

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Partnership supports promoting and defending robust Intellectual Property (IP) rules globally, while strengthening enforcement efforts in the U.S. and abroad.

The IP generated by U.S. companies is critical to America's prosperity and leadership in the global economy. IP rights provide a legal framework for innovation and creativity. To incentivize inventors and entrepreneurs to create, companies need reassurance that ideas will be protected by law. Protecting ideas helps spur investment in new research to solve the world's most pressing problems. Unfortunately, the IP rights of innovative industries are increasingly under assault around the globe from criminal counterfeiting and piracy networks, anti-IP coalitions, patent trolls that do not actually create anything and even some governments that seek to erode patent, trademark and copyright protections. Counterfeiting and piracy have enormous economic implications and are responsible for the loss of billions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of jobs annually. In addition to the economic ramifications, consumers are exposed to often dangerous and defective products. Protecting IP supports job creation in the nation's innovative sectors and ensures that the products consumers use are authentic, safe and effective.

Accordingly, The Partnership supports:

- Strengthening IP protection and enforcement.
- Improving the patent and trademark systems.
- Protecting companies from frivolous litigation by "patent trolls."
- Expanding the efforts of the U.S. Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator.
- Preserving a strong international IP legal framework.
- Advancing trade agreements with modern-day IP provisions.
- Fighting IP theft online.
- Ensuring IP compliance by America's trading partners.
- Ensuring the U.S. Government leads by example.