



ICMP/OIEM



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**Minister for Communications
Åsa Torstensson
Jakobsgatan 26
SE-103 33 Stockholm**

<p>REGERINGSKANSLIET Näringsdepartementet Registratören</p> <p>Ink. 2007 -11- 13</p> <p>Dnr.</p>
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**PIRATE BAY SHOULD HAVE NO PLACE IN
SWEDEN OR THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Dear Åsa Torstensson,

On behalf of creators, performers, producers and publishers across the music, film and publishing sectors internationally, we urge that swift and decisive action is taken in Sweden against one of the world's biggest engines of internet copyright infringement - The Pirate Bay.

The Swedish-based Pirate Bay is a large-scale internet "tracker" which enables millions of users to download illegal copyrighted files. The site was established in 2004 and has grown from small roots to become a global icon for the violation of copyright, translated into more than 30 languages worldwide. It is widely recognised as illegal in Sweden and elsewhere

Today, many creative and knowledge-based industries, from music to film, from news media to book publishing, are looking to governments to help enforce and educate on copyright and the intellectual property rights on which our industries depend. Sweden is normally considered to be a strong upholder of European Union standards and a promoter of culture. However, the present failure to deal with The Pirate Bay has created a new perception of Sweden – namely as the haven for a cult of copyright infringement that has achieved global reach. This is sending a highly damaging message that massive piracy of music is tolerated within the borders of the European Union.

Our members are individuals and businesses who depend on or invest in the making of music, film and books across the world. They need to see the law enforced against Pirate Bay just as it has been enforced against other illegal sites - from Kazaa in Australia to Grokster in the US. It is absolutely essential that the individuals and companies responsible for Pirate Bay be called to account by the Swedish authorities without any delay. We urge you to do everything possible to make this happen.

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We believe that, given the Pirate Bay's cult popularity, this is a key opportunity for one country to educate the global internet community about the need for respect of copyright and the importance of intellectual property.

Yours sincerely,

John Kennedy
Chairman and CEO, International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI)

Alison Wenham
President, Worldwide Independent Network (WIN)

Jonas Modig
President, Federation of European Publishers (FEP)

Ana Maria Cabanellas
President, International Publishers Association (IPA)

Kjell-Ake Hamrén
President, The International Confederation of Music Publishers (ICMP-CIEM)

Helen Smith
Secretary General, Independent Music Companies Association (IMPALA)

Kim Magnusson
Chairman, European Film Companies Alliance (EFCA)