

Abstract

This thesis is intended as a brief introduction to the issue of the specific aspects of use and protection of copyright works at the specific environment of the internet. The Internet is a growing phenomenon of modern age which significantly affects social interaction including use of copyright works. Due to this enormous development the using of copyright works is much easier and faster which changed the established business models. However, the Internet is also widely used for copyright infringement.

The thesis consist of seven chapters. The first chapter is focused on defining the terms Internet and copyright law. The Internet is defined both from a technical and legal point of view and there is also a brief summary of the history of the Internet. Copyright law is also defined and further national, european and international law sources are assessed. The applicable law and subject-matter jurisdiction is briefly discussed too. The second chapter analyses the definition of a copyright work and its author in addition deals with copyright law exceptions and public domains.

In the chapter three the author introduces the specific modes of use of the copyright works in the Internet environment and the various judgements of national courts and the Court of Justice of the European Union. Contractual and non-contractual use of the copyright works is discussed furthermore. The author analyses following modes of use: upload, reproduction and download of copyright works. Even specialized modes of uses are mentioned like linking, peer-to-peer technologies, streaming, e-mail, chat and instant messaging.

The seventh chapter describes various types of copyright work protection such as technical and legal ones.

The final part of thesis summarizes the conclusions of this work. The author mentions her opinions on the future evolution of the copyright law and also briefly describes the current situation of the market with copyrighted works at the Internet.