

**Question for written answer E-002840/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Catherine Griset (PfE)

Subject: Protecting the copyright of subtitles in European series and films and developing our AI using this data

Tech giants, particularly American ones, exploit subtitles of TV series and films to train their AI language models¹.

Subtitles are among the best-written dialogues and ‘accurately capture the flow, tone and cadence of human conversations’², which makes them ideal for training chatbots to sound more natural.

Subtitles also enrich the linguistic repertoire of AI, which has branched out from academic language into colloquial speech and even slang.

However, the use of subtitles to train AI does not bring a return in the form of royalties, even when the subtitles are from European works.

1. Does the Commission view subtitles as derivative works that can be protected against illegal copying and distribution?
2. Will the Commission act to prevent their unauthorised use to train the AI of third-country companies?
3. Will the Commission promote the development of European AI trained by subtitles from European works while respecting copyright, with a view to creating a new revenue stream for our audiovisual sector?

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¹ <https://siecledigital.fr/2024/11/26/les-sous-titres-de-films-et-series-une-mine-dor-pour-les-entreprises-dintelligence-artificielle/>

² <https://siecledigital.fr/2024/11/26/les-sous-titres-de-films-et-series-une-mine-dor-pour-les-entreprises-dintelligence-artificielle/>