

# Open Data and European Law: Towards a New Research Paradigm?

Professor Marco Ricolfi  
Professor of Intellectual Property at Turin University, Italy

Chaired by Professor Brian Fitzgerald  
Executive Dean, Faculty of Law, Australian Catholic University

Date: Monday, 15 April 2013

Time: 12:30 - 1:30pm

Place: Australian Catholic University, Faculty of Law, 115 Victoria Parade,  
Fitzroy.

A wide range of information is collected, generated, stored and preserved by government and public sector bodies carrying out their public tasks. This includes geographic information, land registration (or cadastral) data, metadata concerning museums and archives as well as meteorological data.

In this seminar, Professor Marco Ricolfi will explore the benefits of access to and reuse of these datasets in an environment which enables mass-digitization of data and network driven cooperation. Prof Ricolfi will compare the liberal, "open data", "no strings attached" approach of the US with the prevailing EU approach which has a strong emphasis on protecting IP in data. In the process, he will examine the issues of technical standardisation, interoperability, licensing, ownership and charging.

Prof Ricolfi will also address several main strands of contemporary ideological and political debate about PSI and open data, and look at the possible contribution of an open data regime to the emerging third innovation and creativity paradigm, which is based on digital-platform-driven cooperation rather than contributions by single individuals (first paradigm) and businesses and organizations (second paradigm) that have so far characterized our civilisation.

Please RSVP online at <http://tiny.cc/opendataEU> by Monday 8 April 2013. If you have issues with online registration, please contact [cheryl.foong@acu.edu.au](mailto:cheryl.foong@acu.edu.au).

**Prof. Marco Ricolfi** Turin University (J.D., 1974), Yale Law School (LLM 1976). Professor of Intellectual Property at the Turin Law School, co-director of the Nexa Center on Internet and Society of the Turin Polytechnic and Partner of the law firm Tosetto, Weigmann e Associati. Since 2000, Director of the Intellectual Property Master organized by WIPO and the Turin University. Among his publications: *Consume and Share: Making Copyright Fit for the Digital Agenda*, in (M. Dulong de Rosnay and J.C. De Martin eds.), *The Digital Public Domain*, Open Book Publishers, Cambridge, 2012, 49-60 also available at [www.openbookpublishers.com/product/93](http://www.openbookpublishers.com/product/93) and at [http://www.communia-association.org/wp-content/uploads/the\\_digital\\_public\\_domain.pdf](http://www.communia-association.org/wp-content/uploads/the_digital_public_domain.pdf); *I segni distintivi di impresa. Marchio ditta insegna*, in P. AUTERI-G. FLORIDIA-V. MANGINI-G. OLIVIERI-M. RICOLFI-P. SPADA, *Diritto industriale. Proprietà intellettuale e concorrenza*, Giappichelli, Torino, 2012, 65-189; *Digital libraries in the current legal and educational environment*, in (a cura di L. Bently, U. Suthersanen e P. Torremans), *Global Copyright. Three hundred years since the Statute of Anne, from 1709 to cyberspace*, Edward Elgar, 2010, 216-229.; *Geographical Symbols in Intellectual Property Law: the Policy Options*, in *Festschrift für Ulrich Loewenheim zum 75. Geburtstag, Schutz von Kreativität und Wettbewerb*, Verlag Beck, 2009, 231-249; *Individual and collective management of copyright in a digital environment*, in Paul Torremans (ed.), *Copyright Law. A Handbook of Contemporary Research*, Edward Elgar, 2008, 282-314; *Is There an Antitrust Antidote Against IP Overprotection within TRIPs?* in *10 Marquette Intellectual Property Law Review*, 2006, 305-367; *What is infringing use under EU harmonized trade mark laws?* in *52 ECTA Gazette* 2006, 19-49.

**The ACU Faculty of Law**, headed by Professor Brian Fitzgerald the foundation Executive Dean, is the newest Faculty in one of Australia's most dynamic universities. The law program is now offered in Melbourne and it will commence operation in Sydney from 2014. The ACU law degree will have a practical focus delivered in the context of the core values underpinning the University including social justice, human dignity and respect, ethical practice and the public interest. Numbers in the law degree will be kept small allowing a personal learning environment. Students will be required to undertake a significant amount of pro bono work as part of their degree while also being asked to consider the global dimensions of law. The Faculty will have a strong commitment to research and community engagement. Our aspiration is to be a national law school with strong international links facilitated by an existing international network of Catholic law schools in the USA and other countries.

