

**Digitisation and Conservation: Overview of Copyright and Moral Rights in UK
Law**

In the UK moral rights are a statutory right conferred by the 1988 Act. Some moral rights can be waived and some can only be claimed where they have also been asserted. They basically comprise:

- Right of attribution (paternity): to be identified as the author of the work when a work is copied or communicated.
- Right to object to false attribution (being named in respect of a work not created by the author)
- The right to control the form of the work (right of integrity/to object to derogatory treatment)

These constitute a limited set of rights to which a number of conditions and exceptions apply, weakening their force. Other moral rights regimes, such as France, may also grant the right to publish or divulge work, to correct a work, to object to the alteration or destruction of the original of a work, to object to excessive criticism of a work and to withdraw a work from circulation on the ground that the author is no longer happy with it (whether that is an artistic view or on the basis the person who holds copyright has not exploited the rights).

Duration of moral rights in the UK is generally for the duration of copyright though, in the case of the right to object to false attribution, this is limited to twenty years after the author's death. The integrity and paternity rights last for seventy years post mortem.

The integrity right is the key focus for this overview. For the right of integrity to be infringed there has to be 'derogatory treatment' of the work.

'Treatment' means any 'addition to, deletion from, alteration to or adaptation' of the work. The textboo-/77G B9:/-q7/G B9:/

Moral rights