

I have two remarks to make in relation to this consultation:

1) I wish to express my concern regarding the potential deleterious effect of the Act as stands on public wifi providers such as libraries, cafés, school, etc. Expecting public wifi providers to police the connections they provide is unduly onerous, and will simply result in useful public services being withdrawn. Small cafés and public libraries should not have to foot the bill for legislation that Big Content lobbied into existence.

2) More generally, if protecting copyright requires the undermining of civil liberties and the rule of law with increasingly draconian legislation, then copyright is not worth protecting, and the big IP-holders who demanded this law ought simply to suck it up and come up with business models that are adapted to a world in which a free and open internet exists. Copyright has its place, and that place is in regulating the behaviour of industrial actors in relation to IP. We should follow Switzerland's lead in treating private, non-commercial copying as outside the remit of copyright law.