



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Media Policy
Copyright

Brussels
CNECT.I.2/R.W.

**Subject: European Commission's Study on Copyright in distance education and research:
Exploring the role of copyright in facilitating access to digital collections of libraries and other public interest institutions**

To whom it may concern,

The European Commission, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG Connect), has recently launched a new study on "*Copyright in distance education and research: exploring the role of copyright in facilitating access to digital collections of libraries and other public interest institutions*".

Public interest institutions, including libraries, cultural heritage institutions, research organisations and educational establishments, play an essential role in disseminating knowledge and culture and in supporting education and research. Digital technologies have radically changed the way creative content protected by copyright is produced, distributed, and accessed by these institutions, creating new opportunities and challenges.

This study aims at gathering evidence on the role of copyright in facilitating access to digital collections of these public interest institutions, notably for the purpose of remote education and research. It includes a comprehensive mapping of the copyright relevant activities of public interest institutions when they provide remote access to their collections and other services in the digital environment, as well as detailed analysis of the challenges and opportunities they face in this context. The findings of the study will inform policy development in the area of copyright at EU level.

DG CNECT has commissioned a consortium of organisations with carrying out this study. It consists of Visionary Analytics, the lead company for the assignment, in partnership with Ecorys, and subcontractors OK Consulting and KEA.

The study design involves a number of participatory elements such as interviews and surveys.

If you are contacted in the context of this study, I kindly ask you for your help in providing information to the study team and to the European Commission by participating in the research, including interviews, surveys, and case studies. Your participation is essential in order to gather relevant, accurate, and comprehensive evidence.

The study will run until the end of 2024 and the final report will be published on the Commission's website via DG Connect's news <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news>.

For any questions on this study, please feel free to contact the study project managers Ms Audronė Sadauskaitė (audrone@visionary.lt) and Dr Žilvinas Martinaitis (zilvinas@visionary.lt), or the DG Connect's policy officers Rodolphe Wouters (rodolphe.wouters@ec.europa.eu) and Krzysztof Nichezynski (krzysztof.nichczynski@ec.europa.eu).

Thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Emmanuelle DU CHALARD
Head of Unit (acting)