

## SHORT BIOGRAPHY - Dr. Mihály J. Ficsor



Between 1985 and 1999, Dr. Ficsor worked, first, as **Director** and, then, from 1992 as **Assistant Director General** of the **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)** in charge of copyright and related rights. He was responsible for a great number of important projects. *Inter alia*, he is recognized as having played **a decisive role in the preparation, negotiation and adoption of the so-called „Internet treaties:” the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT).**

At the **World Trade Organization (WTO)**, Dr. Ficsor has been a member of a panel in one of the most important intellectual property disputes (between the European Communities (at that time) and Canada), and, in another dispute (between the United States and Japan), the parties reached agreement in the consultation phase on the basis of his expert opinion.

At present, Dr. Ficsor is **Member of the Hungarian Copyright Experts Council, Honorary Chairman** of the **Hungarian Copyright Association, Member of the Executive Committee** of the **International Intellectual Property Association (ALAI)**, and **Chairman** of the **Central and Eastern European Copyright Alliance (CEECA)** with permanent observer status at WIPO.

Dr. Ficsor was the **Chairman of the UNESCO Working Group** preparing the draft **UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Cultural Diversity** adopted in 2005 and entered into force in 2007.

Dr. Ficsor holds a **doctor's degree in law** and political sciences from the Law Faculty of the **Eötvös Lóránd University of Budapest**. He has written numerous articles and books on various copyright issues, particularly on the impact of new technologies (especially digital technology and the Internet) on copyright and on collective management of copyright and related rights, and participates in a number of seminars, symposiums, workshops as a speaker throughout the world. He teaches at various universities; is a **Honorary Professor of the University of Alcalá** and has been honored by a number of distinctions; including the title and decoration **Officier de l'ordre des arts et des lettres** awarded to him by the French Government.

### **Some of his publications:**

- “**Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights**”, WIPO publication, 2002.
- “**The Law of Copyright and the Internet – The 1996 WIPO Treaties, their Interpretation and Implementation**”, Oxford University Press, 2003.
- “**Guide to the Copyright and Related Rights Treaties Administered by WIPO and Glossary of Copyright and Related Rights Terms**”, WIPO publication, 2003.
- “**Protection of ‘DRM’ under the WIPO ‘Internet Treaties’**” in I. Stamatoudi: “**Copyright Enforcement and the Internet**,” (as co-author), Kluwer Law International, 2010.
- “**Copyright in the Information Society – Guide to National Implementation of the European Directive**,” (as co-author), Edward Elgar, 2011.
- “**Collective Rights Management from the Viewpoint of the International Treaties**” in D. Gervais (ed.) “**Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights**,” Kluwer Law International, 2016.
- “**“International Copyright Law and Practice”** (as co-author of the annually upgraded two-volume book), Matthew Bender – LexisNexis, 1993-2017.