

Week 10 – Answer to Johns blog - [The World of Intellectual Property Rights \(IPR\)](#)

*Page 2*

*It appears that lobbyists not only work to influence lawmakers, they are actually “helping” to write the laws (<http://iowapublicradio.org/post/when-lobbyists-literally-write-bill>). The effect of control by a select few on a wide spectrum of society is quite profound, as will be discussed later.*

Hi John, great idea to start the week 10 topic with the IPR map as this seems to be a cross cutting with a leg in almost all previous week's topics. Down here in South America, some countries like Brazil and Argentina have attempted to strengthen IPR protections by drafting and updating laws and ratifying international agreements such as the WIPO. Other countries, such as Chile and Uruguay, have been criticized for having obsolete or weak laws that fail to meet international threshold requirements set by the UN and WIPO. In this changing/adapting scenarios controlled by a select few, lobbying activities are very intertwined, as you mentioned “helping” lawmakers to write the laws...It reminds me a Uruguayan folk saying “more intertwined than octopus' fight” :)

@John: Self-regulation, via associations of organisations, can play an important role by setting up a code of conduct or controlling practices, however, it often fails to be respected by participants or followed by judicial authorities.