



## **Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights: Thirty-Fifth Session**

November 13 to November 17, 2017 (Geneva)

### **FUIS Statement on Limitations and Exceptions for Libraries and Archives**

This is the first time Federazione Unitaria Italiana Scrittori (FUIS), the Writers' Federation of Italy, which represents over 25,000 Italian authors, has attended a meeting of this Committee. We are delighted to be here and thank the Chair and Secretariat for their dedicated and excellent work.

FUIS's goals are to promote the work of Italian authors and to ensure their rights are protected in order that they can make a living from the use of their works.

Libraries and archives are extremely important to Italian society and to our authors, in order to make their works widely available and broaden their audience, as well as to ensure Italian language and heritage are preserved.

For FUIS, it is vital that the Italian language is maintained, and the rights designed to protect the work of individual authors, expressing themselves in Italian, are vital to this. These rights provide the basis from which authors make a livelihood.

FUIS has a good relationship with libraries in Italy and works with them to ensure libraries can do their job of supplying rich information to society through the works of authors as well as to ensure the works of as many authors as possible can supply libraries.

We understand that libraries in many of the countries represented at WIPO feel restricted by copyright and would like further exceptions and limitations, and we welcome the draft action plan, as a way to constructively discuss the issues of limitations and exceptions for the benefit of libraries and archives within the existing international copyright framework.

The existing international copyright framework contains within it sufficient limitations and exceptions in order to accommodate libraries' needs through practical solutions such as licensing, whilst balancing those needs with the needs of authors to be fairly remunerated for any uses of their work.

In order to ensure libraries and archives all over the world, and particularly in developing countries, can function as they should and to assist them to do this, any exceptions and limitations used for their benefit must always account for the rights of authors – and in particular must support local authors – to receive payment for the use of their work so that they can continue to create and to supply libraries and archives with the material which is essential to their existence.