



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ACTEURS
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FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE ACTORES

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**The European group of the International Federation of Actors (EuroFIA)
Calls on the Serbian government to fully preserve the intellectual property rights of performers**

The European group of the International Federation of Actors (EuroFIA) gathers performers' unions, guilds and professional associations from 25 EU member states and speaks on behalf of tens of thousands of professional performers working in theatre, television, film, new media and radio.

EuroFIA is extremely concerned about recent attempts to streamline the Serbian Copyright Act that could, despite their laudable intention, end up slicing the protection that performers currently benefit from under Serbian law.

As it sets out to clearly articulate the intellectual property prerogatives of performers in Serbia, a recent draft amendment fails to retain the exclusive right that they presently enjoy on the cable retransmission of their performances.

Although we welcome the desire to clarify the current legal framework, we cannot accept any cutbacks to the intellectual property protection of performers as a result of this exercise. Fair remuneration for the exploitation of their rights is a vital part of performers' income and upholding it is beneficial for the sector as whole. Retaining such protection encourages social dialogue and is an important foundation for new business models emerging in a sector evolving to meet the challenges of new media.

We therefore call on the Serbian government to ensure that performers' exclusive right of cable retransmission is fully recognised by the amended Copyright Act.

On behalf of EuroFIA,

Agnete Haaland
President of FIA

London, 14 November 2009

