Domain names protection in the globalised world
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Abstract
This paper reviews the historical developments of domain names legal protection from a global perspective. It argues that the available legal protection, including the one afforded by trademarks law, unfair competition and different cyber laws is an inadequate protection and therefore fails to cope and solve the series of legal issues which may arise in relation to any global domain name disputes. The paper will also give an insight analysis to some aspects of domain names which are believed to be beyond any trademarks law protection. Some examples from different jurisdictions will be used to illustrate and to demonstrate that the current available protection is inadequate and therefore another form of protection is truly required.

Giving the considerable role that the Internet has played on globalising today’s world, suggests that the world has become far smaller than it used to be 20 years back. The author believes that the world has become more like one enormous country in all aspects, including, but not limited to, economic, commercial, social and legal aspects. Therefore, the approach of an international convention concerning global domain names will have a significant role in clarifying controversies surrounding the internet domain names and further it will assist actors involved in similar process in establishing appropriate domain names dispute resolution mechanism.


Keywords: Dispute resolution, Domain Names, Trademarks, Unfair competition, cyber law.