

1st June 2005 Patent Policy Making conference



# Conference on Patent Policy Making



**Jerzy Buzek** MEP, **Valdis Dombrovskis** MEP, **Tunne Kelam** MEP and **Zuzana Roithová** MEP warmly invite you to a conference on the software patents directive, co-organised with the Foundation for a Free Information Infrastructure (FFII) and the Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA).

## Gaining Perspective on the Software Patent Directive

Originally presented as a narrow harmonisation measure, the proposed directive has spurred impassioned debate that reflects the enormous stakes for European software developers and users. By deciding what may or may not be patented, the directive will determine how information and knowledge processes are regulated and controlled.

The Council's version of the directive remains largely unchanged from what the Commission proposed over three years ago, despite the expanded debate. The Commission's refusal to review the directive puts the burden on the new Parliament to tackle an extraordinarily controversial and complex issue with no additional guidance.

This conference will examine software patents and the proposed Directive from a range of perspectives:

- the U.S. experience
- interoperability and software dependence
- European investments in knowledge creation and use
- national and regional innovation policy
- competition in software, Internet services, and electronic commerce
- social and economic interests of new member countries
- comparative advantage in the global economy

## Business and the Economy

What is the impact of software patents on business models and practices? Do they foster markets for technology? What are the implications for ICT users large and small? What are the risks of inadvertent infringement and how can they be managed? What are the implications for the economy as a whole?

## Industry and Professional Perspectives

How are the interests of different industries reflected in positions on the patent debate? What role does value chain positioning play? What different professional interests and perspectives are at stake? Are there opportunities for compromise without favouring certain stakeholders over others?

## Legislation

Ultimately, the directive comes down to what the law should say. How are different positions represented in the operating language of the directive and the proposed amendments? How will the various formulations of the line between patentable and unpatentable affect different forms of software development, management, and marketing?

We hope to welcome you on June 1st!

Conference website: <http://swpat.ffii.org/events/2005/bxl0601/>



*Picture by and of the European Parliament*



*Renaissance Hotel*

# Programme

Time	Event
<b>Morning Programme: European Parliament, Room A5E2</b> (free registration required at <a href="http://demo.ffii.org/bx10506/">http://demo.ffii.org/bx10506/</a> )	
08:30-09:00	<b>Entrance and registration</b>
09:00-11:00	<p><b>Chair:</b> Peter Jungen, <i>President, European Enterprise Institute</i></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b> Brian Kahin, <i>University of Michigan, former White House Office of Science and Technology Policy</i></p> <p><b>Panel:</b></p> <p>Jerzy Buzek MEP, <i>EPP-ED</i>            Luc Soete, <i>joint Director Maastricht Economic Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (MERIT)</i>            Maria Cimaglia, <i>Legal Affairs Advisor, UEAPME</i>            Yannis Skulikaris, <i>Director in the Joint Cluster on computers, European Patent Office</i></p>
12:00-12:50	<b>Break and lunch in the Members Dining Room of the EP on the ground floor of the ASP building</b>
<b>Afternoon Programme: Hotel Renaissance, Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels</b>	
13:00-14:15	<p><b>Business and the Economy</b></p> <p>Birgitte Andersen, <i>Director for E-commerce Programme, Birbeck University of London</i>            Andreas Möglich, <i>Institut für Internet-Sicherheit, Fachhochschule Gelsenkirchen</i>            Kaj Arnö, <i>Vice President, MySQL AB</i>            Stefan Pollmeier, <i>Managing Director, ESR Pollmeier GmbH</i></p>
14:30-16:00	<p><b>Industry and Professional Perspective</b></p> <p>Ed Black, <i>President &amp; CEO, CCLIA</i>            Mark McGann, <i>Director General, EICTA</i>            Cornelia Kutterer, <i>Legal Advisor, BEUC</i>            Dr Simon Juden, <i>Chairman, Professional Contractors Group</i>            Sławomir Kosz, <i>President, Polski Rynek Oprogramowania</i></p>
16:15-17:30	<p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Piia-Noora Kauppi, <i>MEP</i></p> <p>Reinier Bakels, <i>Law scholar, University of Maastricht</i>            Maria Alessandra Rossi, <i>Law &amp; Economics Scholar, University of Siena</i>            Hartmut Pilch, <i>President, FFII</i></p>

## The conference is also supported by

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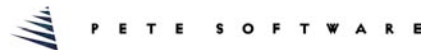
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