# **Building Alliances** for pro-open legislative reform

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#### Background

- Knowledge Rights 21
- Our 'opponents' have been coordinated for ages
- How can we strengthen each other?





#### **Centrum Cyfrowe**

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#### **Creative Commons**

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## Where is the law holding back the work of Wikimedians?

- Sharing data in Europe
- Intellectual Property Regulations
- Length of copyright protection in US is too long. Should be shorter
- There's no legislation about free knowledge
- Regulations aimed at "big tech" often catch Wikipedia as collateral damage.
- Lack of freedom of panorama is preventing us from illustrating places. Lack of representation at WIPO robs us of a voice.
- sui generis DB rights
- See how 30+ wikimedians responded as part of this copyright advocacy research

https://meta.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Copyright\_Advocacy\_Mapping\_R eport\_2023.pdf

• Random legislation like Italian National Plan for the Digitization of Cultural Heritage preventing image reuse

## What would good open legislative reform look like by 2030?

- Internal policies for governments to publish their work as public domain
- Global, permissive
- Recognition of the value of limitations and exceptions to copyright for things like archiving and documenting cultural works
- policy administered by technology, at least in part
- Collective impact (for open communities)
- Invalidating contract terms that override copyright limitations and exceptions against the public interest
- plenty of training available so that non-lawyers can understand new reforms

# What can Wikimedians bring to collaborations for reform?

## What do Wikimedians need from partners in collaborations for reform?

- Bring good case studies for how law changes would have real world impact for social good
- Can use introductions to long-standing relationships that partners have
- Present the problems to policy makers, other stakeholders in the name of public interest, alongside solutions and other case studies. So decision makers will just 'pick and legislate'
- Wikimedians can offer specific stories about challenges to open in everyday Wikimedia editing
- Freely accessible content and community networks.
- Wikimedians would like evidence that particular partner organizations are trustworthy

## Which partners should Wikimedians work with?

- Everyone
- law schools
- Need to be less protective even though there's limited funding to compete for
- municipalities
- Professional associations of others who need those rights (journalists, scholars, filmmakers, ...)
- networks of local community-run media organizations
- Mission aligned organisations
- Look for unlikely partners depending on what the specific issue is
- ability to communicate and to listen
- umbrella organizations with lively networks

# What makes a good partner(ship)?

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- They fill gaps we might have, like in expertise, networks, funding, brand awareness, etc
- They can open doors to new partners or information channels
- Alignment on some common goals (but but necessarily all of them).
- Trust and transparency
- You are able to build a common narrative, open new doors
- Consistent communication and collaboration even beyond a specific campaign
- Reaches different communities then you can reach alone
- Good communication and willingness to do what they agree to
- access to documentation
- awareness of best practices in partnerships
- Both your goals and partners goals are met, maybe not all but at least every party must feel they win at some point.

# What are our blind spots?

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- Check out our website: knowledgerights21.org (and join our mailing list from there!)
- Follow our social media



