

2020 WORLD IP DAY COALITION LETTER



April 26, 2020

Dear WIPO Director-General Francis Gurry,

It is our great pleasure as a worldwide network of 93 think tanks from 49 countries to celebrate World Intellectual Property Day with you once again.

As humanity confronts the COVID-19 pandemic, we turn to IP-driven innovations for the most effective solutions. Today, the best scientists at companies and research institutions around the world are racing to develop potential new vaccines and treatments for COVID-19.

Research and testing are advancing swiftly. Effective intellectual property protection has enabled this rapid response. Many potential treatment candidates were originally pioneered to treat other conditions. Keeping these protections intact is the only way to ensure inventors can continue making bold investments in new technologies and medicines that improve global health.

The more IP rights are protected the more the global community can benefit from the collective wisdom, ingenuity, and creativity of the world's people. Slowly, this is happening. Property Rights Alliance has produced the International Property Rights Index since 2007 measuring intellectual property rights, physical property rights, and the legal and political institutions responsible for enforcing them. The world has seen an increase of IP Rights Protection of 4.5 percent over the last thirteen years. The ultimate consequence of this progress is, of course, greater prosperity for all.

IP Rights Are Green

This year's theme "Innovate for a Green Future" is relevant for every individual today and tomorrow. Strong IPRs encourage innovators to find solutions that are competitive, efficient, and

in-demand. In 2019 the world saw novel solutions such as meat alternatives that use 87% less water and 96% less land while producing 89% fewer greenhouse gas emissions and 92% fewer aquatic pollutants. The green-innovation economy in the U.S. alone generates \$1.3 trillion in annual sales revenue and employs nearly 9.5 million workers.

IP Rights Promote Economic Growth

IP-intensive industries play a leading role in economies with the highest rates of IPR protection. IP-intensive industries are responsible for generating nearly 40 percent of the combined U.S. & EU GDP while employing 30 percent of their entire workforce. That's 108 million hard working men and women that earn on average 46 percent more than their counterparts in other industries. In fact, their scores on the Property Rights Index are 57 percent greater than the rest of the world and their per-capita income 16 times greater than those at the bottom. If all countries and all people are going to have the same opportunity to contribute to the next era of innovation this IP rights gap must be closed.

IP Rights Inspire Innovation Across Sectors

Such growth from IP is not confined to tech hubs. Traditional industries are also reaping the rewards. Automotive, sports, real estate, pharmaceutical, information technology, and renewable energy sectors are all benefactors of IP protections. The number of patents filed worldwide increased by 5.2 percent in 2018 with an astonishing 3.3 million patents filed. According to a WIPO report on green patents, green technology companies rely on patents for their development and patent filings have increased dramatically since 2005. These patent protections offer innovators the incentive to look beyond what is considered possible to find solutions to society's current limitations. Due to these patent protections, new cancer drugs are being developed along with electric cars, biofuels, and agricultural processes to name a few. Innovation knows no boundaries.

IP Rights Protect Against Counterfeits

Counterfeit products are harmful to both producers and consumers and robust enforcement of strong IP rights is the best protection. Yet the global share of counterfeit goods consistently increases, from \$461 billion in 2013 to \$509 billion in 2016, or 2.5% of global trade, according to the latest data. While the cost of online piracy is on its way to reaching \$52 billion. These illegal products fund criminal enterprises, damage brand reputations, cause physical harm to consumers, and prevent IP industries from developing across the world. Counterfeit medicines, for instance, have been linked to disease progression and drug resistance. For most of the world's artists, inventors, and entrepreneurs the prevalence of counterfeits makes earning a career from their original works nearly impossible.

IP Rights Support Trade

Since the adoption of the TRIPS agreement intellectual property rights have been rightfully cemented into comprehensive trade agreements. These ground rules allow trade in IP-intensive goods to flow more freely than without, and with them a wide diffusion of knowledge. As countries adopt and maintain IP trade commitments, they guarantee not only that their industries will have competitive partners but as the Trade Barrier Index finds they open the door to greater

levels of prosperity and freedom while fighting corruption and abuse.

What the WIPO and UN Can Do

We firmly believe that international organizations, governments and policymakers across the world should move forward to promote policies which recognize the value of IP rights for contributing the lion's share of the world's innovations that are greener and lead to healthier futures.

This year in particular, we recognize the value of IP in the development of green technologies for the 21st century. IP rights expand the economy, bolster innovation, and improve people's quality of life. We look forward to working with WIPO to advance awareness of the incalculable value of IP rights.

Cc: Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General; Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO)



Martín Simonetta
Director
Fundación Atlas para una
Sociedad Libre
Argentina



Federico N. Fernandez
President
Fundación Internacional Bases
Argentina



Garret Edwards
Director of Legal Research
Fundación Libertad
Argentina



Aldo Abram
Executive Director
Libertad y Progreso
Argentina



Jose A. Cambareri
President
Nosotros los Contribuyentes
Argentina



Brian Marlow
Executive Director
Australian Taxpayers' Alliance
Australia



Barbara Kolm
Director
Austrian Economics Center
Austria



Kai Weiß
Board Member
Hayek Institute
Austria



Giacomo Bandini
Secretary General
For Free Choice Institute
Belgium



Naweed Khan
Executive Director
New Direction - The Foundation
for European Reform
Belgium



Javier Hurtado
Chairman
Democratic Youth Community
of Europe
Belgium



Sergio Daga
Vice-Chancellor
Universidad Privada De Santa
Cruz De La Sierra
Bolivia



Vladimir Maciel
Director
Centro Mackenzie de Liberdade
Econômica
Brazil



Troy Lanigan
President
Manning Centre
Canada



Joanna Baron
Executive Director
Canadian Constitution
Foundation
Canada



Scott Hennig
President and CEO
Canadian Taxpayers
Federation
Canada



Peter Holle
President
Frontier Centre for Public Policy
Canada



Andrés Barrientos
Co-Founder
Ciudadano Austral
Chile



José Francisco Lagos
Executive Director
Instituto Res Publica
Chile



Natalia González
Co-Deputy Director of
Legislative and Juridical Affairs
Libertad y Desarrollo
Chile



María Clara Escobar
Executive Director
Instituto de Ciencia Política
Hernán Echavarría Olózaga
Colombia



Zoran Löw
Executive Manager
Lipa, Croatian Taxpayers
Association
Croatia



Mónika Melo
Partner-Knowledge Director
OMG Strategy
Dominican Republic



José Andrade Rada
Executive Director
Ecuadorian Institute of Political
Economy
Ecuador



لدراسات السياسات العامة
The Egyptian Center For Public Policy Studies

Mahmoud Farouk
Member of the Board
Egyptian Center for Public
Policy Studies (ECPPS)
Egypt



Paata Sheshelidze
President
New Economic School
Georgia



Andrew Spiegel
Executive Director
Global Colon Cancer
Association
Global



Guillermo Peña Panting
Chairman
Fundación Eléutera
Honduras



Rainer Heufers
Executive Director
Center for Indonesian Policy
Studies
Indonesia



Eudes Baufreton
Director
Contribuables Associés
France



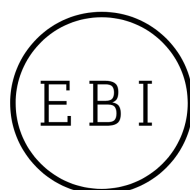
Wolfgang Müller
Executive Director
Institute for Free Enterprise
Germany



Cristina Berechet
Secretary General
World Taxpayer Association
Global



Raymond Ho Man Kit
Convenor
Momentum 107
Hong Kong, China



Gary L. Kavanagh
Director
Edmund Burke Institute
Ireland



Nicolas Lecaussin
Director
Institut de Recherches
Economiques et Fiscales
France



Fred Roeder
Managing Director and Health
Economist
Consumer Choice Center
Global



Nicos Rompapas
Executive Director
KEFiM
Greece



Amit Kapoor
Chairman
Institute for Competitiveness
India



Corinne Parenti
Co-founder and Director
The Jerusalem Institute for
Market Studies
Israel



Daniela Mainini
President
Centro Studi Anticontraffazione
Italy



Pietro Paganini
President & Curiosity Officer
Competere - Policies for
Sustainable Development
Italy



Francesco Giubilei
President
Fondazione Nazione Futura
Italy



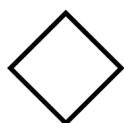
Giuseppe Sabella
Director
Think-in
Italy



Cesare Galli
Founding and Managing Partner
University of Parma- IP Law Galli
Italy



Masaru Uchiyama
President
Japanese for Tax Reform
Japan



Yuya Watase
President
Pacific Alliance Institute
Japan



Patrick Mardini
President & Founder
Lebanese Institute for Market
Studies
Lebanon



Ali Salman
CEO
Institute for Democracy and
Economic Affairs
Malaysia



Manuel J. Molano
General Director
The Mexican Institute for
Competitiveness
Mexico



Khaliunbat Myagmarjav
Founder and CEO
Silk Road Foundation
Mongolia



Slobodan Franeta
Chairman
Global Communication Network
Montenegro



Jordan Williams
Executive Director
New Zealand Taxpayers' Union
New Zealand



Raza Ullah
President
Alternate Solutions Institute
of Pakistan
Pakistan



Omar Shaban
Director
Pal-Think for Strategic Studies
Palestine



INSTITUTO

FERNANDO DE LA MORA

Federico Rabino

CEO

Instituto Fernando de la Mora
Paraguay



José Ignacio Beteta Bazán

President

Asociación de Contribuyentes
del Perú
Peru



Jose Tapia

Executive Director

Instituto de Libre Empresa
Peru



Grzegorz Poniatowski

Vice President

of Managment Board
Center for Social and Economic
Research
Poland



Marcin Nowacki

President

Warsaw Enterprise Instute
Poland



Miloš Nikolić

President and Co-Founder

Libek
Serbia



Bryan Cheang

Founder

Adam Smith Center
Singapore



Jasson Urbach

Director

Free Market Foundation
South Africa



Ignacio Arsuaga

President

CitizenGO Foundation
Spain



**Foro Regulación
Inteligente**

Diego Sánchez de la Cruz

CEO

Foro Regulación Inteligente
Spain



Javier Santacruz

Head of Research

Fundacion Civismo
Spain



Svensk Tidskrift

EST. 1911. ONLINE MAGAZINE FOR
POLITICS, ECONOMICS AND CULTURE

svensktidskrift.se

Anders Ydstedt

Chairman

Svenskt Tidskrift
Sweden



Pierre Bessard

Director

Liberal Institute
Switzerland



Nonoy Oplas

President

Minimal Government Thinkers
The Philippines



Bican Şahin

President

Freedom Research Association
Turkey



Philip Stevens
Executive Director
Geneva Network
UK



Christopher Snowden
Head of Lifestyle Economics
Institute of Economic Affairs
UK



John O'Connell
Chief Executive
Taxpayers' Alliance
UK



Nataliya Melnyk
Director
Bendukidze Free Market Center
Ukraine



Mykhaylo Lavrovskyi
Director
Ukrainian Economic Freedoms
Foundation
Ukraine



Agustin Iturralde
Executive Director
Centro De Estudios Para El
Desarrollo
Uruguay



Eric Bukstein
President
Fundación Rioplatense De
Estudios
Uruguay



Michael Bowman
President
ALEC Action
USA



Krisztina Pusok
Director of Policy and Research
American Consumer Institute
Center for Citizen Research
USA



Lisa B. Nelson
CEO
American Legislative Exchange
Council
USA



Walter G. Park
Professor and PhD Program
Director
American University
USA



Grover Norquist
President
Americans for Tax Reform
USA



Timothy Lee
Senior Vice President of Legal
and Public Affairs
Center For Individual Freedom
(CFIF)
USA



Matthew Kandrach
President
Consumer Action for a Strong
Economy
USA



Katie McAuliffe
Director
Digital Liberty
USA



George Landrith
President
Frontiers of Freedom Institute
USA



Stephen Ezell
Vice President, Global
Innovation Policy
Information Technology and
Innovation Foundation
USA



John O'Connell
Chief Executive
Taxpayers' Alliance
UK



Lorenzo Montanari
Executive Director
Property Rights Alliance
USA



Karen Kerrigan
President & CEO
Small Business &
Entrepreneurship Council
USA



Tim Andrews
Executive Director
Taxpayers Protection Alliance
USA



Sean O'Connor
Professor of Law and Executive
Director
The Center for the Protection of
Intellectual Property (CPIP)
USA



Alejandro Chafuen
Chairman
The Hispanic American Center
for Economic Research (HACER)
USA



Rocio Guijarro Saucedo
Gerente General
CEDICE Libertad
Venezuela