

## Message from the Audiovisual Sector Coalition on the Broadcasters' Regulation - postponed JURI Vote - AV sector calls for deletion of Country-of-Origin Principle

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Brussels, 9 October 2017

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

We are writing to you on behalf of film and TV directors, performers and other creators, media workers, producers, distributors and publishers of film and television content across all distribution channels, cinema operators, commercial broadcasters, and sports rights owners, active across the film and audiovisual sector in Europe.

We would like to express our deepest concern with the developments in the run up to the now postponed vote on the Broadcasters' Regulation ("Rules on the exercise of copyright and related rights applicable to certain online transmissions of broadcasting organisations and retransmissions of television and radio programmes"). Until this morning, the vote was scheduled to take place in the EP JURI Committee tomorrow Tuesday 10 October and it is now delayed to November. **We understand that compromise amendments were tabled only hours ahead of the final shadow meeting leaving no time properly to negotiate the content of the compromise amendments between the various political groups.**

We continue to stress our opposition to the proposed introduction of the Country-of-Origin principle to broadcasters' online ancillary services – a move which would erode the territoriality of copyright and remove the commercial freedom of rights owners to raise financing to develop, produce, market and distribute films and audiovisual content. **We urge you to reject and delete the proposed extension of the Country-of-Origin principle and, accordingly, to delete Articles 1a, 2 and 5 and the accompanying Recitals (8 – 11, 15) from the Proposed Regulation** to ensure that the audiovisual sector can continue to develop, finance, produce and distribute films and audiovisual content. By supporting deletion of the Country-of-Origin provisions, you will promote a sustainable industry which can continue to grow, provide employment and contribute to the European and national economies.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information or an exchange on the views expressed above.

Best regards,

