7th Annual International Conference

GEORGIA AGAINST COUNTERFEITING AND PIRACY

Organized by
The National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – “Sakpatenti” and
U.S. Department of Commerce, Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP)

Hilton Hotel Batumi
40, Rustaveli Str., 6010 Batumi, Georgia

24-25 JULY 2023

Project made possible through funding by the U.S. Department of State
AGENDA

Monday, July 24, 2023

9:00 – 9:30  Registration & Coffee

Location: Hilton Hotel Batumi, 40 Rustaveli Str. 6010 Batumi, Georgia

9:30 – 9:55  Welcome and Opening Remarks

*Tornike Rijvidze, Chairman of the Government of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara

*Soso Giorgadze, Chairman, National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia (“Sakpatenti”)

*Skip Mark, Senior Counsel, U.S. Department of Commerce, Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP)

*Zurab Sichinava, Head of the Customs Department, Revenue Service, Ministry of Finance of Georgia

*Vaja Panozishvili, Deputy Head of the Investigation Service, Ministry of Finance of Georgia

9:55 – 10:15  Keynote Address

*Speaker: Dr. Kunio Mikuriya, Secretary General, World Customs Organization (WCO)  *Appearing remotely

Global Trends and Challenges

10:15 – 10:35  Global Trends on Counterfeiting and Piracy

*Speaker: Tobias Bednarz, Legal Counsellor, Policy and Cooperation, Building Respect for IP Division, Global Challenges and Partnerships Sector, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

10:35 – 10:55  European Perspectives on the Challenges of Counterfeit Goods and Pirated Content

*Speaker: Béréngère Dréno, Enforcement Specialist, Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights, European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)  *Appearing remotely

10:55 – 11:15  Transnational Illicit Trade: Recent Trends and Emerging Risks

*Speaker: David A. Foley, Jr., Attorney Advisor, Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

11:15 – 11:30  Coffee Break
11:30 – 11:50 International Law Enforcement Initiatives to Prevent Counterfeiting and Piracy  

11:50 – 12:30 Panel: The Status of the Fight Against Counterfeiting & Piracy  
*Moderator: Skip Mark*, Senior Counsel, CLDP  
*Panelists:*

*Tobias Bednarz*, Legal Counsellor, Policy and Cooperation, Building Respect for IP Division, Global Challenges and Partnerships Sector, WIPO

*David A. Foley, Jr.*, Attorney Advisor, Office of Policy and International Affairs, USPTO


12:30 – 13:30 Networking Lunch

Preventing Digital Piracy


13:50 – 14:10 Emerging Trends in Protection of Digital Assets  
*Speaker: John Phelan*, Director General, International Confederation of Music Publishers (ICMP)

14:10 – 14:30 Digital Opportunities and Challenges for Creative Industries - Enforcement of Copyright in the Digital Environment  
*Speaker: Ionnis Kikkis*, IP Expert, IPR Consultant for the USAID Economic Governance Program in Georgia *Appearing remotely*

14:30 – 14:50 Developments in Georgia on Prevention of Pirated Content  
*Speaker: Zurab Bezhashvili*, Executive Director, Anti-Piracy Center of Georgia
Panel Discussion – Preventing Piracy in the Digital Age
Moderator: Nathan Brooks, ICHIP Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice

Panelists:

John Phelan, Director General, ICMP

Zurab Bezhashvili, Executive Director, Anti-Piracy Center of Georgia

Natia Katsiashvili, USAID Economic Security Program Component Lead

Otar Bubashvili, CEO, Rustaveli Holding, Cavea

Coffee Break

Sectoral Threats and Consequences of Counterfeiting

Risks and Damages in Counterfeiting: A Cross-Sectoral Survey
Speaker: Kazimieras Sarzickas, Regional Director for North East Europe & Central Asia, React

Sectoral Survey: Threats and Consequences in Counterfeiting of Spirits
Speaker: David Francis, Managing Director, Alliance Against Counterfeit Spirits (AACS)

Sectoral Survey: Threats and Consequences in Counterfeiting of Spirits
Speakers:

Salome Kurdadze, Head of the Legal Department, National Wine Agency of Georgia

Medea Chichinadze, Head of Trademarks and Geographical Indications Division, National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia “Sakpatenti”

Panel: Prevention & Awareness Raising about the Threats and Consequences of Counterfeit Goods in the Spirits Industry

Moderator: Kazimieras Sarzickas, Regional Director for North East Europe & Central Asia, React

Panelists:

David Francis, Managing Director, AACS

Salome Kurdadze, Head of the Legal Department, National Wine Agency of Georgia
Tuesday, July 25, 2023

9:30 – 10:00 Networking & Coffee

Regional Public Sector Focus: Enforcement Challenges & Solutions

10:00 – 10:20 The Emerging Global Risks Presented by Small Parcels
Speaker: Jennifer Boger, Attorney-Advisor, Intellectual Property Enforcement Branch, Office of Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

10:20 – 10:40 Georgia’s Law Enforcement Efforts in the Fight Against Counterfeiting
Speaker: Giorgi Dvalishvili, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

10:40 – 11:15 Regional Updates/Panel Discussion – South Caucasus/Eastern Europe
Moderator: Laurie Morgan, Attorney Advisor-International, CLDP

Panelists:

Samson Uridia, Head of the International Relations Department, Georgia Revenue Service (GRS)

Ani Harutyunyan, Chief Specialist of the Copyright and Related Rights Department, Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Armenia

Natalia Mogol, Deputy Director General of the State Agency on Intellectual Property (AGEPI)

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30  Regional Updates/Panel Discussion – Central Asia

**Moderator:** Zmarak Khan, Senior Counsel, CLDP

**Panelists:**

*Zamirbek Kaiypov*, Head of the Department of the Social Policy Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic

*Orazmurat Saparmuradov*, Deputy Chief of State Service for Intellectual Property, Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan

*Armanay Kassymkanova*, Expert, Intellectual Property Rights Department of the Ministry of Justice of Kazakhstan

*Sharaf Abdumalikov*, Head of the Department of Legal Protection of Intellectual Property, the Ministry of Justice of Uzbekistan

*Solizoda Suhrob*, Deputy Director of IP Agency of Tajikistan

12:30 – 13:30  Networking Lunch

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**Protecting Rightsholders**

13:30 – 13:50  **Using Public Private Partnerships to Protect Rightsholders**

*Speaker:* Jennifer Boger, Attorney-Advisor, Intellectual Property Enforcement Branch Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade, CBP

13:50 – 14:10  **Protecting Rightsholders in the Sporting Goods Industry**

*Speaker:* Youri Mercier, Deputy Secretary General, Federation of the European Sporting Goods Industry

14:10 – 14:30  **Preventing Counterfeiting in Georgia’s Retail Sector: Brand Challenges**

*Speaker:* Tinatin Narimanidze, Head of the Legal Department, Ltd International Corporation ICR

14:30 – 15:15  **Panel Discussion – Implementing Successful Public Private Partnerships in the Fight to Prevent Counterfeiting**

**Moderator:** Jennifer Boger, Attorney-Advisor, Intellectual Property Enforcement Branch Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade, CBP

**Panelists:**

*Irakli Kartvelishvili*, Deputy Head of Department, Investigation Agency of Ministry of Finance of Georgia
Youri Mercier, Deputy Secretary General, Federation of the European Sporting goods Industry

Tinatin Narimanidze, Head of the Legal Department, Ltd International Corporation ICR

Osman Mjavanadze, Head of the International Investors Association, Adjara

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 – 15:45 Participant Survey

15:45 – 16:15 Closing Remarks

Soso Giorgadze, Chairman, National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia (“Sakpatenti”)

Skip Mark, Senior Counsel, CLDP

16:15 End of Conference