

**CICC IPWG held a successful web meeting event to share knowledge on IPR criminal prosecution on
#worldipday April 26th**

In the occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day (#worldipday), the China-Italy Chamber of Commerce [IP Working Group \(IPWG\)](#) - in collaboration with the Embassy of Italy to the PRC - held the first web based knowledge-sharing event on April 26th, 2018.

The event saw the presence at the CICC premises in Beijing of Ms. Giulia Gallarati, CICC Secretary General, Mr. Emanuele de Maigret, Head of the Economic and Commercial Office Italian Embassy in the PRC and Mr. Federico R. Antonelli, Legal Attaché of Italian Embassy in the PRC.

After their opening remarks from the CICC office in Beijing, the web meeting started with the introduction by Mr. Davide Follador, CICC IPWG Chair, who provided an overview of recent studies concerning global trafficking of counterfeits.

Law enforcement in China, Hong Kong and Singapore play a key role to curb an illegal business worth 338 bl Eur and equal to 2-5% of global trade/5% of EU imports, according to researches by EUIPO and OECD coordinated by the [EU Observatory on Infringement of IPRs](#).

Follow up presentations of case studies featured contributions by Luxottica, Zegna and Wang Jing Law Firm, while QBPC's Chair shared insights from the association's long-standing cooperation with China's prosecutor and law enforcement authorities.

15 CICC Members and IP experts from the industry, law profession and police joined a video conference meeting from different locations in Asia and Europe, engaging in nearly two hours discussions that allowed sharing more information regarding criminal law enforcement to tackle large scale IPR infringements in China (digital/physical market), as well as good practices of cooperation between IPR holders and Law Enforcement Agencies (LAEs).

Working with LAEs to fight commercial scale IP infringement can prove a successful strategy for companies, although requires thorough understanding of China's IP system and its interlinks between customs, administrative and criminal enforcement systems.

Participation of IPRs holders in criminal prosecution is key to support law enforcement professionals, while value-based criminal thresholds still pose challenges in the outset of investigations, sometimes leading to no-go actions.

Large productions of fake products seem to be localised in certain areas of the country where IP enforcement is weaker than more advanced provinces/cities like Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, which have displayed examples of good practices.

Case studies show that organized traffickers mainly use small parcels and online sales channels to export counterfeits, thus making cooperation between customs, e-commerce platforms and express couriers increasingly important to tackle this phenomenon.

2018 #worldipday paid homage to women creativity and inventiveness: it is not by chance that 3 out of 4 lead presentations at the event were delivered by brilliant ladies-IP experts of the IPWG.

CICC thanks all the participants and wishes everybody **Happy World Intellectual Property Day!**

For additional information on the IPWG and its activities please contact the IPWG Chair at postmaster@ipwg.it.

CICC Team & IPWG