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**31 March to 2 April 2011**, [World Book Summit 2011](#), Ljubljana, Slovenia

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**11 April 2011**, [Annual Charles Clark Memorial Lecture "Copyright in the Digital Age: balancing publisher and creator income with access for the public good"](#), London, UK

**26 April 2011**, [World Intellectual Property Day](#), Everywhere

**7 to 8 June 2011**, [World Copyright Summit 2011 "Creating value in the digital economy / Create-Connect- Respect"](#), Brussels, Belgium

**9 June 2011**, [IFRRO Business Models Forum](#), Brussels, Belgium

**10 June 2011**, [European Group meeting](#), Brussels, Belgium

**22 to 24 September 2011**, [PLR International Conference 2011](#) Brussels, Belgium

**24 to 27 October 2011**, [IFRRO World Congress 2011 \(AGM week\)](#), Ljubljana, Slovenia

**27 October**, [AGM 2011 session](#), Ljubljana, Slovenia

## **Links to other News:**

[PLS Accessibility Newsletter Number 11](#)

[PDLN Newsletter February 2011](#)

### **IFRRO asks for feedback to improve its performance**

In the fast-changing digital world, it is more important than ever to keep in touch with people's views and concerns. To that end we have employed the premier market research agency, BML to audit a sample of our stakeholders and members via an on-line questionnaire. The survey aims to help IFRRO understand how it is perceived by its members and external partners, and how it can develop its position and activities for the benefit of these organisations.

[Click here to answer survey.](#)

Should you have any questions regarding this survey, please email us [james.boyd@ifrro.org](mailto:james.boyd@ifrro.org).

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### **Report for CLA shows change to copyright laws could threaten investment and stifle literature**

A report from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) for the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA), shows that, in 2007, out of £4.3billion invested in new content in the UK, £1.6 billion went into arts and literature. The report goes on to changes to the copyright laws to benefit organisations such as Google would adversely affect the around 770,000 original content creators in the UK. For more see the [CLA press release](#).

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### **Boost for licensing in Argentina**

The Argentine RRO CADRA reports 85 new licences signed since November. These comprise 16 universities, 64 copy shops and learning centres.

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### **CCC appoints former US Register of Copyrights to its Board of Directors**

On 17 February the US RRO Copyright Clearance Center announced the appointment Marybeth Peters to its Board of Directors. Marybeth Peters has just stepped down as the US Register of Copyrights – a position that she held from 1994. For more see full [press release](#)

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### **Amended Google Book Settlement Agreement rejected by US Court**

On 22 March 2011, US Circuit Judge Denny Chin denied the motion for final approval of the Google Book Settlement, concluding that the Amended Settlement Agreement (ASA) is “not fair, adequate, and reasonable”.

At the same time, Chin set the date of 25 April 2011 for a status conference (at 4:30 pm, in Courtroom 11A of the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse, New York).

More specifically, Judge Chin suggested that many of the concerns raised in the objections could be ameliorated with one simple change, namely “if the ASA were converted from an ‘opt-out’ settlement to an ‘opt-in’ settlement (...). I urge the parties to consider revising the ASA accordingly”.

And: “While the digitization of books and the creation of a universal digital library would benefit many, the ASA would simply go too far. (...) Indeed, the ASA would give Google a significant

advantage over competitors, rewarding it for engaging in wholesale copying of copyrighted works without permission, while releasing claims well beyond those presented in the case.”

[The complete US Court order is available here:](#)

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### **Paris court fines Google for breach of copyright**

On 7 March 2011, a French court found Google (both Google France and Google Inc.) guilty of copyright infringement in four cases, ordering Google to pay a total of 430,000 EUR in damages and interest.

The case was brought by film producer Mondovino, along with documentary makers and a photographer, who argued that their works were appearing either via the Google search engine or directly on Google Video, despite demands to withdraw it.

Against this background it is important to mention that, on 9 February 2011, the French Parliament issued Parliamentary Report 296, urging the introduction of - alongside the editor and the host - a third category of web actors. This third category, "editor of services", requires hosts to monitor proactively the contents hosted. For further information (in French): <http://www.lepoint.fr/high-tech-internet/google-condamne-en-appel-pour-a...> and <http://www.senat.fr/notice-rapport/2010/r10-296-notice.html>.

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### **IFRRO submits comments on the European Commission Single Market Act consultation.**

In November 2010, the European Commission published a Communication listing 50 proposals for improving work, business and the way that citizens interact with one another - to build a Single Market Act for a highly competitive social market economy. It was followed by an electronic consultation to which IFRRO contributed at the end of February. In a nutshell, IFRRO underlined what areas of the Single Market are the most relevant for its constituency and where it felt the communication was lacking important elements for a global picture. The results should lead to an agreement with other EU institutions on the final set of priority actions to be implemented before the end of 2012.

IFRRO submission can be found at the [DG Internal Market web site](#).

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### **IFRRO makes submission to the European Commission consultation on enforcement of intellectual property rights**

IFRRO has made a submission to the European Commission (EC) consultation regarding the application of Directive 2004/48/EC on the enforcement of intellectual property rights. IFRRO believes that the EC, in collaboration with stakeholder representatives, could enable a better understanding of the value of copyright and how it can benefit the development of intellectual property. This includes considering whether the European Observatory on Counterfeiting and Piracy could take on a leading role in measuring the consequences of piracy and other forms of unauthorised uses of intellectual property; supporting existing and encouraging new awareness-raising programmes; and assist, including financially, the further development and deployment of apposite rights information infrastructure systems and technical standards and identifiers.

A copy of the submission can be [found here](#).

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### **IFRRO joins industry's initiative against EESC Member Gkofas's report on copyright**

On 14 March, a group of associations representing the cultural and creative sector sent a [joint letter](#) to the members of the European Economic and Social Committee study group on copyright asking them to request to M. Gkofas the withdrawal of his [report](#).

Indeed, this second attempt from M. Gkofas to have a report on copyright is unfortunately once again full of inaccuracies and unsubstantiated allegations. The draft report shows a lack of understanding of basic copyright concept and the copyright legislation in general as well as the management of rights by individuals or collective management organisations.

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### **Digital Agenda Commissioner believes in ARROW**

Addressing the ARROW conference in Brussels on 10 March, Digital Agenda Commissioner Neelie Kroes reiterated her belief and commitment to the ARROW project, which she described as “leading the way in showing how larger groups of stakeholders can work together to form a new digital future”. She also expressed high ambitions for ARROW, which she said had “huge potential” as well as giving her views on EC legislation on Orphan Works.

The Conference, which was well received by an audience of around 70, included a demonstration by head of project, Piero Attanasio, and presentations from Bruno Racine of the Bibliotheque National de France (BNF) and Dr Elisabeth Niggemann of Europeana. It presented the results of the ARROW project to date and IFRRO CEO, Olav Stokkmo outlined the challenges for the future, which will be taken up in the follow-up project ARROW+. An [ARROW press release](#) was issued and the European Commission released the text of [Commissioner Kroes' speech](#). Copies of the conference documents and presentations can be found on the [ARROW home page](#)

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### **Spanish Congress passes law, which include measures against piracy on the Internet**

The Spanish House of Congress has just approved the Law of Sustainable Economy (LSE), the second additional provision of which includes a number of measures to combat illegal downloading of protected content on the Internet. This text will change, among other laws, the Intellectual Property Services and the Information Society, once it enters into force after publication in the Official Gazette,

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### **CJEU releases opinion of the Advocate General in the “Stichting de ThuisKopie” case**

The question raised to the Court of Justice was : should a company, which is involved in a distance selling arrangement whereby it sells goods via the Internet to customers of a Member States which provides for fair compensation, pay the compensation in one of the two Member States.

The Advocate General confirmed the Padawan case in that it says that the compensation should be collected from end users, which in practice means it should be included in the price these individuals pay when they acquire such media and so be paid by the company selling the goods.

For full story see [IFRRO home page](#)

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### **After CJEU, Spanish Court rules on the Padawan case**

On 2 March 2011, the Court of Barcelona concluded in the case opposing the Spanish collective management organisation, SGAE, and the Padawan Company that a levy could only be applied to devices that are used for private purposes.

So, if a company is selling blank media to both private users and companies or professionals, it is necessary to make a distinction and only to apply the levy to devices that are sold to private users excluding devices sold to companies or professionals.

The Court clearly mentions that it is not justified to presume that devices sold to companies or professionals will be used for private copying.

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### **CLL initiative to create fund to digitise New Zealand titles**

Copyright Licensing Ltd (CLL) has established Digital Publishing New Zealand Limited (DPNZ). DPNZ is a not-for-profit company, owned by the NZ Society of Authors and the Publishers Association of New Zealand. The company's mission is to enable New Zealand publishers and authors to access a world class digital asset management and distribution system. Its vision is that in 2013 New Zealand digital books would be read throughout the world. In order to kick-start the reading of New Zealand works in digital form CLL has partnered with Creative NZ to create a funding pool of \$NZ100,000 to invest in converting print titles into ebooks. CLL are committed to titles of literary merit and cultural importance that New Zealanders (and others) will want to read digitally. Once the selected titles have been converted, they will be made available through various retail channels and promoted collectively via [www.greatnzebooks.co.nz](http://www.greatnzebooks.co.nz) (site to be launched mid-2011). It is envisaged that over 600 New Zealand titles will be converted through the fund. Publishers who have already invested in conversion and have ebooks ready to go to market, will also be able to access the digital asset management and distribution services of DPNZ.

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### **CEDRO collaborates with Emakunda and various publishers in a project to digitalise books**

The Basque Institute for Women, Emakunde has made available a total of 35 fully digitized books to the users of its [on-line documentation centre](#). This project, the first in its sector, has been made possible thanks to the management of CEDRO, which has facilitated making sure that this initiative respects the rights and intellectual property of authors and publishers.

Maria Silvestre, director of Emakunde has commented that "with the digitization of these works, our institute has been able to realize one of its objectives – the dissemination of knowledge and the support of equal opportunities, facilitating the access, transfer of information and participation of the citizens.

For her part, Magdalena Vinent, Director General of CEDRO, welcomes this project for making available digitized books because "it shows that it is possible to help internet users to access content while respecting authors' rights and intellectual property".

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### **Viscopy appoints Chief Executive**

Viscopy's Interim Chief Executive, Alida Stanley has been appointed to the position of Chief Executive effective 9 February 2011.

Alida has held the position of Viscopy's Interim Chief Executive since February 2010 following the commencement of former Chief Executive Joanna Cave's maternity leave. During her tenure as Chief Executive, Joanna Cave conducted a comprehensive review of Viscopy which resulted in a period of transformation for the organisation. Alida Stanley has further advanced the organisation in its quest to seek proper financial recognition for visual artists.

Alida has been a director of Viscopy since 2006. Alida graduated from the University of New South Wales Law School in 1998 and has worked in intellectual property, information technology, competition and regulatory law in Australia and the United States. Upon returning to Sydney from New York in 2005, Alida worked as the Senior Solicitor at the Arts Law Centre of Australia representing artists and arts organisations and as a Solicitor in the Office of General Counsel at The University of Sydney. Alida is a passionate supporter of the arts in Australia.

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### **IFRRO regrets WBU suspension of participation in WIPO and EU Stakeholder discussions**

IFRRO issued a Press release regretting the decision by the World Blind Union, announced on 26 February, to suspend its participation in the WIPO and EU Stakeholder discussions, which have shown every prospect of delivering timely solutions for the reading impaired community.

IFRRO CEO, Olav Stokkmo, points out that IFRRO supports the right of reading impaired persons to have appropriate access to text and image copyright material and is committed to developing appropriate solutions. We are also on record as having recognised the right of the reading impaired community to seek exceptions and limitations in national legislation. [Read full press release here.](#)

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### **UNESCO juxtaposes Creative Industries, Cultural Diversity**

UNESCO will host a meeting to bring together different points of view on the relationship between cultural industries and cultural diversity. The meeting, on 22 March at the UNESCO HQ in Paris, will be moderated by Georges Poussin, UNESCO's Chief of Section of Creative Industries, and will feature a presentation of the cultural survey in 30 countries by sociologist Frédéric Martel, the author of the noted *Mainstream : enquête sur cette culture qui plaît à tout le monde*.

He will be joined by creative personalities Férid Boughédir, author, film critic and award-winning director and Sharmila Roy, who teaches musicology at the National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilizations.

For further information see the [UNESCO site](#).

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