



## **EVA Statement at WIPO SCCR 45**

April 2024

### **Statement on Limitations and Exceptions for research and educational purposes**

1. Thank you Chair for allowing EVA to take the floor once more.
1. We firmly believe that the dissemination of content for research and educational purposes is of primary importance for our societies. Our members have the knowledge and experience to perform this important task across borders, providing suitable licences that do not hinder access to learning.
2. The precarious financial situation of artists should not be exacerbated by insufficient government investment in education and research. While we acknowledge the sector's struggle with limited resources to cover licensing costs, we firmly advocate for increased public funding in this area. Such investment can generate significant benefits for both the global education system and authors. On one hand, it guarantees that authors receive fair compensation to support their creative endeavors. On the other hand, the education system flourishes with the high-quality material that only professional authors can provide.
3. The cost behind artists' creations is often neglected, resulting in an undervaluation of their dedicated and qualified work and a consequent disregard for copyright protection. Therefore, it is imperative to raise awareness of the significance of copyright, which ultimately enables artists to sustain decent living and working conditions and establishes a foundation for pension and social protection, which is often lacking.

4. National exceptions to copyright are designed for a specific context, but can be extended in the digital environment if they comply with the criteria of the three-step test: namely, when they are limited to special cases which do not conflict with the normal exploitation of the copyright protected works, and do not unreasonably prejudice the legitimate interests of the authors and rightsholders. CMOs provide cross-border licenses to ensure that the delicate balance between artists' rights and users' interests is maintained. Justified geo-blocking is not an obstacle to such licenses as CMOs operate as a collaborative network enabling the efficient exchange of information.
5. Once again, we reaffirm the importance of not extending existing limitations and exceptions to preserve authors' rights.
6. Thank you Chair for giving EVA this opportunity to take the floor.

**END**

## **CONTACT**

Carola STREUL, Secretary General

+32 2 2909247

[info@evartists.org](mailto:info@evartists.org)

### About EVA

European Visual Artists (EVA) represents the interests of authors' collective management societies for the visual arts. **31 societies** are gathered under this roof as members or observers. They manage collectively authors' rights of close to **170 000 creators** of works of fine art, illustration, photography, design, architecture and other visual works.

Rue du Prince Royal 87 – 1050 Brussels  
+32 2 290 92 48 - [info@evartists.org](mailto:info@evartists.org)  
[www.evartists.org](http://www.evartists.org)