



Conseil Européen des
European Council of
Associations de
Literary Translators'
Traducteurs Littéraires
Associations {AISBL}

European Commission
DG Internal Market D1
Copyright and Knowledge based Economy Unit

8 October 2009

Dear Sir, Madam,

The executive committee of the European Council of Literary Translators' Associations (CEATL) fully supports the response given by the European Writers' Council in the EC information hearing on the Google Book Settlement. Although a new situation already has arisen since the information hearing was started, CEATL agrees with the general principles formulated by EWC, especially concerning the copyright position of literary translators as authors. We remind you that according to the Berne Convention, "translations, adaptations, arrangements of music and other alterations of a literary or artistic work shall be protected as original works without prejudice to the copyright in the original work" (Art. 2). Therefore, we want to stress that translations must be protected in exactly the same way as original works – which, in the Google Books case, is especially relevant to British and Spanish translators, whose works are likely to be digitized by Google because of their presence in US libraries.

CEATL will partner EWC in its efforts to defend intellectual property, which we think is vital for a culture focused on "Creativity and Innovation".

Yours sincerely,

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