



**Sant'Anna**  
Scuola Universitaria Superiore Pisa

**European Policy for Intellectual Property Association  
XIX Annual Conference  
Pisa, 11-13 September 2024**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Deadline: 30 April 2024**



In cooperation with



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DI PISA**

We invite researchers (both senior and PhDs), practitioners, and representatives of policymakers and stakeholders interested in the economic, legal and political aspects of intellectual property to submit papers for the 19<sup>th</sup> EPIP Annual Conference, which will take place in Pisa from 11 to 13 September 2024.

The conference will bring together a diverse group of experts to explore the current state and future of intellectual property, innovation, and technology. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in discussions and presentations that touch on a wide range of issues, articulated around **(1)** the overarching theme of the conference and **(2)** other leading themes and topics.

Submissions from all disciplines on all IP-related topics are welcome.

### Overarching theme

## “Intellectual property and the future of the data economy”

In the past 5 years the EU legislator has issued a remarkable number of new acts regulating access, sharing and re-use of private and public data, implementing an ambitious agenda to foster the development of the EU data economy and setting clear directions for the future. While being directly touched by the process, intellectual property and its interplay with data regulations have been partially sidelined by policymakers. The EPIP conference will be a perfect forum to take stock of the most recent innovation in the field and explore with a multidisciplinary approach the main trends and challenges raised by the new data economy.

The EPIP 2024 focus allows for the presentation on a wide range of issues. We encourage you to submit papers addressing the overarching theme of the conference, **including – but not limited to –** the following issues, **in all fields of IP**:

- IP and the new data legislation
- Impact of data and new technologies on IP law, the economics of IP and IP management
- IP systems as actors shaping the new data economy and digital markets
- Impact of IP on data and AI innovation
- Tension between free flow of data, data sharing and IP exclusivity: access to data versus protection of data
- Potentials of data in fostering the role of IP for creativity and innovation
- Patent and copyright data infrastructures: opportunities and challenges

## Other leading themes and topics

In addition, and in line with the EPIP tradition, we invite submissions on a wider range of additional leading topics and themes, including but not limited to

### **The role of IP in shaping sustainable innovation systems**

- Sustainable Development Goals and IP
- IP and green innovation
- IP and the circular economy
- IP and sustainable business models
- IP and sharing models
- Future sustainable IP and innovation systems
- IP, innovation and future health policies

### **IP, diversity and inclusion**

- Disability within IP
- IP and access to culture and science
- IP and non-discrimination
- Cultural/creative diversity and IP
- Gender gap in IP and innovation
- IP, races and minorities
- Extending or limiting IP exemptions?

### **IP costs and benefits: time for revolutionary changes?**

- IP overprotection and overlaps
- IP as an incentive or disincentive for innovation?
- Open innovation
- IP and human rights
- Innovation and Creativity without IP
- IP and global inequality

### **The interfaces between IP, innovation and regulatory systems**

- Relevance of IPRs in the practice of regulatory agencies
- IP law as a regulatory system
- IP quality, safety and standardization
- The changing litigation landscape in Europe
- The role of IP offices in IP and innovation ecosystems
- The economic value of IPRs
- Strategic management of IP
- Markets for technologies
- IP for SMEs

### **The impact of new technologies on IP law**

- IP and the digital reform in the EU
- The interplay between platform regulation and IP
- Business models and IP strategies for digital business
- Copyright management in the digital society
- IP in the metaverse
- Virtual markets and IP infringement and enforcement
- The changing world - new (or no) space for IP?
- Rethinking IP law for new technologies
- Human-centric or machine-centric IP system?
- Virtual markets and IP infringement and enforcement

## Special Sessions

As in previous editions, the EPIP 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will host Special Sessions open to submissions. Applicants interested in applying for a special session should indicate it during the submission process by ticking on the relevant box. Please note that the deadline for submissions is the same as for the entire event (30 April 2024), but applications will be processed and evaluated separately from the regular submission system.

The first two Sessions are organized by WIPO. Submissions admitted thereto might be eligible for conference participation support (e.g., travel and conference fees). Support will be given on a limited budget basis and giving priority to contribution from developing countries.

### 1

#### **WIPO Sponsored EPIP 2024 Special Session on “How can IP contribute to industrial and innovation policymaking?”**

**Organizers:** WIPO Department of Economics and Data Analytics (DEDA)

The recent world crises – e.g., pandemic and war conflicts – have resulted in global financial tightening paired with disruptions in international trade and the functioning of global value chains. In this context, several regions and countries are increasingly pursuing industrial and innovation policies seeking to stimulate and promote local capabilities and industries.

As a result, many policymakers and entrepreneurs turn to innovation as a potential solution for increasing the innovativeness of companies, industries, regions and countries in order to build economic resilience when facing current and future crises.

How can countries or regions design innovation policies that are impactful in attaining more sophisticated innovations? Companies or regions differ in their production capabilities, hence, the direction they should follow will vary accordingly. Innovation economists advocate for countries and regions to pursue “*smart specialization*” strategies. Smart specialization strategies aim to encourage investments that complement the local existing productive or technological assets in order to create future local capability and competitive advantages. Given the importance of priority selection in smart specialization strategies and regional innovation policy more broadly, scholars assert that there is a need to develop better tools to inform regions’ priority choices.

How can policymakers prioritize technologies or industries when designing innovation and industrial policies that build on their local innovation ecosystem?

Economies and regions can benefit greatly from any guidance on where to focus their limited resources to clear the innovation roadblocks between science and innovation. In particular, this guidance could inform what the role the IP system can play in assisting the innovation policies.

We invite submissions that relate to topics such as:

- The role of the IP system in industrial and innovation policies
- Smart specialization and regional innovation policies and IP rights
- The use of IP data to inform industrial and innovation policymaking
- Mapping regions and countries innovation dynamism with IP data
- Measuring innovation relatedness and complexity with IP data

## 2

### **WIPO Sponsored EPIP 2024 Special Session on “The impact on new technologies on creativity and new content supply in the age of AI”**

**Organizers:** WIPO Department of Economics and Data Analytics (DEDA).

Creative industries have a long-standing tradition of pioneering new technology development, including new ‘methods to create’ works using artificial intelligence. This special session invites submissions from the wider academic community and industry stakeholders on “New Technology Impact on Creativity and New Content Supply in the Age of AI”. It is jointly organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Chief Economist at the U.S. Copyright Office and encourages submission of new empirical and theoretical research on the topic. So far, little is known on the expected economic impact of the latest digital technologies and how to best support their development and govern use from an economic, firm strategic and public policy perspective.

We invite submissions that relate to topics such as:

- Economic welfare implications and new technology impact on content supply, reuse, and creativity
- Impact on labor markets and adoption of new technology by creators, firms and services
- Supply and demand for AI-assisted or generated creative works vis-à-vis human created works
- AI-enabled prediction capabilities and decision-making in creative sectors
- Technology access and representation bias of minority groups and less developed world regions in new technology use and development
- Human capital, skills and training demand and supply
- The role of training data, liability and transparency rules in AI use and development
- Experimentation, discovery of new applications and technology accessibility in AI use and development
- Economic impact of existing IP rules
- Development of new and exploratory data sources informing evidence-based policies and legal framework design.

### 3

#### **Special Session on “The uneven geography of standards”**

**Organizers:** Emilio Raiteri (Eindhoven University of Technology) and Carolina Castaldi (Utrecht University)

Technical standards are essential in modern economies as they facilitate the interoperability and compatibility of goods and services. They influence economic activities, such as production processes and innovation, and are crucial to coordinate adaptation to environmental challenges, such as rising temperatures and sea levels. However, standards can lead to uneven spatial development on many levels. The impact of standards on regional economic development and innovation activities can vary greatly between spatial contexts. Regional difference might arise for instance due to disparities in knowledge production and IP ownership. Some countries may lack the resources to contribute to the creation of standard-relevant knowledge, while others may struggle to appropriate the benefits of investing in basic research. Moreover, standards can lead to winner-takes-all outcomes, where dominant firms capture most of the value of innovation, leading to skewed distribution of benefits. Particularly actors from global south countries such as China face the standardization gap, which describes difficulties to contribute to global standard setting based on origin.

Overall, standards influence the location of economic activities, the coordination of technologies across borders, and the emergence of global value chains. However, there is yet only little research on standards and standardization processes from a geographical perspective. The link between standards and intellectual property rights is also a crucial one, for instance through the role of standard essential patents but also in relation to trademarks and copyrights.

**We invite submissions that relate to topics such as:**

- Spatially uneven participation in global standard-setting
- Regional disparities in producing knowledge for standards
- Socio-spatial impacts of regional and global standards
- Differences in national and regional standard setting
- Regional differences in innovation and standardization
- Geography and its role across different types of standards

**Special issue:** This special session is connected to a **special issue** in the **Journal of Economic Geography** edited by Kerstin Schaefer, Emilio Raiteri and Carolina Castaldi.

## 4

### **Special Session on Lawful access in EU (copyright) law**

**Organizers:** Martin Kretschmer (CREATE, University of Glasgow), Thomas Margoni (CiTiP, KU Leuven), Tatiana Synodinou (Faculty of Law, University of Cyprus)

This open themed session is set to explore the issue of lawful access in EU copyright law and beyond. In a data driven technological framework increasingly characterized by the substitution of ownership of physical copies with access to digital services, the role of *lawful uses*, *sources* and *access* may need fundamental rethinking. Some initial openings of the recognition of this need might be seen in the case law of the CJEU on communication to the public, where the stricter approach characteristic of cases like ACI Adam in relation to the right of reproduction is replaced by a softer knowledge (and presumption) based model. Yet, this may not be sufficient in the face of the latest technological advancements, such as training generative AI systems on protected works and/or data. A possible solution could be separating the concepts of (lawful) access (e.g., Arts. 3&4 CDSMD) from that of (lawful) sources. Another possible solution could be to distinguish the purpose: lawful access could be easier to attain in particularly deserving cases, such as scientific research, or journalistic work. Other solutions could even be identified in technological standards or business models. The goal of this panel is to take stock of the existing literature and proposals in this field and hopefully start a line of discussion and/or enquiry on the fundamental concept of lawful access.

We invite submissions that relate to topics such as:

- The role of access in an access-based creative environment
- How to conceptualize access as an autonomous regulatory concept
- Access and accessions: works, information, and (personal and non-personal) data
- Access and uses: from private copy to generative AI remuneration
- Creativity between datafication and platformization

## 5

### **Special Session on Putting IP Policy into practice – from IP Policy to IP and innovation management in the 21st century**

**Organizer:** Alfred Radauer (IMC University of Applied Sciences, Krems)

This session concerns the way how firms, research organizations and other institutions of an innovation system take up IP policy actions and implement them into their strategic and operational activities. IP policy – seen as a set of regulations and law, as well as other intervention such as in the form of support – have an implicit goal of changing firm behaviors in line with their goals. The session therefore looks at IP policy from the end opposite that of policymakers.

Against this backdrop, for regulations, the EU has put in place a regulatory toolbox to assess the effects of regulations on the target groups of policy actions. Amongst others, it distinguishes between the dimensions of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and European value added. Evaluation literature has, over time, built frameworks along similar dimensions – to note is here also the concept of behavioral additionality, which translates into lasting effects in the behavior of actors because of a policy intervention.

The core questions for this session therefore are: How do firms, research organizations and other institutions of an innovation session change their behaviors – mostly in terms of their IP, R&D and innovation management practices – in light of IP policy actions? How do they change their organizational set-ups and processes? What are key critical success factors for such change?

With respect to the last question, one critical issue is to understand to what extent IP policy has (succeeded to) to impact and change management areas beyond that of the core activities of IP professionals. This covers areas such as a) the extent to which general innovation manager(s) or R&D manager(s) have understood to incorporate IP management organically as a core issue in innovation and R&D management or b) to what extent C-level executives incorporate IP into the overall business strategies. While there is an understanding that IP should be seen as an integral part of adjacent management areas, such as innovation management, one can often observe the creation of organization-institutional silos. IP professionals are in one such silo discussing IP issues, while R&D and innovation managers (as well as policy makers) are in another silo, and both groups/communities do not communicate adequately with each other.

**We invite submissions that relate to topics such as:**

- Future challenges for IP and innovation managers in firms and research organisations, with respect to
  - Handling of new IP developments and legal reform
  - Handling of data as new to be valorized/protected asset
  - Usage of new technologies to improve IP management
  - Adapting organizational set-ups and processes
  - Integrating IP in appropriate ways in other management areas
  - Monitoring IP activities for management control purposes
- Resulting implications for the design of policy interventions
  - Implications for regulatory reform and changes
  - Implications for the design of IP-related support programs and services, public and private
  - Implications for monitoring and evaluating respective policy interventions
  - Implications for integrating IP with other policy areas (such as innovation policy, industrial policies, etc.)

**Special issue:** This special session is connected to a special issue in the Journal “World Patent Information” (WPI)



## Themed Sessions proposals

Next to individual submission, EPIP 2024 invites applications for a limited number of themed sessions on any relevant topic. Proposals should be submitted through the submission platform and will be subject to a **review and selection process**. **Preferences** will be given to themed sessions **addressing EPIP 2024 leading themes and topics**.

You have **two options**:

- **Closed session.** You can propose a session that already identifies chair/organizer(s) and all speakers. In this case, you are expected to submit **(a)** a 350-word abstract describing the overarching theme of the session and **(b)** a file containing a general abstract and the list of papers presented (indicating authors, title and abstracts)
- **Session open to external submissions.** You can also propose a session where no or only some of the speakers are already identified, and you would like to host papers selected through the regular submission process by the EPIP 2024 Organizing Committee. In this case, you are expected to submit **(a)** a 350-word abstract describing the overarching theme of the session and, **only** if some speakers are already included, **(b)** a file containing a general abstract and the list of papers presented.

The organizing committee **reserves the right to modify** proposed sessions in the final program based on accepted contributions.

## Submission information

The online submission system will be available on the EPIP 2024 website from mid-April 2024.

The **following submission formats are allowed**:

- **Abstracts** (up to 350 words)
- **Extended abstracts** (up to 3000 words, footnotes included, bibliography excluded)
- **Full papers**

Please note that **full-paper** submissions which discuss the topic in a more detailed fashion will be **privileged over extended abstracts**, and **extended abstracts** will be **privileged over abstracts**. The same system is used for uploading submissions regardless of their size and format.

Please indicate whether your submission is also eligible for the EPIP 2024 Young Scholar (PhD) Award. For more information see <https://epip2024.eu/awards/>.

## Deadlines and timeline

- **30 April 2024:** Applicants must submit their abstract, extended abstract or full paper via the online submission system.
- **1 June 2024:** results on admissions/rejections announced
- Accepted applicants (only main/corresponding authors) are requested to confirm their participation by
  - o Sending an email to [submissions@epip2024.eu](mailto:submissions@epip2024.eu) by **14 June 2024**
  - o Register to the conference and pay the Early bird fee by **30 June 2024**. Co-authors, if any, will have time to register until before the conference.

## Registration and fees

Information on Early Bird, PhD and Regular Fees will be published by 1 June 2024 on <https://epip2024.eu/registration/>, when also the registration platform will be opened. **Note that the fees will be in line with or below those of previous EPIP conferences.**

## EPIP Young Scholars Award

The EPIP Association supports young researchers at the beginning of their academic careers by awarding two Young Scholars Awards for the **best full papers** submitted by PhD students in economics/management and law. Eligible submissions should indicate whether the paper should be considered for the competition by ticking the relevant box in the submission page.

## EPIP PhD workshop

The EPIP association supports PhD students by offering them **reduced conference registration fees**. A PhD workshop will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday **10 September 2023**, as part of the annual conference, at no extra cost for all registered students.