

Book reviews

New Frontiers of Intellectual Property Law
edited by Christopher Heath and Anselm Kamperman Sanders
(Hart Publishing, 2005)

This book is Volume 25 in a long-running series of studies in industrial property and copyright law carried out as part of a joint research project by the Max Planck Institute, Munich and the Macau Institute of European Studies (IEEM). The book aims to address global developments in intellectual property (IP) law and policy and their effect on cultural and economic expansion. It covers an extensive range of topics discussed at the third and fourth IP conferences presented by IEEM. The main focus of the conferences was to address current developments in industrial property.

The book is divided into four parts comprising contributions from 16 legal academics. Each part contains several detailed papers on distinct topics. However, this is not a cohesive text covering a broad range of issues in relation to an overarching subject matter – but rather a compendium of the papers delivered at the conferences.

Part 1 comprises four papers on IP Cultural Heritage. The topics covered are the modernisation of traditional Chinese medicine, traditional knowledge in Australia and South East Asia, copyright collecting societies in developing countries and Maori culture and trade mark law in New Zealand.

Part 2 examines geographical indications. The three papers address international, bilateral and regional agreements, future solutions for protecting geographical indications and the interaction between trade marks and geographical indications.

The five papers in Part 3 discuss multiple protections and overprotection of intellectual property rights, namely the protection of software and computer-related inventions by patent and copyright, the protection of aesthetic creations as three-dimensional marks, designs or copyright works or under unfair competition, the protection of technological measures by copyright and contract, appropriate remuneration of achievements, and technical protection measures for patents.

Part 4 contains three papers on enforcement. Topics covered include enforcing industrial property rights, criminal enforcement of intellectual property rights, recent developments in the judicial protection of intellectual property rights in China, and the enforcement of intellectual property rights in Hong Kong.

This book is an excellent up-to-date resource for academics and lawyers and the well-researched papers provide comprehensive summaries of the individual topics. The editors have done a commendable job of grouping together the relevant papers under appropriate subject headings to assist readers to locate material relevant to their interests.

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