

**Justin Hughes**

Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

**Biography**

Specialties: Intellectual property law, international trade, Internet law

Recent Courses: Copyright, Copyright and New Technologies, Trademark, International Intellectual Property Law: Selected Topics, International Trade

Professor Hughes was formerly a policy expert in the U.S. Department of Commerce (USPTO) [1997-2001], where he was at the center of a wide variety of national and international policy debates. His areas of expertise in intellectual property include the Internet, WIPO copyright treaties, database protection, geographic indications, and audiovisual performers' rights. Educated at Oberlin and Harvard, Professor Hughes has practiced international arbitration in Paris and, as a Henry Luce Scholar, clerked for the Lord President of the Supreme Court of Malaysia. Professor Hughes has been a visiting professor at UCLA and DePaul University. In this spare time, Professor Hughes has been extensively involved in election monitoring and democracy development. He also serves as Chairman of the Thomson Foundation for Film and Television Heritage, based in Paris.

In 2009, the Obama administration tapped him to become a part-time adviser. In that position, he headed the US delegation to a December 2009 meeting of the WIPO where he announced a significant shift in US policy in international copyright law.