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EVENTS:

24 February 2015 [Digital for Europe Stakeholder Forum](#), Brussels, Belgium

24-26 March 2015 [30th IPA Congress](#), Bangkok, Thailand

8-9 April 2015 [Fordham IP Conference](#), Cambridge, United Kingdom

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

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

LINKS TO OTHER NEWS:

[IPA - January 2015 Newsletter](#)



IFRRO

IFRRO welcomes two new members

The IFRRO Board has approved two new members – [LATREPRO](#) from Latvia and [AAS](#) from Azerbaijan.

LATREPRO has been accepted as a Provisional RRO member of IFRRO and has been established by the Writers Union, four individual authors, the Publishers Association, the Association of Press Publishers and the Journalists Union. It has been approved by the Ministry of Culture as the Latvian RRO.

AAS is the Azerbaijani multi-purpose CMO and has been accepted as an IFRRO member in the category Creator and Publisher Association member. It has started by licensing musical works, and has been approved as a member of both IFRRO and CISAC.

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Changes to IFRRO Committees, Fora and Working Groups

The IFRRO Board has approved the following Chairmen appointments

- Visual Working Group: Mats Lindberg, Bildkonst Upphovsrätt i Sverige (Sweden) replaced by Vincent van den Eijnde, Stichting Pictoright (Netherlands)
- IFRRO Public Lending Right Forum : Benoît Proot, REPROBEL (Belgium) replaced by Christian Roblin, SOFIA (France)
- IFRRO African Development Committee: Greenfield K Chilongo, Zimcopy (Zimbabwe) replaced by Dora Makwinja, COSOMA (Malawi)

The Board thanked the outgoing Chairmen for their valuable service.

IFRRO and BPAI organise seminar on Collective management of rights in Jerusalem

IFRRO and its member the Book Publishers Association of Israel (BPAI) co-organised on 10 February 2015 a [seminar](#) on collective management of rights in Jerusalem. Israeli rightholders and other interested participants joined the seminar that took place in conjunction with the Jerusalem book fair. After an opening speech by Racheli Edelman (Chair of the BPAI), presentations were made by José Borghino (IPA), Carlo Scollo-Lavizzari (STM) and Pierre-Olivier Lesburguères (IFRRO) and were followed by a lively discussion with the audience.

During the seminar, rightholders expressed their interest and commitment to work together to set up a RRO in order to facilitate access to works while providing authors and publishers with a fair remuneration. Despite attempts over the last years, no licencing agreement has been signed so far with Israel's educational institutions. The upcoming revision of a private settlement agreement concluded in 2013 between two publishers and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem will be a good opportunity to open the discussion on the compensation of rightholders under Israel's fair use legislation.

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RRO News

Quebec: Rightholders and teachers oppose Canadian university's decision not to renew license

The decision of Laval University in Quebec, Canada, not to renew the blanket licenced that it had signed with Copibec – the RRO in Quebec – for the reproduction of copyright-protected works has been criticized in the country and worldwide. Since Spring 2014, Laval University has stopped paying remuneration for the reproduction of up to 10% of a work, the chapter of a book, or a full article, leading to millions of copies being made without fair remuneration given to rightholders. As reported in Le Devoir, the European Publishers and the Laval University Teachers' Union, among others, have expressed their dismay at a decision that has not been taken by any other university in Quebec.

Copibec has now filed a motion in the Quebec Superior Court to be authorised to launch a class action lawsuit against Laval University for copyright infringement, and it received the support of rightholders organisations including the Quebec Writers Union and the National Association of Book Publishers.

Further information from Le Devoir see [here](#) and [here](#) (in French).

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Changes at Access Copyright

The Canadian RRO, Access Copyright has announced significant changes both in strategy and personnel. The organization is striving to overcome several threats to the status quo, including an over-interpretation of education as a new fair dealing exception, and to play a vital role in bringing digital technologies and services to educators, students and researchers where high-quality, professionally-produced content can be accessed, used and shared that is pre-cleared for use and where the writers, artists and publishers of that content can also be rewarded.

It has therefore embarked on a journey of [Transformation and Renewal](#) involving the launch of several new services to [Canadian universities and colleges](#) and the appointment of Steve Billinger as its Director of Technology & New Ventures. On a sadder note, Access Copyright announced the [retirement of Brian O'Donnell](#), Director of Affiliate & International Relations, at the end of 2014. Within the IFRRO community, Brian was very active as Vice Chair of the IFRRO Development Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean. IFRRO CEO, Olav Stokkmo, paid a tribute to his efforts, saying "Brian's experience, clarity of vision and ability to relate to challenges faced by RROs in other countries and with other cultures, made him an ideal mentor for developing RROs. IFRRO members in the Caribbean are particularly grateful for his help in starting up their activities".

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Jamcopy funds culture

The Jamaican Copyright Licensing Agency (JAMCOPY) is pumping J\$1.5 million into the development of the Jamaican cultural landscape through the support of the Lignum Vitae Writing Awards. Created through the collaborative efforts of JAMCOPY and the Jamaican Writers Society (JAWS), the Lignum Vitae Writing Awards was created to stimulate and celebrate excellence in Jamaican literature.

JAMCOPY has provided the financial support for the awards through its Cultural Fund which was established in 2011.

See here for [press release](#)

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CADRA enabling access and rewarding copyright holders

CADRA, IFRRO Argentinean member, has announced that during its last fiscal year, they distributed close to 1 million of Argentinean pesos among authors and publishers locally. The amount corresponds to the moneys collected via licencing activities both analogical and digital.

The Argentinean RRO, a medium size organization with steady growth, has been active for over 10 years, despite the difficult economy of the country. In this context, CADRA continues attracting new members, providing awareness about copyright matters, licensing, fighting illegal reproduction of copyrighted material and piracy and attending relevant events where they provide free advice like they will do during the upcoming Course for Principals of the Superior Council of Catholic Education, which will take place in the province of Misiones.

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Copyright Management

UK Government launches consultation on implementation of CRM Directive

The UK Government has launched a [consultation](#) on proposals for the implementation of the Collective Rights Management (CRM) Directive. Implementation of this Directive into UK law must happen by April 2016. It will be consulting on two options (either to adapt the existing regulations to comply with the Directive, or to replace the existing regulations), as well as the discretionary provisions in the Directive and the costs of implementation. The deadline for comments is midday 30th March 2015.

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Copyright Protection

Online infringement hurts: interviews with Australian creators

Australian creators have been severely affected both financially and creatively by the widespread use of digital distribution models according to research by Melissa de Zwart, Professor, Adelaide Law School at University of Adelaide. Professor Zwart conducted interviews with a variety of creators in late 2014 about their attitudes to copyright and digital distribution.

She found that, while creators have been prepared to engage with various new models of distribution, such as Spotify and Flickr, they still encounter widespread unauthorised digital copying of their material. The research is presented in an article in [The Conversation](#).

The “safe harbour” regime – a compromise solution introduced in the US to limit the financial liability of online service providers for the illegal postings of their users – resulted in the development of the notice and take-down model of content management. This “post first and ask questions later” model facilitated the massive growth of the businesses such as YouTube. In turn, this fostered the emergence of remix culture and globally distributed user-generated content.

It was clear from the research that Australian creative people are under financial pressure and that this is affecting their capacity to create.

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Standards

La Trobe University: ISNI and track research activity for regional reporting

La Trobe University in Australia has been given the responsibility for gathering data on annual research outputs for reporting to the Australian government, which impacts federal funding and supports the country's benchmarking efforts.

In an article published by OCLC, La Trobe discusses the importance of the International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI) in facilitating this task.

See here for the [article on La Trobe](#).

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