European Parliament vote on Copyright in the Digital Single Market
For fair remuneration of authors and performers

We thank all Members of the European Parliament who have voted today in favour of the draft Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market.

We thank the Rapporteur, all Shadow Rapporteurs and Members who have worked on this important legislation as well as the political advisors and staff members for their hard work and their readiness to work for a fair and balanced compromise on chapter III on fair remuneration of authors and performers.

This Directive is a once in a lifetime opportunity to promote a sustainable environment for our members, with terms enabling them to get a fair share of the revenue that they contribute to generate through their work.

During the long and intense negotiations, the Parliament has convinced the Commission and Council to improve the provisions on fair remuneration of authors and performers.

We are proud that EU institutions have decided to support the call of European creators to put an end to the abusive practices of oligopolistic gatekeepers and to say no to an unrestrained digital capitalism with its “winner takes it all” mentality.

This Directive introduces in EU legislation the principles of fair and proportionate remuneration for authors and performers for the exploitation of their works and of collective bargaining as a tool to achieve fair contractual arrangements (Art. -14 and recital 39y). Further, the provisions of article 14, which covers the entire economic life of works, will allow for comprehensive and accurate transparency of information regarding the exploitation of works. Finally, we underline the importance of the inclusion of the principle of collective representation of authors and performers in contractual adjustment (Art. 15) and dispute resolution (Art. 16), which is a prerequisite for these rights to materialise.

The media and entertainment unions and guilds affiliated to UNI Global Union who defend the rights, freedom and livelihood of their members stress that this Directive will make a difference by promoting social dialogue on fair and proportionate remuneration at European level and within all member states. Our member unions and guilds will work to find viable and reasonable solutions and agreements that safeguard the rights and interests of professional creators while ensuring that citizens continue to have access to their works.

We stand ready to engage with all stakeholders in a constructive dialogue on the implementation of the directive.