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“Non-Practicing Entities and Patent Reform in the United States”

by

Craig Nard

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Commentator: Xavier Seuba, Senior Research Associate at CEIPI

Moderator: Christophe Geiger, Director General of CEIPI

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Room 339 (CEIPI, 11 rue Maréchal Juin, Strasbourg)

The conference will be held in English

Abstract

Non-practicing entities (or NPEs) have been a controversial player in the patent space, attracting both supporters and detractors. Recently, the American Congress has proposed patent reform legislation aimed, in part, to address what are perceived to be activities by NPEs that are detrimental to the patent system. This Congressional action has also prompted applause and charges of Congressional overreach. This talk seeks to provide a balanced assessment of the role of NPEs in the patent system and explores whether legislation is needed.

Craig Nard



Mr. Nard is the Galen J. Roush Professor of Law and Director of the Spangenberg Center for Law, Technology & the Arts. He is also a Senior Lecturer at the World Intellectual Property Organization Academy in Torino, Italy. Mr. Nard is widely published in the area of patent law, with scholarly articles appearing in many prominent law journals, including *Georgetown Law Journal*, *Northwestern Law Review*, *Supreme Court Economic Review*, *Boston University Law Review*, and the *Review of Law and Economics*. He is also the author of *The Law of Patents* (3rd ed, Wolters Kluwer 2014), and a co-author of *The Law of Intellectual Property* (4th ed, Wolters Kluwer). Prior to entering the legal academy, Mr. Nard clerked for the Honorable Giles S. Rich and Helen W. Nies of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in Washington, D.C. and, before that, was a patent litigator in Dallas, Texas and Julius Silver Fellow in law and technology at Columbia University School of Law. He is a member of the Texas bar, and is licensed to practice before the United States Patent & Trademark Office.