2. Introduction to copyright

This chapter provides an introduction to copyright and the history and functions of copyright law, as well as international and European trends and developments that have influenced copyright law in the UK. It first considers ‘author’s rights’ and ‘neighbouring rights’ before turning to justifications that have been put forward for copyright, with particular reference to arguments invoking natural rights, rewards and incentives, neoliberal economics, and the ‘democratic paradigm’. The chapter also examines the seven significant treaties that have influenced British copyright law as well as European directives that have had an important and growing impact on British copyright law, including the Software Directive, the Related Rights Directive, and the Cable and Satellite Directive.
2. Introduction to copyright

abstracts and keywords for each book and chapter without a subscription.

Please subscribe or login to access full text content.

If you have purchased a print title that contains an access code, please see the information provided with the code or instructions printed within the title for information about how to register your code.

For questions on access or troubleshooting, please check our FAQs, and if you can't find the answer there, please contact us.