
Preface

This second edition of the *Research Handbook on Copyright Law* is a radical departure from the first edition. That should not come as a surprise, though. Copyright has become a fast-moving area of intellectual property law, and that is also reflected in the wealth and diversity of copyright research.

For this edition, I once again had the privilege of working with a group of excellent copyright experts from around the globe. I found their diverse perspectives on the subject to be highly enriching, and I hope the handbook manages to pass that wonderful experience on to its readers.

In terms of topics, no attempt has been made to cover the area of current copyright research exhaustively. That would have required an encyclopedia. Instead, we have tried to cover a mix of interesting topics, some of them a bit more traditional than others.

We could not escape touching on the historical foundations of copyright, its inherent tensions or the basic concept of originality. Neither could we avoid the massive discussion surrounding the right of communication to the public. But we also focus on moral rights and the artist resale right.

Copyright contracts are already less mainstream as a topic in the common law world, and from there we move on to collective management, issues surrounding streaming and sampling, cultural heritage, orphan works, search engines and the potential for a public policy exclusion. We also look at specific jurisdictions and private international law.

Taking all of that together, we hope to have provided a rich and interesting research tool that reflects the wealth and diversity of the ongoing research in the area of copyright.

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Nottingham, 15 December 2016

