ALLEA publishes statement on “The Text and Data Mining Exception and the Enhancement of Access to Scientific Information in Europe”

The ALLEA Permanent Working Group Intellectual Property Rights calls for a broader exception for Text and Data Mining in the proposed Directive on copyright in the Digital Single Market

15 November 2017 (Berlin, Germany) ALLEA, the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities, calls, in a statement published today, for a broader exception for Text and Data Mining (TDM) in the proposed Directive on copyright in the Digital Single Market. The position, prepared by the ALLEA Permanent Working Group Intellectual Property Rights, responds to a European Commission Directive on copyright in the Digital Single Market, currently under trilogue discussion between the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission and which will be voted on by the European Parliament at the end of November.

The paper, titled “The Text and Data Mining Exception and the Enhancement of Access to Scientific Information in Europe”, states that while Article 3 of the Directive provides a mandatory exception to copyright and database right allowing for TDM, the proposed exception is still “too narrowly defined”, according to the expert group. The current proposed legislation would not apply (i) when the results are used for publication, (ii) to independent researchers unaffiliated with research organisations, (iii) to information providers or journalists, and (iv) to private foundations or for-profit entities involved in joint research projects.

“Such a narrow exception will not facilitate the research of various corpora that ALLEA members are undertaking in several scientific disciplines and in various circumstances,” the authors state.

ALLEA, representing 59 academies from more than 40 countries from the Council of Europe region, urges the European Institutions to elaborate a more balanced exception for TDM taking the needs of science and research in Europe better into account. ALLEA is prepared to engage with the European Commission, the members of the European Parliament and the Council to further elaborate a balanced Directive.


Please click here to download the new statement.

About ALLEA (All European Academies)

ALLEA, the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities, was founded in 1994 and currently brings together 59 Academies in more than 40 countries from the Council of Europe region. Member Academies operate as learned societies, think tanks and research performing organisations. They are self-governing communities of leaders of scholarly enquiry across all fields of the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities. ALLEA therefore provides access to an unparalleled human resource of intellectual excellence, experience and expertise.

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