

GARNET – A Network of Excellence on "Global Governance, Regionalisation and Regulation: The Role of the EU"

JERP 5.3.6

International workshop

Innovation, Intellectual Property Rights and Their Multilateral and Regional Regulation. The Case of the SEE Transition Economies

Sofia, 17-18 October 2008

CALL FOR PAPERS

This international workshop is part of the activities of GARNET, a EU Research Network of Excellence under the Sixth Framework Programme, The workshop is carried out within the framework of a Jointly Executed Research Project 5.3.6. *Technology, Innovation and Governance*. The workshop is organised by the Center for the Study of Democracy, Sofia under the coordination and scientific guidance of Professor Helge Hveem of the University of Oslo. The main objective of this project is to mobilise research on the international governance of knowledge. 'Knowledge' is broadly defined to cover knowlegde production such as basic research, competence building through higher education, and applied and embodied knowledge in terms of innovation and technology. The project focuses on the relationship between global and regional institutions and processes in the knowledge field: the internationalisation of national education, research and innovation systems; governance of access to and dissemination of knowledge.

This call invites papers which study how multilateral and regional regulatory agencies and institutions, such as WTO's GATS and TRIPS, UNESCO and the EU affect innovation and the use of IPRs on regional and national levels. The case of SEE countries will be of particular interest and thus given priority in this workshop.

The region is a mix of countries with different international memberships: Greece and Slovenia are the most developed and oldest WTO and EU members, followed by Bulgaria and Romania - WTO members who joined the EU in 2007; Albania, Croatia and Macedonia — only WTO members, no EU membership; Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina — only WTO observers, no EU membership. All countries have also engaged in different forms of regional and bilateral trade cooperation, such as the Stability Pact, SECI, etc., and all have clear long term commitment to both WTO and EU membership. The workshop will seek to explore whether and how the different regional and multilateral

governance mechanisms of IPRs and innovation have affected the performance of their knowledge economies in the areas of foreign trade and FDI, local company performance, human capital, ICT, etc.

We welcome contributions from a variety of disciplines including political science, sociology, political economy, law and economics.

While we expect most of the contributions to come from the GARNET community, paper proposals from colleagues outside, and in particular from South-East Europe, are most welcome. Funding of paper-givers will be offered to the maximum extent possible, subject to the limits of the budget, the number of applicants and the costs their travel incur. Economy tickets are required by the EU. Special efforts will be made to finance colleagues from South Eastern Europe.

Prospective paper givers are invited to submit a *title* and an *abstract* (2000 - 3000 characters) by **25 July 2008.** Confirmation of participation will be sent **by the beginning of September**. The paper to be presented at the workshop should be sent to the organizers by **06 October 2008.**

Please send abstract and paper electronically to the following addresses:

Mr. Ruslan Stefanov/ Mr. Todor Yalamov Center for the Study of Democracy Economic Program

And

Professor Helge Hveem University of Oslo Department of Political Science

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