

World Intellectual Property Organization

Alexmun 2026, April 17, 18



Topic

Topic: Copyright issues in the advent of artificial intelligences in the academic sector.

President: Camila Cortés Viesca

Moderator: Renata Del Villar Valdés

Conference Officer: Valeria del Villar Garcia

Introduction to the chairs

Hello delegates, and welcome to WIPO. My name is Camila Cortés Viesca, and I will be serving as president. This year, you will be discussing the prohibition of AI in the academic sector. I am looking forward to meeting you and hearing all your ideas. If you have any doubts about anything, do not hesitate to contact me via email: camila.cortes@bab.edu.mx

Delegates, my name is Renata Del Villar Valdés, and I'm honored to serve as your moderator in the WIPO committee. I am very excited to be working with all of you throughout these days of debate, and I look forward to seeing the ideas, solutions, and debates you will bring to the table. If you have any issues, please do not hesitate to contact me via email: renata.delvillar@bab.edu.mx

I am Valeria del Villar Garcia, and I will be your conference officer in the WIPO committee. I am very excited to start this conference with you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me by email. valeria.delvillar@bab.edu.mx

Introduction to the committee

- The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations established in 1967. WIPO is dedicated to promoting and protecting intellectual property worldwide. WIPO actively shapes international IP rules and policies, serving as a vital resource on IP matters. Through collaboration with governments, NGOs (Non-governmental organizations), and individuals, WIPO supports socioeconomic development, having a significant impact on people's lives. By facilitating innovation and safeguarding creative works, WIPO plays a crucial role in ensuring the global protection of intellectual property rights.

- Its main job is to promote and protect intellectual property, think of inventions, art, and creative works around the world. By making sure inventors, artists, and creators get recognized and fairly rewarded for what they do, WIPO helps encourage people to come up with new ideas. Its headquarters are in Geneva, Switzerland, and with 193 member states, it's one of the UN's most globally inclusive agencies.

WIPO is run by several important groups. The General Assembly, made up of all member countries, is where big decisions are made, like setting policies and approving budgets. Another group, called the Conference, talks about general intellectual property issues and gives advice to the General Assembly. There's also the Coordination Committee, which handles things like administration and finances.

There are limits to what WIPO can do. It doesn't have the power to enforce intellectual property laws; that's up to each country. Because member states generally need to agree before new treaties or reforms are passed, decision-making can sometimes be slow. WIPO doesn't regulate private companies either; instead, it works with governments to set international standards and foster cooperation.

Artificial intelligence is changing how we think about copyright in academia. AI can now write papers and create art using information that often comes from copyrighted sources, making it hard to know who really owns the work. This raises questions about originality, proper credit, and whether using AI counts as plagiarism.

Since AI is trained on huge amounts of existing content, sometimes without permission, it's unclear if creators' rights are always respected. That's why universities and lawmakers need to update rules to make sure fairness and creativity are protected in this new era.

Topic Overview

Topic: Copyright issues in the advent of artificial intelligences in the academic sector.

- The debate of the prohibition of artificial intelligence (AI) in research, teaching, and evaluation is at the center of the debate concerning its prohibition in higher education institutions. While some organizations push for complete prohibitions, others allow controlled use with accessibility and disclosure. The problem extends beyond education to areas that include authorship, data protection, and intellectual property, all of which are closely related to WIPO's work. WIPO and UNESCO both place a strong emphasis on moral and ethical approaches to AI governance.

The issue of prohibiting AI in educational institutions is still complicated on a global scale. While restrictions protect academic integrity, they may also limit innovation and accessibility. WIPO's discussions emphasize the need to find a balance between intellectual property protection and responsible use to promote equity in education.

Over the past ten years, there has been a significant change in the relationship between education, intellectual property, and artificial intelligence (AI). The first global study to link AI innovation and IP policy was WIPO Technology Trends: Artificial Intelligence (Publication No. 4386), published in 2019. From 2020 to 2021, experts convened for the "Conversations on Intellectual Property and Artificial Intelligence," which covered topics such as ownership, training data, and legal exceptions. The Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, the first global framework encouraging moral, open, and human-centered AI use in a variety of fields, including education, was adopted by UNESCO in 2021. The advent of ChatGPT and related tools in late 2022 garnered international attention and prompted universities to implement a range of policies, some of which forbade the use of AI, while others allowed it with strict disclosure. The release of ChatGPT and related tools in late 2022 attracted international attention and caused universities to implement a range of policies, some of which prohibited the use of AI while others permitted it with strict disclosure. A worldwide move toward regulated and responsible use was signaled by national education authorities like TEQSA in

Australia advising caution on data privacy and research integrity starting in 2023, while organizations like the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) promoted the ethical and pedagogical integration of AI rather than its outright prohibition.

The debate over banning AI in higher education is relevant to a variety of international and institutional documents. While WIPO's Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property resource site and its 2019 report *Technology Trends: Artificial Intelligence* offer essential analyses of how AI affects data ownership, copyrights, and patents, the WIPO Conversations on IP and AI series provides extensive policy discussions on training data governance and frameworks for AI-generated works. Furthermore, the November 2021 adoption of UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence establishes international moral standards that support accountability, openness, and responsible AI use in research and education. The *Recomendaciones para el uso educativo de la Inteligencia Artificial Generativa (2024–2025)*, published by the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), prioritizes pedagogical value and integrity over prohibition.

Collectively, these papers show an increasing global agreement that the best way to address the issues AI presents in academic settings is through informed governance and ethical regulation rather than complete prohibitions.

Suggested Tools for Further Research, Documents of Significance, and Guiding Questions

Guiding Questions:

- Should the creators of the original work be compensated if an AI learns from millions of songs, books, and drawings found online? Why not?
- Do students of your country have to worry about whether an AI product they purchase for school will plagiarize someone else's work without their consent? What is the duty of the school?
- Does your country support research and learning for students while simultaneously defending the rights of writers and artists to encourage them to continue producing art?
- What is the most crucial law your nation should implement immediately regarding the use of AI by students? (Pay attention to letting students learn and treating creators fairly.)

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, created in 1967 and based in Geneva, Switzerland. It has 193 member states and works to protect and promote intellectual property (IP) around the world. WIPO's goal is to make sure that creativity and innovation are supported and fairly rewarded.

The organization is structured mainly by:

- The General Assembly, which includes all member states and decides the main policies and budget.
- The Coordination Committee, which focuses on administrative and strategic matters.
- The International Bureau, led by the Director General (Daren Tang, from Singapore), manages WIPO's daily work.

WIPO also manages international systems such as the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) for patents, the Madrid System for trademarks, and the Berne Convention for copyrights.

Major Roles and Stakeholders

- Member States, which negotiate and make decisions about international intellectual property laws.
- Private companies and technology sectors, which depend on IP protection for innovation.
- Educational and research institutions, which are now directly involved in discussions about AI and academic use.
- Civil society organizations that advocate for equal access to technology and fair rules on innovation.

Recent Developments

In recent years, WIPO has focused on the relationship between artificial intelligence (AI) and intellectual property. The organization has opened international discussions on topics such as:

- If AI-generated content is protected under copyright laws.
- Who should be considered the author or owner of works made with AI
- How AI should be used in academic environments, and how to prevent plagiarism or misinformation.

WIPO has started the “WIPO Conversation on Intellectual Property and Artificial Intelligence”, a series of global meetings where governments, companies, and experts discuss how to regulate AI fairly and effectively.

Currently, WIPO is not in conflict but is in the middle of important negotiations. Countries are divided: some want strict regulation or even prohibition of AI in the academic sector, while others believe in responsible and ethical use instead of a total ban.

Bibliography

About WIPO. (n.d.). About-wipo. <https://www.wipo.int/en/web/about-wipo> *Topics from A to Z on Patents.* (n.d.). Patents. <https://www.wipo.int/en/web/patents/topics/index>