

THE NEW ZEALAND CENTRE OF
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW



The New Zealand Centre of International Economic Law
invites you to a Public Lecture:

The Danger of Software Patents

Richard Stallman

Richard Stallman will explain how software patents obstruct software development. Software patents are patents that cover software ideas. They restrict the development of software, so that every design decision brings a risk of getting sued. Patents in other fields restrict factories, but software patents restrict every computer user. Economic research shows that they even retard progress.

Richard Stallman launched the development of the GNU operating system (see www.gnu.org) in 1984. GNU is free software: everyone has the freedom to copy it and redistribute it, as well as to make changes either large or small. The GNU/Linux system, basically the GNU operating system with Linux added, is used on tens of millions of computers today. Stallman has received the ACM Grace Hopper Award, a MacArthur Foundation fellowship, the Electronic Frontier Foundation's Pioneer award, and the Takeda Award for Social/Economic Betterment, as well as several honorary doctorates.

5:30pm – 7.00pm, Thursday 8 October

Lecture Theatre 2, Rutherford House, Pipitea Campus, Wellington

New Zealand Centre of International Economic Law public lectures are free of charge. No RSVPs are required



Upcoming events:

22-23 October: Conference: "Trade Agreements: Where do we go from here?"

29 October: Copyright Symposium

For more information please see our website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/law/Centres/NZCIEL/index.aspx>