

Question for written answer E-003857/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Leire Pajín (S&D)

Subject: Coercive buy-out contracts for authors and creators

Coercive buy-out contracts force creators to give away their authors' rights in full or in part, depriving them of future royalties for their work, and thus of appropriate and proportionate remuneration. Non-EU based platforms typically impose the application of foreign laws and jurisdictions to such contracts, circumventing EU and national laws and raising significant political, legal and economic concerns that threaten the integrity and sovereignty of the EU's rules and values.

Parliament has repeatedly condemned these practices and called for an EU-level initiative. The Commission and the Council have also acknowledged this problem and the need to address it at EU level has been raised on several occasions. The Commission has also conducted targeted consultations and independent studies were published, which provide similar solutions to tackle this critical issue and ensure that EU rules apply to all services, irrespective of choice-of-law and jurisdiction provisions that attempt to circumvent the protections provided for creators in the EU.

In view of the above, what are the next steps to be taken at EU level to put an end to coercive buy-out practices for authors and creators, and when does the Commission intend to start preparing legislative proposals to ensure that EU rules apply to all services?

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