

Tallinn, 15 December 2015

### **Lack of freedom of panorama in light of copyright law**

The Estonian Association of Interior Architects (Eesti Sisearhitektide Liit, hereinafter ESL) was contacted by NCO Wikimedia Eesti who requested a formal statement from ESL in the matter of freedom of panorama.

ESL unanimously agrees that public space should be free to use for everyone, for taking photographs or for drawing, and this is the premise any legislation regulating the use of public space should take into account. We find the current legislation where a person seeking to publish, use or share (incl. In social media outlets) a photo or other form of media of an interior architectural object located in a public place is first required to acquire the permission of the author of the object, neither necessary nor realistically legally enforceable.

However, we consider it self-evident that authors of such objects are identified if a work (a book, a print, a webpage) is created for commercial purposes. In good faith, there could be a prior agreement with the author. In the context of social media and the Internet, it would mean that if, for example, an article on an interior-architectural work were to be written, there author of the work should be properly identified. In this context, we think a reference to the author(s) is sufficient and it is not necessary to ask for a separate permission.

Sincerely,

*/signed digitally/*

Urmo Vaikla

ESL

Chairman of the Board