

SONT Decree on Private Copying Levies 2026

The Stichting Onderhandeligen Thuiskopievergoeding (SONT; Foundation for Private Copying Levy Negotiations) has set the private copy levy rates for The Netherlands for 2026. The rates remain unchanged compared to 2025. This decision applies for a period of one year, starting January 1, 2026.

Currently, a case is pending before the Court of Justice of the European Union regarding whether downloads from paid streaming services (such as Spotify and Netflix) should be considered private copies. A ruling in this case is not expected until 2026. Given the uncertainty about the outcome and timing of this procedure, the majority of the SONT board has decided to keep the rates unchanged for 2026. In parallel, SONT continues the broad review of the rates that began in 2024. In this context, it has been decided to expand the underlying research in the coming months. There is a need for more measurements to establish a sufficiently robust and defensible basis for future rate setting.

Private copying levies as from 1 January 2026

The tariffs and devices subject to private copying levies will remain unchanged as of January 1, 2026, and are shown in the table below.

Table: Private Copying Tariffs and Devices 2026

Devices/media	Tariff 2026
PC / laptop / notebook / server / media center	€ 2.80
Tablet	€ 2.80
Smartphone / phone with mp3 player	€ 5.70
Portable audio / video player	€ 1.80
Settop box with hard disk / HDD recorder	-
E-reader	€ 0.80
External HDD, SSD and USB stick >= 256 GB	€ 0.90
USB stick < 256 GB	€ 0.40
Wearables with storage	€ 0.40

For refurbished devices offered to end users by a company, a rate applies that is 40% lower than the rate in the table.

The rate decision was made at the SONT board meeting of July 16. On September 2, the Court of Appeal in The Hague issued a ruling in the case Stichting De Thuiskopie vs. SES Computers. No levy can be charged on refurbished devices for which a levy has already been paid previously in the Netherlands. The board discussed the ruling at the meeting of September 30 and concluded that the impact on the rate decision appears limited, but further research is needed for clarity. The outcome will be included in the ongoing broad review for the decision for 2027 and subsequent years.

The new SONT decree on private copying levies has been published on 13 October 2025 in the [Staatscourant](#).

Background - Private copying levy

In the Netherlands, it is permitted to make copies of works protected by copyright and neighbouring rights for one's personal practice, study or use. For this exception, an equitable remuneration is legally owed to the authors and other rightholders of these works: the private copying levy. The amount of the remuneration is related to the damage suffered by rightholders as a result of private copying.

About the SONT

The Stichting Onderhandeligen Thuiskopievergoeding ([SONT](#)) (Foundation for Private Copying Levy Negotiations) is charged, pursuant to Section 16e of the Copyright Act and Section 10(a) of the Neighbouring Rights Act, with determining the amount of the private copying levies as referred to in Section 16c of the Copyright Act.

The SONT is chaired by independent chair Marco Pastors, who is assisted by independent advisors. On the board of the SONT, rightholders and those liable to pay are equally represented. Rightholders are represented by Stichting de Thuiskopie. Branch organisations NLdigital, STOBi and NLconnect sit on the board on behalf of those liable to pay.

Note to editors (not for publication):

For questions about this press release, please contact the secretariat of the SONT, tel. 070 3109101, info@onderhandelinguiskopie.nl.

You can find more information about the SONT and the new private copying decree on the [website](#).