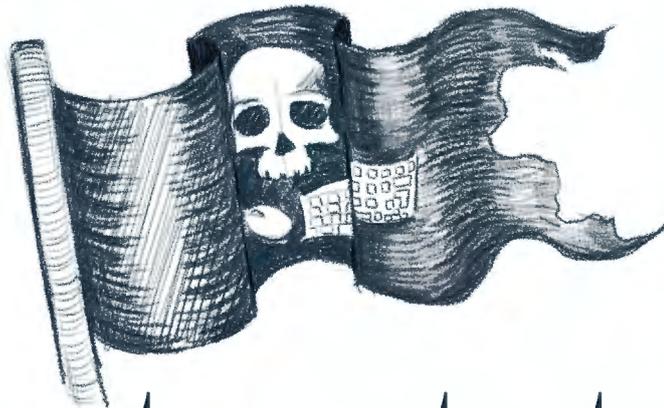


Project created for the class:
Visual Thinking and Composition, Fall 2020
Tilburg University, Department of Communication and Cognition
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Pirate-states:

Imagining the geography of media piracy

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Original Paper:
Pirate-states: Imagining the geography of media piracy

McDonald, P. (2020). Pirate-states: Imagining the geography of media piracy.
International Journal of Cultural Studies. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1367877919850828>

Somewhere at a beach



Let's invite everyone and watch a movie tonight.

Great idea, I pirated a good one recently...

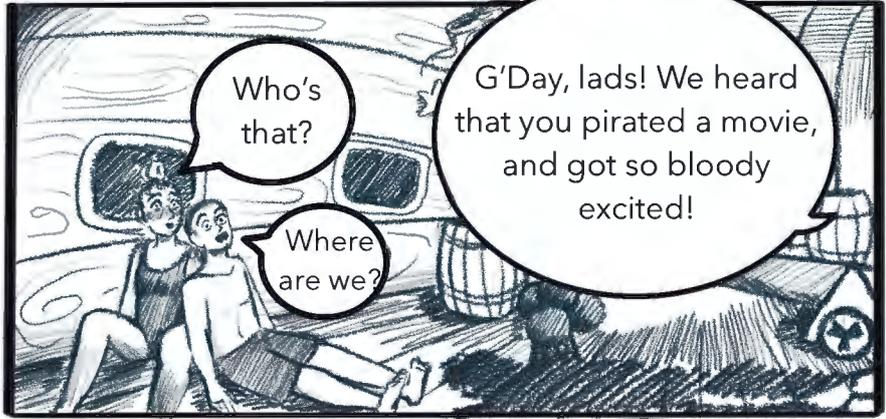
Pirated? Is it such a great ideaAAAAA!





Under the sea...

So you brought these media pirates here for me, love?



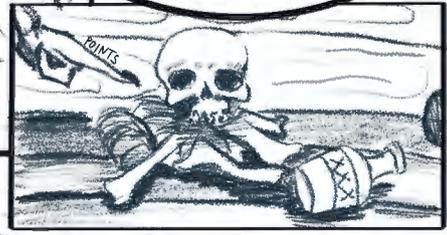
Who's that?

Where are we?

G'Day, lads! We heard that you pirated a movie, and got so bloody excited!



Actually, we wanted to tell you a bit about media piracy and to discourage that behaviour. Cause, look where he is, how he ended up... just a pile of bones and a ghost.



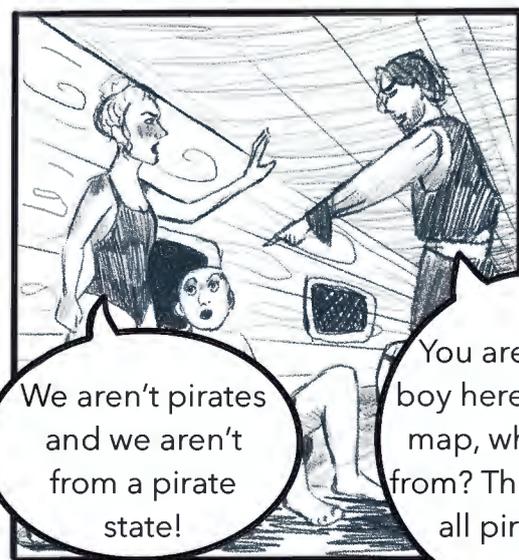
We heard that you want to become proper pirate-consumers, infringing IP regimes for personal gain or pleasure. So do you know any pirate entrepreneurs, those pirate moguls?



You know, a country that becomes represented in an anti-piracy discourse as a hotspot for IP* infringement.

*Intellectual property.

Don't listen to her, she's mad, that mermaid! Anyways, are you from a pirate-state?



We aren't pirates and we aren't from a pirate state!

You aren't, but the boy here! Look at the map, where are you from? This map shows all pirate states.





ARGH! Doesn't matter! Media piracy is a 'porous' activity, it spreads without any respect for borders.



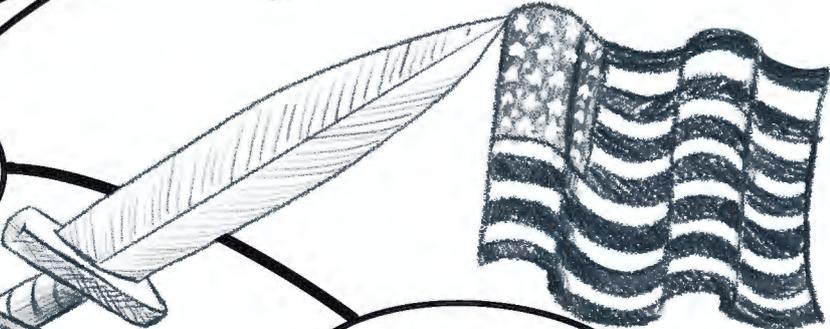
But, how does the piracy happen then?



The US secured copyright at home, boosting their market, but they didn't care about other countries' media. So, the US created a double-ended sword.



...while the rest of the world doesn't protect the US media.



Their media is protected on their market...



And becoming a piracy-state is an iterative process that has many different reasons for it...

Poverty

Weak copyright control

Not enough legal shops

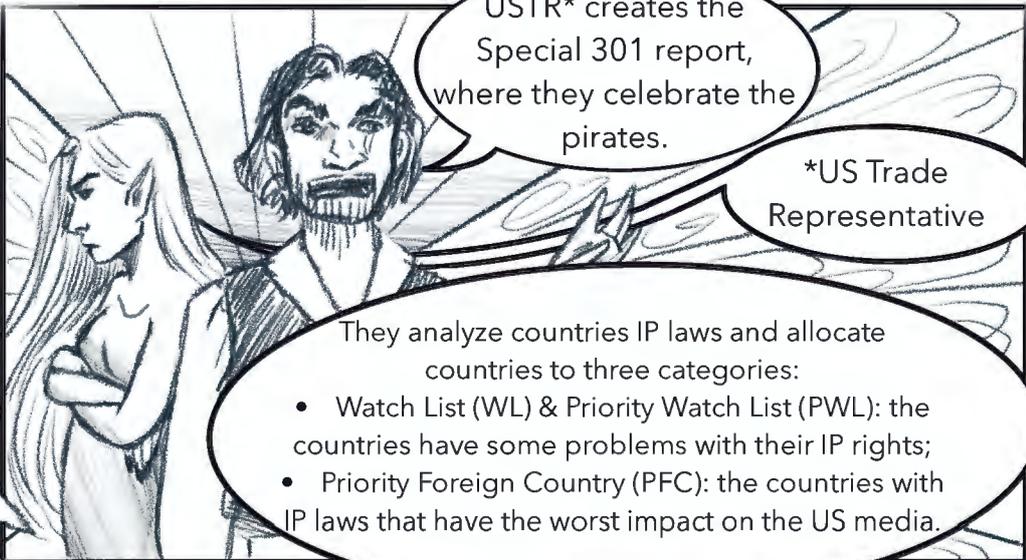
Constant demand



And how are pirate-states uncovered?



That's the best part!



USTR* creates the Special 301 report, where they celebrate the pirates.

*US Trade Representative

They analyze countries IP laws and allocate countries to three categories:

- Watch List (WL) & Priority Watch List (PWL): the countries have some problems with their IP rights;
- Priority Foreign Country (PFC): the countries with IP laws that have the worst impact on the US media.



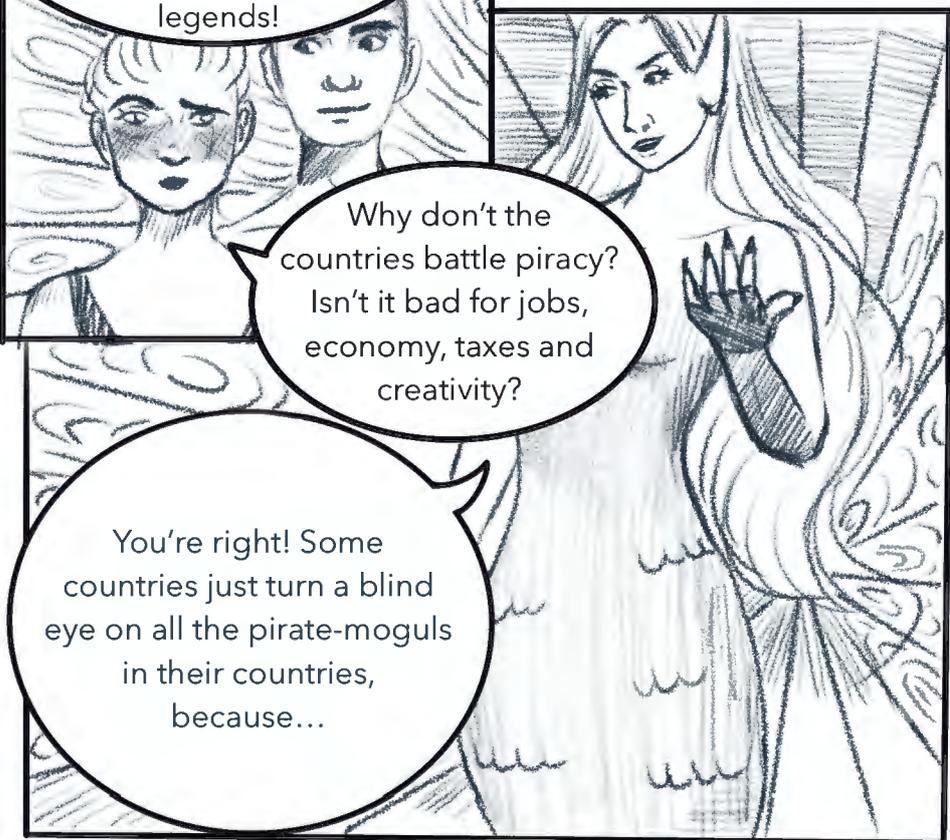
That's how the map is created.



Look! The Special 301 works on 2 levels: calling out pirate-states and creating a world map of IP infringement.



They separate the 'West' and the rest, the developed countries and other countries. These pirate-states create safe haven for online piracy. Living legends!



Why don't the countries battle piracy? Isn't it bad for jobs, economy, taxes and creativity?

You're right! Some countries just turn a blind eye on all the pirate-moguls in their countries, because...



They're pirates themselves, jolly crowd!

Really?!





Which pirate-state are you talking about?

Yes, some use pirated copies of software in the companies. But some countries try to battle piracy...

While some become a home for several BitTorrent sites and don't prevent camcoding or even unauthorized film screenings. Even after they were twice labelled as PFC!

Ukraine, in 1998 it entered the WL, while in 2001 and 2013 it was indeed labelled PFC. But, what he isn't saying, is that now Ukraine is trying to do better.

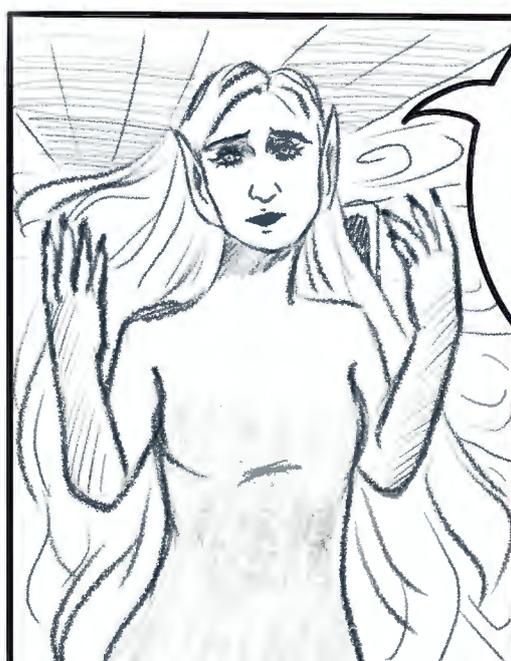


Doesn't matter! They are still pirates, these kids are pirates and I'm a pirate! The special 301 can't change that!

Of course, they can, but not with the means you're used to! They don't threaten you with scary posters! Say it, what do they do?

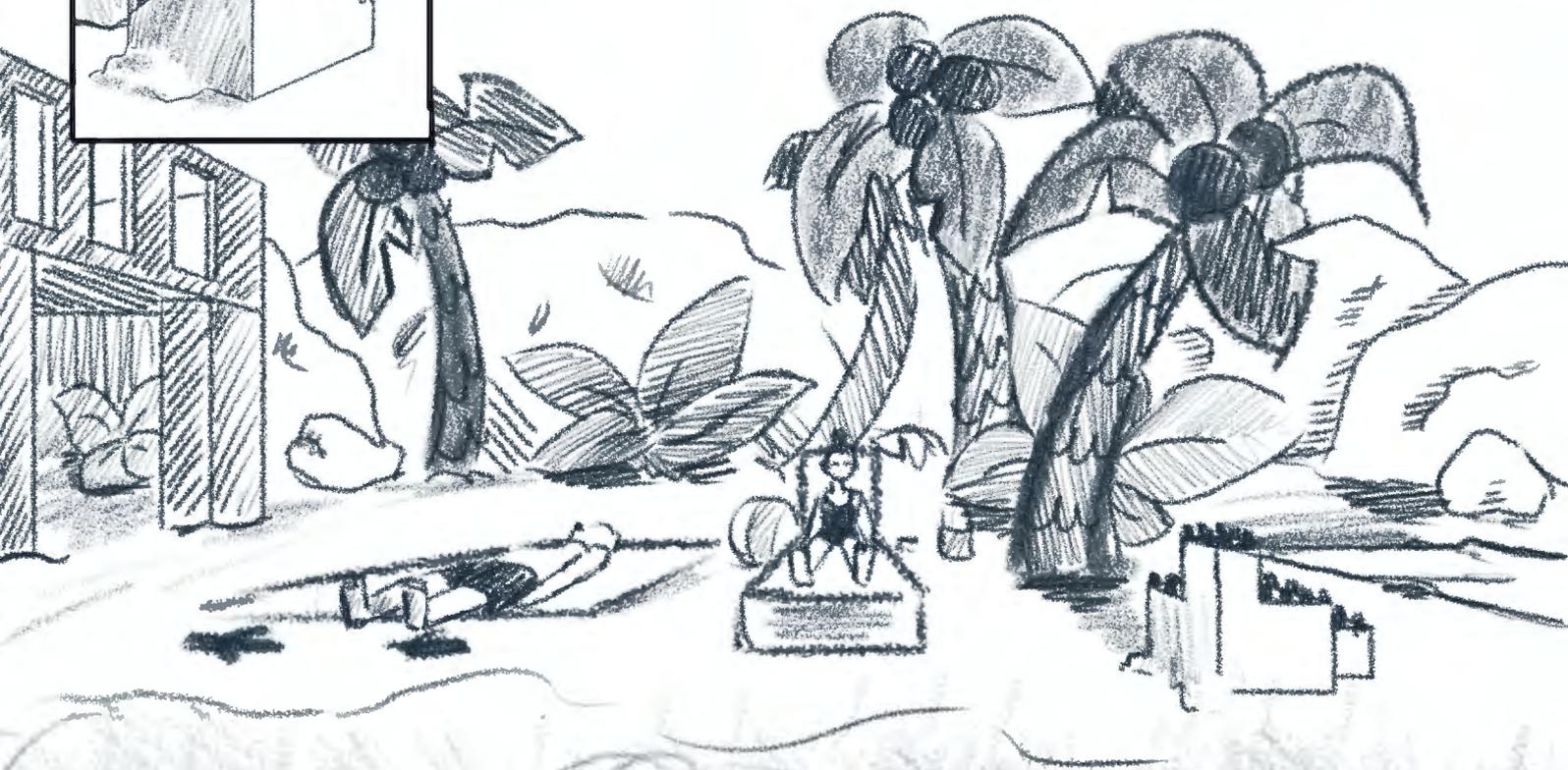


They are calling for our morals!



Exactly, because old piracy is long gone! And you wouldn't steal a car? Or a handbag? Why would you then steal someone's IP?

Somewhere at the beach



I will never pirate again!



I won't ever pirate!

Hey, where are my sunglasses?

And where is our mattress?

The End 6