

Abstracts

A Study on Extending the Term of Protection of Copyright

Han, Ji-Young

Recently Korea-EU FTA has been passed by the National Assembly and will be enforced in the beginning of July 2011. One of the important issues of Korea-EU FTA is relating to elongation of the term of protection of copyright. According to the European Copyright Directive established in 1993 the term of protection of copyright has been changed from 50 years to 70 years after the death of author. Therefore, the Korean Copyright Act shall be revised according to the Korea-EU FTA, in other words, the term of copyright protection will be extended from 50 years to 70 years after the death of author. It may be asked of how long the term of protection of copyright should be protected. From the perspectives of copyright history the term of protection of copyright has been continuously extending, and it is so difficult to predict until when this tendency extending the term of protection of copyright would be continued. On the other hand, it is even important to study on term of protection of copyright, however, it does not seem to be satisfactorily discussed on this issue in Korea. Thus, it is necessary to analyze and study on the term of protection of copyright not only from legal but also policy and economic perspective. In this study pro and contra on extending the term of protection of copyright mainly in Europe and U.S. will be dealt with, and will be examined which meaning it has in Korea to extend the term of protection of copyright.

Keyword: Elongation of the term of protection of copyright, Korea-EU FTA, European Directive 2006/116/EC, CTEA, Sonny Bono Act.