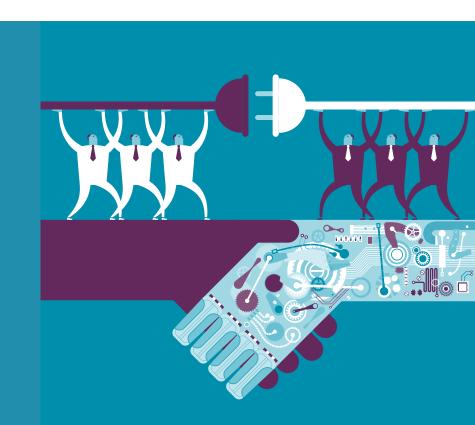


#### Al and IP Challenges

Host: Axel Ferrazzini, Managing Director, 4iP Council

#### Presenters:

- Marta Duque Lizarralde
- Dr. Stephen Potter





#### **Non-Profit Activities**





High Quality Academic Research



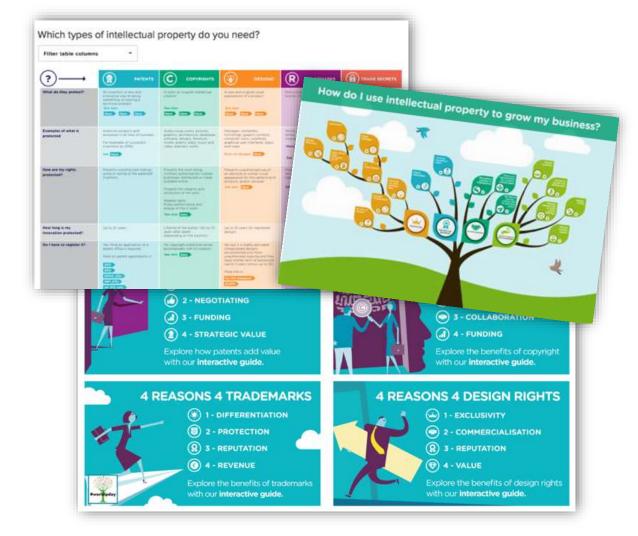
Education



**Promotion Innovative SMEs** 



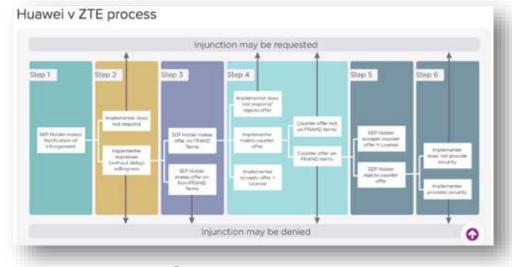
#### For SMEs:



# European Court Decisions:









## Al and IP Challenges





**Marta Duque Lizarralde** 

Doctoral Candidate and Research Associate at the Technical University of Munich (TUM). Prior to joining TUM, she worked as IPR policy researcher at Ericsson.



**Dr. Stephen Potter** 

Advisor and Business Development at Iprova, a Swiss / UK start-up that is rapidly delivering highly diverse inventions with the help of its novel AI/ML/NLP software.



# Artificial Intelligence

- Al is "a discipline of computer science that is aimed at developing machines and systems that can carry out tasks considered to require human intelligence".
- Current AI systems belong to the category of narrow AI, as they can only perform specific tasks.
- Machine learning (ML) is the most prominent subfield of AI. There are three main types of ML:
  - Supervised
  - Unsupervised
  - Reinforcement



# **Inventorship Claims**

- In 2019 Dr Thaler filed two patent applications designating an AI system called DABUS as inventor.
- Al allows more automated operation of some steps in the inventive process, but the conception of the invention is attributable to humans.
- Determining the human inventor of Al-assisted inventions is challenging.
- The patentability of AI-assisted inventions raises concerns in relation to the novelty and inventive step.



# **Authorship Debate**

- For a work to be eligible for copyright protection it must be original.
- A distinction must be made between Al-assisted works and Algenerated works.
- It is debatable whether authorless creations could be protected by certain related rights.
- The introduction of a new related right has been suggested.



### IP protection of AI features

#### Copyright:

- The algorithms themselves are not copyrightable, but the software that embodies them is protectable;
- There is a debate about whether ML models can be protected.
- Patents: algorithms, models, weights and evaluation mechanisms are protectable when they are applied in an invention with technical character as elements of the invention.
- Trade Secrets: the features that are not protected by copyright and patents, or that do not want to be disclosed.



## **B2B Data Sharing**

- IP rights in the training datasets:
  - Some data publicly accessible and freely available on websites is protected by copyright or related rights. If it is not covered by the TDM exception, a license is needed.
  - Raw data is not protected by IP rights.
  - It is unclear whether the training datasets can be protected by copyright and the sui generis database right.
  - Companies use factual control for restricting access to their raw data and datasets.



### **B2B Data Sharing**

#### Competition law

- Access only in the circumstances set out in the essential facilities doctrine.
- The EC has stated that compulsory access to data on FRAND terms will be needed where specific circumstances so require.
- Competition law only operates ex-post.

#### Soft law

- The principles set out in the EC guidelines of 2018 have proven to be insufficient.
- The EC has stated that it "will continue to assess whether amended principles and possible codes of conduct are sufficient to maintain fair and open markets, will address the situation, and if necessary, will take appropriate actions".



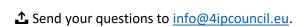
### Conclusions

- Need of definitions that reflect the current state of the debate.
- Need of creation of a flexible B2B data sharing framework, but still many open questions:
  - Recommendation of standard licensing to create a common framework?
  - Or Role of the OSS community?
  - O Method of controlling unfair terms?
  - FRAND model for access?











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