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Indigenous Intellectual Property

A Handbook of Contemporary Research

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Edited by Matthew Rimmer, Professor of Intellectual Property and Innovation Law, Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Australia

This Handbook considers the international struggle to provide for proper and just protection of Indigenous intellectual property. Leading scholars consider legal and policy controversies over Indigenous knowledge in the fields of international law, copyright law, trademark law, patent law, trade secrets law, and cultural heritage. This collection examines national developments in Indigenous intellectual property from around the world. As well as examining the historical origins of conflicts over Indigenous knowledge, the volume examines new challenges to Indigenous intellectual property from emerging developments in information technology, biotechnology, and climate change.

'This comprehensive introduction to challenges and possibilities in the recognition of indigenous intellectual property combines informative sections on the formal legal framework with richly detailed and historically contextualized accounts of key cases and developments. Connections to other big issues such as climate change and the digital revolution are well-drawn, while an insistent critical voice displays concern for indigenous agency, the tension between universality and cultural distinctiveness, and the place of indigenous customary law and sovereignty in intellectual property debates.'

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