

TRADE RELATED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (TRIPS) AGREEMENT, 1995

“Everyone has a right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary, or artistic production of which he is the author.”

—Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 27.2

Countries covered: All members of the World Trade Organization

Protections

Patents including life forms, pharmaceuticals, and indigenous knowledge— 20 years	Trademarks	Geographic indicator names	Industrial Design— 10 years	Copyrights— literary, artistic, musical, photographic, audiovisual, computer programs— 50 years	Design of integrated circuits— 10 years	Trade secrets
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Sectors Involved

Information technology	Agriculture—genetically engineered foods	e-commerce	Telecommunications
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Basic Principles

- National treatment
- Most favored nation
- Contribution to technical innovation and transfer of technology

Doha Declaration 2001

- TRIPS Agreement should not prevent countries from taking measures to protect public health
- Exemptions for pharmaceutical patent protection in least developed countries until 2016

Monitoring and Enforcement

Global	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Trade Organization • World Intellectual Property Organization
National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Communications Commission • National Telecommunications and Information Agency