



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 16.1.2012*

*C/2012/ 82 final*

*Dear President,*

*Thank you very much for sharing with us the opinion of the Bundestag concerning the Commission's Report on the application of Directive 2004/48/EC on the enforcement of intellectual property rights {COM(2010)779 final}. Let me first apologise for the undue delay in responding to your opinion.*

*We are pleased to note that the Bundestag supports the Commission's objective of ensuring better enforcement of intellectual property rights, in particular as far as the digital environment is concerned. The Commission is well aware that, in this context, there is a need to reconcile the legitimate interests of all stakeholders involved. The public consultation that was carried out on the report's findings as well as a public hearing organised in Brussels on 7 June allowed all interested parties to put forward their arguments. The results of the public consultation to which the Commission received 380 replies and of the hearing have been published on our website:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/internal\\_market/consultations/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/consultations/index_en.htm)*

*On that basis, the Commission has now started work on a comprehensive impact assessment that will assess the merits and impacts of all available policy options.*

*The Commission will of course keep national parliaments duly informed about further initiatives in this field, as appropriate, and I look forward to continuing our exchange of views.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Dr. Norbert LAMMERT  
Präsident des Deutschen Bundestages  
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