

INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF DESIGN RIGHTS -2006

ABSTRACT

The necessity of protecting the intellectual property rights (IPRs) at an international level arose due to the international infringements against IPRs. As every single country has its own specific law system, the foreign right owners become vulnerable at the points of following and protecting their rights in different countries. For example, it is very difficult for an industrial design owner to register its industrial design in 200 different countries and file separate infringement actions against infringers in each country.

A lot of international treaty has been signed considering the difficulties in protecting the IPRs. In this regard, the Locarno Agreement establishing an international classification for industrial designs and the Hague Agreement related to the international registration of designs has been signed by Turkey as many other countries.

The Community Design System which constitutes an exception of the territory principle and covers all European Union Countries as one is an important international instrument for the design right owners to protect their rights. Turkish citizens can also benefit from the cited protection system.

This work focused on the Hague Agreement regarding the filing and registering the international design applications and Community Designs.