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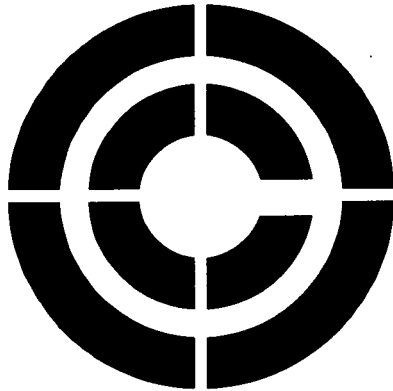
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**COPYRIGHT TRADITION IN LATIN AMERICA: FROM  
INDEPENDENCE TO INTERNATIONALIZATION**

*by* ALBERTO J. CERDA SILVA\*

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*I. INTRODUCTION*

Scholarship on the history of copyright in Latin America is extremely limited, particularly with regard to its development during the nineteenth century.<sup>1</sup> Although in recent years a new generation of scholars has tried to fill that gap, there is still widespread ignorance on the subject, which has reinforced different misconceptions around the evolution of copyright in the region. Some scholars have assumed that Latin American copyright lacks any peculiarity and distinctiveness from the European system. This view has been criticized as “the illusion of a harmonized evolution of the copyright system throughout the countries,”<sup>2</sup> that denies local identity, ex-

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<sup>1</sup> EUGENIA ROLDÁN VERA, *THE BRITISH BOOK TRADE AND SPANISH AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE: EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSMISSION IN TRANSCONTINENTAL PERSPECTIVE*, at ix (2003) (lamenting the still-precarious development of history of copyright in nineteenth century Latin America).

<sup>2</sup> JHONNY ANTONIO PABÓN CADAVID, *DE LOS PRIVILEGIOS A LA PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL: LA PROTECCIÓN EN COLOMBIA A LAS OBRAS LITERARIAS, ARTÍSTICAS Y CIENTÍFICAS EN EL SIGLO XIX*, at 23 (2010); Jhonny Antonio Pabón Cadavid, *Aproximación a la Historia del Derecho de Autor*: