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MITGLIED DES EUROPÄISCHEN PARLAMENTS

## Pressemitteilung

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Press statement on the EPP-ED Hearing on collective cross border management of copyright

The EPP -ED Group, the legal and the cultural Committee held a successful hearing under the Chair of Mr. Hans-Peter Mayer, Mrs. Doris Pack and Mr. Mavromatis on the Commission recommendation on collective cross border management of copyright today. The Barroso Commission has put growth and jobs right at the top of its agenda and this means maximising the contribution of all parts of the economy, including the creative sector. Some 5-7 percent of the EU's GDP is earned by goods and services protected by copyright or related rights. Bearing in mind this sector's importance for the health of the economy, all positions were heard and will be taken into consideration.

Music is viewed as a key driver for the development of online services and the market for online music is believed to hold enormous potential which should benefit to all stakeholders. It is essential not to undermine in any way the competitiveness of the creative businesses. For small and medium sized enterprises (SME's) an inadequate and too rigid approach should be avoided which could threaten the important and commendable role which they argue the local societies have in respect to culture. Any negative effects should be avoided on cultural diversity.

It should be pointed out that the Commission in formulating this recommendation, failed to consult with the European Parliament, this means that the political role of the Parliament in determining the future of the music in Europe was not taken into account.

The question is, if a Community approach is necessary to harmonise the exercise and management of copyright and related rights, in particular effective collective rights management in the Internal Market. At the same time it must be pursued while respecting the principles of copyright, of competition law, including territoriality and of loyal cooperation among the institutions of the European Union, while taking due consideration on preserving cultural diversity.

After all, the legal and the cultural Committee want to make sure, that the rights of authors, publishers, broadcaster, CRMs and users will be taken into account.