

Michel BARNIER

Member of the European Commission

Máire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN

Member of the European Commission

Neelie KROES

Vice-President of the European Commission

Androulla VASSILIOU

Member of the European Commission

Brussels,
A(13)263001 D(13)

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Dear Ms Reilly,
Dear signatories,

Thank you for your letter of 27 February regarding your concerns about the Working Group on Text and Data-mining in the stakeholder dialogue 'Licences for Europe'. We understand that some of you had a fruitful meeting on 8 March with representatives of Directorates-General CNECT, EAC and MARKT to discuss some of your concerns as to the scope and the possible outcomes of the dialogue.

As stated in the Communication on content in the Digital Single Market of 18 December 2012, the Commission's objectives in the dialogue are to work as an incubator for innovative win-win solutions for all stakeholders and notably to promote the efficient use of text and data-mining (TDM) for scientific purposes. The stakeholder dialogue does not affect the parallel on-going legislative review.

Data-mining is a rapidly emerging digital phenomenon which is certainly important to all of us. We very much count on your continued participation in the stakeholder dialogue so as to better understand your policy concerns and the practical, day-to-day challenges that might unnecessarily hinder 'data-prospecting' and the development of new insights and knowledge which can be potentially derived from TDM.

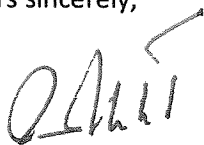
When discussing the use of TDM for scientific purposes, you are of course free to point to all the issues and any limitations of current licensing models and indicate your preferred options, including, if necessary, legislative reform. Please also note that the conclusions of each session represent the best effort of the Chairs to reflect the balance of the discussion in the working group. The conclusions, which will be published on the 'Licences for Europe' website, are only of informational nature and do not bind any of the participants.

Ms Susan REILLY
Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche
Koninklijke Bibliotheek
Postbus 90407
2509 LK Den Haag

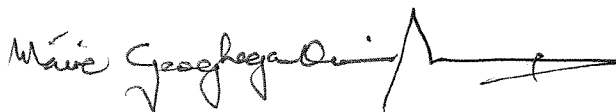
Concerning your suggestion that DG RTD ought to play an important role in the process, while the overall responsibility for the dialogue rests with DGs CNECT, EAC and MARKT, please rest assured that DG RTD is already, and will continue to be, involved in the TDM working group.

We have taken due note of the important issues that you have raised and we have asked our Directorates-General to follow-up with you on any remaining concerns that you may have.

Yours sincerely,



Michel BARNIER



Máire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN

Neelie KROES



Androulla VASSILIOU