

2022-2023

INTA Committee Descriptions

Advocacy Group Committees

Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding anticounterfeiting and enforcement issues. The committee will monitor developments in treaties, legislation, regulations and other enforcement mechanisms in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, interaction with anticounterfeiting organizations and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the impact of brand restrictions on trademark and related rights. The committee will monitor developments in treaties, legislation, and regulations in various jurisdictions, complete analyses, and coordinate advocacy activities with other relevant INTA committees such as the Legislation & Regulation Committee. If necessary, the committee also will propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing and advocacy in conjunction with INTA's staff, as well as raising awareness on brand restriction issues among INTA membership via Bulletin articles and the public through op-ed articles and other public relations methods, and policy dialogues and conferences.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the impact of copyright law and enforcement on trademark rights. The committee will monitor copyright cases, legislation and regulation in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, interaction with copyright organizations, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the impact of data protection law on trademark rights. The committee will monitor data protection cases, legislation, and regulation in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, interaction with data protection organizations, providing subject matter expertise and preparation of educational materials for INTA members who are not familiar with data protection laws, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy related to designs. The committee monitors design cases, legislation and practice in various jurisdictions, including on the international, regional and national levels; completes analyses; and proposes policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, interaction with government officials and design organizations, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff, as well as raising awareness on design-related issues among INTA membership.
Identifies and advocates the Association's policy regarding important trends and emerging issues related to trademarks and not covered by other "issue" committees. The committee will propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding enforcement of trademarks. The committee will monitor cases, legislation and regulation in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board in regard to enforcement issues. Work includes report and submission writing, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.



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INTA Committee Descriptions

Advocacy Group Committees

Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the balanced protection of famous and well-known marks. The committee will monitor developments in treaties, cases, legislation and regulation in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy related to geographical indications, in particular their relationship with other existing intellectual property rights such as trademark. The committee will monitor developments in treaties, legislation and practice on the international, regional and national levels; complete analyses; and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, interaction with government officials and geographical indications organizations, including representing INTA at events, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Evaluates efforts on national, regional, and international levels through treaties, trade agreements, special conventions, and other nonbinding instruments that relate to trademark law and practice. The committee will complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes drafting proposed treaty language and advocating INTA's existing policy positions to relevant government officials.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the impact of indigenous rights and their enforcement on trademark rights. The committee will monitor developments in treaties, legislation and implementation in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, interaction with indigenous rights organizations and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Provides expertise concerning trademark and other IP-related laws to courts and trademark offices around the world through the submission of amicus curiae ("friend of the court") briefs or similar filings. Work includes advocating for acceptance of amicus briefs, evaluation of requests to file, monitoring leading cases, and drafting of submissions, often on a tight deadline.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the balanced protection of trademarks on the Internet. The committee will focus primarily on policy development and compliance issues at the Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) with regard to use of trademarks in the domain name system. This includes active and vocal participation in working groups and drafting of public comments. In addition to ICANN policy, the committee will monitor developments in other global internet governance initiatives, social media, mobile applications, and other technical platforms, and provide subject matter expertise to relevant INTA committees and staff. Work includes proposing policy recommendations to the Board, report and submission writing, project development and advocacy as required.
Analyzes legislative and regulatory developments and identifies deficiencies in existing laws and regulations relating to trademarks and unfair competition. The committee will complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes drafting proposed legislation and/or regulations and advocating INTA's existing policy positions to relevant government officials.
Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the balanced protection of non-traditional trademarks (e.g., sound, color, trade dress). The committee will monitor developments in treaties, cases, legislation and regulation in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.



Advocacy Group Committees

Parallel Imports Committee	Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the balanced protection against parallel imports. The committee will monitor developments in treaties, cases, legislation and regulation in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Right of Publicity Committee	Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding the right of publicity. The committee will monitor developments in treaties, case law, legislation and implementation in various jurisdictions, complete analyses and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, interaction with right of publicity organizations, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.
Trademark Office Practices Committee	Evaluates and recommends improvements to trademark office practices, procedures, operations, and regulations at the national, regional, and international levels. The committee monitors trademark office developments in various jurisdictions, including participation in user groups, completes analyses, and prepares comments and submissions within INTA's policy framework. Work includes comment writing and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff. The committee consists of regional and country-specific subcommittees along with those with an international focus, such as the Madrid System and TM5 subcommittees. Some subcommittees, such as EUIPO and USPTO, also participate in Office-led projects, meetings, seminars and conferences. The committee also develops educational programs and seminars specifically designed for trademark office in the trademark arena and which also may be industry specific.
Unfair Competition Committee	Develops and advocates the Association's policy regarding unfair competition law. The committee will monitor developments in treaties, case law, legislation and implementation in various jurisdictions, complete analysis and propose policy recommendations to the Board. Work includes report and submission writing, interaction with related organizations, and advocacy in conjunction with relevant INTA committees and staff.



Communications Group

Brands for a Better Society Committee	Demonstrates how brands positively impact society and build consumer trust through corporate social responsibility, diversity and inclusion, and sustainability initiatives by increasing awareness among members of the value of these activities, engaging targeted stakeholders, and informing the public about efforts undertaken by INTA and its members. The committee will monitor trends in the industry and among members to develop best practices and tools to raise awareness and implement relevant programs.
Building Bridges Committee	Aims to build bridges with non-IP and non-legal associations (not-for-profit associations), focusing specifically on five segments: Marketing and Advertising associations, Consumers associations, Manufacturing and Retail associations, associations that develop and promote sustainability and ethical standards, and associations that represent SMEs and entrepreneurs. The committee will identify and review bridge-building opportunities to help the Association create sustainable and positive relationships, promote the value of trademarks and brands, and to facilitate the advancement of INTA's Strategic Plan.
Public Information Committee	Creates material for INTA's website that educates the general public about trademarks and brands. Committee members research, write, edit, and update basic online information and reference materials, including Fact Sheets, videos, articles, and more. The committee brainstorms and implements new ways of presenting information to target public audiences, including educational institutions, small business owners, marketing experts, trade associations, and more. Each committee member is expected to contribute to idea development, creation, maintenance, and dissemination of public resources.
Unreal Campaign Committee	Advances INTA's consumer awareness initiative designed to educate young consumers (ages 14–23) about the importance of trademarks, brands, and the dangers of counterfeit products. Committee members will be responsible for organizing student presentations in their respective regions. This includes contacting, planning, and teaching the Unreal Campaign program at their local schools. Currently, student presentations are available in twenty languages: Afrikaans, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Chinese, Croatian, Czech, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovenian, and Spanish. Volunteers for this committee should be prepared for an active experience engaging with young consumers and may expect to spend several hours each year onsite at schools or other youth-oriented events.



Resources Group

Academic Committee	Develops member benefits, services, and programs specifically designed for law students and professors. Work includes content development, identification of speakers and moderators, support with course materials development and review, and program implementation. Current offerings include: the Course on International Trademark Law and Practice; Adjunct Professor Panel; Academic Series/Career Development Day at the Annual Meeting, Career Panels and other programming designed specifically for the academic community.
Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee	Promotes alternative dispute resolution (ADR) as a cost-effective means of resolving trademark, brand, and complementary intellectual property disputes around the world. To that end, the ADR Committee proposes and develops programming, written content, and liaises with other committees as appropriate.
Brands and Innovation Committee	Focuses on defining and advancing INTA's agenda with respect to the interrelationship between brands and innovation. This interrelationship will generate increasingly frequent and complex issues for brand owners. INTA will address these issues through educational events, written content, and strategic relationships with non-legal and non-IP (not-for-profit) technology-based associations. This committee is not divided by regional subcommittees.
Commercialization of Brands Committee	Develops resources including educational offerings and best practice guidelines relating to the in-market commercialization of brand offerings. This committee will consider such issues as marketing and advertising regulatory issues, agreements including licenses, distribution, supply and agency agreements, tax, brand valuation, brand evaluation, brand growth strategies for SMEs and entrepreneurs, due diligence, and related issues to support the commercial success of product and service offerings.
In-House Practitioners Committee	Develops services and programs specifically designed for in-house trademark professionals. Work includes content development, identification of speakers and moderators, support with course materials development and review, and program implementation. Current offerings include: Annual In-House Practitioners Workshop, "Idea Exchanges", e-Learning, and other programming offerings. Develops proposals for member benefits specifically designed for in-house trademark professionals such as online resources, checklists, surveys and potential research projects, and other resources to assist in brand management and career development.
INTA Bulletins Committee	Produces a substantial portion of the content for the INTA Bulletin and China Bulletin. Committee members on the 5 regional subcommittees (Africa & Middle East, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, North America) research, write and verify the accuracy of articles on policy, and trademark law and practice, and community news. China Bulletin subcommittee members translate materials from English into Chinese and vice versa in addition to writing original articles. The committee conducts most of its business by email with a limited number of conference calls.
Law Firm Committee	Develops member benefits, services, and education programs specifically designed for law firms and guidelines for the committee members to serve as ambassadors for new law firm associate members that join INTA. Work includes content development, identification of speakers and moderators, support with course materials development and review, and program implementation. Current offerings include: Legal Services Delivery Podcasts; Webcasts and Session Development; Professional Development; Collaboration with Various Committees to Address the Topic of Well-Being for Attorneys in Law Firms; and Technology Relevant to Law Firm Practitioners.
Law Firm Committee	Develops member benefits, services, and education programs specifically designed for law firms and guidelines for the committee members to serve as ambassadors for new law firm associate members tha join INTA. Work includes content development, identification of speakers and moderators, support with course materials development and review, and program implementation. Current offerings include: Legal Services Delivery Podcasts; Webcasts and Session Development; Professional Development; Collaboratio with Various Committees to Address the Topic of Well-Being for Attorneys in Law Firms; and Technology



Resources Group

Leadership Development Committee	Develops insightful, engaging, and interactive educational programs and services specifically designed for the professional growth and development of INTA volunteers to perform leadership roles within the Association or their organizations. Work includes content development, identification of speakers and moderators, support with course materials, and program or services implementation. Current offerings include: Leadership LABs, bootcamps, LEAD and other sessions (at Annual and Leadership Meetings), e-Learning, LINK newsletter, and other resources to assist in leadership training and professional development.
Pro Bono Committee	Identifies and develops opportunities to serve low-income individuals, small- to medium-enterprises, and nonprofit or charitable organizations with low operating budgets that might not have access to legal assistance, and includes advancing and expanding the Pro Bono Clearinghouse, and offering Pro Bono Clinics. The Pro Bono Committee raises awareness of INTA's Pro Bono offerings and develops strategies to cultivate partnerships with other legal and non-legal pro bono programs.
Professional Development Committee	Identifies resources and programs developed by INTA or from external sources to cultivate the substantive and dynamic skills of all levels and types of IP practitioners. The committee will also oversee the creation of tools for this purpose, including the development and maintenance of an interactive All-Star Lab Portal.
Publications Committee	Identifies, evaluates, and develops concepts and proposals for members-only resources. We oversee the efforts of project teams of contributing editors and writers who develop and produce our Practice Guides and treatises. We also develop and produce short-form publications such as checklists, fact sheets, industry and topic papers, and other resources. We partner with other committees to facilitate the creation of new and relevant resources. We also research and make recommendations on new resource formats. These resources are a fundamental part of the INTA member benefits package.
The Trademark Reporter Committee	Produces The Trademark Reporter (TMR), INTA's law journal. Founded in 1911, the TMR delivers cutting-edge, peer-reviewed scholarship on trademarks, brands, and complementary intellectual property to practitioners, academics, and courts around the world. The TMR Committee solicits, writes, and edits articles, commentaries, and book reviews.
Trademark Administrators Committee	Develops educational and professional development programs and resources specifically designed for non-attorney trademark professionals, like paralegals, managers, and trademark administrators (TMAs). Work includes content development, program implementation, and identification of speakers and moderators. Current offerings include: TMA Brunch at Annual Meeting; International TMAs Mini-Seminars, Special Programs for Super Experienced TMAs, TMA Resources and Tools; TMA Networking and Outreach, TMA Mentoring, TMA Communications and Social Media, and Liaising with the Project Teams for the TMAP Meeting.
Young Practitioners Committee	Develops educational and professional development programs and resources specifically designed for young practitioners. Work includes content development, identification of speakers and moderators, and program implementation. Current offerings include: Annual Meeting Orientation and Reception; Young Practitioner Panel Discussions and Receptions throughout the year; Young Practitioner Spotlight; and the Tomorrow's Leaders Award.