

Open letter to the Members of the European Parliament regarding the report on enforcement of intellectual property rights in the Internal Market (2009/2178(INI))

5th July 2010

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

You will soon be asked to cast your vote on Mrs Gallo's report regarding the enforcement of intellectual property rights in the internal market.

Whereas some voices have loudly criticised Mrs Gallo's report and refute the consequences of piracy on creative works, we would like to give our full support to the text adopted in the legal affairs committee on 1st June and which will be soon debated in the European Parliament plenary.

We believe that Mrs Gallo's report is a balanced one. It encompasses compromises between different political approaches on crucial provisions. It does not call for the criminalisation of Internet users nor for the implementation of the French graduated response all over Europe. Conversely, it recognises that solutions should be found both in the development of legal online offers and in awareness-raising campaigns and asks for an objective, independent impact assessment before any additional legislative proposal.

Today, creators no longer want to be held hostage to a fruitless and ideological debate on whether piracy should be treated differently from counterfeiting. It is of utmost importance that their creation should be valued, be it online or off-line, in their home country or abroad. As underlined in Mrs Gallo's report, copyright is an enabler, *helping creators earn a living and disseminating their works*. Consequently, fair remuneration for all creators should be one of the first concerns of those who call for a European online market of quality and culturally diverse content.

Yours faithfully,

SAA Board of Patrons signatories:

**Fred Breinersdorfer
Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne
Jaco Van Dormael
Costa-Gavras
Marco Tullio Giordana
Agnès Jaoui
Roger Michell
Radu Mihăileanu
Bertrand Tavernier
Enrique Urbizu**

Further signatories:

Michael Apted, Mike Barker, Marco Bellocchio, John Goldschmidt, Piers Haggard, John Hillcoat, Tom Hooper, David Leland, Richard Loncraine, Kevin Macdonald, Gillies MacKinnon, Oliver Parker, Pawel Pawlikowski, Udayan Prasad, Michael Radford, Francesco Rosi, Iain Softley, Julien Temple, Nick Willing.



Society of Audiovisual Authors
Société des Auteurs Audiovisuels

The Society of Audiovisual Authors (SAA) is an association of European Collective Management Societies representing audiovisual authors. SAA's main objectives are the following:

- To defend and strengthen the economic and moral rights of audiovisual authors (screenwriters and directors);
- To secure fair remuneration for audiovisual authors for every use of their works;
- To develop, promote and facilitate the management of rights by member societies

Through its 24 members in 17 countries, SAA represents over 100,000 film and television European screenwriters and directors.

SAA Board of Patrons is comprised of prominent European screenwriters and directors. The signatories of the letter are the following:



Fred Breinersdorfer (DE)

“Sophie Scholl - The Final Days”, 2006



Dardenne Brothers (BE)

“La Promesse” (The Promise) 1996

“Rosetta” 1999

“L’Enfant” (The Child) 2005



Costa-Gavras (FR/GR)

“Z “ 1969

“Section spéciale” (Special Section) 1975

“Eden à l’Ouest” (Eden is West) 2009



Marco Tullio Giordana (IT)

“I Cento Passi” (The Hundred Steps) 2000

“La meglio gioventù” (The Best of Youth) 2003

“Quando sei nato non puoi più nasconderti” (Once You’re Born You Can No Longer Hide) 2005



Agnès Jaoui (FR)

“Le Goût des Autres” (The Taste of Others) 2000

“Comme une Image” (Look at Me) 2004

“Parlez-moi de la pluie” (Let It Rain) 2008



Roger Michell (UK)

“Persuasion” 1995

“Notting Hill” 1999

“Venus” 2006



Radu Mihăileanu (FR/RO)

“Train de Vie” (Train of Life) 1998

“Va, Vis et Deviens” (Live and Become) 2005

“Le Concert” (The Concert) 2009



Bertrand Tavernier (FR)

“L’horloger de Saint-Paul” (The Clockmaker) 1974

“Un dimanche à la campagne” (A Sunday in the Country) 1984

“La Princesse de Montpensier” (The Princess of Montpensier) 2010



Enrique Urbizu (ES)

“Tu novia está loca” (Your Girlfriend is Crazy) 1987)

“La vida manca” 2003

“The Ninth Gate” 1999 (direct. Roman Polanski)



Jaco Van Dormael (BE)

“Toto le Héros” (Toto The Hero) 1991

“Le huitième jour” (The Eight Day) 1996

“Mr. Nobody” 2009

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