

Review of: "An Analysis of the Russian Patent Situation in the Context of the Ukrainian Situation"

Luis Fernando Ramirez-Hernandez¹

¹ Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The international intellectual property system aims to protect inventions that people and companies produce after investing time and resources in research and development. This guarantees them protection and the privilege of taking advantage of a patent exclusively given their contributions to science for a long period of time. The countries that freely associate with this system have the obligation to pursue and punish those actions that attempt to violate the full exercise of said protection, in a reciprocal model of collaboration at a global level. The article prepared by Ian and Nicola Maxwell, presents an interesting case study on the consequences that isolating itself from this patent protection system has for a country, in terms of its potential use and access to new technologies. Russia's situation in this regard is a good scenario given the sanctions it has received from the international community, which in practice generates few responsibilities regarding patents granted to unfriendly countries. However, this means that in the future many of the new patents produced worldwide will not be registered in Russia, producing a shortage of new knowledge and technologies that will be used in other latitudes. Regarding the paper, I note that both the method used, and the sources of information can be refined, especially to distinguish how many of the 77,000 patents granted have application in Russia, and which productive sectors would be the most affected if this isolation last a long time. For the rest, I believe that the authors introduce an interesting case of analysis on the consequences of not applying intellectual property rights, as some other countries have suggested, especially with respect to patents on certain key medications for public health.