

Abstract: Creative endeavors constitute the subject of copyright protection which are a species of property right. Therefore it is necessary to examine the concept of property which interrelates justice (Plato), private ownership (Aristotle), labor (Locke), growth of personality (Hegel), legal relations (Hohfeld) and appears as an account of ownership rights (Honore). My argument is based on Plato's logic. In addition later philosophers after him by highlighting individuals as unique aspects of community, subliminally, they support Plato's views regarding communal use of property. Therefore, in modern times when information and communication technologies are undergoing 'revolution' it is imperative to go back to Plato's concept of property and argue that the interests of the individual creator can be balanced with those of the community. In this regard open access is an instrument with benefits for wide dissemination of information resources while protecting the rights of the individual creator. The paper is divided into three parts. In first part I will trace when the concept of property was first introduced; grounds on which this emergence happened; reasons for which property transformed to monopoly that lead to patent rights; and eventually the need for copyright protection. In second part I will identify justifications based on which the concept of private property was introduced and how the idea of private property in land and goods was extended to creative endeavors. In the last part I will introduce the concept of open access in terms of an appropriate reform of current copyright protection in this digital age, which leads to dissemination of information and information accessibility.

Keywords: joint ownership, property, labor, information resources, open access