



**Council for Trade-Related Aspects of  
Intellectual Property Rights**

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS  
UNDER ARTICLE 63.2 OF THE TRIPS AGREEMENT**

UNITED KINGDOM: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ACT 2014

<b>Notifying Member</b>	<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>
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**Details of the notified legal text**

<b>Title</b>	Intellectual Property Act 2014
<b>Subject matter</b>	Copyright and related rights; Industrial designs; Patents (including plant variety protection); Enforcement
<b>Nature of notification</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main dedicated intellectual property law or regulation <input type="checkbox"/> Other law or regulation
<b>Link to legal text*</b>	<a href="https://ip-documents.info/2021/IP/GBR/21_1514_00_e.pdf">https://ip-documents.info/2021/IP/GBR/21_1514_00_e.pdf</a>
<b>Notification status</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> First notification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment or revision to notified legal text <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement or consolidation of notified legal text(s)
<b>Previous notification(s) referred to</b>	<a href="#">IP/N/1/GBR/P/1</a> ; <a href="#">IP/N/1/GBR/C/1</a> ; <a href="#">IP/N/1/GBR/D/1</a>

**Brief description of the notified legal text**

This Act introduced an easier way for patent owners to provide public notice of their patent rights, expanded the circumstances in which the IPO may issue an opinion in relation to patents, provided for the Agreement establishing a Unified Patent Court to be brought into effect in the UK, allowed the IPO to share information on unpublished patent applications with international partners to help reduce international patent backlogs and speed up patent processing, and corrected minor aspects of the patents legislation to provide clarity and legal certainty to users of the patents system.

S.22 amends the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act to simplify how copyright applies to foreign works and nationals meeting the UK's obligations under international treaties.

The Act amends the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, the Patents Act 1977, the Registered Designs Act 1949 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In relation to design law in particular, the following amendments were made:

- (i) Criminal sanctions: intentional copying of a UK or EU-registered design without the consent of its owner, whilst knowing (or having reason to believe) that the design is registered, was made a criminal offence.
- (ii) Unregistered designs: in the absence of a contract to the contrary, the designer is the owner of the design, not the person who commissioned it.

(iii) Prior use: allows a limited right to continue to use a registered design where a third party acts in good faith in the use of a design that is subsequently registered by another person.  (iv) UK access to the Hague system: includes provisions to allow the UK to implement the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement.	
<b>Language(s) of notified legal text</b>	English
<b>Entry into force</b>	14 May 2014
<b>Other date</b>	

**Notification details**

<b>Submission date of notification</b>	11 February 2021
<b>Other information</b>	<a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/18/schedule/enacted">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/18/schedule/enacted</a>  The Registered Designs Act 1949 (Isle of Man) Order 1989 (SI 1989/982) The Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (Isle of Man) (No.2) Order 1989 The Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (Isle of Man) Order 1990
<b>Agency or authority responsible</b>	UK Intellectual Property Office  Concept House Cardiff Road Newport South Wales NP10 8QQ United Kingdom  <a href="mailto:information@ipo.gov.uk">information@ipo.gov.uk</a>  0300 300 2000  Outside the UK: +44 (0)1633 814000

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\* Links are provided to texts of laws and regulations notified under the TRIPS Agreement in the form supplied by the Member concerned; the WTO Secretariat does not endorse or revise their content.