

European Broadcasters common position paper on the Draft WIPO Broadcasting Organizations Treaty

European broadcasters, through the Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services in Europe (ACT), the Association of European Radios (AER) and the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), which represent both commercial and public service broadcasters (radio and television) as well as video-on-services operators, call the Member States of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to convene a Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of the WIPO Broadcasting Organizations Treaty.

Protecting broadcasting organizations from illegitimate actors has never been more important: global piracy significantly undermines the commercial value and exploitation of live and premium content. This content is a core pillar of broadcasters' programmes, so they must be able to act quickly and efficiently to fight piracy worldwide.

The scale of misappropriation of the broadcast signal commands the deployment of adequate legal measures that empower broadcasters to act quickly and efficiently, beyond jurisdictional boundaries.

In light of this situation, the Draft WIPO Broadcasting Organizations Treaty (SCCR/45/3) would be an effective anti-piracy instrument setting international minimum standards to protect the programme-carrying signals on a global scale and to harmonise the protection of broadcasting organizations. The proposed Treaty is a complete and balanced text, and provides effective legal tools to fight piracy while respecting each national legal tradition.

The ACT, the AER and the EBU are of the opinion that the Draft WIPO Broadcasting Organizations Treaty is ready; and call upon the WIPO Member States to recommend the WIPO General Assembly to convene a Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of the WIPO Broadcasting Organizations Treaty.

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