



# Case studies

*PhD theses, reports, working papers*

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# PhD theses

On the one hand:

- Scientific work of the mind
- One author
- Protected by intellectual property law



# PhD theses (cont'd)

On the other hand:

- Work for purpose (diploma)
- Institutional validation (label, quality)
- Administrative proof for diploma
- As such, object to law on access to public documents (at least, in France)



# PhD theses (cont'd)

- Also:
- Third party rights
  - Articles (publishers, authors)
  - Photos, figures etc.
- Need for copyright clearance



# PhD theses (cont'd)

Also:

- Industrial property, patents (R&D)
- Confidential information (strategic information)
- Classified information (gvt)
- Need for institutional decision
- Concealment often limited in time (pending patent applications)



# PhD theses (cont'd)

Other topics:

- Privacy
- Personal data (personally identifiable information)
- Calumny
- Negationism
- Datasets
- Databases



# PhD theses (cont'd)

Dissemination of PhD theses:

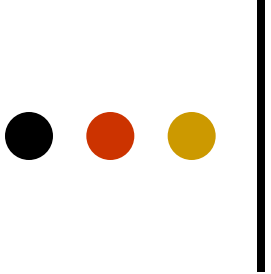
- Copyright protection vs licensing (Creative Commons)
- Individual vs institutional decisions
- Law, policy, ethics, and strategies



# Reports

- Scientific (or technical, political...) work of the mind
- One or more author(s)
- Collaborative work
- Protected by intellectual property law





# Reports (cont'd)

- Most often, work on purpose
- Institutional contribution (or funding)
- Sometimes collective work
- Author may be employee or public officer
- Shared or institutional copyright
- But also: quality label via institutional validation



# Reports

- Confidential information (strategic information)
- Classified information
- Privacy



# Reports

- Normal exploitation?
- Financial interest?
- Dissemination in public domain?
- Licensing?



# Working papers

- Scientific work of the mind
- Scientific author
- Copyright protection
- Institutional rights (laboratory, research organization...)?



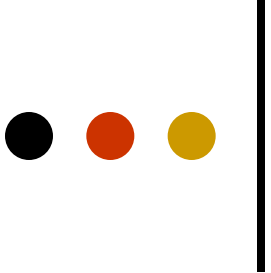
# Working papers

- Unpublished work
- (Normally) no financial interest and no normal exploitation
- Dissemination online via Creative Commons or other licence (CC0, public domain)?



# In short

- Grey literature, insofar it is work of the mind, is copyright protected
- Grey literature ≠ grey literature (differential approach)
- Author vs institution
- © vs CC
- Normal exploitation vs public domain



# Bibliography and contact

<http://www.citeulike.org/user/Schopfel/tag/greyforum>

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