

Okediji, Ruth, William L. Prosser Professor of Law, University of Minnesota (US)
"Fair Use and its Institutions - Towards a Theory of Access to Knowledge"

The paper will explore the implications of the growing role limitations and exceptions in international copyright law, exploring in particular the normative impact of the distribution right in the digital copyright space. While limitations to the reproduction right appear largely settled, the distribution right has only recently become the focus of policy and legal action, particularly in the digital arena. My paper explores the incipient jurisprudence of the distribution right and highlights its significant role in mediating access to knowledge in a global economy. The paper then suggests some prospects for reform of the scope of the distribution right in light of recent emphasis on distributive justice in international copyright law.