

## ECSA Joins the Global Repertoire Database Working Group

Following a decision taken at the last general assembly of ECSA in Brussels, the alliance positively responded to an invitation for joining the Global Repertoire Database Working Group (GRD WG). The Group initially included music publishers EMI Music Publishing and Universal Music Publishing Group, music service providers iTunes, Amazon and Nokia and the collective societies PRS for Music, SACEM and STIM. The Working Group was set up to explore the creation of the Global Repertoire Database (GRD) to deal with many of the fundamental challenges in the administration of music rights and the collection of royalties in the licensing of multi-territorial digital music services.

ECSA's decision to join the group reflects the alliance's principle position to strive that authors are part of any future business models. Speaking about the collaboration, ECSA executive chairman Alfons Karabuda said, "it is very encouraging to see that the industry is recognizing the vital need for collaboration in order to provide the operational infrastructure required to support the digital music value chain."

Several meetings have already taken place. The authors were represented by Jörg Evers (President of the German Composers Association, ECSA delegate).

## 2011 World Copyright Summit

On June 7th and 8th world-known composers and songwriters, politicians and key industry players will gather in Brussels for the World Copyright Summit. As member of the World Copyright Summit's Advisory Committee, ECSA strives to ensure that the authors' concerns and viewpoints are adequately taken into account.

Outstanding personalities and politicians have already confirmed their participation. Among them are composer Ivo Josipović, President of Croatia and former Secretary General of ECSA's member HDS (Croatian Composers Society), Bee Gees' legendary singer-songwriter Robin Gibb, French visual artist Hervé Di Rosa, songwriter and ASCAP President Paul Williams and finally European Commissioner Michel Barnier. The 2011 World Copyright Summit is organised by CISAC (the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers).

## New Stagiaire

Ekaterina Bogdanova Kostikoglu has recently joined the ECSA office as new stagiaire. Ekaterina, Russian citizen and graduate in International Relations, previously worked in the NGO for European Partnership for Democracy and speaks Russian, English, French, Greek and Swedish. Welcome, Ekaterina!



## Upcoming Events

Board of Directors' Meeting in Brussels- 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of April, Brussels, Belgium

*11<sup>th</sup> of April, Brussels, Belgium:*

ECSA meeting with Staffan Nilsson, President of the European Economic and Social Committee



*11<sup>th</sup> of April, Brussels, Belgium*

ECSA meeting with Marielle Gallo, Member of the European Parliament's Legal Committee.



*13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> of April, Linz, Austria*

EU XXL Forum; An independent platform serving European creative



*7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> of June, Brussels, Belgium*

World Copyright Summit;

