

Intellectual Property in Higher Education: Opportunities, rights and practice

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Intellectual property plays a crucial role in higher education and directly affects staff, students and researchers within Flemish universities of applied sciences. Although intellectual property is largely regulated at a European level and applies throughout the EEA – and in many cases even worldwide – there are specific considerations and opportunities within the higher education context.

This session focuses primarily on copyright, while also drawing comparisons with other forms of intellectual property, such as inventions, which in Belgium are regulated, among others, by the Higher Education Code. Particular attention is paid to the rights, obligations and opportunities of authors who are affiliated with a university or university of applied sciences.

Using practical and recognisable examples, the session addresses topics such as:

- The distinction between moral rights and economic rights, and the opportunities arising from each;
- What types of works are protected by copyright in higher education (including theses, teaching materials, research outputs, examination questions, etc.);
- Specific exceptions and opportunities for educational and research purposes;
- Engaging and sometimes surprising case studies from higher education practice;
- Links with trademark law and portrait/image rights.