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# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW IN CYPRUS

CHRISTOS ACHILLES THEODOULOU



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# **Intellectual Property Law in Cyprus**

**Christos Achilles Theodoulou**

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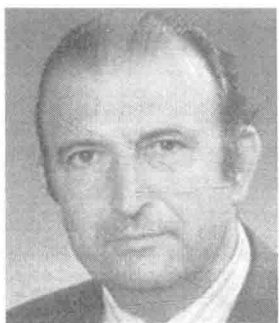
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law and commercial law. He is president or member of the board of directors of many associations in Cyprus and abroad. Among others, he is: the President of the United Nations Association of Cyprus, a member of the board (up to May 2008) and the council of the Institute of Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office (EPI), a member of the Executive Committee of the International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (AIPPI) and a member of the Council of the European Communities Trademark Association (ECTA). He has written extensively for historical, political, legal, trademark and IP matters in monographs, periodicals and newspapers in Cyprus and abroad.

He is the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Tunisia in Cyprus.

# List of Abbreviations

ADIK	Fighting Democratic Movement
AIPPI	International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property
AKEL	Progressive Party of the Working People
Cap.	Chapter
CLR	Cyprus Law Reports
Cmnd.	Command Paper
CPO	Cyprus Patent Office
DIKO	Democratic party
DISY	Democratic Rally
ECTA	European Communities Trademark Association
EDEK	United Democratic Union of Centre
EDI	United Democrats
EOKA	National Organization of Cypriot Fighters
EPC	European Patent Convention
EPI	Institute of Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office
EPO	European Patent Organization
EU	European Union
GI	Geographical Indications
IP	Intellectual Property
PCT	Patent Cooperation Treaty
PGI	Protected Geographical Indication
PIO	Public Information Office
TRIPS	The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UK	United Kingdom
UN	The United Nations Organization
UPOV	International Convention for the protection of new varieties of plants
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

# Preface

I have tried, in the present monograph, to write a study of the intellectual property (IP) law of Cyprus. This is the first monograph of its kind, to my knowledge. Further, as it may be observed, there is not much bibliography on intellectual property matters in Cyprus. The case law is also scarce. This has made my task even more difficult.

Under these circumstances, I have tried to write about the Cypriot municipal (national) law, with the main sources being the national laws, the limited existing bibliography and case law. Cyprus, as it is known, is a member of the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks, and Protocol since 4 November 2003, and of the European Union since 1 May 2004. These aspects are not examined in this monograph.

Despite these limitations, I hope that this study, as the first of its kind, will be of use to both students and practitioners of intellectual property law. And that it will be the beginning for future studies on special topics of IP law in Cyprus.

The law is stated, generally, as of December 2006, even though there are some facts of later dates mentioned.

I wish to thank my colleagues in my offices for their patience, and my wife Clelia and my sons for their encouragement. I wish, further, to thank Mr Christos Nicolaou of the Department of the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver for all the help he has given me, mainly concerning the legislation; my son Sozos-Christos, an attorney in my offices, for his pertinent remarks and for all his help; Ms Sotiroula Tsokou of the Department of the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver for her help and my assistants Angeliki Voskou, Anna-Maria Michael, Koula Kontopyrgou and Myroula Georgiou for the typing and help in the presentation of this monograph.

Larnaca  
Cyprus, April 2008

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