

Building a European Copyright Infrastructure

From Mapping to Action

The “Mapping Study” – Main findings
and next steps



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Why are we talking about copyright infrastructures?

1

Automatic Protection

Copyright arises automatically - no registration required

2

Organic Growth

Information developed across hundreds of databases, identifiers, and metadata standards

3

New Demands

Digital transformation, AI, and cross-border licensing require better access to copyright information



The “Mapping Study”

Commissioned by the EUIPO Copyright Knowledge Centre (ECKC) to



Understand the
Landscape



Identify Challenges



Explore Opportunities



Support Future
Decisions

MAPPING OF EU DATABASES AND
METADATA STANDARDS PROVIDING
INFORMATION ON COPYRIGHT-
PROTECTED WORKS



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Main findings



Challenges

- ☐ **Fragmented** information landscape
- ☐ Limited **interoperability**
- ☐ Different **metadata practices**
- ☐ **Legacy** systems
- ☐ **Data quality & legal constraints**

Opportunities

- ☐ Better **discoverability**
- ☐ Metadata **matching**
- ☐ **Rights clearance**
- ☐ **Licensing support**
- ☐ **Reuse** existing infrastructures
- ☐ **Stakeholder support**



A common access layer could improve discoverability without replacing existing sectoral infrastructures

What the study tells us

The study does not recommend

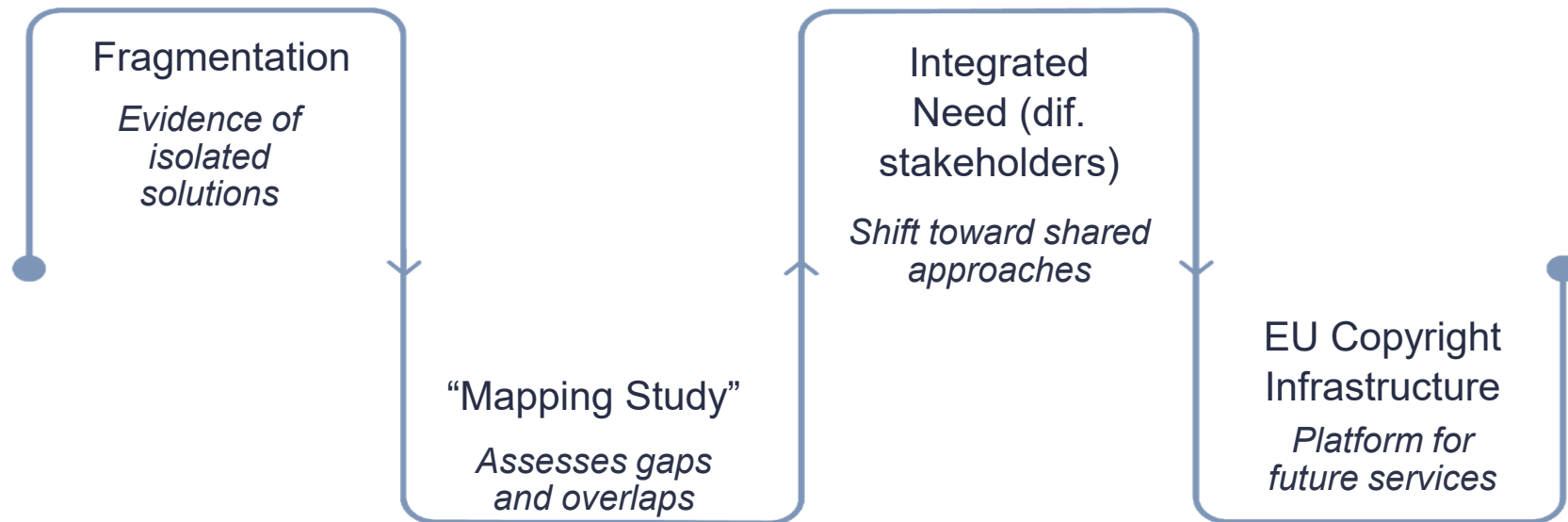
- ✗ A European copyright register
- ✗ Replacing existing databases
- ✗ One-size-fits-all solution



The study does support

- ✓ Building on already existing infrastructures
- ✓ Improving interoperability
- ✓ Better discoverability
- ✓ Practical use cases
- ✓ Gradual implementation

From evidence to strategy



 The study prompted a *strategic shift*: from developing isolated solutions toward thinking about copyright infrastructures as an **interconnected ecosystem** → building on common technical approaches and shared building blocks.

CopyrightView – Exploring a new way to access copyright information



- Builds on existing copyright information sources
- Aims to improve **searchability, discoverability and transparency**
- **Respects existing infrastructures** and the role and responsibility of original data providers
- Will evolve **gradually** through practical **stakeholder-driven use cases**

Next steps

01

Establish Expert Group

Discuss feasibility and technical specification activities for CopyrightView

02

Stakeholder Consultations

Further engagement with copyright stakeholders across the EU

03

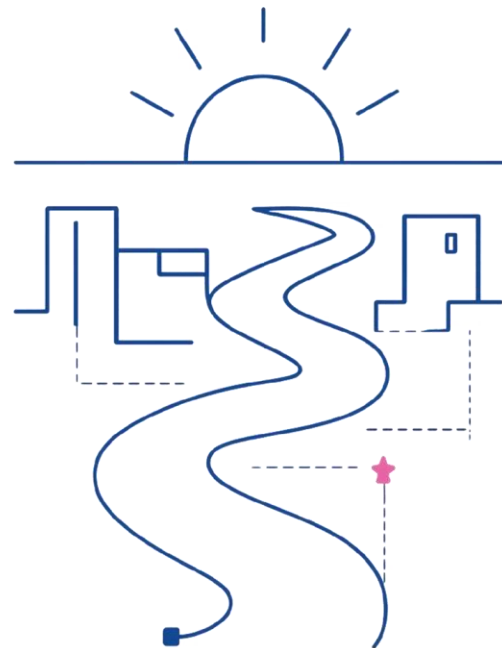
Feasibility & Technical specifications

Develop the governance model and technical design of the federated service

04

Raise Awareness

ECKC will produce resources and use findings to improve understanding of copyright infrastructures in the EU



Mapping of EU databases and metadata standards providing information on copyright-protected works

