

Introduction

The Euromed Audiovisual legal database has been developed in the framework of the Euromed Audiovisual II Programme supported by the European Commission in order to meet the legal information needs of MEDA professionals and film and audiovisual industries, their public and private partners at an international and national level and their legal advisors. Its aim is to promote the development of a film and audiovisual industry and to contribute to the fight against piracy. The suggested data processing in this database is brand new and is today unequalled to the exception of the « Copyright and Related Rights in Europe » database which served as a model.

All texts gathered in this database have been attentively analysed in order to classify all concepts related to cinematographic and audiovisual works included in each text. For each concept, the user will find the complete text of relevant laws, international and European instruments relating to it.

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This work represents the first comparative approach of the law applicable to cinematographic and audiovisual works in the Southern Mediterranean countries. A large number of choices had therefore to be made without being able to refer to previous works. These choices have always been made so as to create a user friendly, logical and coherent database. However, they are not set and the users' experience will naturally constitute an enriching source for the database, either as observations or critics, suggestions, communicating information, jurisprudence decisions or doctrine articles. Anyone can directly address either in English or in French to the database's author at the following e-mail address michel.gyory@skynet.be.