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### EVENTS:

**5 May 2015** [Future Media Lab: "Innovations in digital media: why accessing content has never been easier"](#), Brussels, Belgium

**2 to 3 June 2015** [IFRRO Midterm/Spring meetings - Vienna 2015](#), Vienna, Austria

**8 to 9 June 2015** [PDLN Annual Conference "Media Monitoring in the Global Village"](#), Zurich, Switzerland

**23 to 25 June 2015** [Seminar on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions: The Regional and International Dimensions](#), Geneva, Switzerland

**29 June to 3 July 2015** [WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights \(SCCR\) - 30th session](#), Geneva Switzerland

**5 to 14 October 2015** [Assemblies of Member States of WIPO \(55th series\)](#), Geneva, Switzerland

**14 to 18 October 2015** [Frankfurt Book Fair](#), Frankfurt, Germany

**11 November 2015** IFRRO World Congress & Annual General Meeting 2015, Mexico City, Mexico

**1 to 2 December 2015** [The Future of Author's Rights](#), Berlin, Germany

**7-11 December 2015** [WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights \(SCCR\) - 31st session](#), Geneva, Switzerland

LINKS TO OTHER NEWS:



## IFRRO

### **IFRRO CEO addresses League of Arab States meeting on Copyright and Collective Management**

On the occasion of the World Intellectual Property (IP) day, the League of Arab States (LAS) organised at its headquarters in Cairo, on 22 and 23 April, a conference on the *Challenges of the implication of Intellectual Property legislations in the Arab region*. The main purposes of the event was to raise awareness on the importance of IP and its enforcement, the importance of cooperating in promoting and protecting intellectual property, and the use of copyright in building business activities. The conference, which was masterfully chaired by the LAS Director of Intellectual Property & Competitiveness Dr. Maha Bakhiet Zaki, was coorganised with SMAS, was attended by government officials, government offices and lawyers in the Arab countries. Some researchers, authors, businesses and NGO representatives had also been invited to participate. The IFRRO CEO Olav Stokkmo, who was among the large number of international speakers who had been invited, spoke to the role of the creative sector in economic development and the importance of cooperation in promoting and protecting copyright. His message was inter alia that copyright and other IP are key to the creation of culture, wealth, employment and economic growth; that uses of copyright material under agreements with authors and publishers, complemented by those with RROs and other collective management organisations provide far better solutions than unremunerated exceptions and limitations can ever offer; and that collective rights management is indispensable to making authors rights and copyright work – for users, as well as authors and publishers, and society at large. .

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## RRO News

### **CEDRO and the University of the Basque Country reach an agreement on digital uses of copyright material**

CEDRO, IFRRO's RRO member in Spain, has recently reached an agreement with the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) regarding the use of copyright material. The agreement will allow the UPV/EHU to legally make use of material such as books and periodical publications. It means that up to 80% of the teaching activity is covered since the university works nowadays mainly in the digital environment. Students, teachers and administrative staff will benefit from the agreement, which will allow them the digital reproduction of up to 10% of each work (or one chapter of similar length). Uses of works will include: making available on their intranet, distribution and delivery by email, fixing the copies in digital media, one hard copy per person, or the incorporation of such material on internal documents or in presentations in different formats.

For more information, visit CEDRO's [website](#) (*in Spanish*).

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## **FILCOLS shortlisted for Publishers Association Copyright Protection Awards at LBF**

The Filipinas Copyright Licensing Society (FILCOLS), has been shortlisted for the Publishers Association Copyright Protection Award to be awarded at the London Book Fair later this month. The LBF awards, which are held in partnership with The UK Publishers Association, celebrate success in 18 categories, representing the breadth of the international publishing industry. The award eventually went to the Nigerian Publishers Association.

FILCOLS has been an IFRRO RRO member since 2009. IFRRO CEO, Olav Stokkmo, congratulated FILCOLS and its Executive Director Alvin Buenaventura on this recognition of the organisation's achievements and of Mr Buenaventura's personal contribution to RRO activities in the Philippines.

Click here for [full shortlist](#) and [winners](#).

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## **CLA agrees time and cost saving copyright arrangement for schools with UK Department for Education**

The Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) has reached an agreement with the UK Department for Education to provide a collective copyright licence that could save schools and councils up to £16.5 million per year<sup>1</sup> when calculated across all the licences in the package. By centralising in this way each school's administrative staff will no longer need to spend significant time and resources applying for and managing licences.

The bottom line is that by simplifying copyright licensing in schools, the substantial administrative savings will directly benefit schools whilst recognising the value of quality creative content in school life.

Click here for full [press release](#)

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## **Copyright Protection**

### **Major global piracy ring found liable for copyright infringement**

In an action co-financed by IFRRO, Operators of pirated content sites have been handed a substantial judgment in the United States for intentionally infringing copyrights, according to an announcement from International Publishers Association (IPA).

A United States federal court has found the operators of a massive global piracy ring liable for intentionally infringing copyrights, awarding the maximum damages allowed under US law. In Elsevier Inc. v. Victor Kozlov and Pavel Kazutsin, a joint action brought by the global publishing industry, it was revealed that defendants' sites – Avaxhome, Avaxsearch and other sites – were illegally providing instant access to complete digital copies of millions of popular books, movies, music, games, television programs, software, magazines, newspapers and other copyrighted content. Titles from 16,000 book publishers from many countries were available through the sites, which make money through advertising and registration fees.

See [IPA press release](#).

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## **U.S. Commerce Department Announces Digital Millennium Copyright Act Multistakeholder Forum Results**

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Internet Policy Task Force, through the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), has released a document developed by stakeholders containing a set of agreed upon practices aimed at improving the operation of the notice and takedown system under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA).

The document known as *DMCA Notice-and-Takedown Processes: List of Good, Bad and Situational Practices* was developed by the participants in the multistakeholder forum established as a result of the Commerce Department's Green Paper on [Copyright Policy, Creativity, and Innovation in the Digital Economy](#), released in 2013. The document identifies a number of “good”, “bad” and “situational” practices to improve the efficiency of the handling and processing of DMCA notices by both senders and recipients.

See full [press release](#)

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## **EU News**

### **RDI project presents to the European Parliament's Working Group on IPR and Copyright Reform**

On 22 April, the Rights Data Integration (RDI) project was presented to the European Parliament's Working Group on IPR and Copyright Reform, chaired by MEP Jean-Marie Cavada.

Project coordinator Andrew Farrow explained how the project tests the Linked Content Coalition's Rights Reference Model (RRM), successfully demonstrating that it is possible to automate some, or all of the rights in the supply chain and to integrate existing media-specific solutions. He explained how RDI will help identify solutions to further the Digital Single Market and will boost functional online licensing solutions for the creative content market. RDI supports any business model, including “free use” where agreed to by rightsholders, and use of works in the public domain.

IFRRO is a partner in the RDI Consortium.

Click here for [RDI presentation](#)

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## **Legislation**

### **New Spanish Penal Code introduces changes to regulation regarding crimes against intellectual property**

On 26 March, the Spanish National Assembly passed a comprehensive reform to the Penal Code. Among many other changes, the new law modifies certain aspects that could facilitate the prosecution of behaviours that violate intellectual property. Especially relevant are the ones related with online piracy.

The new code, which will enter in force on 1 July, 2015, has introduced major changes to its articles. The code reviews the sentencing regime and its application, adopts technical enhancements and introduces new offenses or adapts the penalties already existing in order to get a better response to the new forms of crime. These changes represent new legal tools for the protection of intellectual property and right holders' interests.

If you wish to have further information on the Spanish Penal Code, please visit CEDRO's [blog](#) (*in Spanish*)

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## Court cases

### **CJEU Advocate General: Banking secrecy can, under certain conditions, prevail over IP enforcement**

On 16 April 2015, Advocate General (AG) Cruz Villalón issued his [Opinion](#) in case C-580/13, Coty Germany GmbH v. Stadtsparkasse Magdeburg, a reference from the German Bundesgerichtshof (German Federal Court of Justice) to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU).

Responding to the German court's [question](#) concerning the interpretation of Article 8(3)(e) of the [EU Enforcement Directive](#), the AG advised the CJEU to rule that Article 8(3)(e) of the Enforcement Directive is to be interpreted in the sense that EU Member States may not allow banks to invoke banking secrecy unconditionally to refuse information regarding the name and address of the holder of an account.

To determine whether a national provision on banking secrecy is compatible with EU law, it is necessary to examine it from a fundamental rights perspective.

The complete AG's Opinion (to date, in Italian only) is available [here](#)

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## Value of Copyright

### **Copyright Industries continue to be a significant contributor to the Australian economy**

Copyright industries in Australia employ 8.7% of the workforce, contribute 7.1% of GDP and generate 1.8% of total exports according to a new survey by PwC commissioned by Australian Copyright Council (ACC). The report, which covers the period 2002-2014, has been updated with the 2014 figures, which show that copyright industries still make a significant contribution to the Australian economy.

See here for ACC [Press Release](#) and here for [full report](#).

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## **What are words worth now? – Top 5% of writers get 42% of authors' earnings while most are below minimum wage**

The UK Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society (ALCS) has released further figures from its survey of authors' earning which show that only a handful of top earning authors make a living out of writing while the majority earn less than the minimum wage from their writing.

In summer 2014, ALCS released the initial findings which revealed that the typical income of a professional author had fallen by 29% since 2005, along with the fact that increasingly few professional authors are able to earn a living solely from their writing, with just 11.5% doing so (down from 40% in 2005).

The new figures show that the top 5% of writers earned 42.3% of all the money earned by professional authors but, since 2005, the typical author earns only 87% of the present minimum wage. In the realm of self-publishing, the top 10% of earners made a profit of £7,000 or more, while the bottom 20% of authors who have self-published made losses of at least £400.

See [ALCS Announcement](#)

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## **Creator and Publisher Associations**

### **Press sector joins the campaign for #CopyrightForFreedom**

The press publishers' organisations ENPA, EMMA, EPC, have joined the recently launched #CopyrightForFreedom campaign. The campaign that is currently running in different social media platforms, aims at putting the spotlight on the importance of freedom of expression in the context of the ongoing debate on the copyright reform.

The #CopyrightForFreedom campaign will include the publication (on social platforms) of sector-specific texts and there will also be a dedicated campaign website to host all the different versions of this campaign, which will include a petition on [Change.org](#).

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## **Talking Copyright**

### **Some authoritative sources on copyright**

As never before, the issues of copyright, and the key role it plays in the global economy, are to the forefront all around the world. However, often the discussions are one-sided, lacking objectivity and frequently based on perceptions rather than hard facts. Therefore IFRRO believes that the overall level of the copyright debate needs to be improved and, to this end has produced a page (<http://www.ifrro.org/content/talking-copyright>) identifying a number of websites and bloggers, which have a record of speaking authoritatively on copyright issues. This does not mean that IFRRO endorses or shares all the views expressed in them but believes that they are worth following.

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## Standards

### **Michael Healy of CCC replaces IFRRO as Chair of ISNI**

After three years as Chair of ISNI, the IFRRO CEO Olav Stokkmo had informed the ISNI Board and founding members that he would not take re-nomination for a new term. He was replaced by Michael Healy of IFRRO member CCC, who was elected unanimously as the new Chair of the Board. ISNI is the standard, which unambiguously identifies the name used publicly by authors, publishers, researcher, inventor, and others contributing to a research or creative process. It has established itself as an important constituent within the family of ISO approved standards. Over 8.6 million ISNIs have been assigned so far. .

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