

Dear Mr. Hernandez-Ros,

I refer to your Consultation Paper "Review of the PSI Directive".

I would have liked to have put in a more substantive response but unfortunately I am completely immersed in Asian regulatory matters at present. I hope that the following short response is of some assistance.

With all best wishes

Henry Manisty

*Thomson Reuters is a great supporter of the directive whose liberalizing impact on the availability of public sector content has already proved itself highly beneficial to European on-line publishers . Among other benefits, the directive has helped create as beneficial environment for on-line publishers in the EU as in the US where federal government information has for many years been subject to a highly liberal access regime.*

*We support continued focus by the European Commission on this area with a view to still greater liberalization, transparency in processes, and competition law disciplines imposed , where necessary, on government departments and agencies that produce content.*

*We regard continuing focus in these areas as more important than extending the scope of the directive, as suggested by the consultation paper, to include "cultural establishments, education and research organisations and public service broadcasters " . Although we support such extensions in principle, we fear that the likely benefits will be immensely hard to secure given the inevitable controversies that would be generated.*

*Identifying those continuing information bottlenecks in PSI that impede on-line commercial publishing in the areas already covered by the existing framework, and addressing them-- if necessary with new policy initiatives or investigations-- would in our view be the optimal way forward.*

*Henry Manisty  
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