

United Nations
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Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация Объединенных Наций по вопросам образования, науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة للتربية والعلم والثقافة

> 联合国教育、· 科学及文化组织 .

## **Culture Sector Diversity of Cultural Expressions Entity**

Dr. Prof. Mikhail Fedotov Chairholder UNESCO Chair on Copyright, Neighbouring, Cultural and Information Rights National Research University Higher School of Economics B. Trekhsvyatitelsky lane, 3, room 436, Moscow, 109028 Russian Federation

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Dear Mr Fedotov,

On behalf of the Assistant Director-General for Culture, I would like to thank you for your letter dated 11 February 2021 in which you reiterated the commitment of the UNESCO Chair on Copyright, Neighbouring, Cultural and Information Rights to supporting creators in the face of the challenges posed by digital technologies and artificial intelligence. I am firmly convinced that academic research conducted in centres of expertise such as the National Research University's Higher School of Economics is key to address such challenges, particularly with regard to intellectual property rights.

I was very pleased to note the active participation of Mr Ruslan Budnik, the Chair's Deputy Director, in the fourteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions last February, and I can only welcome his articulate plea on the need to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions in the digital environment.

As you know, UNESCO embarked on a two-year process to elaborate the first global standard-setting instrument on the ethics of artificial intelligence in the form of a Recommendation, the first draft of which is available in Russian. The final draft of the Recommendation should be submitted to UNESCO's 41st General Conference before the end of the year. I would like to assure you of the close involvement of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions Entity throughout this process to ensure due consideration of the issues you have raised in your letter.

7, place de Fontenoy 75352 Paris 07 SP, France Tél. : +33 (0)1 45 68 14 87 www.unesco.org

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See <a href="https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000373434\_rus">https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000373434\_rus</a>.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my team's readiness to continue our cooperation, especially in the framework of the celebration of the International Year of the Creative Economy for Sustainable Development. For more information on UNESCO's activities in this field, please visit our website: <a href="https://www.unesco.org/creativity">www.unesco.org/creativity</a>.

Yours sincerely,

Toussaint Tiendrebeogo Secretary of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the

Diversity of Cultural Expressions