



Thursday 6 December 2018

We, the undersigned represent associations of small and medium sized publishers, media companies and digital native outlets, committed to producing high quality news and relying on online channels to reach and grow our audiences and daily provide more than 1.37 million stories to 140 million readers.

The introduction of a publishers' right in Germany and Spain made it harder for us to grow online, reach new audiences and develop new markets. The Spanish law caused small publishers to **lose as much as 15% of their web traffic**. This is estimated to have cost the Spanish news publishing industry €10 million a year. They created new barriers for entry for publishers to develop online. In Spain, we are even deprived of control over our own content, and were obliged to charge fees via a collecting society, whether we like it or not.

We strive to reach new audiences and innovate to develop our business in the digital age. To succeed, we need a business-friendly environment, not one that will drive years of legislative discussions, litigation and the involvement of intermediaries such as collecting societies. New “neighbouring rights” are of no obvious value to us.

We understand however that both the European Parliament and the Council are moving towards the introduction of a news publishers right under the Copyright Directive which is currently underway. We encourage the co-legislators to mitigate some of the most detrimental consequences of Article 11 to small and medium-sized publishers also with a view to transposition into national law.

Specifically, we are calling for:

- 1. Making sure that any new publisher's right is waivable**
- 2. Providing for a duration which is reasonable and does not extend beyond a year from the first publication**
- 3. Ensuring that all hyperlinks are excluded from the scope**
- 4. The new right to apply only to short excerpts that do not meet the criteria of originality.**
- 5. The new right to apply only to news aggregators**

[European Innovative Media Publishers](#) – European

[Association of Publishers of Periodical Publications \(AEEPP\)](#) – Spain

[Associazione Nazionale Stampa Online \(ANSO\)](#) – Italy

[Syndicat de la presse indépendante d'information en ligne \(Spiil\)](#) – France

[300polityka](#) – Poland

[Prauda](#) – Denmark

[Dennik](#) – Slovakia

[Meltygroup](#) – France

[Golem.de](#) – Germany

[Mira Comunicación](#) – Spain

[NTDhoy](#) – Spain

[Principia Magazine](#) – Spain

[Noticias Canarias](#) – Spain

[Economía de hoy](#) – Spain

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[Este de Madrid](#) – Spain

[Ecointeligencia Editorial SL](#) – Spain

[InfoBierzo](#) – Spain

[Diario de Prensa Digital](#) – Spain

[Reach plc](#) – UK

[Index.hr](#) – Croatia

[Journal Media](#) – Ireland

[The List](#) – UK

[Docu](#) – Spain

[Weblogs SL](#) – Spain

[Campaña Digital](#) – Spain

[Grupo Asís Biomedica](#) – Spain

[La Crónica de Guadalajara](#) – Spain

[444](#) – Hungary

[MM New Media GmbH](#) – Germany

[Ciaopeople Media Group](#) – Italy

[Dos Mil Palabras SL \(Ok Diario\)](#) – Spain

[Edinet](#) – Italy

[Il Capo Luogo](#) – Italy

[Piacenza Sera](#) – Italy

[NetNews SRL](#) (Corato Live) – Italy

[BSNews](#) – Italy

[Sindimedia Srl](#) (Ok! Mugello) – Italy