[PT] Self-regulatory agreement signed to protect copyright in the digital environment

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On 30 July 2015, the Secretary of State for Culture announced that a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed by a number of organisations, in order to create a self-regulatory agreement on the protection of copyright in the digital environment. These organisations included two public bodies - the ministry of culture's Inspector General of Cultural Activities (Inspecção Geral das Actividades Culturais) and the Consumer Directorate General (Direção-Geral do Consumidor) - and a number of other organisations, including the telecommunication operators association (Associação dos Operadores de Telecomunicações), an anti-piracy association (Movimento Cívico Anti Pirataria na Internet), an advertising association (Associação Portuguesa das Agências de Publicidade, Comunicação e Marketing), and the association responsible for the top-level domain ".pt" (Associação dns.pt).

The 11-page memorandum sets out a procedure for the blocking of websites that may be violating copyright law. This procedure includes the signatories notifying the anti-piracy association MAPINET of websites allegedly violating copyright law, which may then forward a complaint to the ministry's Inspector General of Cultural Activities (IGAC). IGAC may then request internet service providers to block access to these websites.

Following a complaint to the Commission on Access to Administrative Documents (Comissão de Acesso aos Documentos Administrativos), the memorandum has now been published. The agreement took effect in August 2015.

Secretário de Estado da Cultura, Acordo de autorregulação protege direitos de autor em ambiente digital, 2015-07-30

http://www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/os-ministerios/primeiro-ministro/secretarios-de-estado/secretario-de-estado-da-cultura/mantenha-se-atualizado/20150730-sec-direitos-autor.aspx

Secretary of State for Culture, Self-regulation agreement protects copyright in the digital environment, 30 July 2015

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