

The Danish Writers Guild

The guild:

The Danish Writers Guild represents about 315 members, which are all professional screenwriters, play writers and translators. We are continuously experiencing a small increase in the number of members.

Copydan:

Last year Copydan submitted a new proposal to The Danish Ministry of Culture to change part of the Danish Copyright Law so it is more up-to date especially according the digital changes. The proposal has with a few changes been adopted in the Danish Copyright Law.

Archive Agreements with DR (Danish public service channel):

In 2007, we entered into two agreements with DR about DR's use of older TV-productions made before 2007- the so called Archive Agreements. Agreement I - regarding screening on the web. Agreement II regarding reruns on DR's niche/smaller channels. DR got the opportunity to retransmit the material at a cheaper price than it would cost if they had to pay the full retransmission fee to all the copyright holders. The reason why we entered these agreements was that the productions would otherwise not be retransmitted if DR had to pay full price, because it would be too expensive. The agreements were part of a program imposed by the Danish Government to preserve and digitalize the Danish cultural heritage from our public service channel, DR. Last year DR terminated Agreement I regarding making productions available on the web. We are at the moment in the process of renegotiating this agreement.

Society of Copyright Organization

Society of Copyright Organization is an organization for all copyright organizations and unions in Denmark. We coordinate views on different copyright issues and in some cases we write coordinated answers on hearings from The Danish Ministry of Culture.

Copyright Denmark

Copyright Denmark is another Collective Cooperation that reacts on different copyright criticisms and secures a coordinated and continuous response on different copyright issues in the media and other public relations.

The Copyright Alliance

The Copyright Alliance is an association working to secure the rights for all copyright owners. It used to be called The Antipiracy Group, but the name was changed so it would have a friendlier tone. The Alliance also represents producers. For instance they try cases at the court if necessary and are working more determined on the legal matters of the copyright and illegal downloads.

Share With Care:

Share With Care was established by The Danish Ministry of Culture in cooperation with The Copyright Alliance, The Telecom Industry and The Danish Industry and regards the internet services that support the artists behind the productions - and making these services the easy and natural choice for the users.

Share With Care focuses on sharing music, movies, TV, games and literature legally online. It can be difficult to know which services that pay artists to use their products. Because it is important to choose the right ones, the purpose of Share With Care is to help find your way between all the many possibilities.

Nordic Writers Guild:

We also work with the Nordic Writers Guild (NDU) which counts the writers guilds of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. www.NordicWritersGuild.com.

New agreements:

The Guild has just finished the negotiations for a new standard contract with DR (The Danish public service channel). DR has for many years refused to enter into a general agreement with us, so the standard contract is a great victory for us.

Danish Film Institute (DFI)

At the moment the new film agreement between DFI (and the film industry in DK) and The Danish Ministry of Culture is being negotiated. The agreement will determine the terms of the financial support to Danish Film for the next 4 years.

One of the issues discussed extensively, is how to approach new distribution platforms and how to measure in the strict way to distribute film that is regulated at the moment. Also being discussed is how the internet providers can help fund films in the future, now that the DVD market is about to fade out.

Another issue that has been discussed is the quantity of films and the possibilities of low-budget films.