Abstract

Re-investigation on Moral Right of Copyright*

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Moral right is an important right which is composed of copyright with the author's economic right. Moral right is prescribed in the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works that "Independently of the author's economic rights, and even after the transfer of the said rights, the author shall have the right to claim authorship of the work and to object to any distortion, mutilation or other modification of, or other derogatory action in relation to, the said work, which would be prejudicial to his honor or reputation". This statute makes moral right as international criterion but the concrete legalization would be authorized as to each nation.

So, many countries including France, Germany, the United Kingdom, USA have statutes that limit moral rights as that software which need to be adapted, copyrightable works which would be limited by fair use or fair dealing should be limited for public interests which Copyright Act intends for.

Nevertheless, Korean Copyright Act doesn't ask the requirements of "prejudicial to author's honor or reputation" for exercise of moral rights. Moreover, copyrightable works which juridical persons create, computer software would be protected with moral right without any limitation. So, Korea is one of countries that protect moral right in strongest way.

Protecting moral right may limit parody, derivative works and fair use of copyrightable works. So, we should discuss for amendment of moral right in Korean Copyright Act under consideration of Copyright Act's object and international legislation.

- * This study was supported by 2013 Research Grant from Kangwon National University(No. C1009878-01-01).
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Keywords

moral right, computer program copyrightable work, Berne convention, Visual Artists Right Act of 1990(VARA), transformative use, parody, right of integrity, right of attribution

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