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CREATIVE COMMONS POLAND BEGINS WORK TOWARDS FREE COPYRIGHT TOOLS

Silicon Valley-based NGO continues its wildfire expansion around the globe

San Francisco, CA, USA and Berlin, GERMANY – March 31, 2005 – Creative Commons, a nonprofit organization dedicated to building a body of creative work free to share and build upon, announced today that work on a localized Polish version of its copyright licenses has begun. Creative Commons' copyright licenses, which are available free of charge from the group's website (<http://creativecommons.org>), allow authors and artists to mark their works as free to copy or transform under certain conditions — to declare “some rights reserved,” in contrast to the traditional “all rights reserved” — thereby enabling others to access a growing pool of raw materials without legal friction. Poland joins a dozen jurisdictions around the world in the process of adapting the Creative Commons licenses to local law; sixteen other jurisdictions, from Japan to Brazil to Finland, already offer localized versions of Creative Commons licenses today.

In a collaborative effort between the Institute of Civil Law at the Jagiellonian University of Krakow and the Polish non-profit organization Open Source Culture Foundation (OSCF), Creative Commons Poland will adapt the licenses to Polish law. The process is headed by Justyna Hofmokl and Alek Tarkowski, with Professor Elzbieta Traple from the law faculty of the Jagiellonian University as the project's legal lead.

Creative Commons Poland will post their initial drafts on the Creative Commons website for public discussion.

About the Open Source Culture Foundation

The Open Source Culture Foundation was created with the goals of popularizing artistic activity and culture in Poland, supporting art criticism, and encouraging active participation in cultural projects and events. The Foundation supports new technical solutions that reduce costs of production and distribution of both printed and electronic versions of cultural magazines. OSCF also supports the development of Open Source software for creating an online environment for cultural periodicals.

For more information about the Open Source Culture Foundation, visit <http://fundacja.czasopism.pl/en/about-us>.



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About the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Jagiellonian University, Krakow

Going back to the very beginnings of the University's existence in the 14th century, the study of law at the Jagiellonian University has a long history. The University's current Faculty of Law and Administration is proud to continue in a tradition of important contributions to the foundations of modern Poland, with many of its senior staff holding key offices in the Polish legislative and executive bodies. Kraków is very often called the capital of Intellectual Property Law in Poland, due to the fame of its Institute of IP Law.

For more information about the University, visit <http://www.law.uj.edu.pl/>.

About Creative Commons

A nonprofit corporation founded in 2001, Creative Commons promotes the creative re-use of intellectual and artistic works — whether owned or in the public domain — by empowering authors and audiences. It is sustained by the generous support of the Center for the Public Domain, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Omidyar Network Fund, and the Hewlett Foundation.

For general information, visit [<http://creativecommons.org>](http://creativecommons.org).

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Press Kit

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