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Case No: A3/2008/2878/2893/2897

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
COURT OF APPEAL (CIVIL DIVISION)
ON APPEAL FROM THE CHANCERY DIVISION
THE HON MR JUSTICE MANN
HC06CO3813

Royal Courts of Justice
Strand, London, WC2A 2LL

Date: 16/12/2009

Before :

THE RT HON LORD JUSTICE RIX
THE RT HON LORD JUSTICE JACOB
and
THE RT HON LORD JUSTICE PATTEN

Between :

(1) Lucasfilm Limited
(2) Star Wars Productions Limited
(3) Lucasfilm Entertainment Company Limited
- and -

**Appellants/
Claimants**

(1) Andrew Ainsworth
(2) Shepperton Design Studios Limited

**Respond-
ents/Defend
-ants**

Michael Bloch QC and Alan Bryson (instructed by Harbottle Lewis)
for the Appellants/Claimants
Alastair Wilson QC and George Hamer (instructed by Simmons Cooper Andrew LLP)
for the Respondents/Defendants

Hearing dates: 3/4/5 November 2009

Judgment

Lord Justice Jacob:

1. This is the judgment of the court. All its members have contributed to each part of it. It is an appeal and cross-appeal from a judgment of Mann J of 31st July 2008, [2008] EWHC 1878 (Ch).
2. Lucasfilm Ltd and two other claimants (collectively “Lucasfilm”, there being no material distinction between the claimants for present purposes) sue Mr Andrew Ainsworth and his company. Nothing turns on the presence of the latter.

3. Mr Michael Bloch QC and Mr Alan Bryson argued the case for Lucasfilm. Mr Alastair Wilson QC and Mr George Hamer that of Mr Ainsworth.

The Principal Facts

4. These are set out by the Judge at [26-84]. Most of the detail no longer matters so we confine ourselves to the essentials.
5. In the course of making the first Star Wars film a number of works were created. They include some paintings and drawings by a Mr McQuarrie showing scenes including stormtroopers in their helmets and armour and a clay model of a stormtrooper helmet made by a Mr Pemberton. Mr Ainsworth was asked to produce a final version in plastic based on the model and McQuarrie works and did so, incorporating his own improvements. In doing so he used what can fairly be called “sculpting” techniques. We say a little more about the detail of what happened when we come to Mr Ainsworth’s cross-claim.
6. So far as UK law is concerned it is accepted that the two-dimensional works produced (e.g. the scene paintings) are copyright works. Whether the models for the helmet are in themselves copyright works depends on whether they are “sculptures” within the meaning of s.4 of the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988.
7. Mr Ainsworth has admittedly made and sold copies of the helmet and armour. The appeal has concentrated on the stormtrooper helmet, there being no separate point about the armour or helmets made for other characters. He accepts that he has reproduced the paintings but says he has a defence to an infringement claim under ss.51 or 52 of the 1988 Act.
8. As far as the position under US law is concerned, it is now accepted that US law regards what Mr Ainsworth did as an infringement of various US copyrights. Lucasfilm claims that the English court should itself enforce US copyright law against Mr Ainsworth.
9. Lucasfilm has obtained a default judgment for trade mark and copyright infringement in California against him in the sum of US\$20m. That sum sounds strange to English ears given that he only sold about \$US14,500 worth. No less than \$10m of the \$20m is “compensatory damages” by US law. Lucasfilm claims that the English court should recognise and enforce the judgment to the extent of the \$10m. “compensatory” element. Perhaps not wanting to seem oppressive, it only seeks to enforce its US judgment to that extent that if it cannot succeed on its claim to enforce its US copyrights directly in the English courts.
10. Mr Ainsworth claims that if the work he did in producing the helmet amounts to the creation of a work of sculpture, he is the owner of the copyright in it.
11. Although there are a mass of other works relied upon by Lucasfilm (e.g. as to the design of parts of the armour) this case turns on the helmets – as was effectively agreed by the parties. If Mr Ainsworth has infringed copyrights relating to these he loses, if not, not. It is not necessary to go into the detail of other works relied on or referred to in the evidence.

The holdings of the Judge

12. Mann J rejected all of Lucasfilm's copyright infringement claims under UK law. He held that the models for the helmets did not have an independent copyright as being "sculptures" or "works of artistic craftsmanship" and that Mr Ainsworth had defences under s.51 and 52.
13. The Judge also rejected claims in passing off and breach of confidence and the claim to enforce the US judgment.
14. He upheld Lucasfilm's claim to equitable ownership of such copyrights as Mr Ainsworth might have acquired anywhere in the world as a result of his work in the creation of the original helmet and rejected Mr Ainsworth's own conditional cross-claim for infringement. Mr Ainsworth was ordered to execute all necessary assignments of such copyright as may subsist anywhere in the world in his work.
15. Finally he upheld Lucasfilm's claim to enforce US copyright here, granting an injunction restraining Mr Ainsworth from advertising in any publication directed to the USA or sending to the USA replicas of identified props – including particularly the stormtrooper helmets.

The Issues on the Appeal

16. These have narrowed compared with those before the Judge. No appeal is pursued in respect of passing off, breach of confidence or the claim that the prototype helmets were works of artistic craftsmanship. What Lucasfilm does appeal are the findings that the prototypes were not "sculptures" and the findings that there is a defence under s.51 or 52. It also appeals the decision not to enforce the US default judgment.
17. Mr Ainsworth cross-appeals the decision to enforce the US copyright. He also seeks permission to appeal (for it was refused by the Judge and by Jacob LJ provisionally on the papers) the finding that all the copyrights (if any) in the work done by Mr Ainsworth for Lucasfilm belong in equity to Lucasfilm and that he should make a consequential assignment.

Sculpture

18. This issue is primarily relevant to the defences under ss.51 and 52 of the 1988 Act. It is also of great significance as to the term of protection. If the prototype helmet is a "sculpture" Lucasfilm will get the full term of protection for an artistic work, 70 years from the year of death of the author. If the helmet is not a work of sculpture then there is a much shorter period of protection (under the copyright in the painting and drawings) – broadly 15 years from first marketing of reproductions – a period which has now expired.
19. The issue also determines whether Mr Ainsworth could have acquired his own copyright in the helmets which he produced based on the refinements he made to the facial details when working on the prototype. This is dealt with by the judge at [36]. Lucasfilm contends that the helmets and armour and the toy stormtroopers which were subsequently produced (and which are reproductions of the stormtrooper helmet

and armour) are “sculptures” within the meaning of what is now s.4(1) of the 1988 Act.

20. Section 4 defines “artistic work” in the following terms:-

4. Artistic works

(1) In this Part “artistic work” means—

- (a) a graphic work, photograph, sculpture or collage, irrespective of artistic quality,
- (b) a work of architecture being a building or a model for a building, or
- (c) a work of artistic craftsmanship.

(2) In this Part—

“building” includes any fixed structure, and a part of a building or fixed structure;

“graphic work” includes—

- (a) any painting, drawing, diagram, map, chart or plan, and
- (b) any engraving, etching, lithograph, woodcut or similar work;

“photograph” means a recording of light or other radiation on any medium on which an image is produced or from which an image may by any means be produced, and which is not part of a film;

“sculpture” includes a cast or model made for purposes of sculpture.

21. In order to deal with some of the arguments about the meaning of these provisions it is necessary to say something about the legislative history of this definition. Copyright protection for sculptures was first granted by an Act of 1798 (38 Geo III. C.71). It was not unlimited. It extended to models or casts of any bust, any part of the human figure, any statue of the human figure or the head of any animal, any part of any animal or the statue of any animal. The word “sculpture” was not used in the Act and the range of models or casts protected seems to reflect eighteenth century taste and fashion. The first reference to sculpture comes in a subsequent Act of 1814 (referred to in the chronological table of statutes as the Sculpture Copyright Act) which extended the protection granted by the 1798 Act to:

“any new and original Sculpture, or Model, or Copy, or Cast of the Human Figure or Human Figures, or of any Bust or Busts, or of any Part or Parts of the Human Figure, clothed in Drapery

or otherwise, or of any Animal or Animals, or of any Part or Parts of any Animal combined with the Human Figure or otherwise, or of any Subject being Matter of Invention in Sculpture, or of any Alto or Basso-Relievo representing any of the Matters or Things hereinbefore mentioned.”

22. The 1814 Act records in its preamble that it was passed for giving further encouragement to the “Art of making new models and casts of busts and other things” and for giving further encouragement to such arts. It remained in force until repealed by the 1911 Copyright Act. This defined an “artistic work” as including “works of painting, drawing, sculpture and artistic craftsmanship, and architectural works of art and engravings and photographs”. A work of sculpture included casts and models: see s.35.

23. Section 22 of the 1911 Act provided that:-

“(1) This Act shall not apply to designs capable of being registered under the Patents and Designs Act, 1907, except designs which, though capable of being so registered, are not used or intended to be used as models or patterns to be multiplied by any industrial process.

(2) General rules under section eighty-six of the Patents and Designs Act, 1907, may be made for determining the conditions under which a design shall be deemed to be used for such purposes as aforesaid.”

24. The 1907 Act gave registered designs a maximum of 15 years’ protection for what it rather confusingly called “copyright in the design”: see s.53. The right was a true monopoly, unlike a copyright which only provides protection against copying. “Design” was defined in s.93 as meaning:-

“any design (not being a design for a sculpture or other thing within the protection of the Sculpture Copyright Act, 1814) applicable to any article, whether the design is applicable for the pattern, or for the shape or configuration, or for the ornament thereof, or for any two or more of such purposes, and by whatever means it is applicable, whether by printing, painting, embroidering, weaving, sewing, modelling, casting, embossing, engraving, staining, or any other means whatever, manual, mechanical, or chemical, separate or combined.”

25. The position therefore at the time of the 1911 Act was that works of sculpture as defined continued to attract full copyright protection and were not excluded by the operation of s.22 because of the definition of “design” in the 1907 Act. This had been the case since soon after the introduction of copyright protection for designs. The Copyright of Designs Act 1839 gave one year’s protection to “a new and original Design made for the Modelling, or the Casting, or the Embossment, or the Chasing, or the Engraving, or for any other Kind of Impression or Ornament on any Article of Manufacture” and three years’ if it was made of metal. This created the potential for works of sculpture to be protected under both the 1814 and the 1839 Acts but this

changed when sculpture was excluded from the definition of “design” in the Copyright of Designs Act 1842.

26. Sculptures were included in the system of registration for designs under the Designs Act 1850 but continued to enjoy the period of protection granted by the Sculpture Copyright Acts. The 1850 Act was repealed by the Patents, Designs and Trade Mark Act 1883 which granted five years’ protection for a registered design and removed sculptures from the system of registration by defining “design” so as to exclude a design for sculpture within the protection of the Sculpture Copyright Act 1814: see s.60. This was the definition and treatment that was carried forward when the 1883 Act was repealed and replaced by the Patents and Designs Act 1907.
27. The 1907 Act was amended by the Patents and Designs Act 1919 which included a new definition of “Design”. Section 19 provided that:

“‘Design’ means only the features of shape, configuration, pattern, or ornament applied to any article by any industrial process or means, whether manual, mechanical, or chemical, separate or combined, which in the finished article appeal to and are judged solely by the eye; but does not include any mode or principle of construction, or anything which is in substance a mere mechanical ‘device’.”
28. This definition removed the express exclusion of sculpture and therefore had the effect of excluding a work of sculpture from copyright protection under the 1911 Act unless the design was not used or intended to be used as a model for multiplication by an industrial process: see s.22(1). Rule 89 of the 1920 Designs Rules made reproduction in more than 50 single articles as the test of whether there was multiplication by an industrial process. The consequence of this was that sculpture which was not to be mass produced in numbers exceeding 50 retained full copyright protection but could also in theory be protected as a design under the 1919 Act. But, in cases which were not within the exception to s.22(1) (i.e. models for production in numbers over 50), only registered design protection was available.
29. The consequences of this change caught a number of copyright owners unawares. In *Pytram v Models (Leicester)* [1930] 1 Ch 639 a model of a wolf-cub’s head was produced from a papier-mâché mould in order to be used as a totem by the Boy Scouts Association. They failed to register it as a design under what at the time was the 1907 Act and sued for infringement of their copyright under the 1911 Act. Clauson J accepted that the item was an artistic work under the 1911 Act but held that it also fell within the definition of a “design” under the 1907 Act as amended by the 1919 Act. As a consequence of the amended definition of “design”, it was excluded from protection under the 1911 Act and no protection existed for it under the 1907 Act because it had not been registered.
30. On Clauson J’s reasoning, full copyright protection would have ceased in 1911 when the 1911 Act repealed the Sculpture Copyright Act of 1814 and so rendered otiose and ineffective the reference in parenthesis to the 1814 Act contained in the definition of design in s.93 of the 1907 Act (see [24] above). The new definition in s.19 of the 1919 Act did no more than to recognise this.

31. In *Pytram* the judge found as a fact that the wolf's head had been made with the intention of being reproduced in large quantities. There was therefore no room for disputing that it was outside the exception contained in s.22(1) of the 1911 Act. But in *King Features v. Kleeman* [1941] AC 417 the owners of copyright in drawings of "Popeye, the Sailor" brought proceedings for infringement of their copyright against the importers of "Popeye" dolls and other toys. The defendants contended that the copyright in the original work had been lost by the operation of s.22 of the 1911 Act because the designs were capable of registration under the 1907 Act (although not registered) and the plaintiffs had previously licensed other companies to manufacture dolls and other items based on those designs. The House of Lords rejected this argument (which had been accepted by the majority in the Court of Appeal) on the ground that the condition of use or intention to use for multiplication by an industrial process had to be satisfied or not at the date when the design first came into existence. If it was not satisfied at that time then full copyright protection under the 1911 Act could not be lost by the grant of subsequent licences for the multiple reproduction of the design.
32. In 1947 the Swan Committee recommended that the policy of allowing a copyright owner to be able to retain protection for his work under the 1911 Act after he had consented to the reproduction of the whole or a substantial part of his work as a registered design should be re-considered particularly in relation to copyright in artistic works. In paragraph 310 of the Report (Cmd. 7206) the Committee noted that:

"Our attention has also been directed to the position of works of sculpture. Prior to 1919, these works had always been excluded from the definition of "design" in the design provisions of the Acts. The Act of 1919 abolished this exclusion, and the decision in the case of *Pytram v Models (Leicester)* [1930] 1 Ch. Div., p. 639) makes it clear that a work of sculpture intended to be reproduced more than 50 times enjoys no protection unless it is registered under the design provisions. Although questions of artistic copyright do not come within our terms of reference, we wish to express the opinion that there seems to be no sufficient reason to draw a distinction between the sculpture and the painter, writer or composer, and that accordingly works of sculpture should be excluded from the definition of designs registrable under the design provisions."
33. The Registered Designs Act 1949 therefore added to the definition of a "design" in s.1(3) a further provision in s.1(4) empowering the Board of Trade to make rules for excluding from registration under the Act designs for articles which were primarily literary or artistic in character.
34. This power was exercised in the form of Rule 26 of the 1949 Designs Rules which provided that:-

"26. There shall be excluded from registration under the Act designs to be applied to any of the following articles, namely:-

- (1) works of sculpture other than casts or models used or intended to be used as models or patterns to be multiplied by any industrial process.
- (2) wall plaques and medals.
- (3) printed matter primarily of a literary or artistic character, including bookjackets, calendars, certificates, coupons, dressmaking patterns, greetings cards, leaflets, maps, plans, postcards, stamps, trade advertisements, trade forms, and cards, transfers, and the like.”

35. The combination of the 1949 Act and the Rules was therefore effective to exclude the articles specified in Rule 26 from registration as designs. The reference in s.22(1) of the 1911 Act to the Patent and Designs Act 1907 fell to be read in accordance with the Interpretation Act as a reference to the 1949 Act: see *Usher v Barlow* [1952] Ch 255. The exclusion from full copyright protection contained in s.22(1) therefore no longer applied regardless of whether the articles specified in Rule 26 were intended to be used as models for the multiple reproduction of the design. They remained for all purposes under the umbrella of the 1911 Act. But the position was different in the case of sculptures. As a result of the qualification contained in Rule 26(1), an intention to use models or casts for mass production purposes meant that they continued to attract Designs Act protection and so, to that extent, they continued to be excluded by s.22(1) from full copyright protection. The reference to multiplication by an industrial process in Rule 26(1) is the 50 plus test.
36. The wording of Rule 26(1) was obviously taken from the exception in s.22(1) of the 1911 Act and must therefore be given the meaning explained by the House of Lords in *King Features*, the effect of which was set out in the Swan Report. A model or cast in respect of which the 50 plus test is satisfied would therefore only be eligible for registered design protection if the use or intention to use existed from the date of its creation.
37. When the 1911 Act was repealed by the Copyright Act 1956 transitional provisions were included in Schedule 7 to exclude from protection under the 1956 Act artistic works made before 1st June 1957 which were capable of registration under the Registered Designs Act 1949 and were intended to be used as a model or pattern to be multiplied by any industrial process: see Schedule 7 paragraph 8(2). Paragraph 8(2) included an express reference to the time when the work was made thereby confirming the construction of s.22(1) of the 1911 Act applied by the House of Lords in *King Features*.
38. In relation to new works, sculptures remained excluded by the 1949 Act and Rule 26(1) of the Designs Rules from registration as designs except in the case of models intended for multiple production and this position was continued following the passing of the 1988 Act. Although s.1 of the 1949 Act was replaced with a new section, the old s.1(4) continues in the form of what is now s.1(5) which provides that:

“The Secretary of State may by rules provide for excluding from registration under this Act designs for such articles of a

primarily literary or artistic character as the Secretary of State thinks fit.”

39. Rule 26 of the Registered Design Rules 1989 continues to exclude from registration “works of sculpture, other than casts or models used or intended to be used as models or patterns to be multiplied by any industrial process”.
40. It will be necessary to return to some of this legislative history when considering the defences relied on by Mr Ainsworth under ss.51 and 52 of the 1988 Act. But in relation to the issue of how one should construe the word “sculpture” in what is now s.4(1)(a) of the 1988 Act, two things are clear. The first is that (contrary to some of the arguments addressed to us) one gets little or no real assistance from the relationship between copyright and registered design right in determining the limits of protection which the use of the word “sculpture” was intended to have. We can ignore for the purposes of this appeal the effect of the EU Design Directive 98/71. If one concentrates on the position under the 1949 Act the definition of “design” emphasises that registered designs are intended to protect features of an industrial article which have eye appeal and not merely functional aspects of the design. Features of shape and configuration can be included in the former.
41. But a design feature comprising a shape which has eye appeal is obviously capable of including a cast or model for a sculpture. The express exclusion of such casts or models from registered design protection by Rule 26 except for those intended to be used for multiplication by an industrial process indicates that, but for Rule 26, all such items could be eligible for dual protection under both the 1988 and the 1949 Acts provided that they have the element of novelty required for registration as a design.
42. That said, the second point is that the definitions of “design” and “artistic work” are not the same and are concerned to identify different things. A model or cast could be registrable as a design under the 1949 Act if it is new and original and has the necessary features of shape or ornament which create visual appeal. The existence of those features (and only those features) in what might otherwise be a purely functional object are what attract protection. Even where the visual design features are those of shape, a distinction has to be drawn between the features which are part of the design and those which are intrinsic to the article in question: i.e. the difference between the shape of a thing and a thing of that shape: see *Clarke’s Design* (1896) 13 RPC 351 at p. 358.
43. The emphasis in copyright is different. Copyright protection in artistic works is defined (now in s.4 of the 1988 Act) by reference to various categories of work with no distinction between their aesthetic merits and appeal and their functionality. A graphic work can include a diagram or plan which is designed to have only practical utility. But it is still protected as an artistic work. Equally it can comprise a painting which (however bad it may be in artistic terms) is unlikely to be anything but decorative. The key therefore to copyright protection is that the work created by the author falls within one or other of the descriptions contained in the 1988 Act: i.e. that it is such a work. It does not depend upon a further analysis or identification of its design features.
44. The issue of construction raised by this appeal has therefore to be determined by reference to the copyright provisions of the 1988 Act themselves. The fact that a

model or cast which qualifies as a sculpture may have design features which also entitle it to registration as a design in those respects tells one little about how to define the limits of copyright protection. They are simply different issues. A work of sculpture in the traditional fine art sense would undoubtedly have the qualities of eye appeal necessary to make its shape registrable as a design. But the converse does not follow. A principally utilitarian object with design features which could attract registered design protection is not necessarily a work of sculpture under the 1988 Act.

45. The helmet and armour were made in 1976 when the relevant definition of “artistic work” was that contained in s.3 of the 1956 Act. This included paintings, sculptures, drawings, engravings and photographs irrespective of artistic quality and is not therefore materially different from the provisions of s.4 of the 1988 Act. It is common ground that the substance of these provisions has not changed between 1911 and the present day. For convenience, we will therefore refer to the provisions of s.4.
46. Although this defines an artistic work, there is no definition of sculpture beyond the direction that it includes a cast or model made for the purposes of sculpture. The closest one ever gets to a more comprehensive definition is in the Sculpture Copyright Act of 1814 which specified in some detail the type of sculptures or models which qualified for protection. Although there is no definition of sculpture as such even in that statute, it is clear from the words used that the Act was concerned with sculpture in its traditional and conventional sense of a work of art. That much is apparent both from the terms of the preamble to the Act and from the description of the types of work included.
47. Notions of what constitutes a work of sculpture have expanded over the years. In *Wham-O v Lincoln Industries* [1985] RPC 127 Davison CJ quoted the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*:

‘In the New Encyclopaedia Britannica, vol. 16, p.421 there appears an article on ‘Art of sculpture’. The following passages are of some interest:

‘Sculpture is not a fixed term that applies to a permanently circumscribed category of objects or sets of activities. It is, rather, the name of an art that grows and changes and is continually extending the range of its activities and evolving new kinds of objects. The scope of the term is much wider in the second half of the 20th century than it was only two or three decades ago, and in the present fluid state of the visual arts, nobody can predict what its future extensions are likely to be.

Certain features, which in previous centuries were considered essential to the art of sculpture, are not present in a great deal of modern sculpture and can no longer form part of its definition. One of the most important of these is representation. Before the 20th century, sculpture was considered a representational art; but its scope has now been extended to include non-representational forms. It has long been accepted that the forms of such functional three-dimensional objects as furniture, props and buildings may be expressive and beautiful without being in any way representational, but it is only in the 20th century that non-functional, non-representational, three-dimensional works of art have been produced.

.....

20th century sculpture is not confined to the two traditional forming processes of carving and modelling or to such traditional natural materials as stone, metal, wood, ivory, bone and clay. Because present-day sculptors use any materials and methods of manufacture that will serve their purposes, the art of sculpture can no longer be identified with any special materials or techniques. Through all of these changes there is probably only one thing that has remained constant in the art of sculpture, and it is this that emerges as the central and abiding concern of sculptors:

The art of sculpture is the branch of the visual arts that is especially concerned with the creation of expressive form in three dimensions.”

Likewise the dictionary definitions of “sculpture” recognise that taste has changed. In the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary it is described as:-

“Originally the process or art of carving or engraving a hard material so as to produce designs or figures in relief, or in intaglio, or in the round. In modern use, that branch of fine art which is concerned with producing figures in the round or in relief, either by carving, by fashioning some plastic substance, or by making a mould for casting in metal.”

48. The recognition of abstract shapes as works of art was established early in the twentieth century if not before. In 1928 the sculptor Constantin Brancusi successfully argued that his bronze sculpture “Bird in Flight” was exempt from US import duties (Customs wanted to charge on the basis of its scrap metal value!) as a sculpture and work of art: see *Brancusi v US*: (1928) T.D. 43063. Today no-one would dispute that abstract sculpture is a branch of the fine arts.
49. But the word sculpture can also be used to describe the process by which an object is created. Most usually this will consist of moulding or carving the relevant material into the desired shape or, in the case of a metal cast sculpture, of creating the necessary cast or mould.
50. The latter process is not, of course, confined to works of art. Casting or moulding is an industrial process commonly used where the end product is made of plastic or metal of some kind. It is used in the production of millions of ordinary household objects, none of which would usually be described as sculptures. A motor-car is but one obvious example. Some would have qualified for protection as registered designs so as to be excluded under s.22(1) of the 1911 Act. But would they have qualified as “sculpture”?
51. The judge gave a clear no to this question. His view was that the stormtrooper helmet, although created by a process of moulding, was primarily utilitarian in function:

[121] First, the original Stormtrooper helmet. This has, as its genesis, the McQuarrie paintings. The purpose of the helmet was that it was to be worn as an item of costume in a film, to identify a character, but in addition to portray something about that character – its allegiance,

force, menace, purpose and, to some extent, probably its anonymity. It was a mixture of costume and prop. But its primary function is utilitarian. While it was intended to express something, that was for utilitarian purposes. While it has an interest as an object, and while it was intended to express an idea, it was not conceived, or created, with the intention that it should do so other than as part of character portrayal in the film. That, in my view, does not give it the necessary quality of artistic creation inherent in the test suggested by Laddie J. Not everything which has design appeal is necessarily a sculpture. I think that the ordinary perception of what is a sculpture would be over-stretched by including this helmet within it, and when rationalised the reasons are those just given. It is not that it lacks artistic merit; it lacks artistic purpose. I therefore find that the Stormtrooper helmet is not a sculpture.

[122] The same reasoning applies to the armour, and to the other helmets. They all shared the same sort of original purpose.

52. He took the same view about the toy stormtroopers:-

[123] Next, it is necessary to consider the toy Stormtroopers, and other characters, which are taken as being reproductions of the armour and helmets for the purposes of section 52. These are, as already described, articulated models which are sold as toys and which are intended for the purposes of play. Play is their primary, if not sole, purpose. While their appearance is obviously highly important (if they did not look like the original, the child would not be so interested) they are not made for the purposes of their visual appearance as such. While there is no accounting for taste, it is highly unlikely that they would be placed on display and periodically admired as such. The child is intended to use them in a (literally) hands-on way, in a form of delegated role play, and that is doubtless how they are actually used. That means, in my view, they are not sculptures. They can be distinguished from the model in *Britain* which apparently had a significant element of being admirable for its own visual sake. That does not apply to the Stormtrooper, whose only real purpose is play. In reaching this conclusion I am not saying that the *Britain* model is better at what it portrays than the Stormtrooper model. That would be to make judgments about artistic quality, which the statute understandably forbids. It is making a judgment about whether there is anything in the model which has an artistic essence, in the sense identified above. I conclude that there is not.

53. In order to reject their classification as sculpture the judge concentrated on purpose. Purely functional items (even though well designed and visually attractive) did not, in his view, qualify as sculptures because they were not created primarily for the purpose of their visual appeal. Essentially functional objects should look to protection for their visual merits as registered designs.

54. In putting forward this test the judge was expressly conscious of the need not to make value judgments about the artistic quality of the designs involved. The definition of

“artistic work” in the Copyright Acts makes that impermissible. But, after a review of the authorities, he set out a list of guidelines which he considered could be derived from the cases. We set it out verbatim:-

[118] From those authorities, and those approaches, a number of guidance factors can be extracted. I call them guidance rather than points of principle, because that gives them the right emphasis. The judges deciding the cases have not sought to lay down hard and fast rules in an area where subjective considerations are likely to intrude, and I will not attempt to do so either. However, I do think the following points emerge from the cases or from the concepts involved:

- (i) Some regard has to be had to the normal use of the word.
- (ii) Nevertheless, the concept can be applicable to things going beyond what one would normally expect to be art in the sense of the sort of things that one would expect to find in art galleries.
- (iii) It is inappropriate to stray too far from what would normally be regarded as sculpture.
- (iv) No judgment is to be made about artistic worth.
- (v) Not every three dimensional representation of a concept can be regarded as a sculpture. Otherwise every three dimensional construction or fabrication would be a sculpture, and that cannot be right.
- (vi) It is of the essence of a sculpture that it should have, as part of its purpose, a visual appeal in the sense that it might be enjoyed for that purpose alone, whether or not it might have another purpose as well. The purpose is that of the creator. This reflects the reference to "artist's hand" in the judgment of Laddie J in *Metix*, with which I respectfully agree. An artist (in the realm of the visual arts) creates something because it has visual appeal which he wishes to be enjoyed as such. He may fail, but that does not matter (no judgments are to be made about artistic merit). It is the underlying purpose that is important. I think that this encapsulates the ideas set out in the reference works referred to in *Wham-O* and set out above (and in particular the Encyclopaedia Britannica).
- (vii) The fact that the object has some other use does not necessarily disqualify it from being a sculpture, but it still has to have the intrinsic quality of being intended to be enjoyed as a visual thing. Thus the model soldier in *Britain* might be played with, but it still, apparently, had strong purely visual appeal which might be enjoyed as such. Similarly, the Critters in *Wildash* had other functions, but

they still had strong purely visual appeal. It explains why the Frisbee itself should be excluded from the category, along with the moulds in *Metix* and *Davis*. It would also exclude the wooden model in *Wham-O* and the plaster casts in *Breville*, and I would respectfully disagree with the conclusions reached by the judges in those cases that those things were sculptures. Those decisions, in my view, would not accord with the ordinary view of what a sculpture is, and if one asks why then I think that the answer is that the products fail this requirement and the preceding one – there is no intention that the object itself should have visual appeal for its own sake, and every intention that it be purely functional.

- (viii) I support this analysis with an example. A pile of bricks, temporarily on display at the Tate Modern for 2 weeks, is plainly capable of being a sculpture. The identical pile of bricks dumped at the end of my driveway for 2 weeks preparatory to a building project is equally plainly not. One asks why there is that difference, and the answer lies, in my view, in having regard to its purpose. One is created by the hand of an artist, for artistic purposes, and the other is created by a builder, for building purposes. I appreciate that this example might be criticised for building in assumptions relating to what it seeks to demonstrate, and then extracting, or justifying, a test from that, but in the heavily subjective realms of definition in the artistic field one has to start somewhere.
- (ix) The process of fabrication is relevant but not determinative. I do not see why a purely functional item, not intended to be at all decorative, should be treated as a sculpture simply because it is (for example) carved out of wood or stone.”

- 55. Mr Bloch appeals against this analysis by the judge and his application of it to the stormtrooper items on essentially two grounds. He contends that the definition of “artistic work” in the Copyright Acts since 1911 concentrates on what the specific objects are rather than on whether they have any particular artistic qualities or merit. The test is therefore essentially descriptive. What they are must depend, he says, on how they were made. A drawing is no more than the product of the draftsman’s skill applying a particular technique. Artistic or visual purpose is irrelevant to its qualifying as a drawing. The same approach should be used in respect of sculpture. If the object has been sculpted by a physical process to which that description can be applied then the outcome should be a sculpture. Nothing more is needed. In this case the helmets and armour were made after moulds had been carved to the required shape and then used to create the finished article.
- 56. But he also submits that even if the judge’s test is right and the object has to be made in order to display some kind of visual appeal then the helmet and armour qualify. They were designed to project to the audience for the film a representation of a

fictional soldier whose character could be derived from the image of the design itself. They are not real helmets and suits of armour. They were, Mr Bloch submits, purely representational in character and never had any utility beyond that of a film prop. But, in that capacity, they were designed to be highly visual and embody a considerable level of artistic skill and design.

57. It is convenient at this point to examine the cases which provide the foundation for the judge's test. They begin with *Caproni v Alberti* (1891) 65 LT 785: a case under the Sculpture Copyright Act 1814. The defendant copied three casts made by the plaintiff of various arrangements of fruit and leaves. The defence was that the 1814 Act did not refer to casts of flowers, leaves or fruit and that such casts did not fall within the words "any subject being matter of invention in sculpture". It was not suggested that the casts which were copied were not otherwise works of sculpture. The judge rejected this argument but his decision offers no real guidance as to what is necessary to constitute a sculpture. He found that the cast had been produced by carving an artistic reproduction of the fruit and leaves so that this was not, on any view, a borderline case.
58. The next decision chronologically is *Britain v Hanks* (1902) 86 LT 765. This also involved a claim to copyright under the 1814 Act. The defendants made copies of various metal models of soldiers produced by the plaintiffs. Their claim to copyright in these items was disputed. The defendants' argument was that the 1814 Act applied only to substantial works of art and not to metal toys of no artistic merit. Wright J directed himself that the question whether the model figure fell within the Act had to be decided upon evidence as to its artistic character. The models were of real soldiers and were found by the judge to be artistic productions of the mounted yeoman they depicted.
59. It is difficult again to take too much from this case. It is clear that the judge rejected the defendants' contention that the models were mere toys of no artistic merit. On his view, the metal figures produced therefore qualified as sculptures or models of the human figure within the meaning of the 1814 Act. They appear to have been high quality lead soldiers cast from a model which had been made with recognisable artistic skill. It was certainly the view of the Gregory Committee which reported in October 1952 (Cmd. 8662) and recommended various changes to the Copyright Act that toy soldiers and other models did not qualify for copyright protection under the 1911 Act because of the operation of s.22(1) and Design Rule 26. Their only protection would be as registered designs assuming that they could satisfy the requirement of novelty. But, as mentioned earlier, this involves an acceptance that they would otherwise qualify as works of sculpture. It is, however, clear from the report that the Gregory Committee had in mind toy soldiers made from a prototype model which had the qualities necessary to make it a work of sculpture. This certainly seems to be consistent with the view of the judge in *Britain v Hanks* about the quality of the models he was considering. On this basis, that case was concerned with something which was not merely a toy and which, in the hands of a collector, might not be used for that purpose at all. By comparison, the toy stormtroopers were not replicas of real soldiers and were sold essentially for use as toys. The judge was not presented with evidence about how they were made or whether the prototype could itself be regarded as a sculpture. All we know is that they were reproductions in miniature of the full-sized armour and helmet.

60. We have already mentioned the decision of Clauson J in *Pytram* where the plastic model of the wolf-cub's head was held to be a sculpture within the meaning of the 1911 Act. The case was primarily concerned with the effect on copyright protection of the amendment to the definition of "design" in the Patents and Designs Act 1907. Given the judge's view about the effect of this on s.22(1), it was not necessary to decide whether the model of the head was a sculpture within the meaning of the 1911 Act and the judge proceeded on the assumption that it was. The case does not therefore really assist on the point that we have to consider, although we have no reason to doubt its correctness. The object in question was an artistic creation of an animal's head which was in a real sense a sculpture.
61. The next case considered by Mann J was the decision of Falconer J in *Breville Europe v Thorn EMI* [1995] FSR 77. The plaintiff company claimed copyright in various plastic shapes which they had produced in order to create moulds for the heated plates in a sandwich toaster. Falconer J did not have to consider the question whether the plastic shapes amounted to sculptures because he had already found that the defendants had not appropriated the plaintiff's designs contained in their drawings in producing their own machine. But at p. 94 he said this:-

"Turning to the plaster shapes or sculptures, the defendants contended that these were not sculptures within the meaning of section 3 of the Copyright Act on the ground, as I understand Mr Young, that they were purely mechanical or functional devices and he referred me to section 1 of the definition of "sculpture" in the original statutory provision relating to copyright in sculptures, section 1 of the Sculpture Copyright Act 1814, which is to be found reproduced in Laddie, Prescott & Vitoria's Modern Law of Copyright at page 671. I do not see why the word "sculpture" in section 3 of the Copyright Act 1956 should not receive its ordinary dictionary meaning except in so far as the scope of the word is extended by section 48(1) which provides that "'sculpture' includes any cast or model made for the purposes of sculpture." The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines sculpture as the

Art of forming representations of objects etc or abstract designs in the round or in relief by chiselling stone, carving wood, modelling clay, casting metal, or similar processes; a work of sculpture,

a definition forming the basis of paragraph 3.15 on "sculptures" in the textbook just mentioned where it is suggested that:

Since copyright may subsist irrespective of artistic quality it would seem that, for example, carved wooden patterns intended for the purpose of casting mechanical parts in metal or plastic might well be susceptible of protection, although the point has not yet received much attention from practitioners.

62. As Mann J recognised, this case would assist Lucasfilm because it rests on the method of production of the item in question rather than its purpose. Falconer J relied on the

decision of the New Zealand Court of Appeal in *Wham-O v Lincoln Industries* [1985] RPC 127. There it was held that a preparatory wooden model for what became the Frisbee was protected by copyright as a sculpture even though the finished article (which was made in plastic by a process of injection from a metal mould based on the wooden model) could not be one.

63. At p.156-7 Davison CJ said that:-

One must ask in the present case, what was the original work of the author which created the article sought to be classed as a sculpture? It was not directly the creation of the final disc. It was the creation variously of drawings, wooden models and finally dies or moulds from which the finished plastic product was formed.

It would seem that where a model which is a sculpture has been created and a cast or mould is later made from that model for the purposes of reproducing the model in metal and plastic or some other form then the articles so produced may be classified as sculptures.

But it appears to us to be straining the meaning of the word “sculpture” to apply it to the discs produced by the injection moulding process used in the present case where the moulds concerned have simply been created by a process of engraving and no original model has been created.

Copyright subsists in “original works”—see section 7—but no original work in the nature of the finished disc has been created before the injection moulding process has created them. We do not overlook that the definition of sculpture in section 2 of the Act “includes any cast or model made for purposes of sculpture” But that is a different matter from a cast or model used to make the sculpture.

Furthermore it appears to be implicit in the definitions of sculpture to which we have already referred and from the article in the New Encyclopaedia Britannica, particularly the passage reading:

“The art of sculpture is the branch of the visual arts that is especially concerned with the creation of expressive form in three dimensions”

that sculpture should in some way express in three-dimensional form an idea of the sculptor. It seems to us inappropriate to regard utilitarian objects such as plastic flying discs, manufactured as toys, by an injection moulding process, as items of sculpture for the purposes of the Copyright Act. They lack any expressive form of the creator and any idea which the creator seeks to convey.

In the result, we are unable to hold that the final plastic products—the discs—are sculptures in terms of the Act and entitled to copyright protection as sculptures.”

64. Mann J thought that the distinction drawn between the original prototype model and the finished product was somewhat arbitrary. But, correct or not, it does not arise in this case. The helmet and armour were produced by using a mould which was carved by Mr Ainsworth in order to reproduce the designs contained in the McQuarrie pictures and the clay model made by Mr Pemberton. If the finished products are sculpture then so was the mould used to create them. The New Zealand Court of Appeal accepted that this would have been the case in *Wham-O* had the mould itself been carved or sculpted rather than merely engraved. What therefore constituted the essential distinguishing factor between the wooden prototype and the finished product in that case was the court’s definition of sculpture to exclude merely utilitarian objects such as the Frisbee.
65. We are not concerned on this appeal with whether the McQuarrie paintings or the Pemberton clay models were artistic works, though the paintings at least obviously were. The sculpture issue relates only to the articles (the helmet and the armour) which Mr Ainsworth produced. To qualify as artistic works they have to be sculpture. If they are then the defences under ss.51 and 52 of the 1988 Act are not available to him. We have some difficulty in accepting that the wooden model of the Frisbee should, on the reasoning of the Court of Appeal in *Wham-O*, have been accorded a different treatment to that of the plastic Frisbee which it was used to design and create. As a prototype, it was essentially utilitarian in nature in that it embodied a design for the well-known toy. Put simply, it was a model of a Frisbee and nothing else. It was not intended to be a depiction of any animate object (like the wolf-cub’s head in *Pytram*) nor was it made as the model for an abstract work of art. It was therefore far removed from the creation of expressive form described in the extract from the New Encyclopaedia Britannica quoted by Davison CJ in his judgment.
66. The same goes for the plastic shapes considered by Falconer J in *Breville Europe*. No ordinary citizen – indeed no ordinary lawyer – would regard a sandwich toaster or any part of it as a work of sculpture – even if it did produce “scaloped” sandwiches. So why should a copyright lawyer take a different view? A total or almost total emphasis on the manner of creation, as in *Breville* and *Wham-O* produces a result which offends common sense and in our view is wrong. There must, as Mann J said, be some element of artistic expression however unsuccessful.
67. It is unnecessary to say anything about the decision of Whitford J in *J & S Davis (Holdings) v Wright Health Group* [1988] RPC 403 which concerned a model of a dental impression tray. The judge rejected the submission that it was a sculpture largely on the grounds of its ephemeral nature. The only remarkable thing about the case is that anyone could have thought the work in question could remotely be considered a “sculpture”.
68. But the decision of Laddie J in *Metix v G H Maugham* [1997] FSR 718 is more interesting. Copyright was claimed in some moulds used for making cartridges for what are described as flow mixers. The cartridges had the appearance of a double-barrelled hypodermic syringe through which different chemicals were passed using a

plunging mechanism and then mixed to create a chemical reaction. The design was obviously intended to have a purely industrial application but the plaintiff sought permission to amend its pleadings to allege copyright infringement based on the moulds being works of sculpture. Laddie J refused the application. At p. 721 he said:-

The law has been bedevilled by attempts to widen out the field covered by the Copyright Acts. It is not possible to say with precision what is and what is not sculpture, but I think Mr Meade was close to the heart of the issue. He suggested that a sculpture is a three-dimensional work made by an artist's hand. It appears to me that there is no reason why the word "sculpture" in the 1988 Act, should be extended far beyond the meaning which that word has to ordinary members of the public. There is nothing in the particulars in this case which suggests that the manufacturers of these moulds considered themselves, or were considered by anybody else, to be artists when they designed the moulds or that they were concerned in any way with the shape or appearance of what they were making, save for the purpose of achieving a precise functional effect. Nothing in the particulars given here suggests that any consideration of appeal to anything other than functional criteria was in mind or achieved. In these circumstances, it appears to me that there is no arguable case pleaded for the existence of sculpture copyright in the moulds for these products and I will not allow the statement of claim containing such a claim to be served on TAH (Europe) Inc.

69. Finally, there is the Australian case of *Wildash v Klein* (2004) 61 IPR 324 which concerned three dimensional depictions of animals made out of wire. Some of these were also functional in that they incorporated a candle holder but all were decorative. Angel J (at p. 327) held that they were sculpture:

[11] I am satisfied that the works in question are sculptures. As Pincus J said in *Greenfield Products Pty Ltd v Rover-Scott Bonnar Ltd* (1990) 95 ALR 275 at 284; 17 IPR 417 at 417:

Although the definition of "sculpture" is not exhaustive, in so far as the word remains undefined it must be given its ordinary meaning, in accordance with orthodox principles of construction.

In *Lincoln Industries Ltd v Wham-O Manufacturing Co* [1984] NZLR 641 at 662; (1984) 3 IPR 115 at 131 the New Zealand Court of Appeal concluded that "sculpture should in some way express in three-dimensional form an idea of the sculptor". Having said that it "is not possible to say with precision what is and what is not sculpture", Laddie J in *Metix (UK) Ltd v GH Maughan (Plastics) Ltd* [1997] FSR 718 at 722 concluded that at "the heart of the issue ... a sculpture is a three-dimensional work made by an artist's hands. It appears to me that there is no reason why the word 'sculpture' in the [UK] Act,

should be extended far beyond the meaning which that word has to ordinary members of the public”.

[12] I am satisfied that the works in question are “sculptures”. They are three dimensional craft pieces hand made with a degree of skill in the medium employed which are designed to have aesthetic appeal to potential purchasers. That some of the works in this case are also functional, such as the wall and table candle holders and “mozzie coil” holders, does not prevent them being “sculptures” within the meaning of that term in the Act. Although in *Wham-O Manufacturing Co*, the New Zealand Court of Appeal concluded that it was “inappropriate to regard utilitarian objects such as plastic flying discs, manufactured as toys, by an injection moulding process, as items of sculpture for the purposes of the Copyright Act”, this was so because “[t]hey lack[ed] any expressive form of the creator and any idea which the creator seeks to convey”: at NZLR 662; IPR 131. The works in question here demonstrate the expression of such ideas.”

70. Against this background, we can return to the judge’s guidelines which are quoted in [54] above and to Mr Bloch’s criticisms of them. The first point concerns the normal use of the word “sculpture”. Most of the cases proceed on the footing that one should not stray too far from the ordinary meaning of the word but there is considerable disagreement as to what that is. One of the difficulties is that the word can be used to describe both the physical process of moulding or carving necessary to create the finished object and that object itself. Copyright has, of course, to exist in the product of one’s skill and labour. Not in the skill and labour itself. In looking therefore at the finished article, it seems to us wrong to interpret the use of the word sculpture in the 1911 Act (and therefore in succeeding Copyright Acts) divorced from the earlier legislative history. The 1814 Act was clearly concerned to identify sculpture as an artistic work. Its transposition into a wider category of “artistic work” under the 1911 Act does not mean that one can ignore that context. Although some of the items included in the list such as a map or diagram may have a high level of functionality that should not be used as a guide to the interpretation of every item which the statutory definition contains. Sculpture, like painting (however good or bad it may be), does connote the work of the artist’s hand and the visual purpose attributed to it by the judge in this case. Put simply, it has, broadly speaking, to be a work at least intended to be a work of art.
71. We therefore accept points (i) – (vi) on the judge’s list. Mr Bloch criticises the reference in point (v) to the three dimensional representation of a concept on the largely metaphysical basis that all things in the world are representations of a concept. But that seems to be an issue about terminology. What the judge was referring to is clearly set out in the second sentence of that paragraph. Mr Bloch declined to accept that the well-designed saucepan or car would not be a sculpture but we think that this merely serves to confirm the correctness of the point made by the judge.
72. In point (vii) Mann J deals with questions of the object’s utility. This is in many ways the most important and difficult issue because it highlights the existence of a grey area in which, even on the approach outlined in points (i) - (vi), there may be difficulties in drawing the line between sculpture and an object which, though well designed, does

not qualify as such. Mr Bloch submits that the creation of these difficulties is due to the judge's concentration on the artistic or visual purpose of the work without which possibly fine distinctions would not have to be made. But, unless one is prepared to accept that almost any moulded version of a functional object is to be included in the definition, a line has to be drawn somewhere and some form of differentiation made.

73. One can think up any number of marginal examples to test where the boundary lies. Mr Bloch posed the example of a statue of a saint created as an object of veneration for use in a church. Its religious purpose or function would not alter its status as a sculpture. The same goes for props. A sculpture made for use in a play or film does not, he submits, make it any more utilitarian than the statue of the saint and, again, should not affect its status as a sculpture for the purpose of inclusion in the definition of artistic work.
74. None of this is necessarily controversial but we are not convinced that these examples really help. A plaster statue of a saint can, in artistic terms, be very good or very bad. There are many examples of both. But most people would, we think, accept that both kinds were sculptures notwithstanding their religious purpose. Similarly, a well-designed stage prop may be highly artistic and one knows of stage sets for opera and ballet designed by a number of artists of great note. Again their status as an artistic work would not be negated by the use to which their designs were intended to be put.
75. The issue in this case and the judge's approach to it does not turn on the purpose for which it is actually used but on the purposive nature of the object: what the judge described as its "intrinsic quality of being intended to be enjoyed as a visual thing". As we read his judgment, the purpose of the object is simply one of the relevant guides to whether it qualifies as a sculpture. A precise definition of that term is not possible which is why the judge has outlined a number of considerations which should act as signposts to the right answer. One can demonstrate this by an example. Most people would not regard a real soldier's helmet as a sculpture. Although made of pressed metal from a mould, its essential functionality as such is to take it outside any reasonable use of that term. A medieval suit of armour, however highly decorated, is no different. Although now of largely historical interest, it was made for a practical purpose which, again, characterises it as an object of utility rather than an artistic work. This view of these objects would not change if they were used as props for a play or film. Their use in that context would not alter their nature or their description.
76. But if the soldier's helmet appears on a bronze statue of a soldier as part of an artistic representation of the man and his kit no-one would, we think, dispute that it formed part of a sculpture. It has no practical utility. It cannot be used as a helmet and, to that extent, it is not one.
77. The result of this analysis is that it is not possible or wise to attempt to devise a comprehensive or exclusive definition of "sculpture" sufficient to determine the issue in any given case. Although this may be close to adopting the elephant test of knowing one when you see one, it is almost inevitable in this field. We therefore consider that the judge was right to adopt the multi-factorial approach which he did.
78. We turn then to the second aspect of Mr Bloch's appeal on this point which is whether the judge correctly applied the various guidelines he has set out. In doing so we

observe that this is the type of case referred to by Lord Hoffmann in *Designers Guild v Russell Williams* [2001] FSR 113 in which an appellate court must pay considerable respect to the assessment made by the fact-finding judge and should not reverse his decision unless it is satisfied that he erred in principle.

79. The first class of item to consider are the helmet and armour. Mr Bloch seeks to avoid our example of a real soldier's helmet being used as a prop in a film by stressing the fictional and imaginary nature of the stormtroopers and what they were. These were not, he submits, the helmet and armour of a real soldier and are therefore no more part of reality than the horn of a unicorn would be. That is not a real horn and this is not, in any real sense, a helmet.
80. But that argument confuses the fictional nature of the stormtrooper with his physical depiction in the film. Although invented, the helmet and armour are still recognisable as such and have a function within the confines of the film as the equipment of the stormtrooper. They are, to that extent, no different from and serve the same purpose as any real helmet or armour used in a film. The judge made this point by referring to the primary function of the helmet and armour as being utilitarian and lacking in artistic purpose. This is simply a shorthand for the application of the various considerations set out in his [118]. He was, in our view, entitled to come to that conclusion on the facts of this case. We also think that he was right to do so. Neither the armour nor the helmet are sculpture.
81. That leaves the toy stormtroopers. Mr Bloch submits that the distinction which the judge made based on *Britain v Hanks* is untenable and that the facts of that case are indistinguishable from those under consideration on this appeal. The toy stormtroopers would not, of course, have qualified as sculptures under the 1814 Act because they are not statues or models of the human figure but that particular qualification no longer exists. It is, however, clear from the judgment of Wright J that the submission he had to deal with was that the models were toys of no artistic merit whereas, on the evidence, the opposite was the case.
82. As already indicated, we think the judge was right to point to the existence of what can loosely be described as a work of art as the key to the identification of sculpture. On this basis, artistic and accurate reproductions of soldiers could qualify notwithstanding that some children might wish to play with them. But in most modern cases toy soldiers, whether real or fictional, will not be works of art and will not differ materially in artistic terms from the plastic Frisbee in the *Wham-O* case. They will be playthings registrable for their design qualities but nothing else. This distinction may be difficult to draw in some cases but we suspect that the cases which will qualify for protection under the Copyright Act will be relatively rare. The judge recognised the need not to make qualitative judgments about the artistic merits of the toy soldiers in *Britain* compared to the stormtroopers and therefore emphasised the real purpose of the latter being one of play. But the true distinction between the two cases can be expressed in more fundamental terms. We are not dealing here with highly crafted models designed to appeal to the collector but which might be played with by his children. These are mass produced plastic toys. They are no more works of sculpture than the helmet and armour which they reproduce.

Section 51

83. Section 51 was introduced to deal with the problem identified by the House of Lords in *British Leyland v Armstrong* [1986] AC 577. A manufacturer whose product would not qualify for copyright protection because it fell outside the definition of “artistic work” might nonetheless be able to control the market through the artistic copyright in any drawings of the design. In *British Leyland* the issue was the ability of motor manufacturers to limit the production of spare parts in this way which the House of Lords dealt with by upholding a right of repair on the part of the car owner that effectively trumped the manufacturers’ copyright.

84. A perhaps more principled solution came in the form of s.51 of the 1988 Act which provides that:-

51 Design documents and models

(1) It is not an infringement of any copyright in a design document or model recording or embodying a design for anything other than an artistic work or a typeface to make an article to the design or to copy an article made to the design.

....

(3) In this section-

'design' means the design of any aspect of the shape or configuration (whether internal or external) of the whole or part of an article, other than surface decoration

'design document' means any record of a design, whether in the form of a drawing, a written description, a photograph, data stored in a computer or otherwise.

85. This, as the judge recorded, is directed to the production of a three dimensional object in accordance with a design which is itself the subject of copyright. Except where the design is one for an artistic work, the use of the design to make what is illustrated is not an infringement.

86. The judge held that the McQuarrie paintings and other drawings were design documents within the meaning of s.51 and were used by Mr Ainsworth to create the stormtrooper helmet and armour. On the basis of his finding that the helmet and armour were not sculpture or works of artistic craftsmanship, s.51 therefore provided a defence to a claim of infringement based on his use of those works.

87. The judge’s decision that the McQuarrie paintings and drawings were design documents has not been challenged on this appeal. The application of s.51 was resisted only on the ground that the helmets and armour were sculpture. The judge was therefore right to find that it provides Mr Ainsworth with a defence to the UK copyright claim.

Section 52

88. The application of s.51 makes it unnecessary for Mr Ainsworth to rely on s.52. We can therefore deal with the point quite shortly.

89. So far as relevant, s.52 provides that:-

52. Effect of exploitation of design derived from artistic work

(1) This section applies where an artistic work has been exploited, by or with the licence of the copyright owner, by –

(a) making by an industrial process articles falling to be treated for the purposes of this part as copies of the work, and

(b) marketing such articles, in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.

(2) After the end of the period of 25 years from the end of the calendar year in which such articles are first marketed, the work may be copied by making articles of any description, or doing anything for the purpose of making articles of any description, and anything may be done in relation to articles so made, without infringing copyright in the work.

(3)

(4) The Secretary of State may by order make provision –

(a) as to the circumstances in which an article, or any description of article, is to be regarded for the purpose of this section as made by an industrial process;

(b) excluding from the operation of this section such articles of a primarily literary or artistic character as he thinks fit.

(5)

(6) In this section –

(a)

(b) References to the making of an article are to its being sold or let for hire or offered or exposed for sale or hire.”

90. The reference in s.52(1)(a) to an industrial process is the 50 plus test referred to earlier. This is set out in the Copyright (Industrial Processes and Excluded Articles) (No. 2) Order 1989 (SI 1989 No. 1070) which was made pursuant to the power contained in s.52(4). The Order also excludes from the operation of s.52:-

(a) works of sculpture, other than casts or models used or intended to be used as models or patterns to be multiplied by any industrial process.

91. This is obviously modelled on and reproduces the provisions of Rule 26 of the Registered Designs Rules 1949.

92. Mr Ainsworth's case before the judge was that copies of the stormtrooper helmet and armour have been reproduced industrially for more than 25 years. It was conceded by Lucasfilm that the artistic work in the form of the McQuarrie works had been exploited by the making of articles by an industrial process; that more than 50 such articles were made and sold; that the manufacture took place outside the UK; and that the exploitation took place both before and after the coming into force of the 1988 Act on 1st August 1989. There was, however, no agreement as to when precisely the relevant exploitation began or whether it began more than 25 years before Mr Ainsworth produced his own copies.

93. Because exploitation began before 1st August 1989 it is necessary to look at the transitional provisions contained in the 1988 Act. Section 10 of the 1956 Act was designed to deal with cases of double protection for a work both as an artistic work under the 1956 Act and as a registered design. Section 10(2) contained provisions similar to s.52 under which a 15 year copyright period applied if works which were subject to copyright but were also the subject of a corresponding industrial design were exploited by the production and sale either within the UK or elsewhere of articles to which the design had been applied.

94. Paragraph 20 of Schedule 1 to the 1988 Act provided that:-

“20(1) Where section 10 of the 1956 Act ... applied in relation an artistic work at any time before commencement, section 52(2) of this Act applies with the substitution for the period of 25 years mentioned there of the relevant period of 15 years as defined in section 10(3) of the 1956 Act.

(2) Except as provided in sub-paragraph (1), section 52 applies only where articles are marketed as mentioned in subsection (1)(b) after commencement.”

95. The net effect of these provisions was that if the 15 year period had started to run under s.10 of the 1956 Act but had not expired by 1st August 1989, s.52 came into operation in respect of the works in question but continued to apply a reduced copyright period of 15 years rather than the 25 year period provided for under s.52.

96. It was a condition for the operation of s.10 that the corresponding design should at least be capable of registration under the 1956 Act. Section 10(4) provided that:-

“(4) For the purposes of subsections (2) and (3) of this section, no account shall be taken of any articles in respect of which, at the time when they were sold, let for hire, or offered for sale or hire, the design in question was excluded from registration under the Act of 1949 by rules made under subsection (4) of

section 1 of that Act (which relates to the exclusion of designs for articles which are primarily literary or artistic in character) and for the purposes of any proceedings under this Act a design shall be conclusively presumed to have been so excluded.”

97. This is a reference to rule 26 of the 1949 Designs Rules which excluded from registration various classes of work including works of sculpture other than casts or models used or intended to be used as moulds or patterns to be multiplied by any industrial process.
98. Because they are not sculptures the production of the stormtrooper toys or, for that matter, the helmet or armour would have started time running under the 1956 Act. The judge held that the 15 years expired before Mr Ainsworth started to make his reproductions in 2004. It is therefore unnecessary to consider the alternative approach under rule 26(1) which depends on whether there was an intention at the date when the initial works were created that they should be exploited in this way. Nor is it necessary to consider the arguments advanced on both sides as to how s.52 might operate were we to have decided that either any one or more of the stormtrooper items was a work of sculpture, or to consider whether a new point raised by Mr Bloch was properly open on the pleadings. Our decision on that point therefore leaves intact the judge’s finding that Mr Ainsworth is entitled to rely on a s.52 defence.

Enforcement by English Court of US Copyright?

99. Because Mr Ainsworth is physically within the jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales, there is no doubt that these courts have “personal” jurisdiction. He was properly served. The question we have to decide is whether the court must, alternatively should, accept what conflicts lawyers called “subject-matter” jurisdiction. Must or should this court accept jurisdiction to enforce Lucasfilm’s US copyrights against Mr Ainsworth for what he has done and threatens to do by way of sales from here to the US?
100. The starting point here is that it is now common ground or undisputed that Lucasfilm does have US copyrights and that Mr Ainsworth has infringed them. The acts which constitute infringement by US law were all actually done in or from the UK. They consist of sales to US customers in the US by despatch of products from the UK, advertising on the internet and the placing of advertisements in US publications. It would seem that questions of where the property passes, or where the contract was made, or what law governs it and the like are irrelevant under US law. They might not be if the position were the other way round (see e.g. *Badische Anilin v Hickson* [1908] AC 419 – under the old law no UK patent infringement by sale and despatch from Germany). It is not necessary to examine whether the concession of infringement according to US law is correct. What is to be noted is that the extent to which US copyright law extends “a long-arm” to acts in fact done only in this country is itself a question of American, not English law. Other foreign laws might extend an even longer arm: if they did it would make no difference if jurisdiction here is automatic and compulsory.
101. The arguments for subject-matter jurisdiction fall under three heads:
 - a) That the judgment in *Owusu*, Case C-281/02 compels it;

b) That this court in *Pearce v Ove Arup* [2000] Ch. 403 decided that the English courts have subject-matter jurisdiction over all acts of infringement of copyright committed anywhere in the world.

c) That, even if subject-matter jurisdiction is not compelled, the courts here have a discretion to accept jurisdiction and should do so as a matter of *forum conveniens*.

102. We turn to examine the first two of these heads in detail. We do not examine the third much because, as will be seen, we do not consider that the Courts of England and Wales have subject-matter jurisdiction.

(a) The effect of *Owusu*

103. It is convenient to take this first. The point was not argued below and Mr Wilson is technically right that a necessary foundation for that argument – that Mr Ainsworth is domiciled here – was never formally pleaded or proved though it is clearly the case. Mr Wilson only took the point so as to preserve his client’s position on costs, a matter which Mr Bloch seemed inclined to accept. Accordingly we are prepared to entertain the argument.

104. *Owusu* was a reference about the Brussels Convention (of 27th September 1968 as amended). That has now been replaced by Regulation (EC) 44/2001 on Jurisdiction and the Recognition of Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters. It is not suggested that this makes any difference.

105. The proposition is that *Owusu* decided that, for the EU, the courts of the Member State of the defendant’s domicile have, and must exercise, subject-matter jurisdiction over any claim in any civil or commercial matter brought against the defendant unless it is one of the excluded matters provided for in Art. 1 of the Regulation. It makes no difference that the claim is in respect of acts done by the defendant in a place far far away from the EU. Or that the acts, if done by the defendant in his Member State of domicile, are lawful by the law of that State. Or that the courts of the country where the defendant actually did the allegedly wrongful act also have personal jurisdiction over him, with the obvious consequences for forum shopping that implies. Or that the dispute concerned has no intra-Member State or effect. Or that there is no EU interest requiring or making it convenient that the Member State concerned should have jurisdiction. If correct, the rule is rigid, admitting of no exception. We will call the postulated subject-matter jurisdiction the “extra EU jurisdiction”. It could also be called “universal international jurisdiction”.

106. The postulate involves this: that the Convention and then its replacement Regulation which are essentially about allocation of jurisdiction and recognition of judgments of EU Member States have, by a side-wind, created the extra EU jurisdiction, even though the subject-matter has nothing to do with the EU.

107. Another consequence would be this. The courts of Member States would be required to take subject-matter jurisdiction over claims about extra-EU events where, if they had occurred in another Member State, there would be no jurisdiction. Art. 22 of the Regulation provides for exclusive jurisdiction, regardless of domicile, in respect of a variety of identified matters, e.g. rights in rem in immovable property, validity of the constitution of companies, validity of entries in public registers, and validity of

patents. In each case the exclusive jurisdiction is conferred on the courts of the Member State where the subject matter is situated. Thus the courts of the Member State where the immovable property is, or the company has its seat, or the public register is or the patent is registered, have exclusive jurisdiction. None of that would apply to non-EU matters of the type excluded by Art. 22. So, for example, if proceedings for infringement of a US patent were brought against a person domiciled in a Member State, Art. 22 does not exclude jurisdiction over validity. So the defendant could challenge the validity of the patent. Yet the ECJ has held (at any rate where validity is challenged) that there is no cross-border jurisdiction within the EU. You cannot sue in Member State A for an infringement of patent in Member State B at least if the defendant challenges validity, *GAT v LUK* Case C-4/03 and *Roche v Primus* Case C-539/03. Why? Because Art. 22(4) (formerly Art. 16(4)) forbids it.

108. In short, therefore, the whole of Art. 22 only makes sense if the proposed extra-EU jurisdiction is not conferred by the Regulation.
109. There is yet another consideration strongly pointing away from the postulated jurisdiction. It is this. The Convention was, and the Regulation is, about both jurisdiction and recognition (and enforcement) of judgments. No one suggests an actual judgment of the court of a non-EU Member State is covered. Having got a judgment in, say, the US, you cannot use the Regulation simply to register it in a Member State and enforce it there. Lucasfilm does not invoke the Regulation in its claim to enforce the default US judgment. But the absence of a judgment-recognition rule makes no sense whatever if there were extra-EU jurisdiction. Why would the legislator provide that even where you have actually vindicated your rights in the courts of a non-EU State, if you want to pursue a defendant domiciled in an EU Member-State you have to do so all over again (subject, perhaps, to some local rule about *res judicata*). The truth is that jurisdiction and recognition go hand-in-hand. Where the Regulation confers jurisdiction it then goes on to provide cross-border recognition. If it had been intended to confer extra-EU jurisdiction it would have provided also for cross-border recognition.
110. Further there is nothing reciprocal about the proposed extra-EU jurisdiction. If it exists, citizens of non-EU countries are entitled to sue anyone domiciled in an EU Member State in the courts of that Member State, but there is no necessary entitlement for a citizen domiciled in an EU Member State to sue for wrongs done within that Member State in the courts of any non-EU state which has personal jurisdiction over a defendant. It is wholly improbable that the EU legislator would have intended to create such a non-reciprocal state of affairs, putting EU citizens at a disadvantage against non-EU citizens.
111. Moreover although the Regulation has a clear *lis pendens* rule about parallel actions relating to the same alleged wrong in different Member States, there is no *lis pendens* rule for a similar situation concerning parallel actions in a court of a Member State and that of a third country. Nor could there be, for the EU could not legislate for third countries. So here, for instance, if Lucasfilm had sued Mr Ainsworth both in the US and here at the same time, the Regulation has no rule, “first seised” or otherwise, to deal with it. Both actions could proceed with the obvious possibility of inconsistent judgments.

112. It is also noteworthy that if this far-reaching and important jurisdiction existed, no-one has noticed it from the time of the initial Brussels Convention in 1968 until now.
113. Moreover, after the oral hearing, Lucasfilm provided us with a table showing examples of cases where the courts of Member States, have, it is suggested, to some extent assumed full international jurisdiction in copyright or related rights. We have not seen the decisions themselves. And Mr Ainsworth's lawyers simply do not have the resources to deal with the table, or to try to produce a counter-table. According to the summary many, though not all of the cases may have involved straightforward enforcement of contractual obligations or recognition of assignments rather than a full assumption of world-wide international jurisdiction over subject-matter. And other cases involve assumption of subject-matter jurisdiction for acts done in other Member States, which is of no assistance here. What is important in the present context is that it is not suggested that in any of the cases where international jurisdiction was apparently taken it was done *in reliance on Art. 2*. It seems that if it was done, it was done on the basis of national law alone.
114. With those important considerations in mind we turn to the legislation, including its *travaux préparatoires*. A good starting point to see whether this extra-EU jurisdiction was ever intended is obviously the power to make the Regulation itself. It stems from Art 61(c) in Part 3 of the Treaty (Community Policies) and comes within Title IV, "Visas, Asylum, Immigration, and other Policies related to the Free Movement of Persons." Art. 61(c) provides:

In order to establish progressively an area of freedom, security and justice, the Council shall adopt:

(c) measures in the field of judicial cooperation in civil matters as provided for in Article 65;

115. So the key provision is Art. 65:

Art. 65:

Measures in the field of judicial cooperation in civil matters having cross-border implications, to be taken in accordance with Article 67 and in so far as necessary for the proper functioning of the internal market, shall include:

(a) improving and simplifying:

- the system for cross-border service of judicial and extrajudicial documents,
- cooperation in the taking of evidence,
- the recognition and enforcement of decisions in civil and commercial cases, including decisions in extrajudicial cases;

(b) promoting the compatibility of the rules applicable in the Member States concerning the conflict of laws and of jurisdiction;

(c) eliminating obstacles to the good functioning of civil proceedings, if necessary by promoting the compatibility of the rules on civil procedure applicable in the Member States.

116. There is nothing here suggesting any power to create an extra-EU jurisdiction. Quite the opposite. The judicial co-operation is between the courts of the Member States., not about co-operation between the courts of a Member State and those of third countries. It is all about the internal market.
117. Nor can one find anything in the recitals to the Treaty which would clearly cover the creation of such a power.
118. Another starting point might be the Jenard/Schlosser Reports OJ C 59/1. We can find nothing in them suggesting that an extra-EU jurisdiction exists or should be created. Such an important subject would surely have been addressed by these scholars and considered explicitly. Yet it is not mentioned.
119. What about the Recitals to the Regulation? Not one suggests that one can find there an explicit purpose to create an extra-EU jurisdiction. Far from it. The Recitals show only an intention to cover the internal market. We set out certain recitals with our emphasis to show the point

Recital (1) The Community has set itself the objective of maintaining and developing **an area of freedom, security and justice, in which the free movement of persons is ensured**. In order to establish progressively such an area, the Community should adopt, amongst other things, the measures relating to judicial cooperation in civil matters which are **necessary for the sound operation of the internal market**.

Recital (2) **Certain differences between national rules governing jurisdiction and recognition of judgments hamper the sound operation of the internal market**. Provisions to unify the rules of conflict of jurisdiction in civil and commercial matters and to simplify the formalities with a view to rapid and simple recognition and enforcement of judgments from Member States bound by this Regulation are essential.

(3) This area is within **the field of judicial cooperation in civil matters within the meaning of Article 65** of the Treaty.

(15) In the interests of the harmonious administration of justice it is necessary to minimise the possibility of concurrent proceedings and **to ensure that irreconcilable judgments will not be given in two Member States**. There must be a clear and effective mechanism for resolving cases of *lis pendens* and related actions and for obviating problems flowing from national differences as to the determination of the time when a case is regarded as pending. For the purposes of this Regulation that time should be defined autonomously.

120. So we now turn to *Owusu* to see whether it really had the effect contended for. The claimant, domiciled in the UK, suffered an accident in Jamaica whilst staying at a holiday villa let to him by a Mr Jackson, also domiciled in the UK. He sued Mr Jackson in contract alleging that it was a term of the contract that the beach where he had suffered the accident would be safe. It was said there was a dangerous hidden sandbank. There can be no question but that there was both personal and subject-matter jurisdiction over that claim. The claimant also sued several Jamaican companies in tort, alleging that his accident was due to their negligence. Mr Jackson was served personally in England. Leave to serve the Jamaican companies out of the jurisdiction was given by the English court.
121. Both Mr Jackson and the Jamaican defendants applied for a declaration that the English court “should not exercise its jurisdiction in relation to the claim against them both.” The basis of this claim was only *forum non conveniens*. It was said that Jamaica was a more appropriate venue for the case against all the defendants.
122. What is of great importance to note is that this was not a case where it was suggested that the English Court did not have subject-matter jurisdiction. On the contrary the very premise of a *forum non conveniens* argument is that the court has got subject-matter jurisdiction but should not exercise it because there is a more convenient forum for the litigation. So there can be no doubt that the question the ECJ had to face had nothing to do with subject-matter jurisdiction.
123. The problem for the defendants was that Mr Jackson was domiciled in England. Art 2(1) of the Brussels Convention (now Art. 2(1) of the Regulation) lays down the fundamental basic rule:
1. Subject to this Regulation, persons domiciled in a Member State shall, whatever their nationality, be sued in the courts of that Member State.
124. It may be noted that if Mr Jackson was properly sued in England then the Jamaican defendants could be properly sued here too. But the latter fact was a rule of English law. As Advocate-General Léger clearly accepted the jurisdictional rules of the Brussels Convention did not apply to these defendants (see [56]). They were in the proceedings by virtue of English procedural rules, not by virtue of the Convention.
125. Thus it was that the Court concentrated only on whether Art. 2 of the Convention displaced the English *forum non conveniens* rule. There can be no doubt about that. Thus the Court said:
- [35] It follows from the foregoing that Article 2 of the Brussels Convention applies to circumstances such as those in the main proceedings, involving relationships between the courts of a single Contracting State and those of a non-Contracting State rather than relationships between the courts of a number of Contracting States.
- [36] It must therefore be considered whether, in such circumstances, the Brussels Convention precludes a court of a Contracting State from applying the *forum non conveniens*

doctrine and declining to exercise the jurisdiction conferred on it by Article 2 of that Convention.

126. It went to analyse that very question – and no other. It decided that the doctrine was indeed displaced. It said (and ruled):

[46] In the light of all the foregoing considerations, the answer to the first question must be that the Brussels Convention precludes a court of a Contracting State from declining the jurisdiction conferred on it by Article 2 of that convention on the ground that a court of a non-Contracting State would be a more appropriate forum for the trial of the action even if the jurisdiction of no other Contracting State is in issue or the proceedings have no connecting factors to any other Contracting State.

127. So *Owusu* establishes where Art. 2 confers personal jurisdiction in a court of a Member State by reason of the defendant's domicile in that State, the court cannot refuse to hear the case because there is a more appropriate forum abroad. It does not begin to address a quite different question, namely given personal jurisdiction, is the subject-matter jurisdiction of the court also displaced by Art. 2?

128. Mr Bloch submitted that because Art. 2 does confer subject-matter jurisdiction on the courts of a Member State in respect of acts done elsewhere in the EU, it must also have the same effect as regards acts done outside the EU. We do not see why – there is an enormous difference between the two. For intra-EU events the Regulation is a carefully balanced piece of legislation. Its components are interrelated. Thus it provides for all the consequences of its allocation of jurisdiction rules - exclusive jurisdiction for court first seised, a *lis alibi pendens* rule in other courts, mutual recognition of judgments and so on. None of that balance or interrelation is provided by the suggested extra-EU jurisdiction. Nor could it be, for to achieve it you need to legislate for all the courts to which the rules apply and the Regulation has no effect on the courts of third countries.

129. So for all the reasons we have indicated above we think that it clear that the Regulation does not create the extra-EU jurisdiction as we have defined it. The Regulation is not setting up the courts of the Member States as some kind of non-exclusive world tribunals for wrongs done outside the EU by persons who happen to be domiciled within the EU. That is the sort of thing that is done reciprocally and by an international Convention – it goes well beyond the remit of judges whose job is to interpret the law, not to legislate. We think the point is *acte clair* and would accordingly not refer it.

130. That really concludes the matter. However we should mention a few additional points. First of these is that in *GAT v LUK*, the ECJ had regard to *Owusu* in the course of deciding that the exclusive jurisdiction rules of the Convention (now Art. 22 of the Regulation) overrode Art. 2 in a patent infringement action where validity is challenged. It said:

[25] In the light of the position of Article 16(4) within the scheme of the Convention and the objective pursued, the view

must be taken that the exclusive jurisdiction provided for by that provision should apply whatever the form of proceedings in which the issue of a patent's validity is raised, be it by way of an action or a plea in objection, at the time the case is brought or at a later stage in the proceedings.

[26] First, to allow a court seised of an action for infringement or for a declaration that there has been no infringement to establish, indirectly, the invalidity of the patent at issue would undermine the binding nature of the rule of jurisdiction laid down in Article 16(4) of the Convention.

[27] While the parties cannot rely on Article 16(4) of the Convention, the claimant would be able, simply by the way it formulates its claims, to circumvent the mandatory nature of the rule of jurisdiction laid down in that article.

[28] Second, the possibility which this offers of circumventing Article 16(4) of the Convention would have the effect of multiplying the heads of jurisdiction and would be liable to undermine the predictability of the rules of jurisdiction laid down by the Convention, and consequently to undermine the principle of legal certainty, which is the basis of the Convention (see Case C-256/00 *Besix* [2002] ECR I-1699, paragraphs 24 to 26, Case C-281/02 *Owusu* [2005] ECR I-1383, paragraph 41, and Case C-539/03 *Roche Nederland and Others* [2006] ECR I-0000, paragraph 37).

131. None of that would make any sense if Art. 2 conferred subject-matter jurisdiction in respect of actions for infringement of the patents of third countries – to which Art. 16(4) cannot apply. The problems the court identifies would then apply.
132. Secondly our decision accords with the general philosophy of the leading US decision on extra-territorial jurisdiction of the US Courts in intellectual property matters, *Voda v Cordis*, [2007] USCAFED 29, 476 F.3d 887 a decision of the Federal Court of Appeals. We refer to this in more detail later.
133. Thirdly our view coincides with that of Colman J in *Konkola Copper Mines v Coromim* [2005] EWHC 898 (Comm), [2005] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 555. Simplifying the facts, the defendant was domiciled in England and was party to a contract which contained an exclusive jurisdiction clause in favour of the Courts of Zambia. The defendant, sued in England, said that the English Court should decline jurisdiction. The claimant said it could not by reason of *Owusu*: jurisdiction was imposed by Art. 2 and that was that. Art. 17 of the Convention (now Art. 23 of the Regulation) allows exclusive jurisdiction clauses which confer jurisdiction upon the courts of a particular Member State to prevail over Art. 2 but says nothing about exclusive jurisdiction clauses conferring jurisdiction on the courts of third countries. Colman J stayed the action, basing himself on the contract, not any form of *forum non conveniens* doctrine. Quite clearly he could not have done so if Art. 2 imposed an extra-EU jurisdiction in respect of all subject-matters.

134. Finally as regards the *Owusu* contention is concerned, our attention was drawn to a decision of Barling J, *Catalyst Investment Group v Lewinsohn* [2009] EWHC 1964. The question there was whether the court could stay proceedings in a case where the same point was being litigated between the same parties in the courts of a third country. He held that *Owusu* prevented that, essentially because the *lis pendens* rule is to some extent a facet of *forum non conveniens*. We do not have to decide whether that was correct, though we note that, if he is right, there is this oddity: that there is a clear *lis pendens* rule, with associated court first seized rule, for parallel cases within the EU but none for parallel cases where one is running within an EU Member State and one without. What Barling J did not decide was that Art. 2 conferred extra-EU subject matter jurisdiction generally.

(b) The effect of *Pearce v Ove Arup*

135. In this case, the claimant sued a number of defendants in England. The heart of the complaint was an allegation that the architect Rem Koolhaas had infringed the claimant's Dutch copyright with his design for the new art gallery in Rotterdam. The other defendants were all ancillary to that main claim. They were the English consulting engineers, Ove Arup, Mr Koolhaas' Dutch company and even the City of Rotterdam.
136. The case was one of forum shopping. The point of choosing this jurisdiction was that the plaintiff could get legal aid here whereas (perhaps because the case was not seen as having any merit) not in Holland. So Ove Arup, domiciled here, were made first defendants pursuant to Art. 2 of the Brussels Convention. The remaining defendants, all Dutch, were joined pursuant to the provisions of Art 6 of the Convention.
137. The defendants applied to have the claim struck out, (a) on the grounds it had no realistic prospect of success and (b) because there was no jurisdiction to hear a Dutch copyright claim here. The first instance judge, Lloyd J acceded to the application on ground (a) but went on to hold, if he were wrong on that point, that Art. 2 did confer subject-matter jurisdiction over a claim for infringement. The Court of Appeal reversed his finding on (a) and upheld decision as to jurisdiction. As a matter of interest the case then went on to full trial where the claim failed miserably.
138. Lucasfilm contends that the effect of the Court of Appeal decision was indeed that there was extra-EU jurisdiction as a matter of English law. In a previous case, *Tyburn Products v Conan Doyle* [1991] Ch 75 Vinelott J had perhaps (we do not need to determine whether he did) decided that there was no subject-matter jurisdiction in the English courts in respect of infringement of copyright in non-EU countries. In *Pearce*, this Court (in a judgment of the Court) said this at p.439F:

We do not find it necessary to decide whether Vinelott J. was correct to take the view (if he did) that an action for alleged infringement of a foreign copyright by acts done outside the United Kingdom in a state not party to the Brussels Convention, in a case where no question as to the validity or registration of the right was in issue, was not justiciable in an English court.

So Lucasfilm's contention is bold indeed – that the Court of Appeal, by necessary implication, did decide a point which it, itself, did not think it was deciding – it knew not what it was doing.

139. And there is also this, that the Court of Appeal was not concerned with an allegation of infringement in a third country. So, Mr Ainsworth submits, if and to the extent that it decided that such acts were justiciable here provided there was personal jurisdiction over the defendant its decision was *obiter dictum* and we need not follow it. Lucasfilm submits otherwise – it submitted that the *ratio decidendi* of *Pearce* necessarily leads to such jurisdiction.
140. To try to understand the decision in *Pearce* it is necessary to consider three earlier cases, *British South Africa v. Companhia de Moçambique* [1893] A.C. 602, *Potter v. Broken Hill* (1906) 3 C.L.R. 479 and *Hesperides Hotels v. Aegean Turkish Holidays* [1979] A.C. 508.
141. *Moçambique* was an action brought in England for trespass to land in South Africa. The defendants disputed title to the land. The House of Lords drew a distinction between “matters which are transitory and those which are local in nature” (Lord Herschell LC's words). It held that English courts did not have jurisdiction over the latter.
142. Thus it is clearly the case that English law contains the concept that certain matters are not to be determined by the English courts even though the court has personal jurisdiction over the defendant. These matters are said to be “non-justiciable.” Naturally the question then is, what are these matters?
143. As regards land the answer was provided by the House of Lords in *Hesperides Hotels*. This was a claim by two Cypriot hotel companies against a London based travel agency which advertised holidays where people could stay at hotels belonging to the companies in Northern Cyprus. Northern Cyprus was occupied by Turkey and the hotels had de facto been taken over. It was said that the hotels were illegally occupied and so the defendants were encouraging a trespass. The claim was allowed to proceed in respect of the chattel content of the hotels but not in respect of the trespass claim.
144. As regards that claim, the House re-affirmed *Moçambique* fully. Lord Wilberforce at p. 534 adopted *Dicey & Morris's* exposition in rule 79 of what it was that *Moçambique* decided:

"Subject to the exceptions hereinafter mentioned, the court has no jurisdiction to entertain an action for (1) the determination of the title to, or the right to the possession of, any immovable situate out of England (foreign land); or (2) the recovery of damages for trespass to such immovable."

He pointed out that if either part of the rule applied, the court had no jurisdiction – the rule went both to the existence of the right and its infringement. The House refused the invitation to revise the rule so as to remove or attenuate the second limb. One of the reasons for its refusal was articulated by Lord Wilberforce at p.537:

Secondly: the nature of the rule itself, involving, as it clearly must, possible conflict with foreign jurisdictions, and the possible entry into and involvement with political questions of some delicacy, does not favour revision (assuming such to be logically desirable) by judicial decision, but rather by legislation.

It may be noted that the second limb of the rule, only so far as it affected trespass to land or any other tort affecting immovable property, was abrogated by s.30 of the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982. It is not suggested that s.30 has any application to the present problem.

145. The last of the three important cases is *Potter*, a decision of the High Court of Australia in 1906. It was in the days when each State had its own patent registry. The patentee of a NSW patent sued a defendant in Victoria for infringement of its patent. It was held that the Victorian court had no jurisdiction. Clearly the principal reason for the decision was that to hold otherwise would involve the Victorian court inquiring into the validity of an act of another state, the act in question being the grant of the patent by NSW. As Griffiths CJ put it:

It is the settled law of all civilised countries that the acts of Government of a State done within its own territory are not examinable at all in the Court of another State.

146. Mr Bloch accepts that English courts have no jurisdiction to hear claims for infringement of foreign patents where validity is in issue. But he says, if validity is not in issue, so that there is no question of challenging the act of a foreign state, the position is different. And since copyright rights do not (at least in this case) depend upon registration in the US, no question of impugning a sovereign act of the US arises. It follows, he says, that the *Moçambique* rule does not apply to acts of infringement of copyright in a foreign state.
147. And, he says, that is what *Pearce* decided. We can now turn to it to see if he is right. The argument the Court was addressing was this: that although Art. 2 of the Convention conferred jurisdiction over *Ove Arup*, it did not mean that the claim was justiciable. And it was not, by virtue of the *Moçambique* principle. Lloyd J had held that the *Moçambique* principle did extend to foreign intellectual property rights because they were essentially local in nature, but that Art. 2 overrode that so far as acts of infringement in other Member States were concerned.
148. The Court began with an obvious disinclination to hold that *Moçambique* applied to claims of infringement of foreign intellectual property rights at all. At p.424 it said:

On its face the rule in *Moçambique* does not provide self-evident support for the proposition that a claim for breach of a foreign statutory intellectual property right cannot be entertained by an English court.

We do not share that disinclination. For a variety of reasons which we set out below we think that there are good reasons for holding that foreign intellectual property

rights, registered or not, should not be justiciable here in the absence of a treaty governing the position.

149. The Court then went on to consider *Moçambique* and *Hesperides*. After many citations from *Moçambique* it concluded at p.431

It is, we think, clear from an analysis of the judgments in *Moçambique* that the House of Lords treated the question whether the English courts should entertain an action for trespass to foreign land as one of justiciability. The English courts should not claim jurisdiction to adjudicate upon matters which, under generally accepted principles of private international law, were within the peculiar province and competence of another state.

150. It then went on to consider the position as regards land having regard to s.30 and Art. 2 It said at p.432:

We are satisfied that, at least in relation to land situate within a contracting state, there is no longer any basis for the rule in the *Moçambique* case. The questions which the House of Lords addressed in that case are now, as a matter of English private international law, determined by section 2(1) of the Act of 1982—giving effect to the accession of the United Kingdom to the Brussels Convention.

Note that even in relation to land, the court confined its observation to land situate within a contracting state (i.e. of the Brussels Convention). And of course that Convention had its own rules about exclusive jurisdiction concerning title to land.

151. Next the Court proceeded under a heading: “The extension of the *Moçambique* rule to intellectual property cases: the Australian cases.” There follows detailed citation from *Potter* and another case. Then it turned to the Convention and the Jenard report and said at p.436:

But, where the action is not concerned with registration or validity, the Convention gives jurisdiction to the courts of the defendant's domicile, or to the courts of other contracting states in accordance with articles 5 and 6. The question "Can the English court inquire into the validity of a patent granted by a contracting state?" is answered by article 16(4). The question "Does the English court have jurisdiction to entertain proceedings in respect of the alleged infringement of an intellectual property right conferred by the law of a contracting state where the proceedings fall outside article 16(4)?" is answered by article 2, 5 or 6. There is, in our view, nothing in the reasoning of the High Court of Australia which requires the answer: "No, notwithstanding that the proceedings fall outside article 16(4) and the English court has jurisdiction to entertain the proceedings by reason of article 2, 5 or 6, the English court must nevertheless decline jurisdiction because the question is

non-justiciable." We find it impossible to accept that that answer has any place in a rational scheme of jurisprudence.

The whole of this passage is about an "alleged infringement of an IP right conferred by the law of a contracting state." Mr Bloch would have us read it without that limitation. We see no reason so to do. It is one thing to confer jurisdiction within what is a common market and quite another to extend it generally. What is said about a "rational scheme of jurisprudence" is entirely in the context of the Convention.

152. The Court then turned to the English cases, putting some on one side as irrelevant to the question of justiciability. Next it referred to *Tyburn*. We have already quoted what we regard as the key passage for present purposes. We have no hesitation in repeating it:

We do not find it necessary to decide whether Vinelott J. was correct to take the view (if he did) that an action for alleged infringement of a foreign copyright by acts done outside the United Kingdom in a state not party to the Brussels Convention, in a case where no question as to the validity or registration of the right was in issue, was not justiciable in an English court.

153. After considering other English cases not really on the point, the court then went on to consider an argument based on the Berne Convention. Art 5(2) of this provides:

The enjoyment and exercise of these rights shall not be subject to any formality; such enjoyment and such exercise shall be independent of the existence of protection in the country of origin of the work. Consequently, apart from the provisions of this Convention, the extent of protection, as well as the means of redress afforded to the author to protect his rights, shall be governed exclusively by the laws of the country where protection is claimed.

It was suggested this excluded the operation of the Brussels Convention. The Court held not so. Before us, perhaps because of this holding, no reliance was placed on Art. 5(2). We therefore refrain from expressing our own view as to what is meant by "as well as the means of redress ... shall be governed exclusively by the laws of the country where protection is claimed." We proceed on the basis that Berne is neutral as to questions of jurisdiction over foreign infringements of copyrights.

154. Finally the Court considered the double-actionability rule. That has no relevance to our case because it was abolished by s.10 of the Private International Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1995.
155. So *Pearce* did not decide the point now before us. The argument for saying it did is at best tortured and over-subtle. That is no basis for applying the doctrine of *stare decisis*. As Viscount Dunedin said in *Great Western Railway v Owners of SS Mostyn* [1928] AC 57 at p.73:

Now, when any tribunal is bound by the judgment of another Court, either superior or co-ordinate, it is, of course, bound by the judgment itself. And if from the opinions delivered it is clear - as is the case in most instances - what the *ratio decidendi* was which led to the judgment, then that ratio decidendi is also binding. But if it is not clear, then I do not think it is part of the tribunal's duty to spell out with great difficulty a *ratio decidendi* in order to be bound by it.

156. The upshot is this: the suggested *ratio* cannot readily be spelled out of *Pearce*. At best it can only be done with great difficulty. We are not bound by *Pearce* and must decide the point for ourselves.
157. What then of other decisions, decisions of only persuasive value one way or the other? Tipping J, a respected judge who had some experience of IP and is now in the Supreme Court of New Zealand, held that a plaintiff could not sue in New Zealand for acts said to be an infringement of copyright of another country, *Atkinson Footwear v Hodgskin International Services* (1994) 31 IPR 186. He said at p.190 after considering *inter alia*, *Potter* and *Tyburn*:

Whether copyright exists in another country and whether the plaintiff has title to it are treated as questions in rem not in personam and thus outside the general proposition with which I started this discussion. Therefore, whether the importation of Dianne boots and their sale in Australia constitutes a breach of copyright law of Australia is for the courts of that country to determine.

He noticed a difference with passing off – the basis of which is a misrepresentation, and then went on to make a very important point:

In addition to the territorial ambit of copyright law, it should also be noted that there has always been a reluctance to grant an injunction which will take effect outside the jurisdiction of the court granting it.

158. Aldous J had that same consideration in mind in a patent case, *Plastus Kreativ v 3M* [1995] RPC 438, saying at p.447:

For myself I would not welcome the task of having to decide whether a person had infringed a foreign patent. Although patent actions appear on their face to be disputes between two parties, in reality they also concern the public. A finding of infringement is a finding that a monopoly granted by the state is to be enforced. The result is invariably that the public have to pay higher prices than if the monopoly did not exist. If that be the proper result, then that result should, I believe, come about from a decision of a court situated in the state where the public have to pay the higher prices. One only has to imagine a decision of this court that the German public should pay to a British company substantial sums of money to realise the

difficulties that might arise. I believe that, if the local courts are responsible for enforcing and deciding questions of validity and infringement, the conclusions reached are likely to command the respect of the public. Also a conclusion that a patent is infringed or not infringed involves in this country a decision on validity as in this country no man can infringe an invalid patent.

159. Note that Aldous J makes two distinct points: one is that a decision as to infringement is essentially a local matter involving the state concerned and the other is that a question of validity may be involved. He does not rest his view on merely the so-called sovereign nature of a grant of a patent.

160. We do observe however, that he added a qualification:

I also believe that it would not normally be right for the courts of this country to decide a dispute on infringement of a foreign patent in respect of acts done outside this country provided there is an adequate remedy in the relevant country. The local court is able to look at the particular acts in the context in which they are carried out. If it happened that there was not an adequate remedy in the other state, then it might be appropriate that action be taken in a state in which there was an appropriate remedy.

Mr Bloch would say that is the position here. Mr Ainsworth is not in the US. No order of the US court can touch him – as indeed it has not. So unless the English court has jurisdiction, Mr Ainsworth can “get away with it.” But on the other hand English law regards what he has done as entirely lawful. It is not part of English public policy to restrain acts done here to enforce the local IP rules of other countries.

161. Another experienced IP Judge, Laddie J, clearly considered that both limbs of the *Moçambique* rule applied and ought to apply to IP disputes. In *Coin Controls v Suzo International* [1999] Ch 33 at 43 he said this:

The principles which applied to land in the *Moçambique* case apply equally well to attempts to litigate foreign intellectual property rights in English courts. Those rights give rise to monopolies or quasi-monopolies which are strictly territorial in nature. In the case of patents, historically their purpose was to encourage and protect local industry. So courts following the common law tradition have declined to entertain actions concerned with the enforcement of foreign intellectual property rights;

And he concluded at p.44:

If the *Moçambique* rule has been destroyed or limited in relation to patent and similar rights, that must be as a result of our adherence to the Brussels Convention, not because of the Acts of 1982 and 1995.

Mr Bloch has to contend that was wrong for the purposes of his *Ove Arup* argument. Although it was cited, the Court did not say so.

162. Mr Bloch relied on a recent Australian case, *TS Productions v Drew Pictures* [2008] FCAFC 194. That was an action in Australia concerning title to the Australian copyright in a film. The defendants started proceedings in Illinois asserting title to copyright. It seems the US action included within it a claim to the Australian copyright. The Australian defendants applied for a stay on *forum non conveniens* grounds. One of the considerations was whether Australia was a “clearly inappropriate forum”. Finkelstein J thought that *Pearce* drew a distinction between foreign disputes as to title and those as to infringement – a distinction which do we not think it did so far as disputes concerning infringement of IP rights outside the EU is concerned. The other members of the Court (who gave the majority reason) expressed no view on *Pearce*. In the result the Australian court refused a stay and granted an anti-suit injunction restraining continuation of the US action. We do not think this case assists.
163. Mr Bloch also relied upon a decision of Mr Peter Prescott QC sitting as a Deputy Judge. It was *Griggs v Evans*, [2004] EWHC 1088 (Ch). The case involved a dispute about the ownership of copyright in a logo created for the claimants. It was designed in England pursuant to an English contract. The issue was whether the foreign copyrights, as well as the UK copyright, belonged to the claimants. He held they did and that the English court had jurisdiction so to decide and to order the defendant to enter into any necessary assignment to perfect title. We find nothing remarkable in that. Our courts have always had an *in personam* jurisdiction to enforce a party properly before the court to perform an act required by English law. But Mr Prescott also considered the effect of *Ove Arup*. He seemed to draw from it the general principle that the court only regards as non-justiciable disputes about the existence of foreign registered rights. If and to the extent that he did, it was clearly *obiter* and involves a reading of *Ove Arup* which we do not endorse.
164. Mr Bloch also referred us to a decision of Flaux J in the Commercial Court, *Satyam Computer Services v Unpaid Systems* [2008] EWHC 31. Flaux J, *obiter* considered that English courts were only precluded from considering the validity of foreign IP rights. He did so by his analysis of the cases rather than for any policy reasons. So his judgment does not take matters much further.
165. Mr Bloch showed us the US decision in *London Film Productions v Intercontinental Communications* 580 F. Supp. 47 (1984) 47. This was a District Court (first instance) decision of Judge Robert Carter. He held that the US Federal Courts had jurisdiction over a New York corporation alleged to have infringed film copyright in Chile and other South American countries. The application for dismissal was on *forum non conveniens* grounds. In a short judgment the Judge accepted a principle that because a US court had an interest in compliance by foreigners with US law, that interest would be furthered by showing that the US courts would enforce foreign laws. We do not think we have seen that very general and theoretical justification for cross-border jurisdiction advanced anywhere else. And he accepted Professor Nimmer’s theory that copyright infringement constitutes “a transitory cause of action.”
166. However to set against *London Film* is the more recent, higher, authority of the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in *Voda v Cordis*. The defendant had

manufactured in the US and was sued for patent infringement. He then moved his manufacture abroad – to Mexico. The plaintiff sought to amend his claim to allege infringement of the “European British, Canadian French and German patents.” Presumably sales were being made in the countries concerned. [We are not quite clear what was meant by European – perhaps the pleader did not appreciate there are only national patents in Europe.] The question was whether that could be done under the provisions for “supplementary jurisdiction.” The majority said no, giving a variety of reasons some of which were local to the US in character (e.g. the problems which would be created if a jury had to apply a series of foreign laws) but others which have general application. We go to some of these now.

167. First it noted that no international convention about intellectual property (and there are many (Paris, Berne, and TRIPS are the main ones) has sought to create such a jurisdiction. The Court said:

The Paris Convention thus clearly expresses the independence of each country’s sovereign patent systems and their systems for adjudicating those patents. Nothing in the Paris Convention contemplates nor allows one jurisdiction to adjudicate the patents of another, and as such, our courts should not determine the validity and infringement of foreign patents. Accordingly, while the Paris Convention contains no express jurisdictional-stripping statute, we relied on it in Stein to hold that “[o]nly a British court, applying British law, can determine validity and infringement of British patents.” 748 F.2d at 658.

And in response to a suggestion that the international trend was towards harmonisation of IP and particularly patent law (with reference to TRIPS and the PCT) the court said:

Regardless of the strength of the harmonization trend, however, we as the U.S. judiciary should not unilaterally decide either for our government or for other foreign sovereigns that our courts will become the adjudicating body for any foreign patent with a U.S. equivalent “so related” to form “the same case or controversy.” Permitting our district courts to exercise jurisdiction over infringement claims based on foreign patents in this case would require us to define the legal boundaries of a property right granted by another sovereign and then determine whether there has been a trespass to that right.

168. Next the Court considered comity and relations between sovereigns. It said a number of things:

In this case, these considerations of comity do not support the district court’s exercise of supplemental jurisdiction over Voda’s foreign patent infringement claims. First, Voda has not identified any international duty, and we have found none, that would require our judicial system to adjudicate foreign patent infringement claims. ... Second, as discussed infra Part III.A.2.d, Voda has not shown that it would be more convenient

for our courts to assume the supplemental jurisdiction at issue. Third, with respect to the rights of our citizens, Voda has not shown that foreign courts will inadequately protect his foreign patent rights.

Fourth, assuming jurisdiction over Voda's foreign patent infringement claims could prejudice the rights of the foreign governments. None of the parties or amicus curiae have demonstrated that the British, Canadian, French, or German governments are willing to have our courts exercise jurisdiction over infringement claims based on their patents.

169. The Court went on to recognise the same distinction as was recognised in *Moçambique*:

In addition, the local action doctrine informs us that exercising supplemental jurisdiction in this case appears to violate our own norms of what sovereigns ordinarily expect. Courts derived the local action doctrine from the distinction between local and transitory actions beginning with *Livingston v. Jefferson*, written by Justice John Marshall riding Circuit. 15 F. Cas. 660 (C.C.D. Va. 1811). In *Livingston*, the plaintiff sued in a Virginia court for trespass to land located in Louisiana. The court dismissed the action, holding that it could be brought only in a Louisiana court. The Supreme Court subsequently held that "an action for trespass upon land, like an action to recover the title or the possession of the land itself, is a local action, and can only be brought within the State in which the land lies." *Ellenwood v. Marietta Chair Co.*, 158 U.S. 105, 107 (1895). The Court concluded that a federal court sitting in another state had no jurisdiction to hear the trespass claim. *Id.* In short, the local action doctrine served to prevent courts from adjudicating claims for trespass or title to real property.

170. It said the same applied to patents:

The territorial limits of the rights granted by patents are similar to those conferred by land grants. A patent right is limited by the metes and bounds of the jurisdictional territory that granted the right to exclude. [citations omitted] Therefore, a patent right to exclude only arises from the legal right granted and recognized by the sovereign within whose territory the right is located. It would be incongruent to allow the sovereign power of one to be infringed or limited by another sovereign's extension of its jurisdiction. Therefore, while our Patent Act declares that "patents shall have the attributes of personal property," 35 U.S.C. § 261, and not real property, the local action doctrine constitutes an informative doctrine counselling us that exercising supplemental jurisdiction over Voda's foreign patent claims could prejudice the rights of the foreign governments.

It is to be noted that the Court did not draw any distinction between existence of the right and its infringement, just as there was none between title and trespass to real property. We return to this point later.

171. The court concluded its considerations of comity saying this:

Accordingly, comity and the principle of avoiding unreasonable interference with the authority of other sovereigns dictate in this case that the district court decline the exercise of supplemental jurisdiction under § 1367(c).

172. Finally so far as is relevant here, the court considered an argument that consolidated multilateral patent infringement could be more efficient. It said:

While there may be merit in the argument, no international treaty establishes full faith and credit, nor have we found any analogous agreement that would require foreign countries to recognise or obligate the enforcement of our judgments regarding foreign patents.

The same goes for copyright infringement. If we have jurisdiction over infringements of copyright in country X, it does not follow that the courts of country X would recognise a judgment of our courts.

173. Mr Bloch also prayed in aid the recent American Law Institute “Principles Governing Jurisdiction, Choice of Law, and Judgments in Transnational Disputes” (2008) which suggests that a national court should have subject-matter jurisdiction over IP disputes in other countries. We acknowledge that is what it says, and it may, from an academic point of view, seem a good idea. For the reasons we give below we do not think it is a good idea in practice given the current, essentially national, nature of IP rights and their enforcement. As the court in *Voda* said, this is not a matter for the unilateral decision of the judges of a particular State.

Our decision on justiciability

174. That concludes our examination of the authorities. We have decided that there is no binding authority. So we must decide now whether English law regards claims for infringement of foreign, non-EU (or Lugano) copyrights as non-justiciable here. We so hold. We do so for the following reasons.

175. Firstly we think that the two-fold rule in *Moçambique* applies to such claims. *Moçambique* is not limited to claims about land, nor to claims about title or validity of the foreign right relied upon. Infringement of an IP right (especially copyright, which is largely unharmonised) is essentially a local matter involving local policies and local public interest. It is a matter for local judges.

176. Secondly enforcement may involve a clash of the IP policies of different countries. This case is a good example. The effect of the injunction granted by Mann J is that the defendant is restrained from doing acts in this country which by the laws of this country are lawful. This is because American law says they are not lawful.

177. Thirdly there is the point touched upon by Aldous J. Extra-territorial jurisdiction will involve (and does here) a restraint on actions in another country – an interference which prima facie a foreign judge should avoid. True it is that in this particular case the defendant has no intention of actually going to the US and doing acts there, but if the jurisdiction exists one could easily imagine such a case.
178. Fourthly if national courts of different countries all assume jurisdiction there is far too much room for forum-shopping, applications for stays on *forum non conveniens* grounds, applications for anti-suit injunctions and applications for declarations of non-infringement.
179. Fifthly it is quite clear that those concerned with international agreements about copyright have refrained from putting in place a regime for the international litigation of copyrights by the courts of a single state. As we have said we do not consider whether Art 5(2) of Berne precludes it. A system of mutual recognition of copyright jurisdiction and of copyright judgments could have been created but it has not – a point noted by the Court in *Voda*.
180. Sixthly all of the other considerations which we have mentioned and which led the Court of Appeals in *Voda* to decline jurisdiction over foreign patent claims apply equally to enforcement of a foreign copyright here.
181. Seventhly we are not impressed by the supposed difference in principle between questions of subsistence or registration of the right and its infringement. We say that for several reasons:
 - i) The supposed distinction is between a foreign court adjudicating on whether the grant of a right by a State was valid and adjudicating upon whether that right is infringed. The former is said to call in question a sovereign act, the latter not. But adjudicating on infringement will itself often require the foreign court to decide on the scope of the right granted by the foreign sovereign. In a patent case for example, the scope of the monopoly granted is often in question, quite apart from validity. Sometimes it is on the basis that if the patent is wide enough to catch the defendant it is invalid. Questioning the scope of a monopoly granted by a sovereign state in a foreign court therefore carries with it the foreign court ruling on the scope of a sovereign act, which is not different in kind from ruling on its validity.
 - ii) Moreover the suggested difference leads to commercial absurdities. Sometimes a particular consideration under a local law means there is no copyright. In other circumstances (perhaps even in the same country) the same consideration amounts to a defence. Mr Wilson gave us an example which he said was the position in the US (it does not actually matter whether he is right, that he could be is enough for present purposes). It relates to how US law regards functional articles. Because of the rule as to functionality, there cannot be copyright in a dress as such (i.e. no subsistence). But there can be copyright in a drawing of a dress (so subsistence). However because of a functionality defence, it is not an infringement to copy a dress.
 - iii) Nor does it make any real difference whether the right is one which requires registration (e.g. a registered trade mark, registered design) or one which does

not (e.g. a right to sue for passing off/unfair competition or some sort of unregistered design right). Commercially speaking they are all the same sort of right – a right to exclude others.

- iv) And in any event it is really rather artificial to say that questioning the validity of a registered right is somehow impugning the powers of a sovereign state. The grant of registered IP rights is governed by laws. All one is doing when challenging validity is to say that the right was wrongly granted according to law. Sovereignty in any realistic sense does not come into it.
- v) Moreover there are in principle two sorts of registered right – those granted after examination and those granted by mere registration. Once upon a time, for example, US copyrights required registration to be enforceable (they still do for works created in the US by US citizens, though accession to the Berne Convention means that is not so for foreigners). Is mere administrative process of registration a “sovereign act”?
- vi) Now of course a foreign court cannot make an order expunging a registered right from the register of a particular country. But that makes no real difference. For it is generally a defence to a claim for infringement that the right relied upon is invalid – whether any registration of the right is subsequently cancelled is essentially beside the point as far as a defendant is concerned.

182. Of course in fact the Regulation does draw a distinction in principle between questions of subsistence and enforcement. But it does so in the context of a fully balanced scheme and where a policy decision had to be made – could the courts of one Member State revoke a patent or similar right registered in another Member State? That was seen as going too far and so was not allowed at that stage of the development of a European cross-border jurisdiction.

183. We accordingly conclude that for sound policy reasons the supposed international jurisdiction over copyright infringement claims does not exist. If it is ever to be created it should be by Treaty with all the necessary rules about mutual recognition, *lis pendens* and so on. It is not for judges to arrogate to themselves such a jurisdiction.

The Judge’s decision: *forum conveniens*

184. Mann J thought there was international jurisdiction. He said:

[266] I am therefore prepared to conclude that an English court can, and in an appropriate case should, determine at least questions of infringement of foreign copyright cases. Those cases will include cases where subsistence is not in issue. I would not, however, hold that questions of subsistence can never be decided here. In land cases incidental questions of title can apparently now be considered. I can see no reason why the same should not apply to copyright.

185. He recognised that there may be cases where there were public policy reasons why they should not be heard here. He resolved that problem by saying it could all be dealt with by the application of *forum non conveniens*. With respect we do not agree. We think there are real problems if this doctrine comes into play. Take this case. Mr Ainsworth sold a small amount to the US. Should jurisdiction be assumed here because he did not go to the enormous expense of going to the US to defend himself there? We do not see why. Other cases could be much more complicated. Suppose for instance there are competing parallel cases in several countries. Who is to decide which cases proceeds and the others not (or do they run in parallel)? The problems are potentially much more complex than the sort of case involving a claim on a contract where the issue is whether the case should be held in one jurisdiction or another. In the case of the international enforcement of copyright many jurisdictions could be involved at the same time and there could be a mass of disputes in different courts about where a case should be heard.
186. Accordingly we allow Mr Ainsworth's appeal on this point.

Enforcement of the US judgment

187. The judge refused to enforce the US judgment for \$10 million "compensatory damages" which Lucasfilm had obtained against Mr Ainsworth and his company. If Lucasfilm had on this appeal continued to hold the English judgment which it obtained from the judge based directly on its US copyright, then it would not have sought to enforce its US judgment. In circumstances, however, where it is unable to enforce its US copyright directly in this country, it maintains its appeal under this heading and seeks to overturn the judge's decision that its US judgment cannot be recognised and enforced here.
188. Mr Bloch accepts that, in a situation where Mr Ainsworth neither appeared in the US proceedings nor took any other step to agree or submit to the US court's jurisdiction over him, nor had any other physical presence in the US, the issue for these purposes has to be whether he nevertheless had sufficient presence in the US to justify enforcement of the US judgment against him solely by reason of the fact that he had operated an internet website through which he advertised his helmets and other articles and thereby sold such articles to customers in the US. He also emailed existing customers directly.
189. For these purposes Mr Bloch also accepts that *Adams v. Cape Industries* [1990] Ch 43 (CA) is the leading authority and binds this court. There is no discussion of the internet in it, so that the question becomes whether the operation of an internet website by a person (or company) based in the UK amounts to presence in the US because sales have been effected through such a website to US customers. Mr Ainsworth also advertised directly in the US, and also relied on that below to constitute presence, but no longer does so.
190. Lucasfilm contended below that Mr Ainsworth's website had been particularly targeted or directed at US customers because the price of the helmets was quoted in US dollars even before it was expressed in sterling. No other currencies were quoted. Also, shipping charges for the US (and Canada) were specified before shipping charges to the UK and other parts of the world. However, the judge found that to say

that the website was directed to the US was to give such matters an unwarranted emphasis (at [213(i)]).

191. *Dicey, Morris & Collins, The Conflict of Laws*, 14th ed, 2006, at 14R-048 states the relevant principle as follows: that a court of a foreign country has jurisdiction to give a judgment capable of enforcement or recognition in this country “If the judgment debtor was, at the time the proceedings were instituted, present in the foreign country”. That rule is expressed in terms of presence rather than residence because of the views of this court in *Adams v. Cape Industries*. However, such presence, although it may be temporary, reflects some form of concept or metaphor of allegiance to the laws of the country concerned, and, in the case of a company as distinct from an individual, requires the establishment of a fixed place of business from which either the company defendant itself or its agent on its behalf carries on business (see at 530C/531B). Thus, Slade LJ giving the judgment of the court said this:

Nevertheless, while the use of the particular phrase “temporary allegiance” may be a misleading one in this context, we would, on the basis of the authorities referred to above, regard the source of the territorial jurisdiction of the court of a foreign country to summon a defendant to appear before it as being his obligation for the time being to abide by its laws and accept the jurisdiction of its courts while present in its territory. So long as he remains physically present in that country, he has the benefit of its laws, and must take the rough with the smooth, by accepting his amenability to the process of its courts. In the absence of authority compelling a contrary conclusion, we would conclude that the voluntary presence of an individual in a foreign country, whether permanent or temporary and whether or not accompanied by residence, is sufficient to give the courts of that country territorial jurisdiction over him under our rules of private international law (at 519A/B).

192. Therefore, does the use by Mr Ainsworth or his company of the website referred to above amount to such presence? It has long been recognised under our law that the mere selling of goods from country A into country B does not amount to the presence of the seller in country B. (That remains the case even though a contract in England to smuggle goods into another country by parties who know that to be contrary to the laws of that other country will fall foul of the English law of illegality: see *Foster v. Driscoll* [1929] 1 KB 470 (CA).) Otherwise nearly every exporter would have presence in many parts of the globe. Even a system of travelling salesmen will not suffice to render the exporter present where his salesmen travel (see *Littauer Glove v. F W Millington* (1928) 44 TLR 746, discussed and approved in *Adams v. Cape Industries* at 520/521). Similarly, in *Vogel v. R and A Kohnstamm* [1973] QB 133 an English seller made a contract with an Israeli buyer who had been introduced through an agent who had his own office in Israel, but the contract was made directly between the seller in England and the buyer in Israel, and the seller was held to have no presence in Israel (discussed and approved in *Adams v. Cape Industries* at 521/522). On this basis, it is not possible to say that advertising into a foreign country can render the advertiser present there, as the judge himself remarked. Indeed, no case has been cited to us where the targeting of sales in a foreign country by outside sales material has been held to be presence for these purposes.

193. It is true that the internet and its uses take us into a new world, and that its existence as it were in the ether (but based on servers physically located in the real world) has in general presented novel difficulties to the law and to regulators. It is also true that a website can be both wonderfully expressive and can also, subject to change and removal, be found repeatedly at its web address. The question, however, is whether for current purposes the internet or a website are fundamentally different from other matters which have enabled business persons to present themselves and their products where they are not themselves present: such as advertisements, salesmen, the post, telephone, telex and the like. We do not believe so, and Mr Bloch has been unable to show us any material from other jurisdictions, although he has searched for it, to suggest that a different answer is necessary. (Our own researches have led us to *Dow Jones v. Gutnick* [2003] HCA 56, 210 CLR 575, where the internet is discussed by the High Court of Australia in the different context of defamation. However, that Court was not there driven by the revolutionary omnipresence of the internet to a view of jurisdiction which was other than answerable to well-established principles.)
194. On the contrary, it might be said that the sheer omnipresence of the internet would suggest that it does not easily create, outside the jurisdiction or jurisdictions in which its website owners are on established principle already to be found, that presence, partaking in some sense of allegiance, which has been recognised by our jurisprudence and rules of private international law as a necessary ingredient in the enforceability of foreign judgments.
195. Therefore, we dismiss Lucasfilm's appeal on this ground.

The implied assignment of copyright

196. In circumstances where we have held that the helmet and other articles are not "sculpture", no rights of UK copyright arise. But there may be rights in the nature of copyright arising from Mr Ainsworth's work in other countries. So the question of what rights, if there had been any at all, would remain with Mr Ainsworth, and whether any such rights would be implicitly agreed to be assigned to Lucasfilm, is not necessarily academic. Mr Ainsworth has sought to raise this issue, which the judge decided against him, by renewing his application for permission to appeal on this ground.
197. Mr Bloch raised an initial point to the effect that permission to appeal should not be granted because Mr Ainsworth had not sought permission from the judge for this issue, at the same time as seeking (and obtaining) it on other issues. Mr Bloch submitted that this reticence was deliberately aimed at an advantage in costs of the trial, by seeking to portray this issue (on which Mr Ainsworth had lost) as one of little importance. We are unable to draw that inference, however. The judge made no order for costs, on the basis that, although Lucasfilm was the overall winner, the points on which it had lost (not other points on which it had won) were so substantial that the final order for costs should be that they should lie where they fall.
198. Having heard full argument on the point, we consider it right to grant permission to appeal.

199. Mr Wilson raises essentially two points. The first is that Mr Ainsworth had completed his design of the helmet before any question of any contract arose between him and Lucasfilm into which an implied term for the assignment of his copyright could have been inserted: therefore he retained what he had obtained for himself and nothing should be implied whereby he would be deprived of the fruits of his creativity. The second is that, if anything should be implied into the subsequent contract whereby he merely agreed to manufacture the 50 helmets which were initially bought from him, it should be nothing greater than would be necessary to enable Lucasfilm to use the helmets, buy more in case of need, or even merchandise the relevant articles: and that would have merely been an implied licence for such purposes on payment of a reasonable royalty.
200. The judge dealt with the underlying facts regarding the helmet at [36-39] and with the analysis of those facts at [182-189]. The essence of the matter was this. The real basis of the design was to be found in the paintings by Mr McQuarrie. Mr Lucas commissioned Mr Pemberton to produce the stormtrooper helmet shown there. Mr Pemberton sculpted a clay helmet, which he refined under Mr Lucas's supervision until the latter was satisfied with the result. Mr Lucas then asked Mr Pemberton to produce a quantity of the helmets, but Mr Pemberton did not have the expertise to manufacture them himself and so he turned to his close neighbour, Mr Ainsworth. Mr Pemberton provided Mr Ainsworth with the McQuarrie paintings and his own clay model. Mr Ainsworth was asked if he could produce a helmet in accordance with the paintings and the clay model, for use by a customer of Mr Pemberton as a prop in a dramatic production. Mr Ainsworth spent a couple of days producing a prototype. He worked from the material he had been given, but added some detail of his own. Mr Ainsworth exaggerated his input, but the fact of the matter was that his prototype was a substantial reproduction of the McQuarrie material. Further modifications were agreed in a collaborative process involving Mr Lucas's costume designer, Mr Mollo. Mr Lucas himself approved the final design and told Mr Pemberton that he needed 50 helmets. Mr Pemberton then agreed a price of £20 per helmet with Mr Ainsworth. More were commissioned later.
201. The other articles followed a similar pattern. The judge made detailed findings about the process in respect of all of them, but the appeal has been argued on the basis of the stormtrooper helmet. In sum, however, the judge found that in each case Mr Ainsworth had exaggerated his own input, but had substantially produced copies from materials which had been provided to him, while adding some detail of his own.
202. The judge then analysed this situation by finding that it fell within what Lightman J had said in *Robin Ray v. Classic FM* [1998] FSR 622, especially at 642 at para (7):
- (7) circumstances may exist when the necessity for an assignment of copyright may be established...these circumstances are, however, only likely to arise if the client needs in addition to the right to use the copyright works the right to exclude the contractor from using the work and the ability to enforce the copyright against third parties. Examples of when this situation may arise include: (a) where the purpose in commissioning the work is for the client to multiply and sell copies on the market for which the work was created free from the sale of copies in competition with the client by the contractor or third parties; (b) where the

contractor creates a work which is derivative from a pre-existing work of the client, *e.g.* when a draughtsman is engaged to turn designs of an article in sketch form by the client into formal manufacturing drawings, and the draughtsman could not use the drawings himself without infringing the underlying rights of the client; (c) where the contractor is engaged as part of a team with employees of the client to produce a composite or joint work and he is unable, or cannot have been intended to be able, to exploit for his own benefit the joint work or indeed any distinct contribution of his own created in the course of his engagement...In each case it is necessary to consider the price paid, the impact on the contractor of assignment of copyright and whether it can sensibly have been intended that the contractor can retain any copyright as a separate item of property.

203. In *Griggs Group v. Evans* [2005] EWCA Civ 11 Lightman J's analysis was set out in full and approved by this court. In that case the trial judge had found that where a free-lance designer had been commissioned to create a logo for a client, the designer would face an uphill task, and had in fact failed, to persuade him that he was free to assign the logo to a competitor. It would be obvious; it would go without saying, that the client would need some right to prevent others from reproducing the logo. This court agreed, and also agreed that a licence from designer to client, even an exclusive licence, was not sufficient (at [17-18]).

204. With the aid of these authorities, Mann J analysed the matter as follows:

[185]...In the initial stages Mr Ainsworth did not know precisely for what he was being asked to provide his prototype, but there came a time when he did. I do not consider that, at the time, the prospect of exploitation via future licensing was in the minds of both parties (and particularly Mr Ainsworth), because no-one anticipated the success of the film and licensing facilities were not then what they have since become. However, Mr Ainsworth was working to render into 3D form the copyright designs of others. He could not himself make further copies without infringing that copyright. If he had produced the drawing exactly, then he would not have produced an original work, and could not have claimed copyright. He did not do that, and contributed his own bits and pieces, but in doing so he was getting as close as he conveniently could, bearing in mind technical requirements, to the client's design. He must have known that the client would expect full exploitation rights in the future for the purposes of its dramatic offering and cannot realistically have expected to have retained any for himself. If the officious bystander had asked the required question (suggesting that Lucas would have all the rights and that Mr Ainsworth would not be entitled to exploit them without Lucas's licence) then the required testy suppression would have been forthcoming. I think that this is a classic case for saying that there is an implication that the commissioner would have the copyright in the helmet (if any).

205. The judge then extended that analysis to all the other articles: "he was still working to commission, producing things for which the client had provided clear specifications, and it was implicit in the relationship that he would not retain copyright" (at [187]). Finally, the judge dealt separately with the submission that an implied licence from

Mr Ainsworth to Lucas would have sufficed (at [189]). But he rejected that possibility:

“it cannot have been the intention of either party that there could be parallel exploitation of the props so that, for example, Mr Ainsworth could make more and sell them to other film-makers. The only thing that makes sense is an obligation to assign copyright.”

As for the submission that Mr Ainsworth had not been paid enough to require him to assign copyright, the judge rejected that too. Mr Ainsworth was paid a fee, strictly speaking a series of fees, “which the parties agreed was right for the job”. In the end Mr Ainsworth made some £30,000 out of his Star Wars activities.

206. We find this analysis to be ultimately cogent. There is no sign in the judge’s reasoning of the argument put in the forefront of Mr Wilson’s submissions on appeal, namely that initially there had been no contract between the parties and Mr Ainsworth had done his two days’ design work on the Stormtrooper helmet, and thus had earned his copyright interest, at a time when he was simply working “on spec”. In the circumstances, Mr Wilson suggested, it was too late for Lucasfilm to expect such copyright interests to be assigned at the stage of agreeing a merely manufacturing price. Mr Bloch accepted the factual basis of that submission. Nevertheless, and however the matter is put, we consider that it was always inherent in the relationship that if it proceeded to a contract, it would be on terms that would reward Mr Ainsworth for his preliminary work but would confer the primary copyright interests on the commissioning party.
207. Thus we agree with the judge that the situation in this case was in line with the circumstances discussed by Lightman J and ruled on by this court in *Griggs*. Indeed it falls within each of the circumstances (a), (b) and (c) discussed by Lightman J in his para (7) and may thus be said to be an *a fortiori* case. It makes no sense to consider that copyright interests should be divided between “team Lucas”, if we can express it that way, and Mr Ainsworth, who in truth became part of the team when he accepted the responsibility of working on the designs provided to him in order to manufacture the finished article. That would only have been an uncommercial recipe for mutually inconsistent rights: Lucasfilm could not order more props without running the risk that Mr Ainsworth would charge a blackmailing price; it could not exploit any licensing opportunities without similar dangers; and Mr Ainsworth of course could do nothing with any copyright interests that might have remained with him without the complete co-operation of Lucasfilm.
208. The fact that the parties may not have anticipated the success of the film is quite beside the point. The question, which has to be answered objectively and does not depend in any way on what might in fact have gone through the minds of particular parties, is what the parties would have agreed if the question of licensing opportunities had been raised. We agree that in those circumstances, it would never have occurred to anyone to say that Mr Ainsworth should have retained any (necessarily limited) copyright interests. We agree that an obligation to assign was necessarily to be implied. It was also reasonable, and there is nothing in the commercial arrangements then made, e.g. in the prices agreed, to suggest that it was unreasonable.

Conclusion

209. In sum, Lucasfilm's appeal fails. There was no copyright in any sculpture. Nor could it enforce its US judgment. Mr Ainsworth's cross-appeal, on the other hand, partly succeeds and partly fails. It succeeds to the extent that we reject the judge's direct enforcement of US copyright. In the circumstances, there is no financial remedy for Lucasfilm to compensate it for the modicum of selling which Mr Ainsworth has managed to achieve into the US: but Mr Ainsworth is aware that were he to seek any further selling into the US, he would be in breach of its copyright laws.