Name: Alan Olsen

Class of works: I am writing in support of Class #2 (DVD Region Coding): Audiovisual works stored on Digital Versatile Disks ("DVDs") that are not available in Region 1 DVD format and access to which is prevented by technological measures.

Summary:

Disc name: DVD Titles: TV series: "Robin of Sherwood" Films: "The African Queen"; "The Commitments"; "The Mission"; "Paris, Texas"; "Wild At Heart"

This is one of many old movies in Russia that are considered Public Domain legally, but released on DVDs coded for the Russian zone. This was the only DVD I ever purchased in Russia because after I found out about the problems associated with playing them, I decided not to waste my money on any more. In the US I have 2 DVD players, both in my computer, both Lite-On 16X DVD drive, model number LTD-163, running on Windows 2000 Professional. Lite-On DVDs come with a feature that allows you to change the zone on the drive 5 times - which means that I can switch to Russia's zone, play a Russian DVD, and then switch back to the US zone. But then I have lost 2 chances to change the zone, and have 3 left. After the zone is changed 5 times the DVD player is permanently configured for that zone, thus not allowing me to watch the movie I legally bought from Russia. The only way to reset it is to send it back to the manufacturer. I solved the problem by buying a second DVD Player (\$199) and configuring it for Russia's zone. This causes extra unjustified expense for people like me whose use is legitimate.