

## ABSTRACT

The issue of covering a musical work by altering the language of its lyrics raises legal questions related to copyright infringement. This research focuses on copyright regulations in Indonesia, Vietnam, and Thailand, analyzing how each country regulates whether the practice of covering songs with altered lyrics constitutes a copyright violation. Using a normative or library legal research method, the analysis encompasses a review of literature such as statutory regulations, legal theories, and relevant research to clarify the definitions and legal boundaries of “alteration” and “translation” in the context of musical works. The study also examines both preventive and repressive enforcement processes, including licensing requirements, royalty policies, legal sanctions, and the role of authorities in addressing copyright infringements. The findings reveal the complexity of balancing the public’s freedom of expression and creativity through song covers with the protection of original works held by copyright holders, particularly in cases involving lyric alterations that may or may not constitute copyright infringement. The effectiveness of enforcement efforts is influenced by legal interpretations and the capacity of institutions involved in protecting copyright holders whose exclusive rights to their musical works are infringed by unauthorized lyric-altered covers.

**Keywords:** Copyright, Lyric-Altered Song Covers