

€338 billion worth of counterfeit goods traded worldwide

- International trade in counterfeit and pirated products is worth up to \$461 billion (€338 billion), based on the latest available data from 2013 – 2.5% of total world trade.
- In the EU, as much as 5% of all imports were of counterfeited and pirated products, worth up to €85 billion.

These were some of the key findings of a joint **European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) - the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)** report released today in Paris which includes quantitative analysis on the value of trade in counterfeits and pirated goods worldwide.

The report, **“Trade in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods: Mapping the Economic Impact”** uses data from almost half a million customs seizures across the world to calculate the economic impact of counterfeiting and piracy on international trade. It finds that counterfeit and pirated goods can originate from all economies. Emerging economies play an important part in this phenomenon, either as producers of counterfeits or as transit zones.

Infringing products range from luxury items, industrial products (such as machines, spare parts or chemicals) to consumer goods that have an impact on personal safety (pharmaceuticals, food and drink, medical equipment or toys). Counterfeiters make increasing use of small shipments, partly due to the rise of e-commerce and also to reduce the risk and financial consequences of detection.

Brands suffering the most from counterfeiting are primarily registered in OECD and EU member countries, such as the United States, Italy, France, Switzerland, Japan, Germany and the UK.

However, the report also finds that infringement increasingly takes place in emerging economies, showing that counterfeiting poses a risk to innovative companies, no matter where they are based.

The data analysed in the report was supplied by the World Customs Organization, the European Commission’s Taxation and Customs Union Directorate General and the United States Customs and Border Protection to give an accurate picture of the global economic impact of counterfeiting and piracy in international trade.

The Executive Director of the EUIPO, António Campinos, said:

“Intellectual property generates value for firms and economies, and sound IP protection and enforcement helps drive innovation and economic growth. Governments across the world need reliable, evidence-based data to allow them to assess the danger that counterfeiting and piracy pose at national, EU and international level. This report will help them in that task.”

Today's report was compiled over an 18 month period and is the result of close collaboration between the EUIPO and the OECD. At the same time, the EUIPO is also undertaking a [series of studies](#) to quantify the economic impact of counterfeiting in key sectors in the EU.

ABOUT EUIPO

The EUIPO is the EU's largest decentralised agency, based in Alicante, Spain. It manages the registration of the European Union trade mark (EUTM) and the registered Community design (RCD), both of which provide intellectual property protection in all 28 Member States of the EU. The EUIPO also hosts the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights. Until March 23, 2016, EUIPO was known as the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM).

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