

Christine Godt, Geertrui Van Overwalle, Lucie Guibault and Deryck Beyleveld (eds.)

Boundaries of Information Property

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This book is the result of a long-term comparative research project on intellectual property, with topics ranging from patents to copyright, examined across 16 jurisdictions. It does not aim at commenting on current policy issues. The country reports unearth the culturally, morally and historically imprinted thought patterns across Europe which underpin current discussions on the appropriation of information and which do not change quickly. The research results question the common narratives of the distinctiveness of private and public law, contracts and property, and morality and the law. The focus is on public interests which are pursued when assigning information as property. The 14 selected cases, based on recent, and in some cases futuristic scenarios when the project began in 2001, aim to identify how boundaries of information property emerge, the areas of law that are applied and the principles that are followed in order to balance the conflicting interests at stake. The book shows how some national discussions appear similar on the surface, in terms of resorting to parallel principles, but subsequent domestic policy answers vary greatly. Even legislation which aims at harmonisation may result in more diversity. Inversely, in pursuing an identical policy, the research shows that countries install contrasting legal rules which aim to instigate exactly the same behavioural change.

Boundaries of Information Property is aimed at researchers in IP and practitioners interested in the foundational theory of their subject. It is an inspiring read for those interested in the deeper structures of regulating information.

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With a foreword by Sjef van Erp and contributions by Christine Godt, Geertrui Van Overwalle, Lucie Guibault, Deryck Beyleveld, Mike Adcock, Ramūnas Birštonas, Maja Bogataj Jančič, Konstantinos Christodoulou, Teresa Franquet Sugrañes, Pablo Garrido Pérez, Christophe Geiger, Silvia Gómez Trinidad, Mariona Gual Dalmau, Aleksei Kelli, Tomaž Keresteš, Maja Lubarda, Thomas Margoni, Jan Mates, Maureen O'Sullivan, Andrea Pradi, Martina Repas, Giorgio Resta, Ole-Andreas Rognstad, Cristina Roy Pérez, Jens Schovsbo, Agnes Schreiner, Simone Schroff, Tobias Schulte in den Bäumen, Simona Štrancar, Tomasz Targosz, Elżbieta Traple and Gabriele Venskaityte.





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