



SERVING AUTHORS WORLDWIDE
AU SERVICE DES AUTEURS DANS LE MONDE
AL SERVICIO DE LOS AUTORES EN EL MUNDO

COM16-0631

Source language: French
Published on: 02/06/2016

CISAC at Hotel de Matignon, Jean-Michel Jarre Speech

Honourable Prime Minister, on behalf of all I would like to let you know how happy and honoured we are that you are receiving us today. I am saying this to you as an artist and as the President of CISAC, an organisation of 230 authors' societies in 120 countries, with more than 3 million creators.

I am saying this to you as a compatriot. France invented collective management, then the French Revolution invented authors' rights. To be received by you, here, is for us all, creators from around the world, an important moment.

Protecting authors' rights is a very timely struggle in Europe. In Brussels, the battle is tough. I would like to underscore France's involvement, and in particular your personal commitment to this struggle.

The battle is global. The digital revolution is our greatest challenge. Digital is an extraordinary tool of creation. My work bears witness to this. However, fair remuneration of authors is necessary. What's at stake concerns not only developed countries, but also developing ones, their artists and their cultural diversity.

I am like other artists involved in CISAC, a UNESCO ambassador. And, if you allow me, I'd like to make a proposition: The UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, signed in 2005, is now celebrating its 10-year anniversary. This text had been the first to affirm that cultural diversity cannot come after the concerns of business. It was also the first to recognise the legitimacy of cultural policies.

138 countries have ratified it, which means that the near-totality of CISAC societies are from countries who have signed this convention.

But this text was negotiated before the rise of the Internet. The 2005 UNESCO Convention is currently being renegotiated. In the coming months, States will discuss it. With our support, France could take the initiative so that this text integrates the key issues of the digital era: the need to rebalance the Transfer of Value, which today excessively favours a few large Internet players; but also the promotion of global solutions like private copying and resale right, which are key causes CISAC is focussing on.

We are often forced to be on the defensive. Here, we could lead the way!

Honourable Prime Minister, thank you for listening and, once again, thank you for this reception.

Jean-Michel Jarre
CISAC President
1 June 2016