

IN FOCUS

The RA Police Fights against Crimes in the IPR Field

Starting from 2005 the Republic of Armenia started taking steps to fight against crimes in the IPR field conditioned upon the fact that in 2003 Armenia officially became a member of WTO.

In 2005 the specialized Division on Combating Intellectual Property Crimes of the General Department on Combating Organized Crime (GDCOC) of the Police of the Republic of Armenia, was established which up to now continues actively participating in the process of implementing the reforms in the field of IP and struggles against crimes in this field, as was mentioned by Arthur Varderesyan, the head of the Division.

According to him, the employees of the same Division have periodically been on various TV interviews giving clarifications about the issues during the fights against infringements. As well as the employees have been taking part in different seminars and

discussions organized by the EU Twinning Project on Strengthening the IPR Enforcement, the UNDP, the ArmAuthor NGO, Business Software Alliance, the IPR Center, etc. During those seminars authors, singers, rightholders and other interested parties have taken part as well.

The Division’s experience of the last years shows that parallel to the development of printed, digital communications and information technologies new types of crimes in the field of IPR have come into existence, the ways of a series of crimes have improved.

The infringement cases discovered in the field of copyright and related rights by the Division are a perfect reflection of it.

Currently the Division works on preparing 9 cases out of which 6 cases refer to the Article 158 (“Infringement of Copyright and

Related Rights”) mark of the RA Criminal Code, and 3 cases refer to the Article 197 of the same Code (“Illegal Use of Trademark”).

In the first half of 2013 the number of discovered cases are 11, out of which 8 cases refer to the Article 158 of the RA Criminal Code, 2 cases refer to the Article 197 of the same Code, and 1 case refers to the Article 159 of the same Code.

Arthur Varderesyan also mentioned that the draft law on “Making Addendum in the RA Criminal Code” is being heard in the Parliament now.

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Capacity Building of IPR Specialists

The EU Twinning Project on Strengthening the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in the Republic of Armenia continues to strengthen the capacity building of representatives of relevant stakeholders.

During the past quarter the Project organized two 5-day train-the-trainers (TtT) courses for selected number of Copyright and Trademark specialists and for Police and Customs Service officers. The trainees were selected among those who had previously taken part in relevant training courses organized by the Project.

The TtT aimed at strengthening the presentation skills of the

above-mentioned specialists so that they are able to transfer their knowledge on IP to their relevant colleagues and other interested parties.

The training courses were divided into two parts: the first module aimed at introducing the trainees to the basic didactic principles related to training.

Best practice examples of IP related presentations were introduced to the participants by the experts, and at a later stage the approach chosen by the expert was subsequently discussed and evaluated by the participants and the experts. Topics as role of trainer, adult learning, planning learning activities, were tackled. The participants started their



After the Award of Certificates

presentations on the third day of the training course. Subsequent to their presentations the participants received constructive feedback from the experts and other participants.

The trainers were Steven Ruffle, UK, Kaj Kramer, Denmark, and Kenneth Wright, Denmark.

At the end of both the trainings the trainees were awarded with certificates of participation.

Armenia is Celebrating the Europe Day

On May 25, 2013, the Northern Avenue in Yerevan was filled with European spirit, European cultural diversity and a lot of people. The people were celebrating the Europe Day as it has already become a tradition to mark the Europe Day in Armenia.

During the event various EU-funded projects were present underlining the assistance to the

Republic of Armenia in relevant reforms aimed at the approximation of Armenia to European standards. The Twinning Project on Strengthening the IPR Enforcement was among the projects, and had a word to spread both about the Europe and the progress made in the field.

The day was finished with a concert during which local

musicians and guests from Germany and Romania showed how the Balkan music sounds.

This year the Europe Day carried a mobile character since on May 26 the celebration was moved to Gyumri, the second largest city of Armenia.

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