

Industrial 'Property', Law and Inventorship in Greece 1914-1974

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The paper focuses on the co-construction of industrial 'property' law and the culture of invention in Greece the years from 1914 to 1974. It traces the legislative changes for almost sixty years from the post WWI years to the restoration of democracy in 1974. While covering a rather long period the focus is well defined in three specific periods: the years surrounding the first patent law in the 1920s, the WWII and its impact in the legislative culture on 'IP', and the third is impact of the European Patent Convention in 1973 and its appropriation and impact on 'IP' and inventorship in Greece. The research questions that the paper aims to address and answer are: What was the social and political context of the introduction of the first patent law in Greece? What was the impact of the transnational legislative setting in constructing a culture of propertization of knowledge and more particularly in techno-science in Greece? What challenges and uncertainties created the new legislative context? How the propertization of techno-scientific culture co-constructed with legislative measures or the public discourses re to pressures for new IP laws and homogenization with central European developments. The paper argues that during the period of the study there were continuous pressures toward the delineation of Greece with European IP developments that under various conditions and different contexts were linked with the rhetoric of national 'progress' and 'growth'. A process of appropriation occurred in the making of IP laws and the shaping of inventorship in Greece that was influenced by social, economic and ideological changes that occurred the years covered by the paper. The research is based mainly on published archival material most importantly on technical and legal journals, and the Transactions and Bulletins of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Greece and the Technical Chamber of Greece. Also the public press and legal books of the period will be used extensively.