



Ms. Eva Lepik
NCO Wikimedia Eesti

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Endorsement by the Estonian Academy of Arts of the statements of the Estonian Association of Architects, Estonian Association of Landscape Architects, Estonian Association of Interior Architects, Estonian Documentary Guild, and others regarding the institution of freedom of panorama in Estonian Copyright Act

Dear Ms. Lepik,

The Estonian Academy of Arts hereby expresses support of statements and proposals seeking to institute freedom of panorama in Estonian Copyright Act.

The Estonian Academy of Arts also endorses the statements publicized by the above-mentioned creative associations where the legal consequences of Section 20¹ of the Copyright Act on actual everyday and creative situations have been spelled out clearly and in sufficient detail, along with relevant examples. The Academy thus finds it unnecessary to repeat these analyses here. We are, however, convinced that from the perspective of maintaining a free democratic society and the continued cultural and economic development of the same, it would be rather myopic and damaging to development to use legal acts for establishing unreasonable, inhumane and unnecessary restrictions (which the stipulations of Section 20¹ of the Copyright Act can undeniably be said to be), rather than regulating the protection of authors' rights in a dignified and balanced manner and extent. In light of this principle, it would be appropriate to:

- a) Remove from the law, including Section 20¹ of the Copyright Act, all such ridiculous regulations that are impossible or absurdly difficult to reasonably follow in normal human activities and which will inevitably (as it is impossible to make each and every individual aware of the outlandish nuances of the law, try as you may) produce formal violations of law, in the worst case forcing artists to give up on creating works of art altogether, and
- b) Instead of establishing outlandish and absurd restrictions in the law, provide reasonable and intelligible clarifications to rules of attribution to ensure that authors are credited for their work.

In summary, the Estonian Academy of Arts supports the goal of NCO Wikimedia Eesti to institute freedom of panorama in Estonian Copyright Act.

Sincerely,

/signed digitally/

Professor Mart Kalm
Rector