&issue=3>

2016 sees EU cinema attendance hitting biggest high since 2004

Read Press Release here.

www.obs.coe.int/en/-/pr-berlinale-2017?redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.obs.coe.int%2Fen%2Fhome%3Fp_id%3D101_INSTANCE_Wm5VszjBBjEf%26p_lifecycle%3D0%26p_p_state%3Dnormal%26p_p_mode%3Dview%26p_p_col_id%3Dcolumn-10%26p_p_col_count%3D2#p_101_INSTANCE_Wm5VszjBBjEf

A new report to buy on Media Ownership, Market Realities and regulatory responses

Read Press Release here.

www.obs.coe.int/en/-/pr-iris-special-media-ownership?redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.obs.coe.int%2Fen%2Fhome%3Fp_id%3D101_INSTANCE_Wm5VszjBBjEf%26p_lifecycle%3D0%26p_p_state%3Dnormal%26p_p_mode%3Dview%26p_p_col_id%3Dcolumn-10%26p_p_col_count%3D2

Boosting European films on VoD. What's EU law got to do with it?

New IRIS Plus report free to download here.

http://www.obs.coe.int/-/pr-iris-plus-vod-2017?redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.obs.coe.int%2Fhome%3Fp_id%3D101_INSTANCE_Wm5VszjBBjEf%26p_lifecycle%3D0%26p_p_state%3Dnormal%26p_p_mode%3Dview%26p_p_col_id%3Dcolumn-10%26p_p_col_count%3D2#p_101_INSTANCE_Wm5VszjBBjEf

Media Literacy in Europe, Mapping of media literacy practices and actions in EU-28

Report free to download here.

<http://www.obs.coe.int/documents/205595/8587740/Media+literacy+mapping+report+-+EN+-+FINAL.pdf/c1b5cc13-b81e-4814-b7e3-cc64dd4de36c>

NEWS FROM FSE MEMBER GUILDS IN EUROPE

A SELECTION

Italy

FSE supports the **Nordic-Italian Pitch Day** on 5th May in Rome, a project conducted by WGI (Writers Guilds Italia). The event is organised with the collaboration of ANICA and Nordic Film Fest (NFF). The main aim of the event is to encourage cinema and television projects eligible for co-production between Italy and Nordic countries.

Click here for more info. www.writersguilditalia.it/nordic-italian-pitch/

France

The French Ministry of Culture has chosen the city of Lille to organise the **new International Festival of Series**. First edition in 2018.

Click here for more info.

www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2017/03/23/lille-accueille-la-le-futur-festival-international-des-series_5099864_3234.html

Germany

VDD proposes the services of **an expert in mediation** in case an author is involved in a dispute related to her/his creation or remuneration. Useful to avoid, maybe, a long and expensive law suit...

Click here for more info. <http://drehbuchautoren.de/leistungen/mediation>

A very inspiring initiative in Germany, to **raise awareness among students on the role of professional guilds** and unions and the importance of solidarity among authors. VDD CEO Jan Herchenröder presented VDD at the German Film and Television Academy (dffb).

A report on the **VDD Award ceremony** :

<http://drehbuchautoren.de/news/2017-02-14/ein-fest-fuer-das-drehbuch-und-fuer-die-autorinnen-und-autoren>

Iceland

FLH : held its annual general meeting on 13th February and elected a new board.

The Netherlands

The results of the Screenwriting Award :

<http://www.auteursbond.nl/nieuws/2017/02/26/zilveren-krulstaarten-uitgereikt/>

A recent study on the **income of screenwriters** carried out on behalf of the Lira Fund shows that the median income of Dutch writers is lower (15.000 euros) than the figure published by FSE (22.000 euros) in its own study. 60% of Dutch screenwriters have another source of income.

Click here for more info. www.netwerkscenario.nl/newsItems/91005-2/

PLOT magazine has published a **long article on copyright**, "*It's hard to fight for copyright in the digital market*".

Read more here.

www.plotmagazine.nl/cms/page/6?edit_mode=1&data_object_id=705&data_object_type=cms_short_note_content&redirect_url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.plotmagazine.nl%2Fnews%2Fmail%2Fview%2F896

Norway

A new agreement between broadcaster NRK and the Writers' Guild of Norway to find a better balance between new consumers habits in consuming contents online and fair remuneration for authors.

Click here for more info. <http://dramatiker.no/ny-midlertidig-avtale-med-nrk/>

Spain

FAGA and DAMA, together with SGAE, organised a seminar to inform authors on «Legal aspects in the contracts of the authors of audiovisual» in Santiago de Compostela.

ALMA also shared a series of articles on the working conditions of screenwriters, related to a campaign in Spain related to the creation of an Artist' status.

Read 1 <http://autonomosymprendedor.espanol.com/noticia/847/actualidad-/soy-guionista...y-mientras-espero-cobrar-soy-autonomo.html>

Read 2 http://cadenaser.com/programa/2017/02/23/la_script/1487850833_775706.html

Read 3 www.lavanguardia.com/vida/20170301/4243172726/guionistas-reclaman-en-el-congreso-ajustar-las-leyes-a-la-realidad-de-su-trabajo-que-va-por-delante-del-legislador.html

WGGB is continuing its campaign **Why I'm a member**. Interviews of writers explaining why it is so important for them to be members of a union like WGGB.

"It's incredibly important for experienced and emerging writers to support an organisation like the Writers' Guild, which does an amazing job in fighting for and protecting writers' rights. In supporting the Guild we are in turn supporting each other as writers." Olu Alakija

[Click here to read more.](https://writersguild.org.uk/why-im-a-member/)
https://writersguild.org.uk/why-im-a-member/

WGGB is also relaunching its campaign **Not for free** :

[Click here to read more.](https://writersguild.org.uk/wggb_campaigns/free-is-not-an-option/)
https://writersguild.org.uk/wggb_campaigns/free-is-not-an-option/

New staff, new elected representatives in FSE guilds...

In France, Denis Goulette was appointed new Executive Director of la Guilde Française des Scénaristes. La Guilde also elected a new executive committee. Pauline ROCAFULL is the new President.

[More info here.](http://www.guidedesscénaristes.org/uploads/presse/communiqués/CPGuildeElections%20240117.pdf) http://www.guidedesscénaristes.org/uploads/presse/communiqués/CPGuildeElections%20240117.pdf

In Spain, ALMA elected a new president, Alberto Macías.

[More info here.](http://www.sindicatoalma.es/articles/2017/03/28/alberto-mac%C3%ADas-nuevo-presidente-del-sindicato-de-guionistas-alma?platform=hootsuite) http://www.sindicatoalma.es/articles/2017/03/28/alberto-mac%C3%ADas-nuevo-presidente-del-sindicato-de-guionistas-alma?platform=hootsuite

FAGA has a new CEO. Rodolf Giner Casado is a screenwriter and since 2010 he has held diverse positions in the boards of Escriptors de l'Audiovisual Valencià (EDAV), Guionistes Associats de Catalunya (GAC) and FAGA itself.

In Denmark Susanne Godske has retired from her position as Director of the Guild. Christina Bergholdt Knudsen is the new Director.

Note to guilds

Do not forget to inform FSE on changes in your guild's boards and staff, so we can continue to communicate efficiently.

While in the US...

DGA, SAG-AFTRA, WGA West and East, and IATSE Statement on the Administration's Proposed Cuts to the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities and Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

[Read full version here.](http://www.wga.org/news-events/news/press/2017/statement-on-national-endowments-for-the-arts-and-humanities-and-corporation-for-public-broadcasting-proposed-cuts)
http://www.wga.org/news-events/news/press/2017/statement-on-national-endowments-for-the-arts-and-humanities-and-corporation-for-public-broadcasting-proposed-cuts

ON GENDER AND EQUALITY

In France, the CNC (Centre National du Cinéma) has published a **report on the place of women in the film and audiovisual sector**.

[Click here for more info.](http://www.cnc.fr/web/fr/publications/-/ressources/11213347) www.cnc.fr/web/fr/publications/-/ressources/11213347

In Italy WGI is calling for **gender balance in audiovisual creation**.

[Read more here.](https://www.facebook.com/WritersGuildItalia/photos/a.335356416596744.1073741828.330895580376161/1014220972043615/?type=3&theater) https://www.facebook.com/WritersGuildItalia/photos/a.335356416596744.1073741828.330895580376161/1014220972043615/?type=3&theater

The Guardian published an article on IMDb introducing classification system to **highlight work by women**.

[Read more here.](https://www.theguardian.com/film/2017/mar/07/f-rated-imbdb-introduces-classification-system-to-highlight-work-by-women) https://www.theguardian.com/film/2017/mar/07/f-rated-imbdb-introduces-classification-system-to-highlight-work-by-women

OTHER NEWS

The **Ten Principles for Fair Contracts for Authors** (Writers, Visual Artists and Translators) published by the International Authors' Forum.

[Also available in French, Spanish and Italian.](http://internationalauthors.org/wp-content/uploads/IAFs-Ten-Principles-for-Fair-Contracts-for-Authors-August-2016.pdf)
http://internationalauthors.org/wp-content/uploads/IAFs-Ten-Principles-for-Fair-Contracts-for-Authors-August-2016.pdf

FIA (International Federation of Actors) has published **The Future of Work in the Media, Arts & Entertainment Sector : Meeting the Challenge of Atypical Working**

[Download the publication here.](http://fia-actors.com/fileadmin/user_upload/News/Documents/2016/October/EN-Future-Work_2016.pdf)
http://fia-actors.com/fileadmin/user_upload/News/Documents/2016/October/EN-Future-Work_2016.pdf

82-Year-Old 'Das Boot' Cameraman Will Finally Get Paid. In a landmark decision, a German court grants cinematographer Jost Vacano \$540,000 in compensation and a share in the future profits for his contribution to the Oscar-nominated war drama.

[Read more here.](http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/das-boot-cameraman-jost-vacano-900726)
http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/das-boot-cameraman-jost-vacano-900726

CISAC has launched ground-breaking **free online course on copyright and authors' rights**.

[More info here.](http://www.cisac.org/Newsroom/News-Releases/CISAC-launches-ground-breaking-free-online-course-on-copyright-and-authors-rights)
http://www.cisac.org/Newsroom/News-Releases/CISAC-launches-ground-breaking-free-online-course-on-copyright-and-authors-rights

SACD has published a communique, signed by several European authors of the film and audiovisual sector to appeal to European decision-makers : **"European Film Production is in Danger"**.

[Click here to get more info.](http://www.euractiv.fr/section/culture/opinion/la-production-filmographique-europeenne-en-danger)
http://www.euractiv.fr/section/culture/opinion/la-production-filmographique-europeenne-en-danger