The interface between intellectual property rights and competition policy is one of the most important and difficult areas of EU commercial law and corresponding national laws.

This second edition of an extremely well-reviewed work covers numerous developments that have taken place since the first edition, including the revision of the Technology Transfer Block Exemption and Guidelines, the adoption of a new block exemption for Research and Development, revised Guidelines on horizontal co-operation, the implications of the UsedSoft judgment on exhaustion of rights, EU legislation regulating collecting societies, and cases concerning the abuse of dominant position by misuse of the patent system such as AstraZeneca v Commission.

The book contains a detailed explanation of the application of EU competition law to all types of intellectual property and the resulting regulatory framework for the exploitation and licensing of intellectual property rights. It has practical analysis of such issues as technology transfer and pools, standards, research and development, collecting societies, franchising, and merchandising.

The first edition was quoted with approval by the English Court of Appeal.
2 the European Union. 2.1 Economic and Innovation Climate Within The E.U. 2.1.1 Is there a link between innovation and utility model?

2.1.2 Standard patenting activity. 2.2 Utility Model Laws in Individual Member States 2.2.1 The patent regime 2.2.2 The three-dimensional regime 2.2.3 The German regime 2.2.4 Empirical findings. 3 countries with utility model systems.

5.2 Design Law in Europe 5.2.1 Substantive features of the EU design system 5.2.2 Empirical findings for the EU design law 5.2.3 Policy Implications. 5.3 Unfair Competition 5.3.1 Rationales for unfair competition law 5.3.2 Minor innovations and unfair competition 5.3.3 Unfair competition in Europe.

Competition law can therefore complement intellectual property law in situations where the way that intellectual property law is exercised may fall short of promoting consumer welfare. Without effective competition rules, there would be higher risks that today's innovators might stifle those of tomorrow, or that consumers might not benefit from fair access to those innovations. Our task in this regard is to find the right balance between the interests of distributors, artists, inventors and creators and the interests of consumers. However, competition law is not the answer to everything.