



European Copyright Law: A Commentary

By Michel Walter, Silke von Lewinski

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This book is an updated English language version of a highly regarded commentary published in German by Springer in 2001, covering all of the EU Directives on copyright law and related rights, with article-by-article analysis of the provisions, as well as the relevant background of general EC law.

The analysis of each article examines its antecedents in national laws, the negotiating history, the meaning and purpose of the wording, interpretive rulings by the European Court of Justice, and key issues relating to implementation of the regulations and rulings by the Member States, concentrating in particular on the UK, France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Hungary.

The revised English edition takes into account the many significant developments which have taken place since the German edition was published, including the Software Directive, the Database Directive, the revised text of the Product Piracy Regulation, the Enforcement Directive and the review of the EC legal framework in the field of Copyright and Related Rights.

This book is a must have text for practitioners and academics working in the areas of intellectual property law and policy-making as it offers for the first time in the English language, a clear and comprehensive analysis of European Copyright Law in the style of a commentary. Relevant Europe-wide, this book also has a global market given the importance of the EU in intellectual property circles around the world.

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Editorial Review

Review

The second edition of European Copyright Law is particularly relevant in that it offers an extensive review of the *acquis communautaire*, especially now that the debate on a uniform copyright title for Europe has been launched by academics as well as decision makers. This impressive book also takes into account the most recent developments at the national level and the changes resulting from the new Treaty of Lisbon. This book will serve as a valuable tool for anyone dealing with European copyright law issues. Alain Strowel, Of Counsel, Covington & Burling LLP In summary, the work is a magnificent reference text and a worthy addition to any copyright library and it will probably become a central text in the copyright field Phillip Johnson, Barrister, European Intellectual Property Review The current edition reflects - as did the first edition, published in 2001 - the increasing harmonization of copyright in the European Community and is logically presented in the form of an article by article commentary by a team of highly regarded experts in this important area of law. The result is a thorough, in-depth examination of copyright-related directives and regulations. A survey of legislative materials, legal instruments and bibliography precedes each directive or regulation cited and it is a heavy-weight book in every sense of the word!..The book contains a wealth of diverse material, from Fundamental rights, European Competition Law and Free Movement of Goods and Services to the various directives pertaining to, for example, computerization, satellite and cable technologies, rental and lending rights and of course enforcement Phillip Taylor of Richmond Green Chambers ...monumental commentary on European copyright law...Its almost unique character and its enormous merits in commenting, analyzing and, where necessary, criticizing the whole body of European copyright law...make it a must Adolf Dietz, Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property and Competition Law ...highly commendable...the work has remained such a major coup also in the second edition published in 2010 Katzenberger I would heartily recommend as an important addition to any copyright collection. Charlotte Waelde, Journal of Media Law In summary, iEuropean Copyright Law: A Commentary is one of those books which appears from time to time (sometimes just once a decade) and makes a fundamental contribution to knowledge in the field, either for being a pioneering work or for being a complete work of high quality in terms of its content. In this case, the rarity of the book which I am reviewing is that it has both of these characteristics simultaneously. Pe.I. (Revista de propiedad intelectual), vol. 40. iEuropean Copyright Law: A Commentary is a prodigious achievement and should be the model for other volumes on European patent and trademark law. Marshall Leaffer, Journal of the Copyright Society of the U.S.A It is easy to conclude that iEuropean Copyright Law will be the standard reference work on EU copyright law for a long time to come, and anyone doing research on EU copyright law will have to make use of this volume. Marshall Leaffer, Journal of the Copyright Society of the U.S.A

About the Author

Michel M Walter is a Honorary Professor at the Vienna University Law School and Visiting Professor at the Danube University Krems, specializing in intellectual property rights. He teaches in a number of universities and master programs. He was a member of the EC group of Copyright experts Brussels and of the Austrian Copyright Arbitration Board. Michel M Walter is a practicing lawyer in Vienna, president of the Austrian Group of ALAI and co-editor of the journal *Medien und Recht International* (Media and Law International). He is a well known authority in the field of intellectual property rights and author of numerous articles and books in particular on national, European and International copyright and related rights as well as private international law.

Dr. Silke Von Lewinski is a head of department who specializes in international and European copyright

law at the Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property, Munich. She has been an expert consulting the European Commission, eg on the EC Rental Rights Directive, and the WIPO Diplomatic Conference 1996, which led to the WCT and WPPT (preparation, and member of the EC delegation). She has been the chief legal expert consulting the governments of Eastern and Central European and former Soviet countries on their copyright legislation in the framework of the initial EC's TA programs from 1995 and works under subsequent programs, including in Asia. In addition, Dr. von Lewinski is teaching at different universities and institutions worldwide, such as at Franklin Pierce Law Center (USA) and at the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center.

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