



Country report: Hong Kong

Annual report to the IFLA CLM committee
Singapore 2013

Copyright

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region issued a consultation document in July 2013 to consult the public for three months on how to deal with parody in the Hong Kong copyright regime. The following three options are provided to strike a balance between copyright protection and freedom of expression:

- Clarification of existing provisions for criminal sanction under the Copyright Ordinance
- Introduction of a criminal exemption for parody
- Introduction of a fair dealing exception for parody

Public Awareness of Intellectual Property

The Intellectual Property Department (IPD) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government commissioned a marketing research company to undergo the Survey on Public Awareness of Intellectual Property Right Protection and the Survey on Business Attitudes to Intellectual Property. According to the IPD, the results revealed that the awareness of intellectual property rights is high among the general public and business establishments in Hong Kong.

The Survey on Public Awareness of Intellectual Property (IP) Right Protection revealed that out of the 1001 respondents, 89 per cent realized IP included copyright, patents, trademarks and registered designs. 95 per cent confirmed the necessity in protecting IP rights. 36 per cent of Internet users indicated that they would pay for songs, movies, computer software, games and e-books downloaded from authorized websites.

Educational activities

The Task Force on Copyright in Education under the Heads of Universities Committee (HUCOM) was dissolved and was requested to hand over its business to the Copyright Committee of the Joint University Librarians Advisory Committee (JULAC) which is also under HUCOM.

Academic libraries funded by the University Grant Council have been providing assistance in copyright clearance for research assessment of their institutions.