

Prof. Andrew Chin
chin@unclaw.com
www.unclaw.com/chin

International Intellectual Property Law
University of North Carolina School of Law
Law 418

SECTION 301 COMMENTARY

The purpose of this assignment is to give you an opportunity to apply what you have learned in this course to a topic of your choice relating to international intellectual property law in the context of United States trade policy, while acquainting yourself with some of legal materials, commentaries, and reference tools that are distinctive to this area of legal practice.

Industry organizations, consumer groups, trade representatives, and other stakeholders in the international IP system are continually engaged in dialogue with the U.S. Trade Representative and with the public regarding the contents of the annual Section 301 Report. Such communications can take various forms, including but not limited to:

- formal comment submissions in advance of the USTR's drafting of the following year's report,
- responses to the Special 301 comment submissions of another party in the same or a previous year;
- letters and other informal communications to the USTR addressing topics related to the Special 301 Report;
- press releases or other public responses to the most recently issued Special 301 Report;
- government statements in response to the most recently issued Special 301 Report.

Your assignment is to prepare a brief communication **taking and defending a position** regarding some topic within the scope of the 2013 Special 301 Report. (There is no minimum or maximum length, but shoot for two pages. This is not intended to be a substantial writing project.) Optionally, you may also hand in a separate statement (one paragraph or so) describing your research steps and materials consulted, to the extent that this may not be apparent from your work product. We will devote one class period to a brief presentation and discussion of your position. Plan on keeping your presentation brief (3-4 minutes) to leave time for a question or comment from your classmates.

Please try to incorporate at least one citation to an international agreement or non-U.S. code or caselaw within your communication.

David Hansen, Reference Librarian, has graciously offered to assist students with research inquiries in connection with this assignment. You may contact him to set up an appointment at drhansen@email.unc.edu or 962-1605.