

Region Codes and Territorial Mess

Peter K. Yu

Drake University Law School

This paper criticizes the introduction of region codes. Using DVD region codes as an illustration, the paper explains why these codes do not provide effective protection against cross-border infringement. It further outlines the various unintended consequences the codes have created, which range from inconvenience to intrusion on cultural rights. The paper concludes with some thoughts on the extension of region codes to other areas, such as cloud computing.