Controlling access to content: regulating conditional access in digital broadcasting
Helberger, N.

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Finally an author! To tell the truth, I have waited a long time for this day. But little did I know that my first book would not be a riveting adventure about smugglers in the Scottish Highlands, a breathtaking travel book or a mind-boggling science fiction story. It is a doctoral thesis in law.

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who supported me with their comments, expertise and ideas. First of all, my thanks go to Professor Egbert Dommering and Professor Nico van Eijk, my promoters, who accompanied me during this study with their excellence, inspiration and advice. I would also like to thank Professor Bernt Hugenholtz, Professor Pierre Larouche, Dr Wolfgang Schulz, Dr Aernout Nieuwenhuis, Professor Tom Gibbons, Professor Pamela Samuelson, Dr Lucie Guibault, Dr Wouter Hins, Professor Jules Theuwes, Dr Peggy Valcke and, last but definitely not least, Sjoerd van Geffen. The conversations and discussions with these scholars have convinced me that living in an Information Society that propagates life-long learning is a privilege and a challenge I cherish.

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One thing I learned from the years of research I did for this thesis, is that I have some astonishingly good and enduring friends. They accompanied me patiently, sometimes even stoically, through all the ups and downs. They did not complain about unreturned phone calls, and even accepted the eccentricities of someone who is so deeply immersed in a subject. First of all I must thank my brother Dominik. Special thanks also go to Annette, Anke, Arno, Bart, Claudia, Claudine, Christoph, Dorothee, Ellen, Eva, Jane, Maren, Martine, Paelvi, Stuart and Tanja, to name those whose patience I probably challenged most.

The place of honour is reserved for my parents. I would like to tell them how grateful I am and how proud I am of them. This book may not make for a great read in front of the fireplace on long winter evenings, but it is a book, and I hope it makes my parents a bit proud of me, too. This place is also reserved for Remko. If there is a man with whom one can conquer unknown territory, get stuck somewhere at the second stop of a climb, discuss literature, politics and nonsense alike, cope with snow storms as well as a good bottle of wine, he is the man!