

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HELLENIC COPYRIGHT ORGANIZATION (OPI)**  
**ON ACTIONS AGAINST PIRACY**  
**2010**

**A. Legislative Framework**

1. Amendment of Copyright Law 2121/1993 (Law 3905/2010 - Of. Gaz. 219/A/23.12.2010). Provisions regarding the collective management and some administrative arrangements are included in this latest amendment. Since the last amendment the administrative fine is also applied and to the reproduction and distribution of sound recordings that take place inside shops. Also the Police Authorities of the Ministry of Merchant Shipping are added to the competent enforcement authorities of the administrative fine (**December 2010**).
2. A **draft provision** was sent to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism **concerning the non-application of the secrecy of communications with regard to cases of copyright infringement characterized as felony (December 2010)**.
3. **Circular sent by the Public Prosecutor in the Supreme Court (Areios Pagos) to all Attorney Generals aiming towards their awareness regarding infringement of copyright and related rights, at OPI's request. (June 2010)**.
4. **Remarks to the draft Code of Civil Procedure**

Letter to the Ministry of Justice concerning the draft law for the amendment of Code of Civil Procedure **in order Article 64 Law 2121/1993 (possibility for *ex parte* search orders) not to be set aside**, since this amendment would be contrary to the *acquis communautaire* and detrimental for the right holders. (**May 2010**).

5. **Establishment of a special division for copyright cases in the Court of First Instance in Patra**

Letter to the Ministry of Justice for the establishment of special division for IP cases **in the Court of First Instance in Patra due to the large number of copyright cases (May 2010)**.

**B. Statistics**

1. **Update of OPI' database (Observatory for Piracy, see below) including statistics from Greek Police, courts and the Municipal Police.**

2. **Reminder circular (119922/29.11.2010)** sent by the Ministry of Justice to the **Heads of the Court of Appeals and the Courts of First Instances in order to forward to OPI or to the Ministry of Justice all relevant copyright cases, at OPI's request (October 2010).**

### **C. Co-operation with other authorities**

1. **Participation of OPI and submission of proposals to the first meeting of the under formation National Task Force for combating counterfeit goods in the framework of the General Directorate of Customs, Ministry of Finance (September 2010).**

2. **Special Report 301**

OPI has actively participated in the formation of the Greek Report as regards the realized national actions for combating piracy and non-entering in the Watch List of the Special Report 301 created by the US Trade Representative Office (USTR).

3. **Participation in the IPR Co-ordination Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its Working Group.**
4. **Creation of a Working Group to combat online copyright piracy.**

On **14.05.2010** OPI met at the Ministry of Culture and Tourism with representatives of collecting and collective protection societies, in the presence of the Legal Advisor of the Minister. The major subject of the meeting was **internet piracy**. During this meeting a **Working Group to combat online copyright piracy** was created, composed of representatives of the collecting and collective protection societies.

5. On **28.05.2010** a **meeting of the Working Group to combat online piracy** took place at the premises of OPI focusing on possible solutions.
6. **Appointment of contact persons** by the Custom Authorities, the Finance and Economic Crime Unit (SDOE) and the Municipal Police, at OPI's request, **for enabling the co-ordination of enforcement authorities regarding the combat of IPR infringements (February 2010).**

7. **Co-operation with the Ministry of Education**

- OPI requested the Ministry of Education to send a circular to schools informing teachers and students about the possibility **to find educative**

**material of OPI in the websites of the Ministry for the needs of lessons where basic principles of copyright are taught (February 2010).**

- **Letter to the Ministry of Education in order for the relevant educative copyright material of OPI to be uploaded to the new digital platform of the Ministry of Education so as to be accessed by the entire educational community (November 2010).**
- 8. Co-operation with the Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks, General Secretary of Communications**

**Memo on digital piracy and participation in the meeting of the General Secretary of Communications with representatives of the European Commission about the state of play of the electronic communication market in Greece (October 2010).**

## **D. Training**

### **1. Enforcement Authorities**

- Proposal to organize a **seminar on IPR issues at the Finance Training School (Ministry of Finance) for the Customs and the Finance and Economic Crime Unit officials (SDOE) (January 2010).**
- Submission of proposal to the **Institute of Education – National Centre for Public Administration (Ministry of the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization) to renew our co-operation and to incorporate copyright issues in some of the Institute’s educational programmes (October 2010).**

### **2. Lawyers- Judges**

**Electronic library services (Greek, international and European Union legal framework, relevant jurisprudence, bibliography, articles and expert opinions) and newsletter services on OPI’s website.**

### **3. Small and medium enterprises**

- On **21/1/2010** OPI has participated in a seminar in Thessaloniki for the **“Protection of goods from Counterfeiting”** organized by the **Industrial Property Organization with the co-operation of the Federation of Industries of Northern Greece (FING).**

- On **26/1/2010** OPI participated in the conference “**Intellectual Property Rights: Protection and Legal Framework**”, which was organized by the **American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce** in Athens.
- On **10/3/2010** OPI participated in the seminar “**Protect your intellectual property rights**”, organized by the **Industrial Property Organization** in the framework of the European Programme IPeuropAware.
- On **15/4/2010** OPI participated (Measures against the infringement of intellectual property rights in Greece) in the “**Seminar on the Enforcement of Plant Variety Rights**” organized by the **Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO)** and the **Ministry of Rural Development and Food** in Athens.
- On **27/5/2010** OPI participated in the seminar “**Intellectual Property Rights for Small and Medium Enterprises – Means and tools fore their enforcement**” in the framework of the European Programme IPeuropAware that took place at the premises of the Industrial Property Organization.
- On **15/6/2010** OPI participated in the first seminar “**IP Protect for SMEs and Start-Ups**” of the **IPR Protect** that took place at the **Center of Innovation Microelectronics** ([www.corallia.org](http://www.corallia.org)).
- On **07/12/2010** OPI participated in a seminar on “**Intellectual Property Rights for SMEs - Means and tools for their enforcement - Sectoral Guides**”, organized by the Industrial Property Organisation in co-operation with the Association of Thessalian Enterprises & Industries (STHEV) and the Help-Forward Network in Larissa (member of Enterprise Europe Network-Hellas), held in Larissa. The seminar was organised in the context of the "IPeuropAware" project and aimed to provide Greek innovative and productive SMEs with information on how to protect their products and how to fight counterfeiting.

## **E. Education – Raising Awareness**

### **1. General Public**

- **Creation of an Observatory for Piracy on OPI’s website** (<http://web.opi.gr/portal/page/portal/opi/info.html/techhelp.html>)

The ‘**Observatory for Piracy**’ gathered the entire relevant legal -national and European- framework, the competent authorities, the collecting and the collective protection societies -at national and international level, the relevant national jurisprudence and the latest developments regarding copyright infringement. Finally, a number of useful national, European and international links are

mentioned. The ‘**Observatory for piracy**’ is a dynamic website constantly updated with the latest copyright developments. (**September 2010**).

- **Celebration of the World Intellectual Property Day**

In **April 2010** OPI organized an internet campaign to celebrate the World Intellectual Property Day (26/4/2010) sending press releases to the media, the public administration, the educational institutions, the local government, the bar associations and others.

## **2. Pupils and Students**

- OPI informed the Ministry of Education about the ‘**REAL fake**’ competition for schools organised by the European Parliament. Aim of this competition was to raise the awareness of pupils and students between 10 and 15 years old regarding the dangers of piracy and counterfeiting, by encouraging them to design a logo or a stamp for the European Observatory on Counterfeiting and Piracy or to produce short stories, games and films, or any other items about the problem of counterfeiting and piracy. The winner of the 1st category for best "**Logo/Poster**" for the European Observatory on Counterfeiting and Piracy was **First High School of Triandria (Thessaloniki)**.
- OPI in co-operation with the Ministry of Education forwarded its **educative electronic material** on **school websites** as **additional educational material** for students and teachers.

## **3. Publicity actions in the Mass Media**

In the context of promoting OPI’s aims **interviews were given to various periodicals**.