

A word from our Editor-in-Chief

**"Seminar on Digital Development and Intellectual Property",
WIPO, New Building, Switzerland, Geneva, 21-23 of November 2016**

I want to give an overview of a high-level international scientific event which follows on the series of events unfolded internationally during 2016 in the field of Intellectual Property Protection. These are scientific events that carry on the creation and consolidation of the intellectual property culture and the *new technologies (technologies of the future)* at an institutional level in the context of harnessing the relations that have been cultivated throughout the years with WIPO, EPO EUIPO, OSIM, ORDA, and other such international institutions. With a view to improving specialists' knowledge in the field of intellectual property protection and transfer of technology, but also to bringing new international practices and experiences into the local practice, "Lucian Blaga" University from Sibiu was represented by Professor Mihail Aurel Țițu, at an International Seminar of major importance which took place this year at WIPO in Geneva, Switzerland.

The nominal invitation sent from WIPO namely by Ambassador Ojeda Hector Antonio Casanueva, permanent Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of Chile to Switzerland and to WIPO, was an opportunity to participate to this high-level international scientific seminar where the participating countries exchanged examples of good practices in the field of Intellectual Property Protection (IPP). The representatives of the participating countries came from the academic and research environment, private organisations, multinational companies, banking and finances and last, but not least, the public administration and the political environment. The presence at this International Seminar of Ms **Sylvie Forbin** - WIPO's assistant general manager - granted an extra added-value to this scientific event where debates were focused on great topical issues in the field of Intellectual Capital.

The event is part of the wide range of development programs, training and dissemination of the information also included in PatLib Centres around Europe. This International Seminar carries forward the scientific international events from 2016 in Helsinki and Tbilisi. This International Seminar is taken in by the category of research, development and innovation where participating countries have presented cases of good practices regarding Intellectual Property (IP) policies and others, cases of good practices presented to the auditorium through 3 (three) round tables and one session dedicated to debates, where the raised matters were extremely pragmatical, educational and constructive.

We could say the presentation of Romania was done "in parallel" with Mr Ignacio L. De Leon, from Washington USA, an expert in Intellectual Property. It was a great pleasure to be able to work with and collaborate with such a personality in this field. Personalities in the field of Intellectual Property and modern technologies (including unconventional technologies) from Switzerland, USA, Chile, Nigeria, Great Britain, Canada, Venezuela, Guatemala, Caracas, Argentina, Uruguay, China, Belgium, Luxembourg, Costa Rica presented their case-studies and the examples of good practices from the above-mentioned countries. It was an honour to meet them and discuss, exchange opinions and learn something new.

The presentation from Romania aimed to give a detailed radiography of the IP system from universities, with a case study from "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, presenting what happened up to this day from the viewpoint of the new technologies for the most part in the area of *nonconventional technologies (alternative technologies)* in Romania. I emphasised the fact that we were developing and wanting to implement a policy of IP in the university, focused on measurable results and on technological practice. We could observe the particularly pragmatic manner of IP implementation within participating organisations, in universities, the IP policies enforced by the countries participating at this International Seminar.

One does find it fit to thank those who made possible the participation of Romania and mine personally as an IP expert (according to the nominal invitation) to this International Seminar. Hartfelt thanks should be addressed to all those who contributed to our success as a university, but also to that person - European expert in the field of IP - who thought about and made the nomination decision.

This beneficial, educational and constructive experience will lead, from all standpoints, to an added-value for Romania and for "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu. Summing up, the topics deliberated during the meetings referred to the implementation of a policy for intellectual property protection within universities and research institutes, organisations which have as main or secondary object the research activity, etc., pointing out the importance and advantages of such an endeavour for all stakeholders. At the same time, an important aspect of the presentations and discussions was represented by the WIPO contribution to the approaches for the creation and implementation of such policies of intellectual property correlated with the transfer of technology.

To find out more, to keep up with the news, I recommend visiting: <https://www.facebook.com/Centrul-PatLib-Sibiu-Protectia-Proprietatii-Intelectuale-1239280319420616/?fref=ts>

I conclude by wishing you all good health and a better New Year 2017, with the success, prosperity, composure and performances we wish to have!

I affectionately wish you a Happy New Year 2017 !

Sibiu, 25 December 2016

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