

Introduction by Anna Vuopala

Distinguished Ambassadors and directors and deputies, dear audience, also online

“AI and copyright” mean for most of us work and talk about whether the legal layer the copyright system is up to date or what new capacities the AI tools have gained on the technical layer. Extremely urgent and important.

Still – work on the semantic layer of the copyright infrastructure is equally important. This is in the middle of the two and it is not just “semantics” if you know what I mean.

It is **indispensable** for any technological solution being developed today - whether for transparency on training of GenAI, opt-outs from AI training or opt-ins that are licensing and remuneration.

We need a **common foundation for data exchanges** that lie behind the surface and vary a lot from sector to sector.

We also need an infrastructure that puts the human creator in the center of the value network.

This CITF Status Report, ***handed over today in this ceremony to all Member States of WIPO and respective regional IP offices such as EUIPO on EU level invites to consider ways forward for the CITF and for copyright infrastructure on national, regional and global level.***

The report summarizes the work over 4 years on the semantic layer and demonstrates that it is possible to promote implementation of legal provisions into practice and deliver the best potential copyright and IP has to offer.

The CITF has - with its 125 experts from 32 countries, also outside Europe - facilitated cooperation towards defining and maintaining **a framework of common criteria or requirements for interoperability, trustworthiness and machine-actionability of copyright data**. This framework is called ORDF – open rights data framework.

This framework **would build on existing infrastructures, not replace them**. It would support **any kind of business model and further definition needed at the level of individual Cultural and Creative Industries**.

It would develop via use cases conducted in a coherent manner supporting the uptake of new technologies for all stakeholders in the copyright ecosystem. **This AI era requires machines to be able to act based on quality and reliable data on copyright.**

With investments in copyright infrastructure, we also

- support more job opportunities for creators,
- improve the findability of content in platforms with content from small language groups and Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
- Finally, common efforts will also promote provenance of news content, and trust in media, which is a mutual interest for us all.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE, FINLAND

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This is a big day, as today we **invite representatives of Member States in this room and online, from WIPO and regional organizations** to consider the results of this work and to support a way forward for the CITF:

1) Emphasize the role of the semantic layer of the copyright infrastructure and its position between the distinct legal and technical/business layers;

2)Support interoperability, trustworthiness, and machine-actionability of copyright data by promoting a use-case-driven Open Rights Data Framework at the semantic layer;

3)Validate semantic level developments with public and private organisations through large-scale pilots, which could be funded by institutional infrastructure programmes;

4)Boost infrastructure **awareness, skills, and a sense of community** in the cultural and creative industries and at institutional and governmental levels;

5)Consider, based on evidence from the copyright ecosystem and stakeholder dialogues, the integration of governance and maintenance of the ORDF at national, regional, and international level as appropriate;

6)Promote the **cross-fertilization of relevant initiatives by dedicated liaisons**.

In conclusion,

I trust in you to take up this body of knowledge and findings into your respective consideration! A Q&A session will start at 4.30 PM with a presentation of the report and presentations from developments on copyright infrastructure at WIPO and WIPO. Thank you.