

NEWS: BELARUS

Amendments to Belarusian Copyright Law

On May 27 2020, [amendments to the Law on Copyright and Related Rights](#) will enter into force. Key changes:

- the concept and content of the license agreement are specified. For example, the parties will be obliged to agree on specific ways to use the copyright object;
- introduced the concept of “open license”. This is a simplified way to conclude a license agreement based on a public offer. Open license is free of charge, if the parties do not agree otherwise. Such a license agreement can be concluded orally;
- the minimum amount of compensation that can be claimed for exclusive rights infringement is reduced from approximately € 110 to € 10.

The purpose of the amendments is to improve the regulation, taking into account current law enforcement practice, eliminating conflicts, gaps and legal uncertainties.

Step Towards Alternative Dispute Resolution in IP

On 1 October 2019, [the National Center of Intellectual Property Rights of Belarus and WIPO signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Alternative IP Dispute Resolution Procedure](#). The purpose of the memorandum is to create a platform for the alternative settlement of disputes in the field of intellectual property and promote mediation in particular.

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