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EVENTS:

17 to 28 June 2013 [Diplomatic Conference on a Treaty to facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons \(VIPs\) and Persons with Print Disabilities](#), Marrakesh, Morocco

20/ to 21 June 2013 [Workshop "Culture, Copyright and the Future of Access to Digital Content in Europe" - EuroDIG 2013](#), Lisbon, Portugal

15 to 24 July 2013 [WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, \(25th session\)](#), Geneva, Switzerland

29 July to 2 August 2013 [WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights \(26th session\)](#), Geneva, Switzerland

23 September to 2 October 2013 [Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO \(51st series\)](#), Geneva, Switzerland

15 October 2013 [5th Annual European E-Commerce Conference 2013: Assessing the progress towards a Digital Single Market in Europe](#), Brussels, Belgium

28 to 30 October 2013 [IFRRO World Congress 2013](#), Istanbul, Turkey

18 to 22 November 2013 [WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property \(12th session\)](#), Geneva, Switzerland

16 to 20 December 2013 [WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights \(27th session\)](#), Geneva, Switzerland

LINKS TO OTHER NEWS:

[Copibec Newsletter – May 2013](#)

[IPA Newsletter](#)

[PLS Accessibility Newsletter Issue 16](#)

IFRRO

IFRRO welcomes two new members

The IFRRO Board, at its meeting in June in Brussels, has approved two membership applications – from Italy and from Andorra.

The Centro Licenze e Autorizzazioni per le Riproduzioni Editoriali ([EDISER](#)) is a new Associate RRO representing publishers in Italy. It replaces AIDRO, which used to be an IFRRO member. EDISER takes over the licensing and other functions from AIDRO.

The Copyright and Neighbouring Rights Collecting Society of the Principality of Andorra ([SDADV](#)) has been accepted as a Provisional RRO. SDADV is a multipurpose CMO administering rights on behalf of rightholders in various sectors, including the text and image sector. The administration is on an exclusive basis. . It commenced its activity in 2011 but has not yet started to license users.

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IFRRO welcomes Assistant Policy Advisor in Secretariat

IFRRO is pleased to announce that Pierre-Olivier Lesburguères, a French citizen with a legal background, has been engaged on a 12 months contract, from 1 June 2013, as Assistant Policy Advisor. He will assist in monitoring EU and WIPO issues, and in regional development work.

As of 1 June, Ingrid de Ribaucourt has left IFRRO. We thank her for her valuable contributions to IFRRO's achievements and wish her the best in her future endeavours.

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IFRRO, IAF and IPA support IRRO in article in the Hindu

Olav Stokkmo, on behalf of IFRRO, Owen Atkinson, CEO of the Authors' Licensing & Collecting Society (ALCS)(UK) on behalf of the International Authors Forum (IAF) and Jens Bammel, Secretary General of International Publishers Association (IPA) have supported the Indian Reproduction Rights Organisation (IRRO) in an article published in the Hindu.

Copyright assures the supply of quality educational material worldwide. The world and India need well-educated graduates and university students need access to high quality educational material. Students often need to copy pages and chapters easily, quickly, inexpensively and legally but their copying activity must not cut off future Indian students from a steady stream of great educational content: today's graduates are tomorrow's authors and publishers.

No one wants to block students' access to copyright works. Quite the contrary! A practical solution is offered all over the globe by Reproduction Rights Organisations (RROs), such as IRRO in India, which licence universities for some of the students' copying of copyright works and collect reasonable fees per student to pay the authors and publishers. Typically the cost for all the copying during a year will be less than what students spend on an evening in a student café.

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RRO News

CLA chief Executive recognised for services to Intellectual Property

Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) Chief Executive and IFRRO Board Member, Kevin Fitzgerald, has been appointed Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (CMG). This honour is awarded by the British monarch, for important or loyal service in relation to foreign and Commonwealth affairs.

Fitzgerald has been recognised for his services to British economic interests, in particular, the promotion of intellectual property internationally and the welfare of British nationals imprisoned abroad.

Under Fitzgerald's leadership the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) - currently in its 30th anniversary year - has worked closely with IFRRO towards developing a robust international copyright system that supports creators and publishers and underpins the UK creative industries. IFRRO President, Rainer Just and IFRRO CEO, Olav Stokkmo, commented : "We are delighted with this recognition of Kevin's important contribution to the support and protection of Copyright and Intellectual Property. Kevin has been active in IFRRO, particularly as Chair of the European Group, and his expertise and enthusiasm have been essential to IFRRO's lobbying activities".

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KOPINOR participates in hosting of training course co-organised with WIPO on copyright and collective management in Oslo

From June 10 through June 21, 20 participants from 17 developing countries were gathered in Oslo for a two weeks training under the heading "Exercise and Management of Copyright and Related Rights", hosted by Norcode, a company that is part owned by the Norwegian RRO, KOPINOR.



Photo by Erika Wollner

The program is offered and organised by in cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organisation, WIPO. Six of the participants represent government bodies and the remaining 14 comes from collective management organisations. IFRRO-members from Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda and Tanzania are among the latter group.

The program covers lectures by international experts on selected subjects, workshops and study visits to the Norwegian CMOs. IFRRO CEO, Olav Stokkmo, who is among the lecturers, has underlined the importance of the event. "Fostering regional development is an important part of IFRRO's activities and good management is a the key to the credibility and achieving confidence in the work of RROs whether in developed or developing countries", he said, adding : "I am grateful to WIPO for offering its collaboration to enable the organising of this event and to Norcode also for their hospitality".

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EU Affairs

IFRRO position on the EU Presidency's revised compromise proposal for a CRM Directive

IFRRO has issued a position statement on EU Presidency's revised compromise proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive on Collective Rights Management (CRM) recognising it as a clear improvement on the original but nevertheless raising some concerns.

IFRRO welcomed a number of changes including the replacement of "collecting society" by "collective management organisations" (CMO) throughout the document, which has long been requested by IFRRO, the fact that more decisions are now left to be decided by the Member States (thus better ensuring the principles of subsidiarity) and the recognition that the different models under which RROs operate are compatible with the Directive. We also

welcome the specification that dispute resolution mechanisms may be used by both CMOs and users

However objections were also made, among others, to the too detailed and ambiguous set of criteria for tariff setting; the high level criteria on fairness combined with appropriate dispute resolution settlement mechanisms should be sufficient. It is also necessary that the Directive recognises the validity of legal license model and of the remuneration right, and, most importantly, that the definition of a CMO is drafted in way that it excludes publishers and publishing activities from the scope of the Directive. Also, the reference to the Service Directive should be deleted. Finally IFRRO drew attention to various areas of the Directive that needed further clarification including whether the Directive addresses adequately the right of rightholders to establish distribution rules and plans, including the split of the revenue between authors and publishers, within the framework of the national CMO and limits set by national legislation.

[The full text of the position paper can be found here.](#)

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WIPO

IFRRO Opening Statement at WIPO Diplomatic Conference for Persons with Print Disabilities

At the Opening Session of the [Diplomatic Conference](#) to conclude a Treaty to facilitate Access to Published Works by Persons with Print Disabilities, which is taking place from 17-28 June in Marrakesh/Morocco, IFRRO highlighted that an international treaty as an outcome of this Conference should address the specific concerns raised by the print disabled community, and, at the same time, uphold the copyright principles. Enabling and encouraging all stakeholders to work together is indispensable to achieve wide access to accessible works and accessible format copies across borders.

Click here for the [complete IFRRO Opening Statement](#)

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IFRRO Member News

IFJ Denounces Attempts by Freedom of Expression Group to Weaken Copyright Protection for Journalists

The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) has denounced a set of principles issued by Article 19 to unduly restrict creators' copyright protection.

In a letter addressed to Article 19 Executive Director, Agnès Callamard, the IFJ has raised its concerns over "The right to share: principles of freedom of Expression and Copyright in the Digital Age", a document that opposes two fundamental rights that safeguard the independence and the integrity of the journalistic profession.

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IPA Raises Questions about Open Educational Resources - Free Content Comes at a High Price

The International Publishers Association (IPA) has published a policy paper outlining the publishing industry perspective on Open Educational Resources (OER).

The policy paper notes that open educational resources have worked well as complements to textbooks and commercial content, but the experience of the past decade — with free content on the Internet aiming to replace publisher-created textbooks — has demonstrated that it is difficult to maintain the quality, efficacy and sustainability necessary for good education.

The position paper calls on policy makers to continue to explore new content procurement models, but to avoid damaging education by replacing effective and efficient textbook markets with untested content creation mechanisms. Asking simple factual questions when embarking on OER projects can ensure their success and avoid hurting education.

[Click here for IPA Paper](#)

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Copyright Advocates

Creative industries are source of value and of a healthy democracy and need to be protected - Al Gore's "The Future"

In his latest book "The Future" former Vice-President, Al Gore emphasises the need to compensate for the work done by individuals. There is a decoupling of "gains in productivity from gains in the standard of living for the middle class", which needs to change as "This trend is now nearing a threshold beyond which so many jobs are lost that the level of consumer demand falls below the level necessary to sustain healthy economic growth."

Many copyright based activities fall within this category, such as newspapers, book and photography stores, and the work of creators themselves. There is a battle between those who want information to come for free and those who depend on payment for it to make a decent living and thus contribute to the development of a healthy sustainable economic growth; "Between corporations whose business models depend on the ability to protect intellectual property contained in computers connected to Internet and competitors who seek to steal that intellectual property by using other computers also connected to the Internet."

Although Gore paints a disturbing picture of technology running out of control and decision making governed by short-termism and hijacked by self-serving elites, who have appropriated to themselves the value of the work of others, he also points out the role that recognising the value of creative contribution can play in securing in the development of a more encouraging future.

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