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Paul Maier's professional career was mainly dedicated to intellectual property as an EU civil servant. He was in the team that harmonised EU copyright law in the early 1990's, followed the Uruguay Round negotiations and other international development. He joined the EUIPO in 1995 in the private office of the first President of the Office. He then lead the efforts to put in place the Community Design and prepare the EU enlargement. He was designated by the Council of ministers to be President of the EUIPO Boards of Appeal from 2006 to 2013. From 2013 to 2023 he was Director of the European Observatory on Infringements of IPRs. He retired in June 2023 and continues to be a keen follower of IP issues both domestically and at the international level. He is teaching at the universities of Strasbourg, Aix en Provence and Alicante.