Civil Society Network on the Right to Research in International Copyright:
Call For Partners

The [Civil Society Network on the Right to Research in International Copyright](#) is calling for applications for resources from European Union civil society organizations to sponsor activities to promote research rights in international copyright.[1] We seek proposals to undertake activities to organize the voices and interests of stakeholders in production and access to research, including:

- *academic and other investigators*, whose success depends on their ability to access and analyze information that may be subject to copyright protection, and to make their findings available;
- *the audience* that benefits from access to knowledge, including learners, teachers, consumers, and society;
- *the institutions* that collect, preserve, and assure the results of research over time, including libraries, archives and museums.

We seek the following categories of contributions relevant to the project:

- **Educating stakeholders and government officials.** We seek proposals to develop policy actions, such as meetings, workshops and communication materials, to mobilize and inform stakeholders and government officials on the right to research in international copyright law, in coordination with the global and regional civil society network.
- **Research and Communications.** We are interested in research and the sharing of stories and evidence about whether and how copyright impacts researchers, teachers, learners, users and the institutions that serve them, especially in relation to online and cross border activities. We welcome analysis drawing lessons from datasets of copyright provisions, including the [User Rights Database](#) and [Review of Comparative Law on Research Exceptions](#).
- **Advocacy.** We are interested in partners that have the capacity to develop a national-level strategy and plan of activities to advocate for the right to research in international copyright law, in coordination with the global and regional civil society network. Relevant activities include organizing dialogues with policy officials, building a coalition of national organizations and individuals (e.g. libraries, archives, museums, educators, researchers, user rights organizations), providing local support to regional or global policy actions undertaken by the civil society network (e.g. endorse, translate and adapt letters and other advocacy materials).

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[1] Text and data mining research, for example, is contributing insights to respond to urgent social problems, from combatting COVID to monitoring hate speech and disinformation on social media. Other technologies permit remote access to educational and learning materials - including from libraries, archives and museums - an especially necessary activity during the COVID pandemic. But these and other research activities may require reproduction and sharing of copyright protected works, including across borders, that lack permission in copyright law.

Accepted Proposals

Accepted proposals will be included within a project that is linking academic research to the work of a global civil society coalition working on policy reform. Through this project, partners will receive sustained opportunities for collaboration with academics and a global civil society network including libraries, archives, museums, researchers, educators, and digital rights organizations.

Financial support. We seek to award funds of $1,500 to a maximum of $10,000 per application to support activities between July 2021 through the first quarter of 2022. Eligible expenses may include:

- Personnel / salaries / consultants
- Travel
- Equipment
- Supplies & Materials
- Other Direct Costs

Our agreement with the funder does not permit indirect or overhead charges.

No more than 20% of the requested budget may be requested in advance. The remaining budget will be funded only in response to invoices including general ledger reports of itemized receipts showing expenditures supporting the intended activities.

Applications

Proposals are being accepted through our online form at https://form.jotform.com/211296888698176 . The deadline for application is June 14, 2021.

Each proposal is requested to define:

- the problem the activities seek to address;
- the activities to be undertaken to respond to the problem;
- the expected impact of the activities toward addressing the problem sought to be addressed.

Evaluation Criteria

The Civil Society Advisory Committee will review applications on or after June 14, 2021.

The criteria to be used to select awards will include:

- The relation of the proposed activities to the project's goals;
- Feasibility of the proposed activities in relation to its budget (where applicable), including completeness of application and assessment of other contributions to the project;
- Potential for collaboration with other civil society partners of the project in key countries to achieve the project's goals.