



Ministry of Security and Justice

Towards *flexible* copyright?

International conference

Friday February 10th, The Hague

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In modern times, rapid technological development enables consumers to easily produce and publish creative ideas and exchange them through the internet, e.g. by social media. This often entails the use of works subject to copyright. Whereas the EU-copyright directive with its so-called three step test provides for a closed catalogue of limitations, the American copyright tradition with its fair use exception provides for a system of flexible exceptions.

The pressure on the limitative list of exceptions provided for by the EU-copyright directive seems to increase. It is said that the list insufficiently covers today’s fast moving technological developments. On the other hand, it is said it enhances legal certainty rather than the fair use-system.

A system of flexible exceptions could be an important element of the challenges and possibilities regarding the online distribution of works protected by copyright. It will be further explored in an international conference ‘Towards flexible copyright law?’, hosted by the Netherlands State Secretary of Security and Justice. At this conference national and international scholars and practitioners will shed their light on this important theme.

Practical information

Date and place

The conference will take place on Friday February 10th at the Hague Academy for International Law, located in the Peace Palace (www.vredespaleis.nl) in The Hague. On Thursday February 9th a reception for all participants is offered by the State Secretary of Security and Justice in Pulchri Gallery (www.pulchri.nl), located in the historic district of The Hague.

Costs

Participation is free of charge and on a first come first served base. Participants are invited to take charge of their own travel expenses. Special arrangements are made with the Novotel Hotel Den Haag, which is situated close to Pulchri Gallery and can be booked by using the attached form. Transport from the Novotel Hotel to the Peace Palace as well as from the Peace Palace to The Hague Central Station will be arranged by the Ministry of Security and Justice.

Subscription

Participants are invited to subscribe by using the following link:

<http://formulieren.justitie.nl/towardsflexiblecopyright>

Additional information

For questions regarding logistics please contact:

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For questions regarding the programme please contact:

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Programme

Thursday February 9th 2012

18:00 - 20:00

Reception for all participants

Pulchri Gallery, The Hague

Friday February 10th 2012

Venue: Academy Hall, The Hague Academy for International Law, Peace Palace, The Hague.

Please note that the conference will be in English.

09.00 – 09.30

Registration

Coffee and tea

09:30 - 09.40

Opening by the chairwoman

Arda Gerkens, Former member of the Dutch House of Representatives

for the Socialist Party. Former chair of the Parliamentary committee for copyright law

09.40 – 10.05

Fred Teeven, State Secretary of Security and Justice

The importance of flexibility for Dutch copyright policy

10.05 – 10.30

Representative of the European Commission (to be confirmed)

A flexible exception in the Commission's copyright policy?

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee and tea

11.00 – 11.30

Bernt Hugenholtz, Professor of Copyright Law University of

Amsterdam, Member of the Netherlands State Committee on

Copyright Law

The need for flexibility in copyright law

11.30 - 12.00	<p>Edmund Quilty, Director, Copyright and IP Enforcement Directorate, Intellectual Property Office United Kingdom</p> <p><i>New legislative proposals in the United Kingdom</i></p>
12:00 – 12:30	Discussion
12:30 – 13:45	Lunch
13.45 – 14.15	<p>Martin Senftleben, Professor of Intellectual Property Law, Free University Amsterdam, Partner Bird & Bird The Hague, Member of the Netherlands State Committee on Copyright Law</p> <p><i>The possibilities for a flexible exception within the acquis communautaire</i></p>
14.15-14.45	<p>Valérie Laure Benabou , Professor of Private Law, Director of the Laboratoire de Droit des Affaires et Nouvelles Technologies, University of Versailles Saint Quentin en Yvelines</p> <p><i>A critical point of view on more flexibility</i></p>
14.45-15.15	<p>Jonathan Griffiths, Senior Lecturer Intellectual Property Law, Queen Mary University London</p> <p><i>The relation between copyright law and the fundamental freedoms</i></p>
15:15 – 15:45	Coffee and tea
15:45 – 16:30	<p>Panel discussion with representatives of the right holders and the users</p> <p><i>Users: Fred von Lohmann, Senior Copyright Counsel Google</i></p> <p><i>Rightholders: to be confirmed</i></p>
16:30 – 17.00	Discussion
17.00 – 17:15	Synthesis and closure by the chairwoman



Pulchri Gallery

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