



European IP Helpdesk

Stay ahead of the innovation game.

Unitary Patent

European IP Helpdesk 25.05.2026





European IP Helpdesk

- Service initiative of the European Commission
- Addressing **current and potential beneficiaries of EU-funded projects, researchers and EU SMEs**
- Free-of-charge first-line support on intellectual property (IP)
- Hands-on IP and innovation management support
- International pool of IP experts from various thematic fields
- Unique cooperation scheme with the Enterprise Europe Network: 43 ambassadors from 26 EU countries



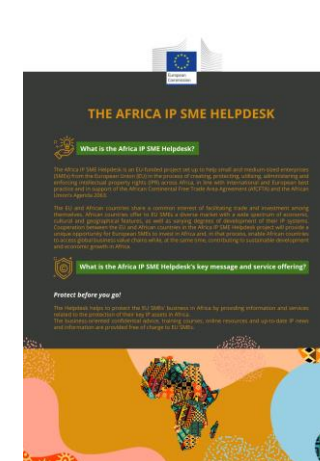
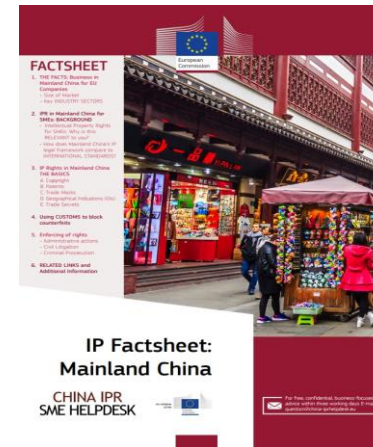
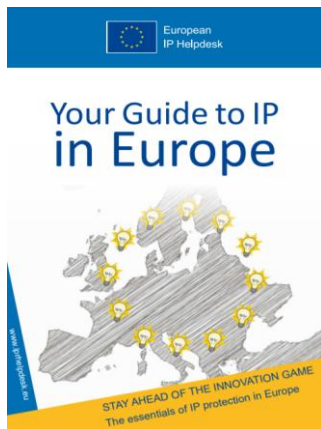


The EC IP Helpdesks





EC IP (SME) Helpdesk Hub – Gateway to Information



- E-learning modules & more
- Guides / Topic, country, sector-specific factsheets / Infographics
- Case studies



Intellectual Property & Quantum: Interview Series with Robert Harrison

[Link](#)





Ambassador Scheme

- **Cooperation scheme** with the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN): 43 ambassadors – 26 countries
- **Building IP capacities** among European SMEs
- **Overcoming language barriers**
- Making the topic **more accessible**
- Exchange and feedback from ambassadors on **needs of SMEs**
- Local awareness and **training events**





Upcoming events



25
MAY
2026

Training and workshops
[EU - Webinar : Unitary Patent](#)

📺 Live streaming available

05
JUN
2026

Training and workshops
[EU - Webinar: Finding Patents](#)

📺 Live streaming available

17
JUN
2026

Training and workshops
[EU - Webinar: Maximizing the Impact of Horizon project results](#)

📺 Live streaming available

23
JUN
2026

Training and workshops
[EU - Webinar AI Act](#)

📺 Live streaming available

28
MAY
2026

Training and workshops
[EU - Webinar: Patents and Trade Secrets](#)

📺 Live streaming available

09
JUN
2026

Training and workshops
[EU - Webinar: Addressing IP impact and innovation in EU projects](#)

📺 Live streaming available

18
JUN
2026

Training and workshops
[EPO Training Coop: From Lab to Market - Building Strategic Options with IP](#)

📍 Online only

📺 Live streaming available

24
JUN
2026

Training and workshops
[Protect your IP in health technology: Focus on robotics and health appliances](#)

📺 Live streaming available



Thank you!

- www.ec.europa.eu/ip-helpdesk
- helpline@iprhelphdesk.eu
- training@iprhelphdesk.eu
- Twitter [@iprhelphdesk](https://twitter.com/iprhelphdesk)
- LinkedIn [/european-ipr-helpdesk](https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-ipr-helpdesk)





- **The narrative is dynamic with changes happening all the time so this will be a personal snapshot whilst attempting to be as factually correct as possible.**
- **The content is derived from EPO and other sources**
- **This is not an official EPO presentation.**
- **Any errors –my own**





An Introduction and update to the Unitary Patent System.

For more than 50 years the European Institutions have tried to implement a single patent system to support the single European Economy. Projects leading to today's situation have been called at different times; the "European Union Patent", "The EU Patent", "Community Patent" "EC Patent" or "COMPAT".

The Unitary Patent is none of those things and is strictly the "European Patent With Unitary Effect".



Roadmap

EPO Member states

Routes to patents

Routes to European Patents

European Patent Grant Procedure

Unitary Patent Package

Unitary Patent Information

Unified Patent Court



Roadmap

EPO Member states

Routes to patents

Routes to European Patents

European Patent Grant Procedure

Unitary Patent Package

Unitary Patent Information

Unified Patent Court



Map showing the potential geographic coverage of European patents

■ Member states (39)

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| - Albania | - Hungary | - Norway |
| - Austria | - Iceland | - Poland |
| - Belgium | - Ireland | - Portugal |
| - Bulgaria | - Italy | - Romania |
| - Croatia | - Latvia | - San Marino |
| - Cyprus | - Liechtenstein | - Serbia |
| - Czech Republic | - Lithuania | - Slovakia |
| - Denmark | - Luxembourg | - Slovenia |
| - Estonia | - Malta | - Spain |
| - Finland | - Monaco | - Sweden |
| - France | - Montenegro | - Switzerland |
| - Germany | - Netherlands | - Türkiye |
| - Greece | - North Macedonia | - United Kingdom |

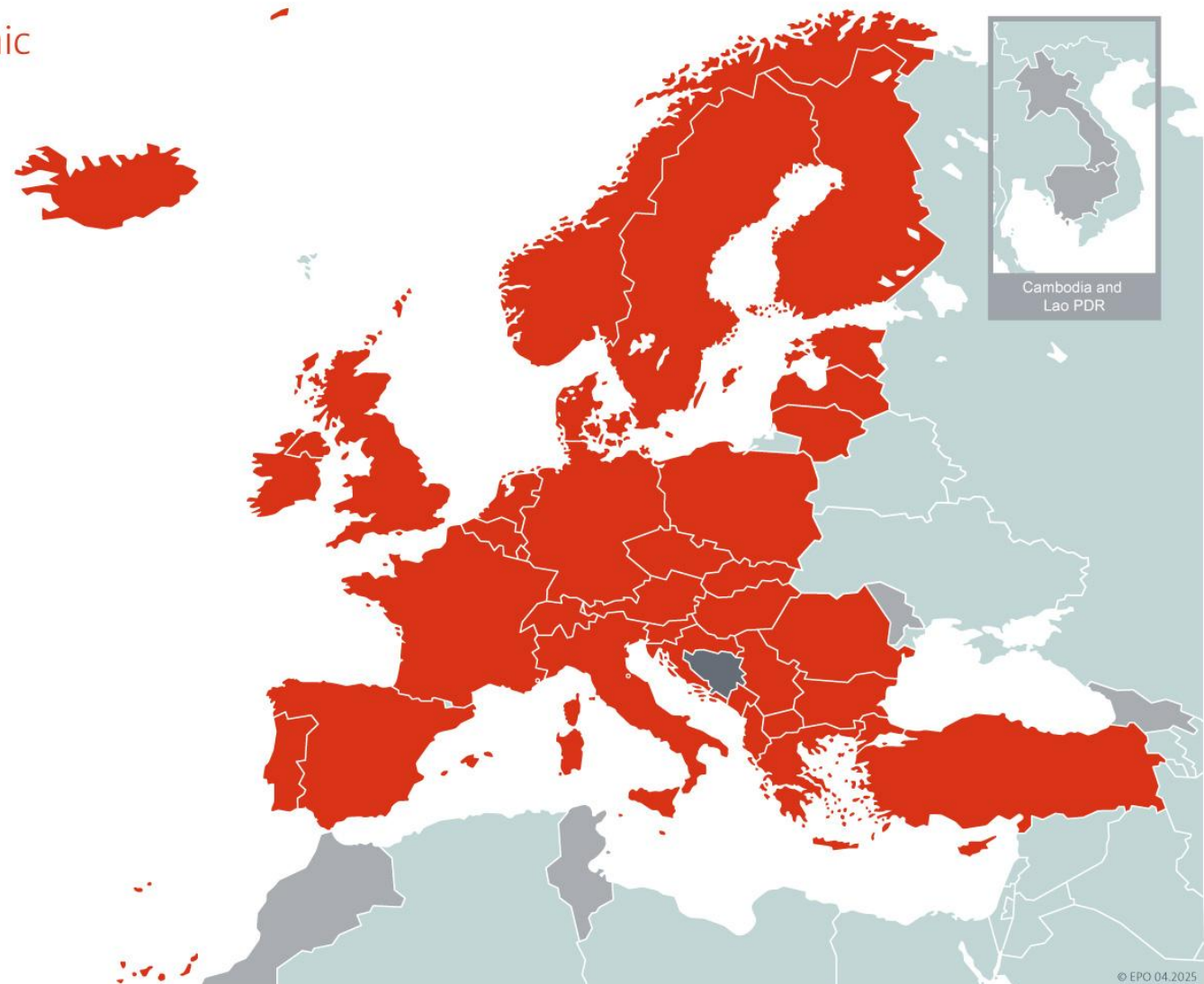
■ Extension state (1)

- Bosnia and Herzegovina

■ Validation states (6)

Agreement in force

- Cambodia
- Georgia
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Republic of Moldova
- Morocco
- Tunisia





Roadmap

EPO Member states

Routes to patents

Routes to European Patents

European Patent Grant Procedure

Unitary Patent Package

Unitary Patent Information

Unified Patent Court



THREE POSSIBLE ROUTES TO FILE A PATENT

Route	National	European	International
Via	National offices	European Patent Office or national offices	International Bureau or European Patent Office or national offices
Valid in	One country	Up to 39 countries + one extension state + five validation states •	Up to 157 countries
In brief	Applications are filed with the relevant national office and are valid for that state only	One single application in DE/EN/FR for all EPC contracting states. Same legal effects as national patents	An international patent procedure, not an international patent. After the international phase, applicants can choose to enter the national/regional phase in various states



Roadmap

EPO Member states

Routes to patents

Routes to European Patents

European Patent Grant Procedure

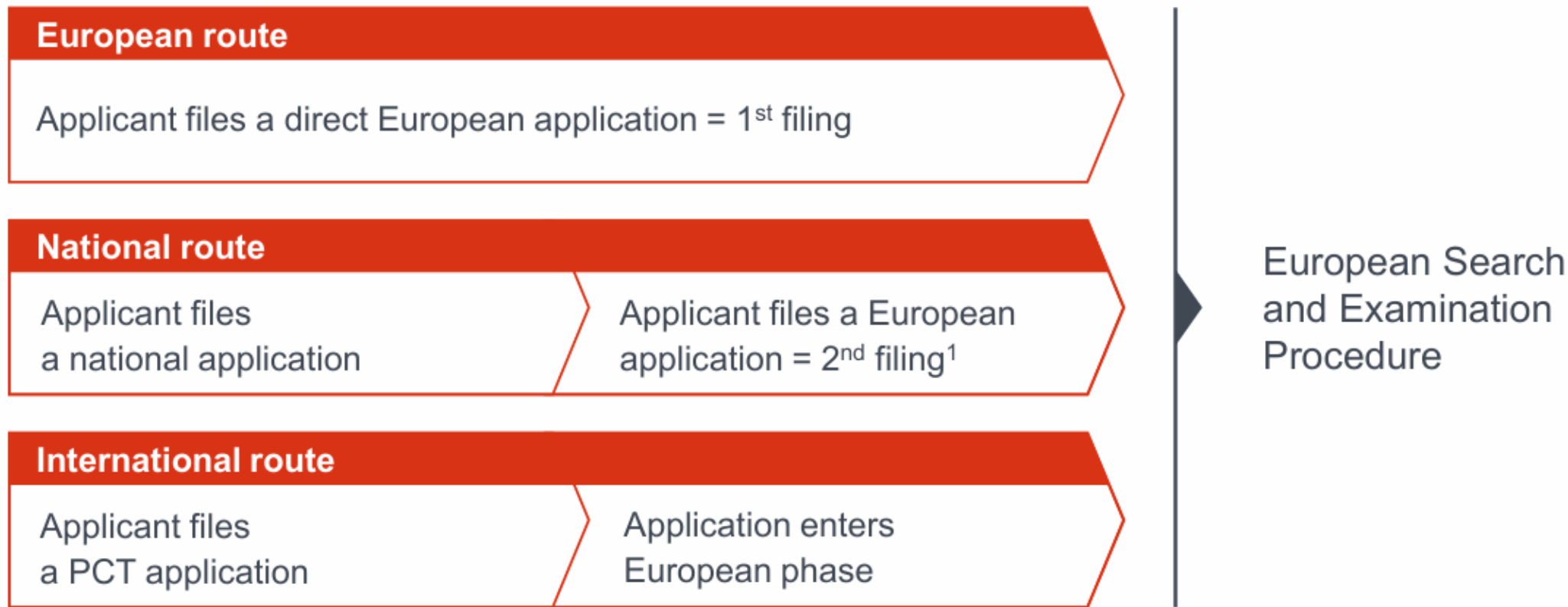
Unitary Patent Package

Unitary Patent Information

Unified Patent Court



THREE WAYS TO START THE EUROPEAN PROCEDURE





Roadmap

EPO Member states

Routes to patents

Routes to European Patents

European Patent Grant Procedure

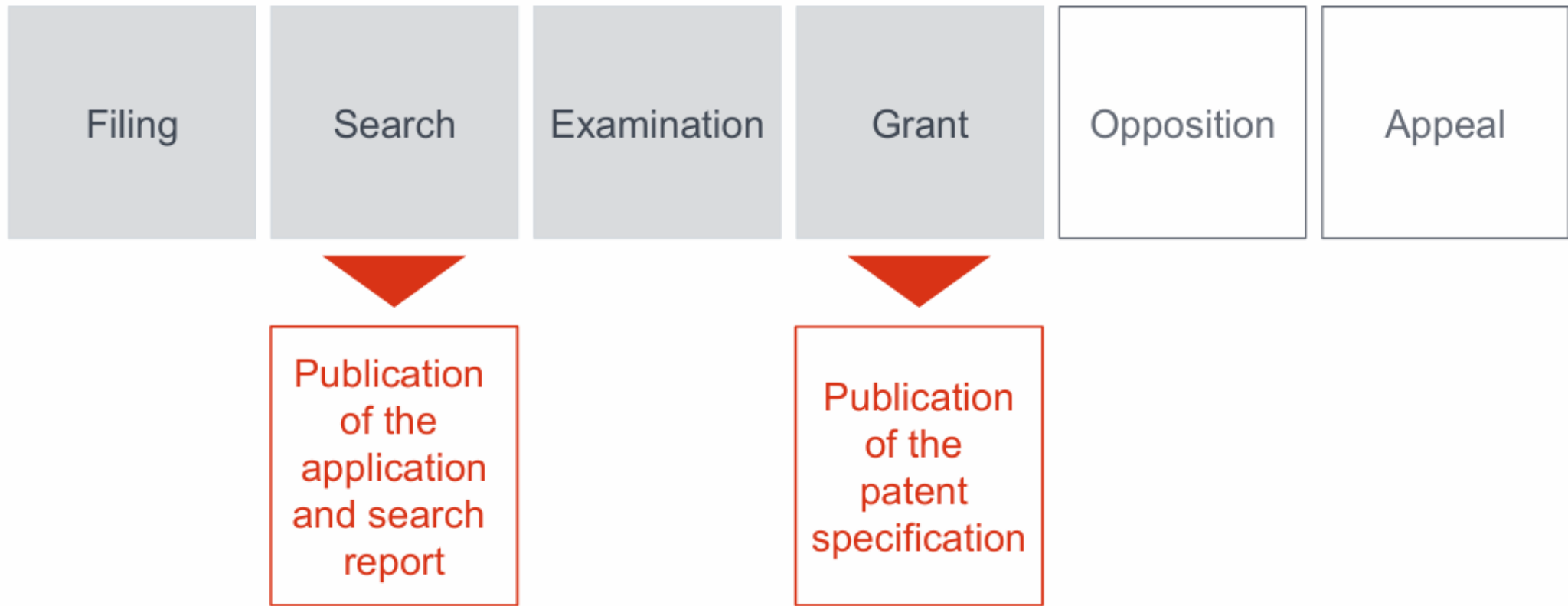
Unitary Patent Package

Unitary Patent Information

Unified Patent Court

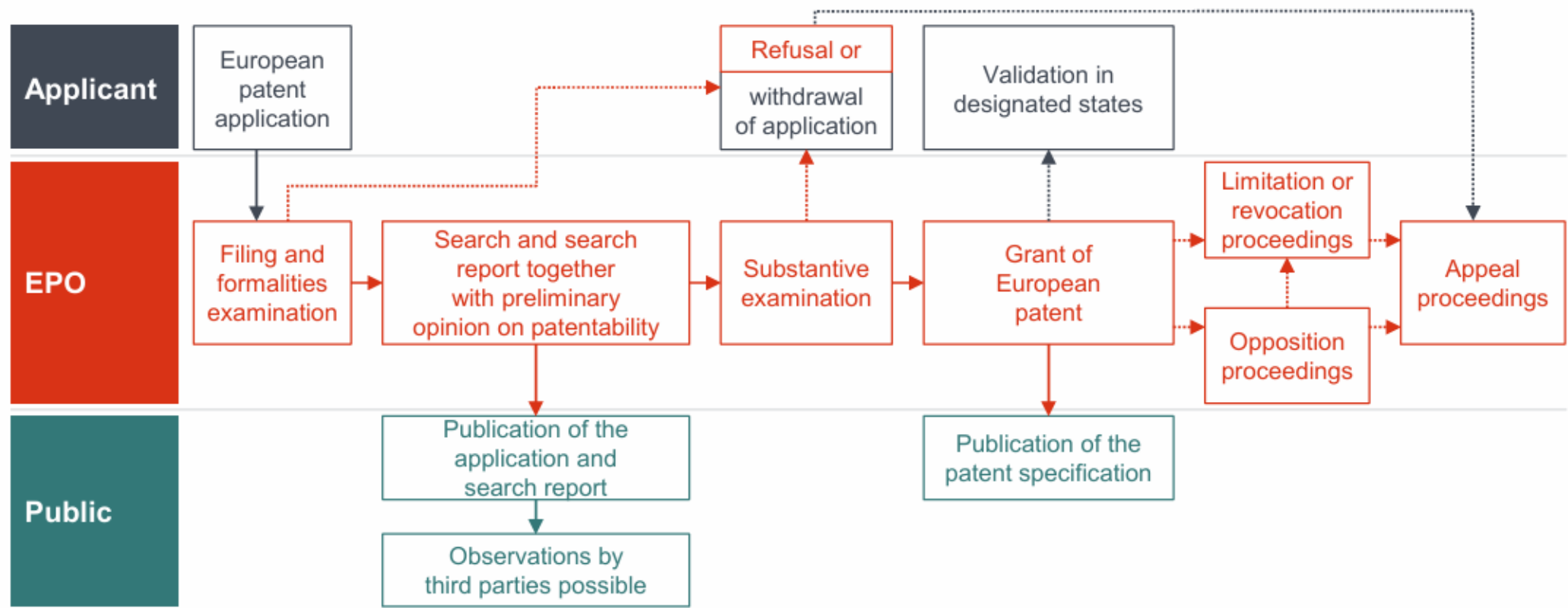


BASIC STEPS IN THE EUROPEAN GRANT PROCEDURE





THE EUROPEAN GRANT PROCEDURE IN MORE DETAIL





Roadmap

EPO Member states

Routes to patents

Routes to European Patents

European Patent Grant Procedure

Unitary Patent Package

Unitary Patent Information

Unified Patent Court



THE UNITARY PATENT PACKAGE





WHAT IS THE UNITARY PATENT SYSTEM?

UNITARY PATENT

- Two EU Regulations
 - one creating the Unitary Patent and
 - one relating to the translation arrangements



UNIFIED PATENT COURT

- Agreement on a Unified Patent Court – an international agreement setting up the Court

The Unitary Patent system entered into operation on 1 June 2023

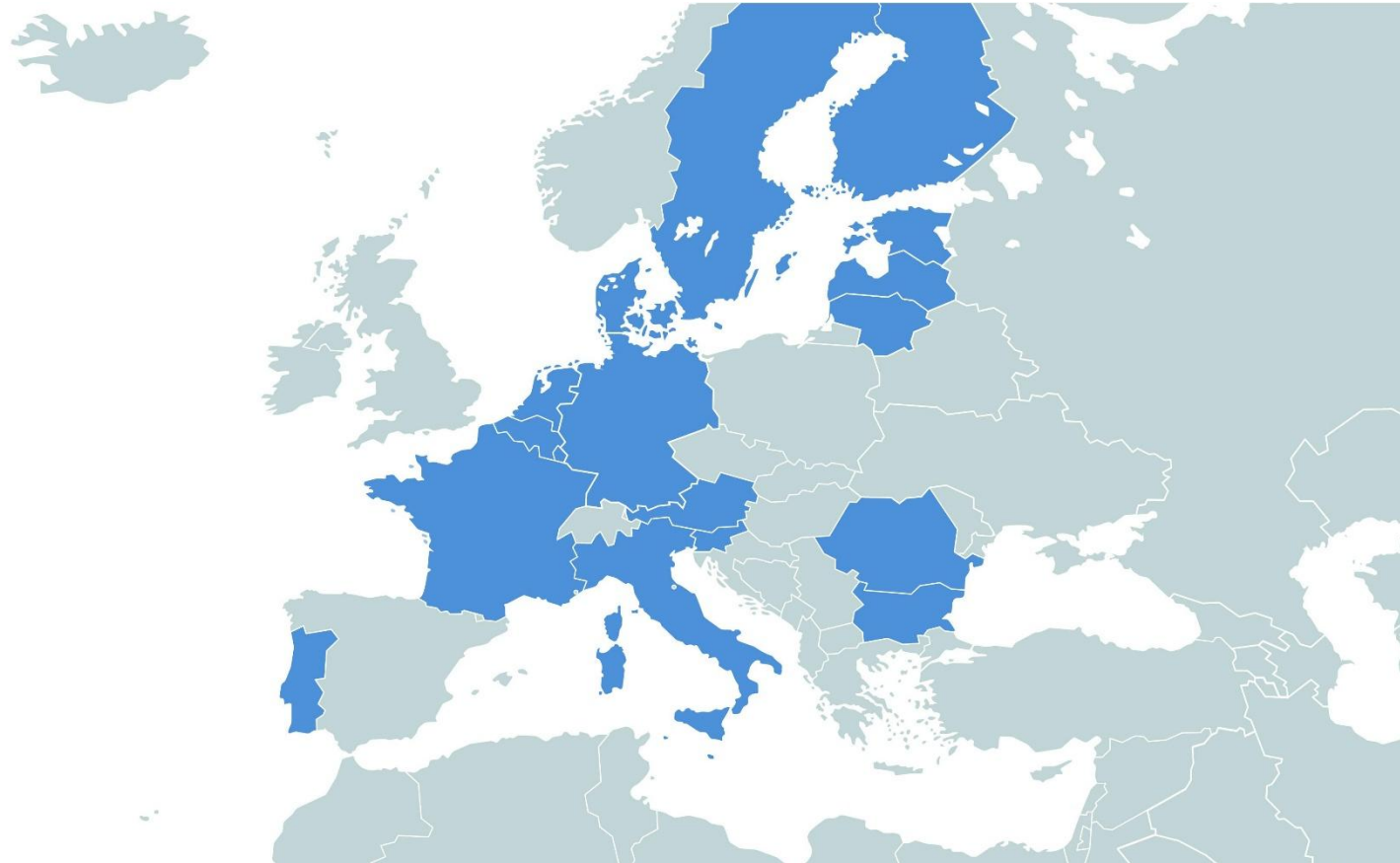


BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITARY PATENT SYSTEM



Simple and cost-effective option for broader patent protection and dispute settlement across Europe

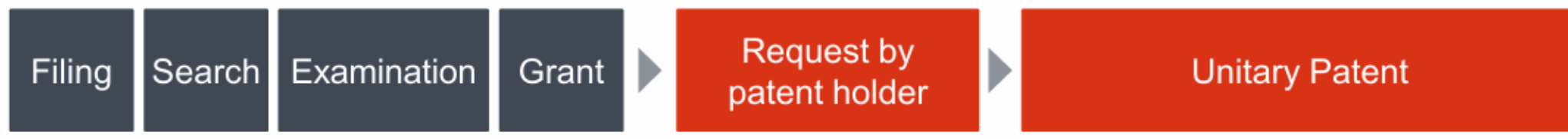
- Based on a European patent, granted by the EPO under the EPC
- One centralised post-grant procedure at the EPO
- Broader uniform protection in 18 EU member states, upon a single request of the patent holder
- An additional option for patent holders, alongside the existing European and national patent systems
- One uniform litigation system (Unified Patent Court) providing greater legal certainty at reduced cost



The 18 states in [enhanced cooperation](#) which already ratified the Agreements and participate in the Unitary Patent are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden.



A SIMPLE ONE-STEP PROCEDURE AFTER GRANT



! Based on a European patent, granted by the EPO under the EPC

! Same application and examination procedure

! High-quality product and service

! Registered in one single step at the EPO

! Uniform protection in 18 EU Member States

! No need for multiple parallel national validations (administrative procedures, fees, translations)

! EPO acts as one-stop shop for all subsequent transactions



SIMPLIFICATION AND COST EFFICIENCY

Classic European patent

Multiple national post-grant administration procedures

National patent offices

- Translation requirements
- National validation fees
- Procedures
- Renewal fees
- Currencies
- Different Registers

Costs for local attorneys



Unitary Patent

The EPO acts as a one-stop-shop for all post-grant administration

One office

- Simplified translation regime
- No fee for obtaining a Unitary Patent
- One procedure
- One set of renewal fees
- One currency (€)
- One Register

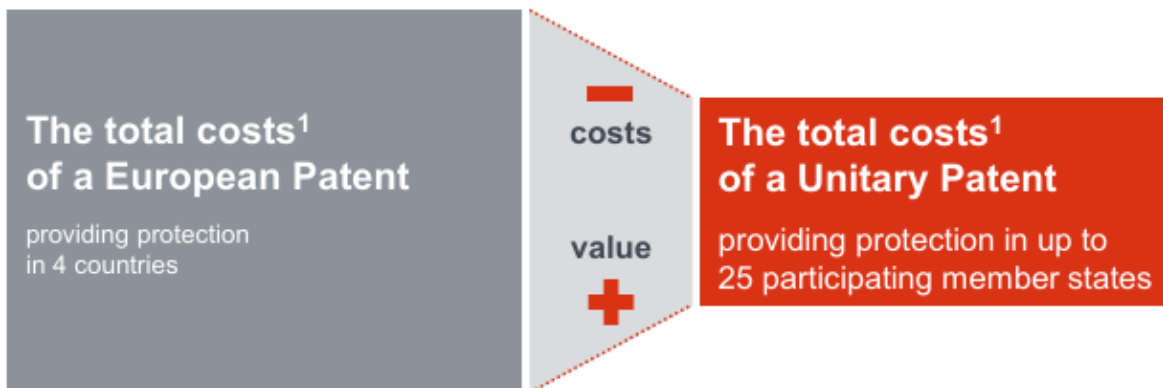
Your European patent attorney





REDUCED COSTS

- No fees are charged by the EPO for the request for a Unitary Patent
- Attractive fee level, with renewal fees for maintaining a Unitary Patent for ten years – the current average lifetime of a European patent – amounting to less than EUR 5 000
- Lump sum payment for SMEs, natural persons etc. to compensate for the translation costs
- A comparison of fees and all associated costs shows that a Unitary Patent is significantly less expensive on average than a European patent validated and maintained in four countries





HOW TO OBTAIN A UNITARY PATENT

Substantive requirements

Unitary effect can be requested for European patents that were granted

- in respect of all 25 participating Member States and
- with the same set of claims for all of them.

Main procedural requirements

- Filing of the request by the patent owner in writing, including via online means, in the language of the proceedings and no later than one month after the mention of the grant is published.
- Translations only during a transitional period



Roadmap

EPO Member states

Routes to patents

Routes to European Patents

European Patent Grant Procedure

Unitary Patent Package

Unitary Patent Information

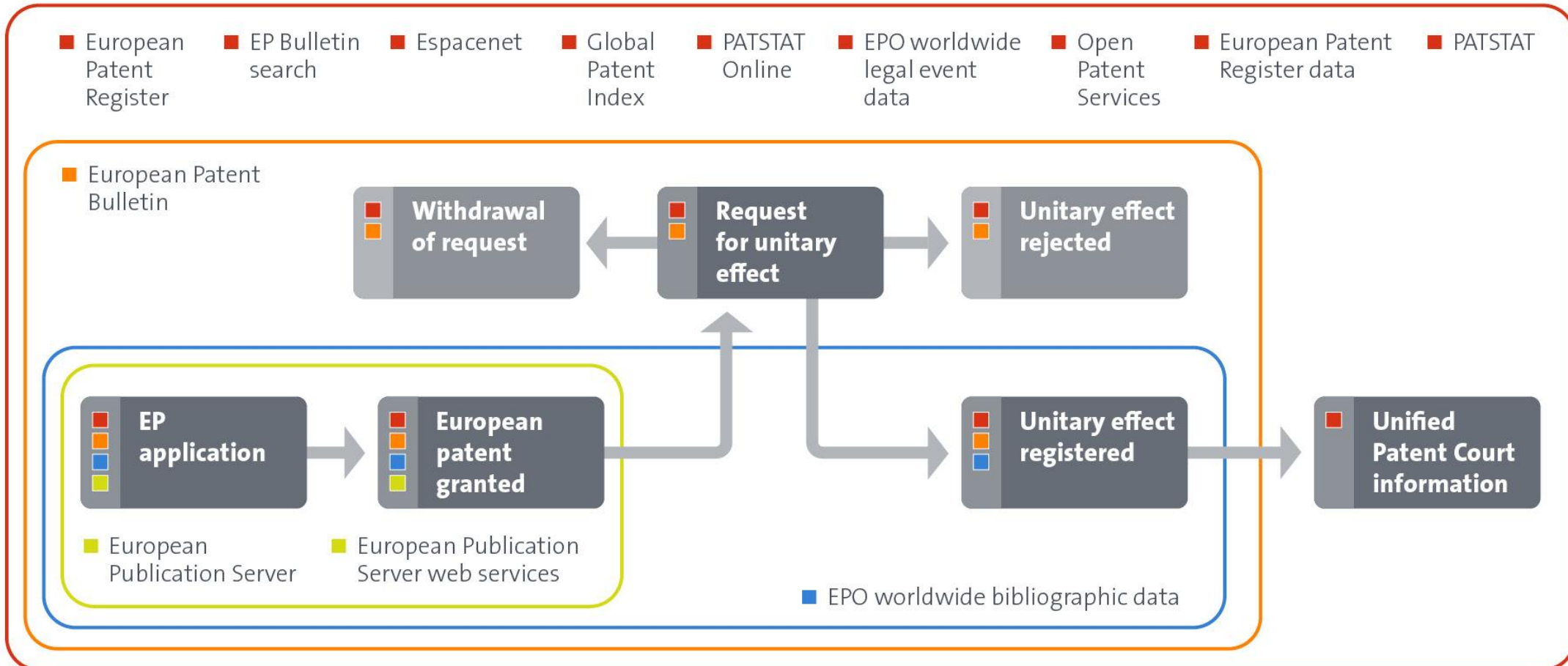
Unified Patent Court



Unitary Patent information

in patent knowledge tools and products

<https://www.epo.org/en/searching-for-patents/helpful-resources/unitary-patent-information>





UNITARY PATENT INFORMATION IN PATENT KNOWLEDGE IN A NUTSHELL

Product with information on unitary effect	CO marker displayed	Search for registered UP	Access to UP Register	Access to UP file inspection	Access to UPC	Legal events
DOCDB in XML	yes	no	no	no	no	no
Espacenet	yes	yes	yes	yes ⁽¹⁾	no	yes ⁽²⁾
EP bibliographic data (ERD)	yes	no	no	no	no	yes
European Patent Bulletin	yes	yes	no	no	no	yes
EP Bulletin Search	no	yes	yes	yes ⁽¹⁾	yes	yes
EP full-text data (E)	no	no	no	no	no	no
EP full-text search	no	no	yes ⁽⁴⁾	yes ⁽⁴⁾	no	yes ⁽²⁾
European Patent Register	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Unitary Patent in the European Patent Register and European Patent Bulletin

Expand all

- Unitary Patent in the European Patent Register +
- Unitary Patent in the European Patent Bulletin +

Specifics on other patent knowledge products

In this chapter you will find more details on further EPO patent information data, tools and services.

Expand all

- EP Bulletin search +
- Espacenet +
- Global Patent Index +
- The IPO's bulk data sets +

[Unitary Patent information in patent knowledge | EPO.org](https://www.epo.org/en/searching-for-patents/helpful-resources/unitary-patent-information)

- <https://www.epo.org/en/searching-for-patents/helpful-resources/unitary-patent-information>



Espacenet

Patent search

Deutsch English Français

Contact

Change country ▼

◀ About Espacenet Other EPO online services ▼

Search

Result list

★ My patents list (18)

Query history

Settings

Help

[Refine search](#) → Results

Smart search

Advanced search

Classification search

Quick help

- [Can I subscribe to an RSS feed of the result list?](#)
- [What does the RSS reader do with the result list?](#)
- [Can I export my result list?](#)
- [What happens if I click on "Download covers"?](#)
- [Why is the number of results sometimes only approximate?](#)
- [Why is the list limited to 500 results?](#)
- [Can I deactivate the highlighting?](#)
- [Why is it that certain documents are sometimes not displayed in the result list?](#)
- [Can I sort the result list?](#)
- [What happens if I click on the star icon?](#)

Result list

Select all (0/19)

Compact

Export (CSV | XLS)

Download covers

Print

19 results found in the Worldwide database for:
epc as the publication number AND **202412** as the publication date

Sort by Sort order

1. **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR BURNING MINERAL, CARBONATIC RAW MATERIAL**

★ Inventor:	Applicant:	CPC:	IPC:	Publication info:	Priority date:
GROPPWEIS SEBASTIAN STEPHAN [DE]	JOHANN BERGMANN GMBH & CO [DE] LOEFFLER JOACHIM [DE]	C04B2/12 C04B7/4415 C04B7/4446 (+4)	C04B2/12 C04B7/44 F27B1/00 (+3)	EP4374122 (A1) 2024-05-29 EP4374122 (C0) EP4374122 (B1) 2024-09-25 EP4374122 (B9) 2024-12-04	2022-04-20



Espacenet

Patent search

Deutsch English Français
Contact
Change country ▾

◀ About Espacenet Other EPO online services ▾

- Search
- Result list
- ★ My patents list (18)
- Query history
- Settings
- Help

[Refine search](#) → [Results](#) → EP4374122 (A1)

EP4374122 (A1)
Bibliographic data
Description
Claims
Mosaics
Original document
Cited documents
Citing documents
INPADOC legal status
INPADOC patent family

Quick help —

- [What is meant by high quality text as facsimile?](#)
- [What does A1, A2, A3 and B stand for after a European publication number?](#)
- [What happens if I click on "In my patents list"?](#)
- [What happens if I click on the "Register" button?](#)

Bibliographic data: EP4374122 (A1) — 2024-05-29

★ In my patents list Previous 1 / 19 ▶ Next ↗ EP Register 📄 Report data error 🖨️ Print

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR BURNING MINERAL, CARBONATIC RAW MATERIAL

Page bookmark [EP4374122 \(A1\) - METHOD AND DEVICE FOR BURNING MINERAL, CARBONATIC RAW MATERIAL](#)

Inventor(s): GROPPWEIS SEBASTIAN STEPHAN [DE]; LÖFFLER JOACHIM [DE] ±

Applicant(s): JOHANN BERGMANN GMBH & CO [DE]; LOEFFLER JOACHIM [DE] ±

Classification: - international: [C04B2/12](#); [C04B7/44](#); [F27B1/00](#); [F27B15/14](#); [F27B7/34](#); [F27D99/00](#)

- cooperative: [C04B2/12 \(EP\)](#); [C04B7/4415 \(EP\)](#); [C04B7/4446 \(EP\)](#); [F27B1/005 \(EP\)](#); [F27B15/14 \(EP\)](#); [F27B7/34 \(EP\)](#); [F27D99/0006 \(EP\)](#)

Application number: EP20230718780 20230420 🇪🇺 [Unitary patent](#) ⓘ [Global Dossier](#)

Priority number(s): [DE202210203884](#) [20220420](#) ; [WO2023EP60351](#) [20230420](#)

Also published as: 📄 [EP4374122 \(B1\)](#) 📄 [EP4374122 \(B9\)](#) → [EP4374122 \(C0\)](#) 📄 [AU2023255154 \(A1\)](#) 📄 [DE102022203884 \(A1\)](#)
→ more



European Patent Register

Deutsch English Français
Contact

← About European Patent Register Other EPO online services ▾

✉ Register Alert (email alerts)

Smart search Advanced search Help

EP4374122
European procedure
EP About this file
EP Legal status
EP Federated register
EP Event history
EP Citations
EP Patent family
EP All documents
Unitary Patent
UP About this file
UP Event history
UP All documents

Quick help —

- [What does C0 stand for?](#)
- [What does UP mean?](#)
- [Who is the proprietor?](#)
- [What is a supplementary protection certificate\(s\) \(SPC\)?](#)
- [What is an international standardisation body?](#)
- [What are public notifications?](#)
- [What can be seen in "Information from national authorities"?](#)

UP About this file: EP4374122 C0

🔍 Refine search ↓ ST36 🔄 Show history ↗ Espacenet 🖨️ Report error 🖨️ Print

EP4374122 - METHOD AND DEVICE FOR BURNING MINERAL, CARBONATIC RAW MATERIAL [Right-click to bookmark this link]

Status	Unitary effect registered <i>Database last updated on 10.12.2024</i>
Most recent event ⓘ	25.10.2024 Decision on the request for unitary effect published on 27.11.2024 ↗ [2024/48]
Proprietor(s)	<p>For all participating member states Johann Bergmann GmbH & Co Azendorf 63 95359 Kasendorf / DE</p> <p>For all participating member states Löffler, Joachim Mark 1g 96524 Förnitztal / DE</p> <p>[2024/48]</p>
Inventor(s)	<p>01 / GROPPWEIS, Sebastian Stephan 95359 Kasendorf / DE</p> <p>02 / LÖFFLER, Joachim 96524 Förnitztal / DE</p> <p>↗ [2024/22]</p>



ADVANCED SEARCH INTERFACE

Searching for patents with unitary effect

Enter one or more dates (and/or date range for publication date)

Filing date	<input type="text"/>	e.g. 20070919
Publication date	<input type="text"/>	e.g. 20070919
Priority date	<input type="text"/>	e.g. 20070919
Date of grant	<input type="text"/>	e.g. 20070919
Unitary effect request date	<input type="text" value="yes"/>	e.g. 20070919
Unitary effect registration date	<input type="text" value="no"/>	e.g. 20070919

Yes/True

No/False





SEARCH RESULTS – UNITARY PATENT COLUMN

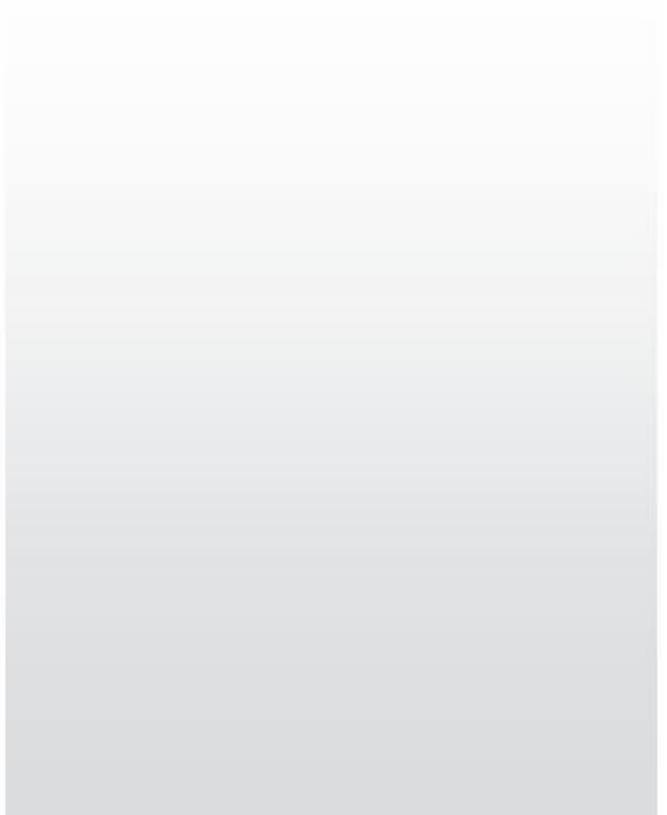
Search results

Refine search Export (CSV | XLS) Print

Sort by Sort order

387 items found, displaying 1 to 20. Search term(s): **urd = no and ufd = yes**

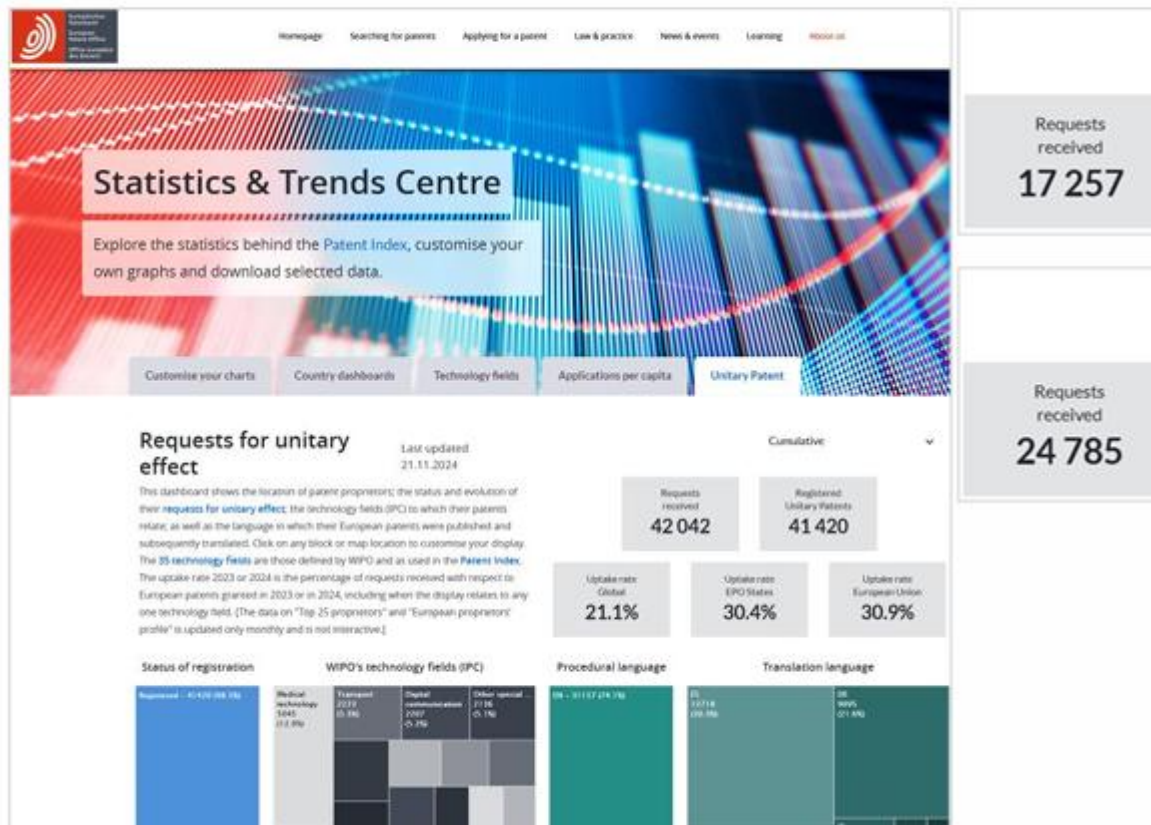
STEAM MOTOR						
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Application No. EP22162444	Publication No. EP4245969	Applicant RD Estate GmbH & Co. KG	Unitary Patent Request date: 17.04.2024	Representative Hoffmann Eitle	IPC F01K21/02
OBJECT TRACKING USING SCENE-, OBJECT- AND LOCATION-SPECIFIC TRACKING PARAMETERS						
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Application No. EP22182253	Publication No. EP4300422	Applicant Axis AB	Unitary Patent Request date: 10.04.2024 Registration date: 16.04.2024	Representative AWA Sweden AB	IPC G06T7/277 G06T7/246
BLIND CLEANING DEVICE						
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Application No. EP21186663	Publication No. EP4122364	Applicant HUSQVARNA AB	Unitary Patent ...	Representative Finkele, Rolf	IPC A47L4/02

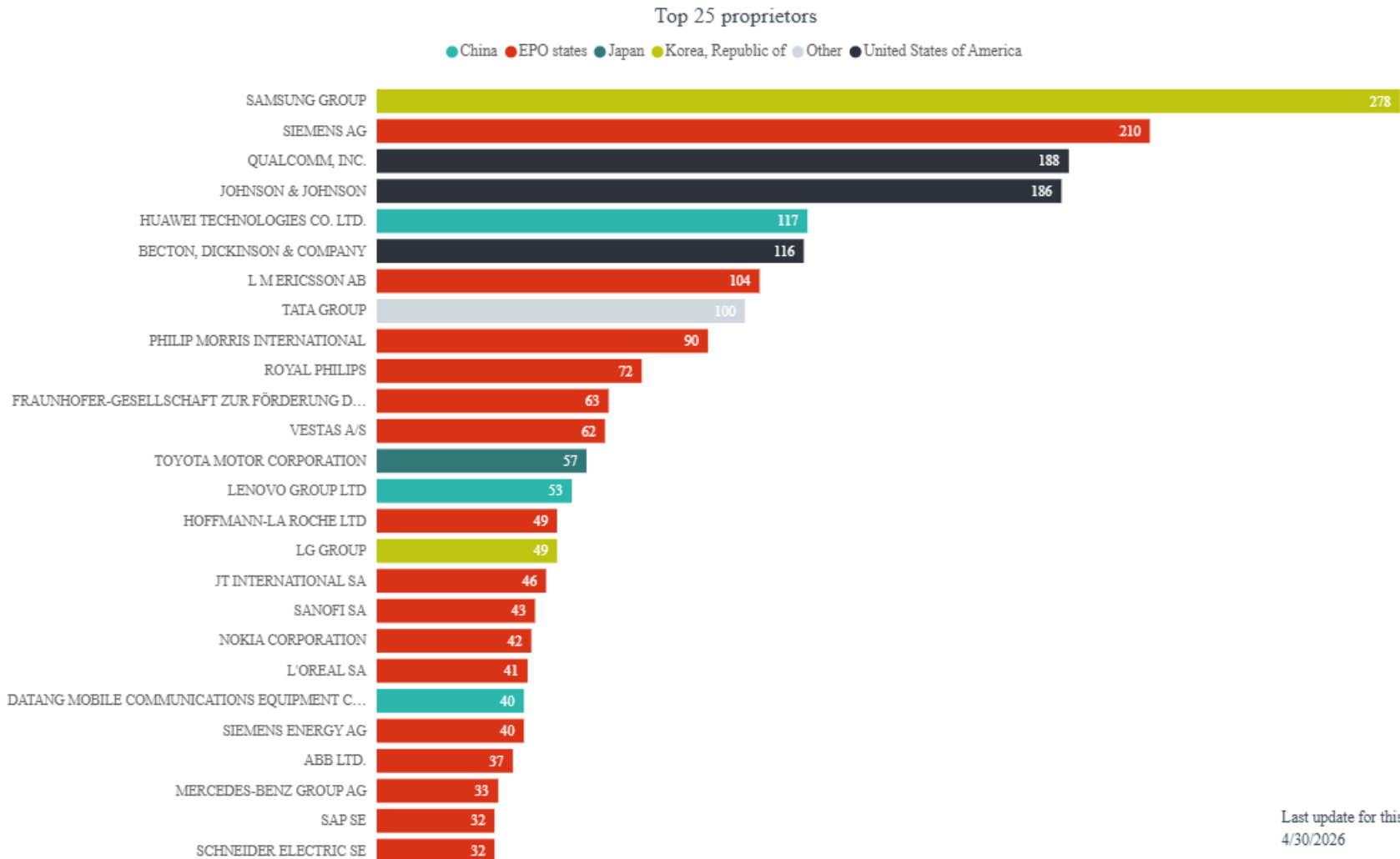




UNITARY PATENT DASHBOARD

- [Statistics & Trends Centre | epo.org](https://www.epo.org/statistics-trends)



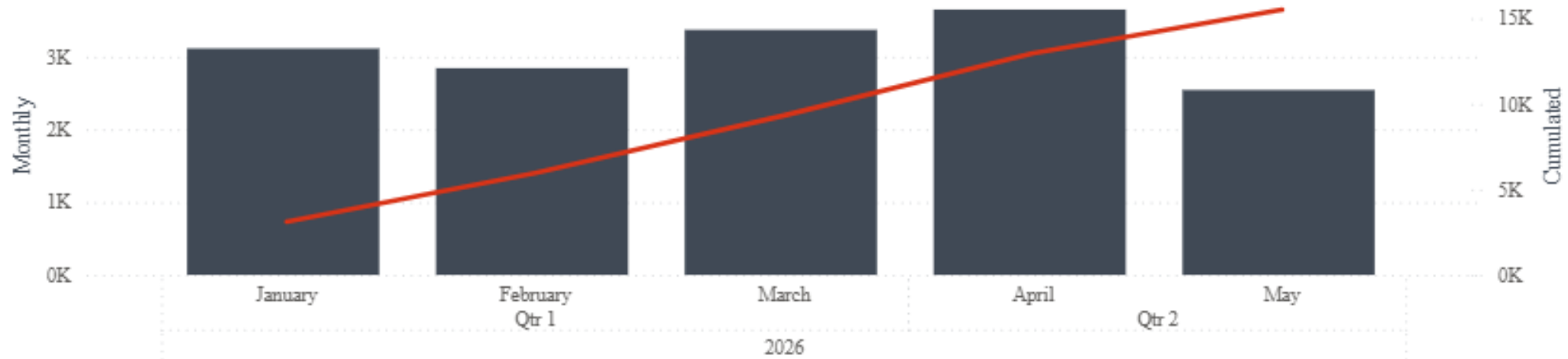


Last update for this visual
4/30/2026



Evolution of requests received

● Number of requests — Requests cumulated





Roadmap

EPO Member states

Routes to patents

Routes to European Patents

European Patent Grant Procedure

Unitary Patent Package

Unitary Patent Information

Unified Patent Court

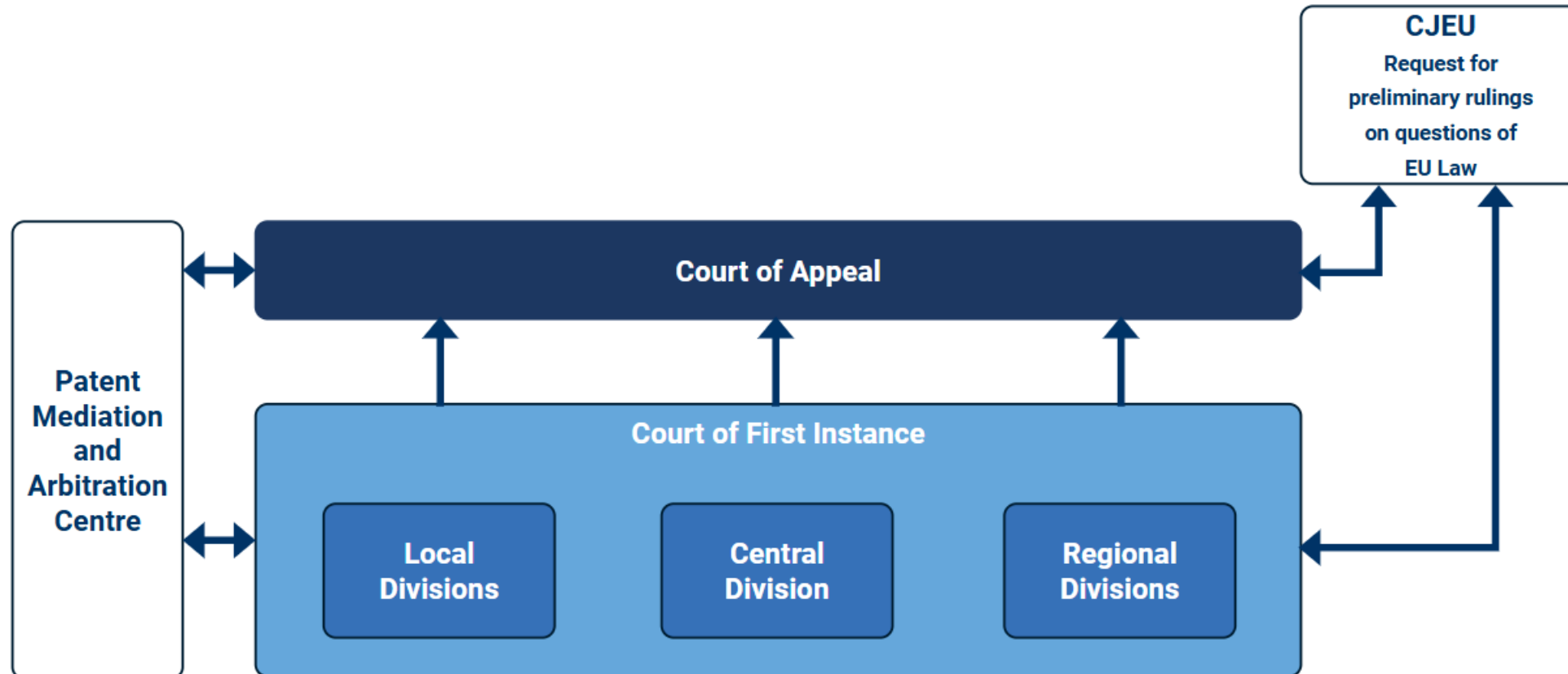


<https://www.epo.org/en/applying/european/unitary/unitary-patent>



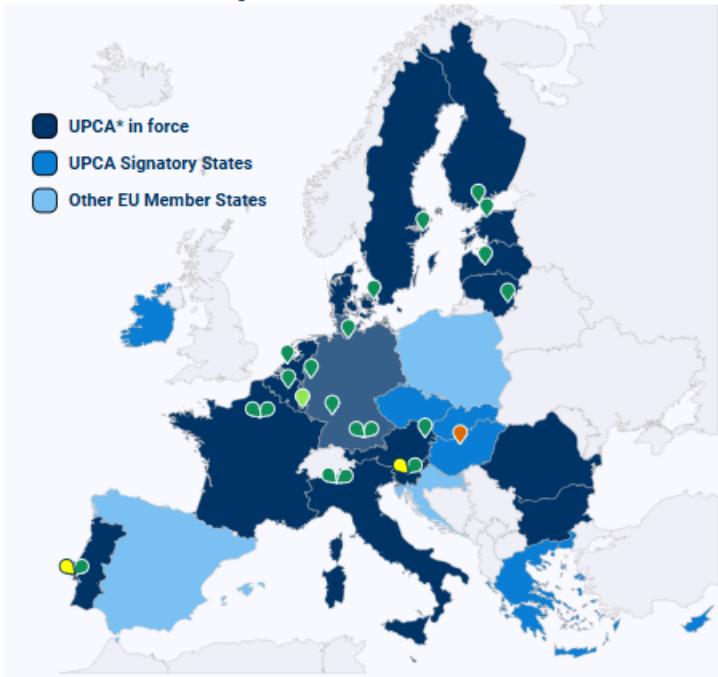
Unified Patent Court Structure

<https://www.unified-patent-court.org/en/court/presentation>





Locations Map



* UPCA stands for "Agreement on a Unified Patent Court"

Show location types

- Court of Appeal
- Court of First Instance
- Training Centre
- Patent Mediation and Arbitration Centre

Select a Member State below to learn more

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Slovakia
- Croatia
- Poland
- Spain

Select a Location below to learn more

- Luxembourg (LU)
- Paris (FR)/C
- Munich (DE)/C
- Milan (IT)/C
- Stockholm (SE)/R
- Riga (LV)/R
- Tallinn (EE)/R
- Vilnius (LT)/R
- Brussels (BE)/L
- Copenhagen (DK)/L
- Düsseldorf (DE)/L
- Hamburg (DE)/L
- Helsinki (FI)/L
- Lisbon (PT)/L
- Ljubljana (SI)/L
- Mannheim (DE)/L
- Milan (IT)/L
- Munich (DE)/L
- Paris (FR)/L
- The Hague (NL)/L
- Vienna (AT)/L
- Lisbon (PT)
- Ljubljana (SI)
- Budapest (HU)

<https://www.unified-patent-court.org/en/court/locations>

C: Central division L: Local division R: Regional Division



<https://www.dehns.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/UPC-Guide-Oct-25.pdf>