

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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IIPA Supports USTR Focus on Major Copyright Markets in the 2025 Special 301 Report

2025 Special 301 Report Highlights Market Access and Enforcement Challenges for U.S. Creative Industries in 26 Overseas Markets

Washington — The following is a statement from the International Intellectual Property Alliance® (IIPA®) on the release today of the 2025 Special 301 Report:

“The IIPA® congratulates the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) on today’s release of the **2025 Special 301 Report**. This congressionally mandated annual report importantly identifies impediments to expanding legitimate global commerce in creative works. IIPA extends its gratitude to Ambassador Jamieson Greer, the USTR team, and all of the contributing U.S. agencies for their dedication to opening foreign markets to American creative content, thereby supporting the livelihoods of U.S. creators and workers.

“The 2025 Special 301 Report underscores major priorities of the U.S. creative industries, including pressing U.S. trading partners to open their markets to U.S. works and sound recordings. The Report also identifies key foreign markets where trade barriers, including inadequate copyright protection and enforcement and other market access restrictions, should be addressed. This year’s report notably places Mexico on the Priority Watch List, in part, due to the lack of progress on implementation of its copyright commitments under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Highlighting these barriers and working to eliminate them supports U.S. creators and helps develop our trading partners’ creative industries.

“IIPA looks forward to continuing to work alongside USTR and the interagency to encourage our trading partners to continue to open copyright marketplaces and strengthen copyright protections and enforcement practices.”

On January 27, IIPA made a detailed submission to USTR with its recommendations for the 2025 Special 301 Report. IIPA’s full submission can be found at <https://www.iipa.org/files/uploads/2025/01/Website-Copy-012425.pdf>.

In today’s announcement:

- USTR lists 8 countries on the Priority Watch List, including key copyright markets like Argentina, Chile, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, and the Russian Federation;
- USTR lists 18 countries on the Watch List, including key markets for creators like Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Paraguay, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The 2025 Special 301 Report lists the following countries:

USTR 2025 Special 301 Decisions	
Priority Watch List	Watch List
Argentina Chile China India Indonesia Mexico Russian Federation Venezuela	Algeria Barbados Belarus Bolivia Brazil Bulgaria Canada Colombia Ecuador Egypt Guatemala Pakistan Paraguay Peru Thailand Trinidad and Tobago Turkey Vietnam

About the IIPA: IIPA is a private sector coalition, formed in 1984, of trade associations representing U.S. copyright-based industries working to improve copyright protection and enforcement abroad and to open foreign markets closed by piracy and other market access barriers. Members of the IIPA include Association of American Publishers (www.publishers.org), Entertainment Software Association (www.theesa.com), Independent Film & Television Alliance (www.ifta-online.org), Motion Picture Association (www.motionpictures.org), and Recording Industry Association of America (www.riaa.com). Collectively, IIPA's five member associations represent over 3,200 U.S. companies producing and distributing copyrightable content. The materials produced and/or distributed by IIPA-member companies include: video games for consoles, handheld devices, personal computers, and online; motion pictures and television programming distributed in all formats (including cinema, television, online, mobile, DVD, etc.); music recorded in all formats (from digital files to CDs and vinyl) for streaming and other online services, as well as broadcasting, public performance, and synchronization in audiovisual materials; and fiction and non-fiction books, educational, instructional and assessment materials, and professional and scholarly journals, and databases.

In February 2025, IIPA released the latest update of its comprehensive economic report, *Copyright Industries in the U.S. Economy: The 2024 Report*, prepared by Secretariat Economists. (2024 Report). According to the 2024 Report, the "core" copyright industries in the United States generated over \$2 trillion of economic output in 2023, accounting for 7.66% of the entire economy, and employed approximately 11.6 million workers in 2023, accounting for 5.43% of the entire U.S. workforce and 6.1% of total private employment in the U.S. The jobs created by these industries are well-paying jobs; for example, copyright industry workers earn on average 51% higher wages than other U.S. workers. The report also broke new ground by measuring the copyright industries' significant contributions to the U.S. digital economy, as that concept was defined by the federal government. In 2023, the core copyright industries accounted for 51.39% of the U.S. digital economy and 49.1% of U.S. digital economy employment, even though the government's digital economy definition does not encompass the full range of the copyright industries' digital activities. In addition, according to the 2024 Report, the core copyright industries outpaced the U.S. economy, growing at an aggregate annual rate of 6.69% between 2020 and 2022, while the U.S. economy grew by 3.41%. When factoring in other industries that contribute to the copyright economy (which together comprise what the 2024 Report calls the "total" copyright industries), the numbers are even more compelling. Additionally, the 2024 Report highlights the positive contribution of selected copyright sectors to the U.S. overall trade balance. Given the importance of digital delivery to the copyright-based industries, this sector has the potential to multiply its export revenues if our trading partners provide strong copyright-protective environments. In 2023, these sectors contributed \$272.6 billion in foreign sales and exports, exceeding that of many other industry sectors, including chemicals, pharmaceutical and medicines, agricultural products, aerospace products and parts, and food and kindred products. The full economic report is available at https://www.iipa.org/files/uploads/2025/02/IIPA-Copyright-Industries-in-the-U.S.-Economy-Report-2024_ONLINE_FINAL.pdf.