

**Audiovisual sector statement on the
European Commission's Digital Single Market Strategy**



The undersigned organisations of producers, sports rights owners, publishers, broadcasters, distributors, and cinema exhibitors active in the European audiovisual landscape issued the following statement on today's DSM strategy document from the European Commission:

"We stand ready to contribute further to the overarching "growth and jobs agenda" set out by the European Commission a year ago. Yet, we are extremely concerned that some of the policy options envisaged by the European Commission could negatively impact **the sustainability of the film and audiovisual sector**, and severely decrease the incentives for investing in the production, distribution and dissemination of high quality films and audiovisual works across Europe. We are also troubled by the lack of evidence **put forward by the Commission to demonstrate** that the **proposed changes will add quality jobs and economic growth in Europe. To the contrary, we are concerned these changes would have the opposite effect.**"

"We appreciate that the Commission has acknowledged in part the concerns of the audiovisual sector by stating that it intends to respect "the value of rights in the audiovisual sector". Delivering on that promise will require significant changes in the Commission's approach. In particular, mandating any form of cross-border access by EU law in the audiovisual sector would not create or

increase value but more likely lead to its transfer to the benefit of **a few** big global Internet platforms, which will ultimately **reducing** consumer choice and cultural diversity."

"We believe that to achieve the objectives of the Digital Single Market, we must continue to build on the strength of copyright and more specifically the notions of territoriality and exclusivity which are fundamental elements that incentivise investments, ensure high-quality production and distribution and enable creative and financial risk-taking."

"We therefore urge the European Commission to take due account of the specificities of our sectors and maintain a legal framework under which we can continue to be a driver for innovation, growth, quality jobs and cultural diversity across Europe."

List of signatories

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