

Abstract

The work first introduces the area of public licenses as a space between the copyright law and public domain. After that, consecutively for proprietary software, free and open source software, open hardware and open content, it maps particular types of public licenses and the accompanying social and cultural movements, puts them in mutual as well as historical context, examines their characteristics and compares them to each other, shows how the public licenses are defined by various accompanying movements, and also analyses which obstacles to the usage of public licenses are put by the Czech law.

Keywords

Copyright, licenses, open source, creative commons, public domain, software, design.