



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Culture and Education

2014/2151(INI)

10.12.2014

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Culture and Education

for the Committee on Legal Affairs

on ‘Towards a renewed consensus on the enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights: an EU action plan’
(2014/2151(INI))

Rapporteur: Michel Reimon

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Culture and Education calls on the Committee on Legal Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Stresses that the key objective of the action plan should be to ensure that future measures taken to enforce Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) are not based solely on data provided by the industry, in particular in the cultural and creative sectors, but on precise, unbiased data documenting IPR infringements; emphasises that the duty of the Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market (OHIM) to generate reliable data which allow an analysis of the real impact of infringements on the industry should be part of the ten-point action plan;
2. Stresses that in the interests of innovation, creativity and competitiveness, it is crucial that the IPR infrastructure is transparent and that full information is available to the public and to all other actors concerned;
3. Stresses in particular that in order to achieve a meaningful enforcement of IPR, full information should include a clear indication of the type of IPR (for example patent, trademark, copyright), the status of its validity and the identity of the owners;
4. Emphasises that in order to stimulate innovation and competitiveness in knowledge-based sectors in the Union, IPR enforcement should not prevent open research and knowledge sharing, which are also identified as key elements in the 'Global Europe' and 'Europe 2020' strategies;
5. Recalls that potential health and safety risks of marketed goods are a very serious issue; stresses in this context that the quality of a product is a different issue from the status of IPR and whether there has been an infringement, and thus should be dealt with separately.