



Country Report Lithuania

Annual report to the IFLA CLM committee
San Juan Puerto Rico 2011

Copyright

Law on copyright and related rights was adopted on 18th May 1999, since then was amended 5 times: in 2000, 2003, 2006, 2008, 2010. Full text of the law (last amended on 19th January 2010) is available in English:

http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=370617

Revision of copyright law

Several articles of the Law on copyright and related rights were submitted to the Parliament few years ago, including those related with libraries:

- article on Reproduction of Works for Personal Use
- article on Reprographic Reproduction of Works

According to the current law compensation for authors and producers is collected and payed by the collecting society (LATGA-A). Only those operators, who are providing payed services, are entitled to pay, libraries including. Now the idea is, in addition to the existing system, to put extra tax on all the equipment for reprographic reproduction – both produced domestically and imported. Broader rights are foreseen for people with disabilities. There is big opposition to any extra taxes from business, therefore this idea gets no support by the Parliament so far. The draft is circulating in between the committees, but nothing happens. Neither rejection nor adoption. The Council of Copyright and Related Rights of Lithuania (I am a member of it) addressed its concerns to the Government regarding this issue in February 2011, but nothing happens in reality, except some meetings and discussions.

New legislation

No new legislation

Orphan works

No legislation at all. Discussions on this issue started among libraries and the Ministry of Culture. The Council of Copyright and Related Rights of Lithuania also started discussions about OW.

Public lending rights

No new legislation, rules adopted on 14th August 2007 are in force.

Legal deposit

No new legislation, Regulations on legal deposit (including e-resources) adopted on 11th December, 2006 (in force since 15th December, 2006) are in force.

Levies

No new legislation so far, this article is under revision in the Parliament. Levies are collected in Lithuania since 2005, but the system works very bad, therefore changes are foreseen and submitted to the Parliament, but the opposing powers blocs real actions.

Creative Commons

Lithuania was due to finish translating and adopting CC licences to Lithuanian legislation in April 2011, but due to difficulties with translation this work is postponed. A group chaired by prof. Vytautas Mizaras (Vilnius University) is working on it.

Legal matters

Revision of law

New legislation

Trade agreements

No changes.

Privacy

No changes.

Anti terrorist law

No changes.

DRM

No changes.

Law cases

No law cases on library and copyright issues.

Lobby activities

Lobby in the Ministry of Culture on the Orphan Works.

Educational activities

International workshop *Copyright for Librarians* (introducing on-line copyright course http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/copyrightforlibrarians/Main_Page) was held in collaboration with eIFL.net on 23rd -24th September 2010 in Vilnius.

Public lecture organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of Republic of Lithuania, Vilnius University, the Lithuanian Research Libraries Consortium and EIFL *Copyright and wrongs. Do existing copyright laws do more harm than good?* delivered by Professor William W. Fisher, WilmerHale Professor of Intellectual Property Law at Harvard Law School was held on 23rd September 2010 at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania

A workshop to promote Open Access was held at the Vilnius Book Fair on 17th February 2011.

A lecture on Copyright and Libraries for Utena A. and M. Miškiniai Public Library staff was held 2nd March 2011.

Agreements of Cooperation between the State Patent Bureau and several universities were signed on 26th April 2011. Various educational and awareness raising activities are foreseen. Exhibition to commemorate World Intellectual Property day was held at the Lithuanian Technical Library.

During the National Library Week, which is held annually at the end of April, seminars, discussions, conferences, round tables, competitions about copyright issues were held throughout Lithuanian libraries.

The course on copyright is being taught at the LIS (Vilnius University and Klaipeda University) and for librarians studying at short-time courses at the In-Service Training Centre for Cultural Workers.

The Ministry of Culture announced a competition for anti-piracy actions in June 2011. Grants will be given from the state budget to support the best applications.

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