Copyright is a bundle of exclusive rights granted to the authors of creative work. To be effective, a copyright system must serve the creator and society, promoting culture and facilitating access to it. Excessively bureaucratic systems are counter-productive to this goal.

The rules governing copyright in the EU were approved pre-YouTube, pre-Facebook, pre-Wordpress and basically pre-everything you do online. At the moment the Parliament is preparing several non-legislative reports related to how copyright should be reformed. This graphic focuses on two of them: The Information Society Directive and the Communication on Intellectual Property Right Enforcement.

**INFOSOC DIRECTIVE**

InfoSoc Directive (2001/29/EC) is one of the basic elements of EU copyright law. The Directive intended to harmonise certain aspects of copyright, including the system of exceptions and limitations to the use of copyrighted works, but it has failed to do so. Furthermore, the Directive was drafted before most of the new technologies we use today were fully developed and it has not been updated since.

**Intellectual Property Right Enforcement**

The Communication on Intellectual Property Right Enforcement (COM(2014)0392) addresses the way that Intellectual Property rights (not only copyright but also trade marks, patents...) are enforced in the EU. This communication includes a number of vague terms such as “follow the money approach” and “commercial scale infringements” and quotes data to justify enforcement actions which was obtained using a terrible methodology. More info on the Communication at https://edri.org/enditoral-commission-communication-ip-enforcement/

**RESOLUTION**

The European Parliament will adopt a resolution for each of these reports. They are not legally binding but could form the basis of the Parliament’s approach for future legislative proposals.