

JANUARY 1, 2024 - DECEMBER 31, 2024

2024 COMMUNIA Annual Report

FEBRUARY 2025

Executive Summary

The report covers COMMUNIA's activities between January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. This corresponds to the second reporting period for our structural grant from <u>Arcadia</u>, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin, which started in July 2022. During the reporting period, we benefited from a consolidated organisational structure and an established strategy. This allowed us to substantiate our policy positions and develop our presence in the European policy space.

As a policy organisation, our work is structured heavily by the political cycle. 2024 was a year of transition with the European Parliament elections in June marking the beginning of a new mandate. For this reason, our strategy for this year was twofold. We used the first half of the year to draft policy papers and carry out research related to our proposal for a Digital Knowledge Act, a legislative intervention to strengthen knowledge institutions, such as universities, archives and libraries, in the digital environment. The second half of the year was dedicated to more public-facing activities to communicate our ideas to newly elected MEPs and other relevant policymakers.

In addition to our year-long campaign for a Digital Knowledge Act, we conducted a range of other activities to advance COMMUNIA's mission and promote our <u>20 Policy</u> <u>Recommendations</u>.

The following achievements from this reporting period stand out:

- We drafted and published six policy papers elaborating our positions on a range of issues in relation to the Digital Knowledge Act. In that process, we collaborated closely with our members and other allies to develop and draft legislative proposals that reflect a consensus among members of the movement.
- We commissioned and released two academic studies that informed our advocacy, one on how cultural heritage laws limit the use of Public Domain works and another one proposing an obligation to license digital materials under fair conditions.
- We developed and released a publication targeted at policymakers that presents our demands for a Digital Knowledge Act in an accessible way. The publication is available in print and digital formats.
- We hosted two well-attended in-person events in Brussels that brought together academics, representatives of civil society and EU policymakers to raise awareness for our demands.
- We contributed to the discussions around AI and copyright, participating in multiple external events and joining the General-Purpose AI Code of Practice Plenary hosted by the European AI Office to detail the provisions of the AI Act.
- We expanded our communication toolkit as we launched and grew our monthly newsletter and revamped our event newsletter.

Over the reporting period, COMMUNIA has cemented its role as the hub for progressive copyright reform in Europe, successfully introducing the idea of a Digital Knowledge Act in EU policy circles. Due to the heavy focus on AI and the fact that the next mandate is only taking shape, with the incoming Commissioners just recently confirmed, it is hard to predict how much space there will be for our reform proposals. We are confident, however, that we are in an excellent position to also make a strong impact in 2025.

Organisational Development

2024 was a year of further organisational consolidation for COMMUNIA. We were able to keep our staff intact and maintain an active membership base that actively contributed to our activities.

Our core staff of Legal Director Teresa Nobre, Policy Director Justus Dreyling and Policy Advisor Leander Nielbock has remained the same. In addition, we hired Sam Donvil as a freelance Policy Fellow to support our work for two and a half months between late February and mid-May.

In line with our own targets, the association grew slightly as we welcomed a new institutional member, Open Knowledge, and two additional individual members. COMMUNIA now has ten institutional members in seven EU member states, one member in the UK and two US-based members. COMMUNIA also has nine individual members. Our membership includes, arguably, all major Open Movement organisations and many committed individuals from a variety of backgrounds. Over the reporting period, we were able to draw on a pool of around fifteen active team members who at least occasionally contributed to COMMUNIA projects.

COMMUNIA has continued to operate as a distributed organisation with only Leander working from Brussels and Teresa and Justus working remotely, and team members spread over Europe and the US. We have continued our cooperation with Wikimedia Europe, sharing an office space at the European Digital Rights (EDRi) headquarters in Brussels. In addition to online meetings, staff has started to meet in person at more regular intervals to foster team integration and enable more in-depth strategic discussions.

Mission and strategy

In 2024, we continued our **advocacy** work along the strategic priorities defined at the beginning of our granting period. Our priorities are the outcome of a process to operationalise our mission to foster, strengthen and enrich the Public Domain (as defined in the <u>Public Domain Manifesto</u>) and our <u>twenty Policy Recommendations</u> launched in 2022 into actionable measures. However, we also made some adjustments, further streamlining our strategic priorities. This reflects an effort to bundle our resources in order to improve our chances of reaching the incoming Commission and Members of the European Parliament.

2024 was a transition period politically, with the European elections marking the end of the previous mandate and the beginning of a new policy cycle. It was to be expected that no new legislation would be introduced and that the new College of Commissioners would only be approved by the end of the year. For this reason, we decided to channel the majority of our resources into an all-year campaign for a Digital Knowledge Act (DKA) to maximise our influence at the agenda-setting stage. In addition, we focused on contributing to the debate around AI and copyright, which has been the issue drawing most of the attention in the field.

A Digital Knowledge Act for Europe

The Copyright in the Digital Single Market (CDSM) Directive (2019) has been an important step forward, introducing a number of flexibilities to European copyright law at the benefit of cultural preservation, education and research. However, many issues, particularly around digital uses, have remained unresolved, preventing universities, libraries, archives, and schools from carrying out their public mission.

We have promoted the idea of a DKA, a targeted legislative intervention to enable knowledge institutions to offer the same services online as offline. Framing our proposal around knowledge institutions has allowed us to build a stronger narrative that has broader appeal to cultural, educational and research establishments and the organisations that represent them. Moreover, the DKA goes beyond copyright, circumventing the "copyright fatigue" experienced by many lawmakers who were around for the CDSM Directive negotiations.

Our proposal for a DKA covers four areas, including our work to protect the Public Domain, which had been a standalone subject in previous years:

1. Protect the Public Domain

Public sector documents and public speeches are essential sources of information, but not always freely accessible to the public. We aim at measures to exclude them from copyright protection. Legal barriers to use images of cultural heritage that are in the Public Domain need to be removed (*Policy Recommendation <u>#3</u>*, <u>#4</u> and <u>#5</u>).

2. Unlock research

Scientists often struggle to access and share research. We promote a right to research and an obligation to openly publish publicly funded outputs (*Policy Recommendations* $\underline{#3}$, $\underline{#8}$, $\underline{#9}$ and $\underline{#14}$).

3. Promote digital adaptation

Refusal to license and unfair licensing terms for digital materials are one of the biggest challenges for libraries and research organisations today. We advocate an EU-wide e-lending right and an obligation to license digital works to

knowledge institutions under fair conditions (Policy Recommendations $\underline{\#10}$, $\underline{\#12}$ and $\underline{\#13}$).

4. Shield knowledge institutions from legal risk Due to the complex and fragmented state of EU copyright law, many individuals and institutions shy away from research collaborations and other public interest activities. We propose an exemption from liability for damages for those who act in good faith to mitigate this chilling effect (Policy recommendations <u>#17</u> and <u>#19</u>).

Al and copyright

The discussions around generative AI and copyright haven't abated, quite the contrary. While the AI Act has largely confirmed the interpretation advanced by us that the text and data mining exceptions in the CDSM Directive do cover AI training, a number of rightsholders have continued to challenge this. The AI Act has also led to follow-up questions around how to ensure transparency about the sources used for AI training, including copyright-protected works, how to effectively opt out one's works from AI training and the extension of the copyright compliance obligations imposed by the AI Act.

We have contributed to this debate with the main goal of preserving the flexibilities for scientific research established in the CDSM Directive, specifically the existing text and data mining exception for non-commercial research and cultural heritage institutions that also applies to AI training conducted by such institutions. When discussing copyright compliance obligations, we also brought into focus users-specific concerns and highlighted the risks that measures preventing output similarity can pose to fundamental freedoms. We have also started a more substantive discussion of the protection of AI-generated outputs (*Policy Recommendations #2, #9 and #16*).

Other

Our assessment of the policy space has changed slightly in comparison to previous years. While policymakers continue to be wary of sweeping copyright reform, the emergence of generative AI has created an opening for copyright-related discussions. With a mandatory review of the CDSM Directive coming up in 2026, this should provide for an opportunity to also address other pressing issues, including from our proposal for a DKA. At the same time, we haven't identified many opportunities for **strategic litigation**. For the time being, we will limit our efforts in this area to monitoring and supporting one case in particular.

Finally, COMMUNIA's role continues to be that of a focal point for activists and academics committed to progressive copyright reform in Europe and beyond. We

remain dedicated to **community building** and promote engagement and intellectual exchange among our members as well as outside through our involvement in other networks, such as the <u>TAROCH Coalition</u> and the <u>Access to Knowledge Coalition (A2K Coalition)</u>.

Impact

2024 has been a highly productive year for us. In what follows, we provide an overview of the activities that we have carried out to promote our strategic priorities. The overview is now intended to be exhaustive. Instead, we highlight those activities where we have made the biggest impact.

Advocacy

A Digital Knowledge Act for Europe

When defining our strategic priorities, we decided that we would like to be proactive on at least one topic and attempt to influence the agenda of the new Commission and European Parliament. Previously, like most civil society organisations, we were often put on the defensive, having to react to proposals by actors with opposing interests. For this, we settled on the idea of a DKA, a comprehensive proposal to unlock the potential of all kinds of knowledge institutions in the digital environment for a number of reasons.

Starting with an op-ed published on <u>Euractiv</u> at the end of last year, we designed an all-year campaign to introduce the idea to policymakers and allies. Due to the expected lame duck period until the European elections, roughly speaking, we focused on the development of substantial positions, mostly policy papers, and targeted communications in the first half of the year. In the second half of the year, we emphasised outreach activities to a broader public and meetings with Members of the European Parliament. Our efforts culminated in a major in-person event in October where we presented our proposals to a broader audience, also in the form of a publication.

In the first half of the year, we drafted and published a series of six policy
papers on topics related to the DKA. In these short publications, each ranging
from 7-11 pages, we provide background on the most important barriers that
knowledge institutions are currently facing and present legal solutions to
address them. During the drafting stage, we worked closely with our members

and other allies to build consensus on our positions. Between February and the end of June we released the following policy papers:

- Policy paper #16 on public sector documents and public speeches;
- Policy paper #17 on access to publicly funded research;
- Policy paper #18 on limitation of liability for knowledge institutions;
- Policy paper #19 on e-lending;
- Policy paper #20 on the right to use Public Domain heritage; and
- Policy paper #21 on the right to license and own digital materials.
- We commissioned two studies to renowned legal scholars on topics covered by our DKA proposal, (1) restrictions on the use of Public Domain materials imposed by cultural heritage laws and (2) access to copyrighted materials in digital format under fair and reasonable conditions. Initially, these studies were intended to direct our strategic litigation efforts, but we realised that while they could help us with that in the long run, they were more useful to our DKA advocacy in the short run. Although we defined the scope of the studies, both were conducted with full respect for academic freedom.
 - In late April, we released the independent study <u>"The EU Imperative to a Free Public Domain: The Case of Italian Cultural Heritage</u>" by Giulia Dore and Giulia Priora, the results of which influenced our Policy Paper #20. We also organised a well attended online event on the subject (<u>COMMUNIA Salon: The hollowing of the Public Domain</u>). Both speakers have presented the results at a number of COMMUNIA and external events. In addition, the results were later published on the <u>Kluwer Copyright Blog</u> and in the influential legal journal <u>GRUR</u> International.
 - In late June, we released the independent study <u>"Copyright as an Access Right: Concretizing Positive Obligations for Rightholders to Ensure the Exercise of User Rights</u>" by Christophe Geiger and Bernd Justin Jütte (co-commissioned by Knowledge Rights 21), the findings of which have been instrumental to our Policy paper #21. Both speakers have presented the results at a number of COMMUNIA and external events. In addition, the results were later published on the <u>Kluwer Copyright Blog</u> and in <u>GRUR International</u>.
- The release of the above-mentioned policy papers and studies has provided us with multiple opportunities to approach the Commission and Members of the European Parliament. Over the reporting period, we shared our ideas in various meetings with Commission officials, Members of the European Parliament or their assistants and other policymakers.

- We hosted two major in-person events in Brussels, both of which were well attended by a broad range of participants:
 - the <u>"Unlocking Knowledge Conference"</u> (on March 6 in Brussels), featuring Member of the European Parliament Karen Melchior and a European Commission representative as well as high-profile legal experts and practitioners; and
 - <u>"A Digital Knowledge Act for Europe"</u> (on October 2 in Brussels), featuring Member of the European Parliament Tiemo Wölken as well as a number of allies and legal academics.
 - We also launched a <u>brochure</u> that summarises our key demands for a Digital Knowledge Act at this event.
- We supported the organization of two in-person civil society events in Brussels, the <u>Public Domain Day 2024</u> (hosted by COMMUNIA alongside Creative Commons, Europeana, meemoo, the Royal Library of Belgium, the Royal Library of the Netherlands, Sound & Vision and Wikimedia Belgium) and the <u>Tech and Society Summit</u> (hosted by European Digital Rights), presenting the DKA or select measures from our DKA proposal at these opportunities.
- Over this period, we drafted multiple blog posts and emphasised social media work to publicise our policy papers to a larger audience. Our allies joined this campaign by releasing position papers and blog posts asking for a DKA in Europe. As a result of these concerted efforts, other civil society actors embraced our proposals as their own, amplifying the message around the DKA:
 - the German digital rights civil society coalition F5 issued a <u>position</u> <u>paper for the European elections</u> demanding a "A Digital Knowledge Act: A new era of free knowledge" and invited us to speak at a policy workshop entitled "Shaping digital policy for the common good" with German Members of the European Parliament;
 - "A Digital Knowledge Act for Europe" is one of Open Future's proposals for policy interventions in support of the Digital Commons and part of their position paper <u>Paradox of Open: Policies for the Digital Commons</u>;
 - <u>Creative Commons</u> and <u>Wikimedia Europe</u> shared their support for the DKA through blog posts; and
 - the <u>Europeana Copyright Community Steering Group</u> included some of our DKA measures around the Public Domain and limitation of liability in a position paper for the Commission.
- Our proposal has been mentioned by political groups (e.g. in the <u>election</u> <u>manifesto</u> of the Social Democratic Party of Germany calling for an Open

Knowledge Act) and a number of media publications (e.g. <u>netzpolitik.org</u> and <u>Tagesspiegel Background</u>).

Al and copyright

COMMUNIA has positioned itself as a strong voice in the debate on AI and copyright. We have advocated for preserving the existing flexibilities for commercial and non-commercial AI training. Specifically, we have supported proposals for workable transparency requirements both in the context of the AI Act and the Commission consultation on a Code of Practice for general-purpose AI models to detail the obligations under the AI Act. Since the debate on AI and copyright is constantly evolving and expanding to additional areas, such as the protection of AI-generated outputs, we are also promoting intellectual exchange among our members and developing positions on these topics.

- We provided input to the discussions surrounding the AI Act, which concluded in June with the adoption of the instrument. The final text reflects <u>our positions</u> on the issue, as expressed in our <u>Policy paper #15</u> and various blog posts, preserving the flexibilities existing under the CDSM Directive and introducing a workable transparency requirement.
- We have successfully applied to be a stakeholder in the <u>General-Purpose AI</u> <u>Code of Practice</u> consultations and have participated in all copyright-related sessions that have taken place so far. We have also submitted <u>comments</u> to the first draft proposal. This consultation will be critical to ensure that the provisions of the AI Act are meaningful and workable in practice, and we will continue our engagement in the new year.
- We drafted and submitted a reply to a questionnaire by the Hungarian Council Presidency shared with the other EU Member States to promote the discussion of the relationship and effects of generative AI on copyright law. While this document was not directed at civil society, we shared our answers with a number of Member States to ensure that our positions are reflected. Some sections of the Presidency's <u>summary of consultation responses</u> use language that is very similar to COMMUNIA's contribution.
- We drafted and submitted a <u>contribution</u> to the multi-stakeholder consultation entitled "Future-proof AI Act: Trustworth general-purpose AI," focusing on the question of training data transparency and other copyright-related aspects. Our answers have been shared with a number of other civil society organisations and influenced their submissions.
- We have drafted and submitted a contribution to the <u>Spanish consultation</u> on the proposal to introduce extended collective licenses for the development of general-purpose AI models, defending changes to prevent the proposed licensing framework from overlapping with the text and data mining exception.

- We have been invited to a number of non-public stakeholder meetings in this context, including the <u>GenAl Summit</u> hosted by the German Ministry of Justice in Berlin in March and the 2024 <u>European Intellectual Property Office</u> <u>Observatory</u> Plenary in Alicante in October.
- We have been invited as speakers to present our positions at a number of public events hosted by a variety of actors, including <u>CEPS</u>, the <u>European Open</u> <u>Science Cloud</u>, the <u>Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Future of Work</u> programme and <u>Wikimedia Sverige</u>.
- We have started discussing and <u>publishing</u> on the issue of AI-generated outputs and are prepared to publish a full-fledged policy paper on the issue at the beginning of next year.

Implementation of the Copyright Directive

Following the adoption of the CDSM Directive by all Member States, we analysed the state of copyright law in Europe, identifying positive and negative trends. While we had largely wrapped our advocacy efforts related to the CDSM Directive at the end of the previous reporting period, this comparative legal research will inform our advocacy in the context of the upcoming review of the CDSM Directive in 2026. Moreover, identifying flaws in the implementation of the CDSM Directive contributed to making our case for the DKA.

- We published six issues of our Post-DSM Copyright Report, focusing on research rights, education rights, the <u>Public Domain safeguard</u>, the <u>press</u> <u>publishers' right</u>, <u>upload filters</u> and the <u>parody and pastiche exception</u>.
- We followed the <u>Polish implementation</u> of the CDSM Directive, which finally concluded in September of 2024.

WIPO

After the end of the first granting period of the <u>Right to Research in International</u> <u>Copyright Law</u>, we decided to reduce our involvement at the WIPO level to a number of core activities. While we remain committed to improving the conditions for cross-border education and research at the global level, this is a pragmatic decision to focus our attention on the EU level where COMMUNIA can make the biggest impact.

In 2024, we participated in a number of activities related to WIPO advocacy, including academic meetings of the <u>Global Network for Users Rights</u>, strategic meetings with NGOs from all around the world, and drafting meetings. We also discussed WIPO matters with the European Commission and attended the 45th WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights session in May. At the meeting, we delivered two statements commenting on a draft treaty for the protection of

broadcasting rights as well as flexibilities for education, research and archives and libraries. In the coming years, we will carry out a similar range of activities, but we don't plan on taking a leading role in any of them.

Contributions to other projects

Our Policy Director acted as the volunteer coordinator of the <u>A2K Coalition</u> until September 2024. He managed the Coalition's activities, including membership applications, quarterly calls, and drafting processes. The extension of the Right to Research in International Copyright Law project has created an opportunity for a transition of responsibilities to Carolina Botero. This aligned perfectly with our plans to reduce our involvement at the WIPO level and focus more heavily on Europe. We are happy to know the A2K Coalition in excellent hands and will continue to participate actively in its activities as members.

Our Legal Director has contributed actively to the <u>Towards a Recommendation on</u> <u>Open Culture (TAROCH) initiative</u> led by Creative Commons, contributing to a number of in-person and online meetings. Teresa has also accepted an invitation to co-chair the drafting workspace. After some consideration, we decided to pause our own initiative to achieve a legal instrument to protect the Public Domain at the international level at the benefit of TAROCH. The two initiatives have some thematic overlap and have involved many of the same people, so it would be difficult to advance both at the same time. However, Teresa has and will commit a significant amount of time to the TAROCH initiative. We hope that the adoption of a UNESCO recommendation could pave the way for a legal instrument to protect the Public Domain at the global level in the future.

Strategic litigation

We have continued our financial support for <u>Cosmo Wenman's case to access the 3D</u> <u>scans of the collection of the Musée Rodin</u> in France. After a favourable decision by the Administrative Tribunal of Paris in April 2023, the case was referred to the Conseil d'État, the French supreme court for administrative justice, in April 2024, as the Musée Rodin refused to comply with the court's orders.

While we will continue to monitor and remain open to supporting additional cases – based on the criteria established in our litigation strategy – we are currently not planning on actively bringing a case. We have determined that at this stage we can make a greater impact on policy and require all of our human resources for our advocacy work. While it would be interesting to support an institution, such as a library, in a court case, institutions are extremely risk-averse and avoid being sued at all costs. All in all, we believe that the case we are supporting has the potential of leading to a landmark decision and we have committed funds from an Open Society Foundations tie-off grant to supporting the next litigation stage.

Communication

Public communication is essential to our advocacy. The majority of our communication efforts in 2024 were directed at our campaign for a Digital Knowledge Act, for which we produced a breadth of communication materials. The campaign involved the publication of large amounts of content on our own <u>website</u> and <u>blog</u>, which are our main communication channels, and on social media, a print publication, as well as a number of in-person and online events. In the first half of the year, we also launched a monthly newsletter to better reach our target audience and reduce our dependence on any individual social media platform.

Transparency and Open Access policy

COMMUNIA strives for transparency in its work. With few exceptions, we make our proposals, contributions to consultations publicly and reporting publicly available. We also have a strict open access policy. All of our own content (blog posts, policy papers and other publications) is released into the Public Domain (i.e. licensed under <u>CC0</u>). Guest contributions to our blog are usually licensed under <u>CC BY</u>.

Publishing and communication channels

In 2024, we published 56 blog posts on our website, mostly on the subject of the Digital Knowledge Act, but also a host of other issues, including in-depth analyses of the AI Act or the Internet Archive lawsuit. While we do not track visitor data on our website for data privacy reasons, direct feedback and social media interactions suggest that our blog and our policy papers reach members of our target audience.

In addition, we produced a <u>paper brochure with our proposals for a Digital Knowledge</u> <u>Act</u>, which we have used as a give away to policymakers and other stakeholders. We also released an updated second edition of <u>our brochure on researchers' perspectives</u> <u>on copyright</u>, which we also have distributed to policymakers on various occasions.

In order to share the content produced, we have been active on various social media platforms, including micro-blogging services <u>Mastodon</u>, <u>Bluesky</u>, and <u>X</u> as well as the business network <u>LinkedIn</u>. Posts on all of our social media accounts are regularly shared and interacted with by individuals from a wide range of backgrounds. Over the past year, the most important of these channels has been LinkedIn, but this has been subject to some fluctuations.

To make ourselves less dependent on any single external channel, we have set up a <u>monthly newsletter</u>. Since its launch in May, we have published six issues of the

newsletter, reaching almost 200 recipients. We also remodelled our event newsletter, which at the end of the year had an audience of well over 500 recipients.

Events and public speaking

In 2024, we hosted or co-hosted a number of well-attended public events. Our <u>Unlocking Knowledge Conference</u> (in Brussels on March 6) and <u>Why Europe needs a</u> <u>Digital Knowledge Act</u> (Brussels, October 2) stand out as milestones in our DKA campaign. Both of these in-person events featured renowned speakers from academia and civil society, but also from the European Commission and the European Parliament, and attracted around 50 participants each, including from our main audience. In terms of in-person events, we also contributed both financially and programmatically to the <u>Public Domain Day 2024</u> celebrations at the Royal Library of Belgium (March 7, Brussels) and the European Digital Rights (EDRi) <u>Tech and Society</u> <u>Summit</u> (October 1, Brussels). Finally, we hosted one <u>online salon</u> (on June 18) to promote the recommendations from our study on <u>The EU imperative to a free Public</u> <u>Domain</u> and our <u>Policy Paper #20 on the right to use Public Domain heritage</u>.

In addition, all three staff members (and other COMMUNIA members on behalf of the association) have been invited to speak at external events, including, but not limited to, the Portuguese <u>Public Domain Day 2024</u>, the <u>Text and Data Mining and Artificial</u> <u>Intelligence conference in Stockholm</u>, the <u>User Right Network Symposium</u>, the event <u>Rebooting the Debate: Generative AI and creative work</u> hosted by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Brussels, a Roundtable on Generative AI and the Future of Work hosted by <u>CEPS</u> in Brussels, the <u>ERA KR21 Conference</u> in Slovenia, and the <u>Open Science Day</u> <u>and National EOSC Tripartite Event</u> in Slovenia.

Financial

The Arcadia grant is COMMUNIA's principal source of funding. In addition, we are administering a tie-off grant from the Open Society Foundations to conduct legal research and prepare strategic litigation. Finally, COMMUNIA collects membership fees, which make for a much smaller portion of the overall budget. We would like to acknowledge, however, the in-kind contributions of many members who dedicate their time and other resources to COMMUNIA and our shared mission. Their working hours are not recorded, but indispensable to the success of our organisation.

Our expenditures have increased from around € 305.000 in the previous reporting period to around € 365.000 in 2024. Since we had completed our organisational set

up in the previous year and all staff positions were filled, we were able to fully focus on the implementation of the activities set out in our 2024 work plan, spending the full amount received from Arcadia last year. Since we have no unspent funds as of January 2025, we expect our expenditures to align with our total budget of around € 366.000.

Budget vs. actual

Our staff costs exceed the budgeted amount by \in 10.000. A carry forward from the previous reporting period allowed us to have a slightly longer contract with our temporary Policy Fellow. Our activity costs align with the budgeted amount. While we were unable to spend the budgeted amounts in a number of categories (communication and staff travel among others), in consultation with our board, we reallocated these funds to events and research (both under litigation fund and special projects). Our overhead costs align with the budgeted amount.

	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	2025 Budget
Expenses	356.000 €	365.400 €	365.900 €
Staff costs	239.000 €	251.400€	269.350 €
Activity costs	96.000 €	94.100€	73.400€
Overhead costs	21.000€	19.900€	23.150 €
Income	332.600 €	346.150 €	360.800 €
Arcadia	330.000 €	340.000€	357.500 €
Membership fees	2.600 €	6.150€	3.300 €
Other funds	51.800 €	51.800 €	26.400 €
Arcadia (carry forward)	18.200 €	18.200€	0€
OSF tie-off grant	33.600€	33.600€	26.400 €
Result	28.400 €	32.550 €	21.300 €

2024 financial report and 2025 budget

About COMMUNIA

The COMMUNIA association advocates for policies that expand the Public Domain and increase access to and reuse of culture and knowledge. It acts as a network of like-minded activists, researchers and practitioners based in Europe and the United States who seek to limit the scope of exclusive copyright to sensible proportions that do not place unnecessary restrictions on access and use.

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For more information on COMMUNIA visit our website: www.communia-association.org; or contact us at: communia@communia-association.org.



() This publication is in the <u>Public Domain</u>.