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Conseil d'administration

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**SUBJECT:** Statistics 2022

**SUBMITTED BY:** President of the European Patent Office

**ADDRESSEES:** Budget and Finance Committee (for information)

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### SUMMARY

Annual compendium of statistics on the activity at the EPO and at the member state offices in 2022.

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## **I. STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL**

1. Operational

## **II. RECOMMENDATION**

2. To take note

## **III. MAJORITY NEEDED**

3. n.a.

## **IV. CONTEXT**

4. Information to the BFC

## **V. RECOMMENDATION FOR PUBLICATION**

5. Yes.

As its previous versions, this document has been compiled with the support of the national offices of the contracting states. Following the decision taken in 2015, subsequent editions of the document have been published. It is recommended to publish the current version as well.

## **VI. ANALYSIS**

In the different phases of the patent procedures, the development is expressed in percentage change compared to the previous year. Where appropriate, numbers have been rounded.

### **A. KEY RESULTS**

The key results for 2022 are:

- The number of applications at the EPO increased by 2.5% to 193 620.
- About 81 750 European patents (-25%) were published.
- National applications in the member states decreased to ca 137 530 (-1%).
- 58% of all applications filed in the EPC area (EPO and national offices) originated from the member states.
- National patents granted in the member states decreased by 0.7% to ca 72 960.

### **B. EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED**

See Annex 1.A

European patent applications are either direct European applications or PCT international applications entering the regional phase during the reporting period.

Based on the information available in July 2023, 193 620 applications were filed for European patents in 2021. This was 2.5% above the latest 2021 figure.

Less than half of the applications (43.4%, -1%pts) originated from the EPC contracting states. The combined share of the three leading Asian countries slightly increased to 26.4% (+1.1%pts). It is now higher than the share of the U.S. (24.9%).

In 2022, EPC residents filed about 123 600 first filings in the EPC area (at EPO, Annex 1.A and at national offices, Annex 2.A). Of these 75% were filed at the national office of the applicant's residence, 21% were filed at the EPO and 4% were filed at another EPC national office.

The first filings made by EPC residents at the EPO accounted for 30% of all the applications filed by EPC residents at the EPO.

## **C. GRANT PROCEDURE**

See Annex 1.B.a

The grant procedure has been completed for 99% of all applications for a European patent filed up until the end of 2017. For these applications the grant rate was 57%. Of those applications filed during the past five years (since the beginning of 2018) 37% of the procedures have been completed (-4%pts compared to 2021).

The number of published European patents decreased by 24.9% to 81 754 in 2022 (see Annex 1.C).

As per annex 1.B.d, on average (mean average), a search performed by the EPO was completed in 4.9 months (4.8 in 2021). The examination was completed 24.3 months after the examination request was validly filed with the EPO (23.0 in 2021). The decision by the opposition divisions was notified 19.6 months after the end of the opposition period (19.3 in 2021).

## **D. OPPOSITION PROCEDURE**

See Annex 1.B.b

The number of patents for which the opposition period expired in 2022 decreased to 102 263 by 20.8% and 2.4% of these patents were eventually opposed (2.5% in 2021). Considering that multiple parties can oppose the same patent, the average number of oppositions filed per opposed patent was 1.26 in 2022 (1.25 in 2021).

As shown in the annexed tables, the opposition rate varies among technologies and according to the country of residence of the patentees.

In 2022, 73% of the granted patents were maintained (29% opposition rejected or 44% patent maintained in amended form) and 27% were revoked by the opposition divisions (26% in 2021).

## **E. APPEAL PROCEDURES**

See Annex 1.B.c

The number of decisions to refuse a patent for which the appeal period expired in 2022 decreased by 25% compared to 2021 to 4 902. Of these decisions to refuse a patent 567 (-30%) were appealed, leading to an ex parte appeal rate of 12% (12% in 2021).

After a drastic reduction in 2020 owing to the pandemic, the number of opposition decisions open for appeal increased again in 2022. The number of decisions appealed increased and resulted in an inter partes appeal rate of 51% (49% in 2021).

Statistics on the outcome of the appeal procedures are available on the home page of the EPO Boards of Appeal ([epo.org/law-practice/case-law-appeals/annual-report.html](https://epo.org/law-practice/case-law-appeals/annual-report.html)).

## **F. VALIDATION AND MAINTENANCE**

See Annex 1.D

The figures presented in the annexes are based on the data available in the Post Grant Data System of the EPO and reflect the information provided by the national offices of the member states. They represent the situation as at the end of 2022 with respect to the validation and the maintenance of European granted patents in the member states as available in June 2023. A patent is considered as maintained until its abandonment is legally recorded and transmitted to the EPO.

The EP patents validated are maintained on average (median) 10 years. About 18% of the validated rights are maintained up until the expiration of the 20th patent-year.

As a consequence of the increase in granted patents since 2015, the number of those which were validated kept increasing in 2022. They represent about 33% of the potential rights granted by the EPO. The number of patents granted by the EPO and still in force in the contracting states at the end of the year decreased by 8% in 2022, after decreasing by 1% in 2021 and increasing +19% in 2020. Approximately 5.740 million patent rights granted by the EPO were in force at the end of 2022.

There are substantial differences in validation and patent maintenance rate between the designated member states. For patents filed between 2003 and 2022, the validation rate ranges vary widely.

## **G. NATIONAL PROCEDURE**

See Annex 2

National patent applications are either direct national applications or, for member states where it is possible, PCT international applications entering the national phase during the reporting period.

Based on the data provided by the national offices by July 2023, 137 525 applications for a national patent were filed in the member states in 2022. This represented a slight decrease compared to 2021 (-1%).

About 72% were filed by residents of the respective countries (75% in 2021) and 26% of the foreign applications were filed by residents of other EPC contracting states, accounting for 7% of all applications filed at the national offices. Together 79% of the national patent applications in the EPC states were filed by residents of the EPC states (82% in 2021).

In 2022, overall 94% of the national applications filed by residents of the EPC member states at their respective home office were first filings, as in previous years.

About 142 800 national grant procedures were completed in 2022 (-9%). Of these, ca 72 960 resulted in a granted patent. This is 0.7% lower than the number of patents granted by the national offices in 2021.

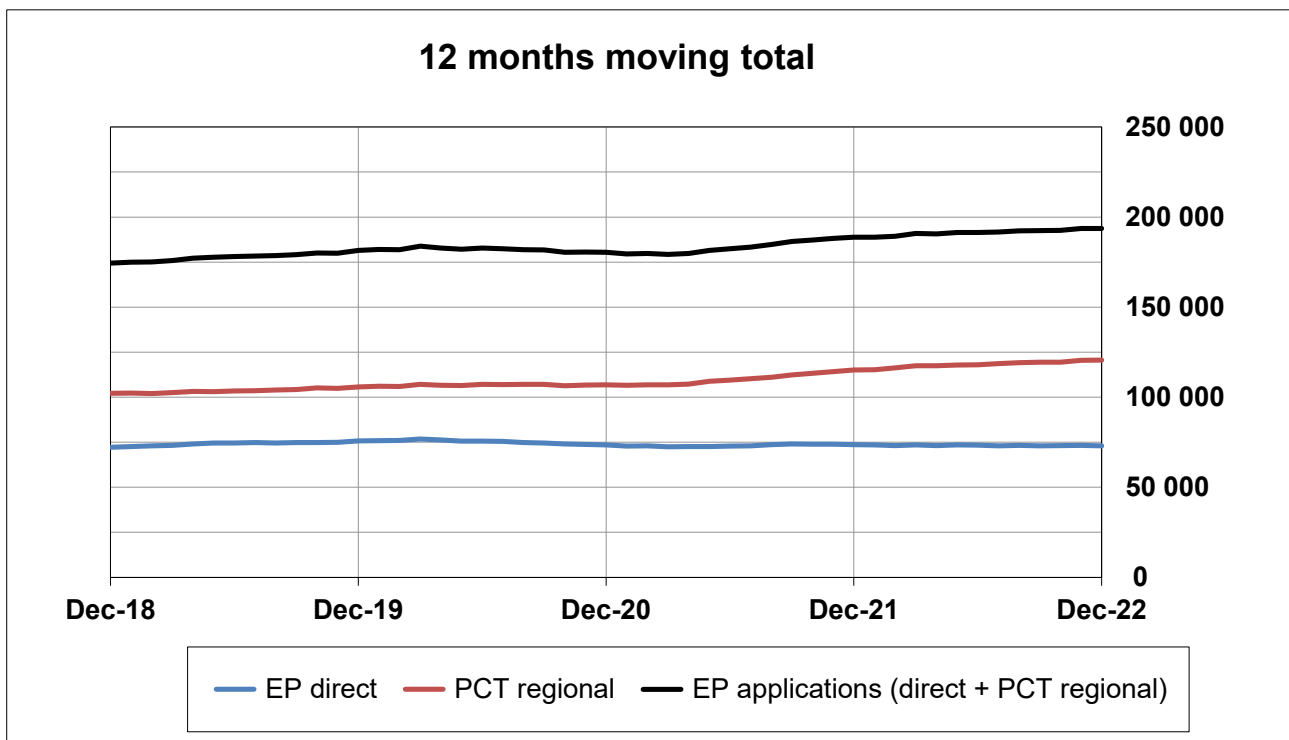


## ANNEX 1 EUROPEAN PATENT PROCEDURES STATISTICS

### A. EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED

#### a) Filing route in 2022

Category	Budget 2022	Previous year 2021	Actual 2022 Status July 2023	Deviation to budget		Deviation to previous year	
				Number	%	Number	%
Euro-direct	70 300	73 679	72 979	2 679	3.8%	- 700	-1.0%
PCT regional	108 856	115 139	120 641	11 785	10.8%	5 502	4.8%
<b>Total applications</b>	<b>179 156</b>	<b>188 818</b>	<b>193 620</b>	<b>14 464</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>4 802</b>	<b>2.5%</b>



b) Origin and growth over 2021 (%)

Country of origin		EP direct		PCT regional		EP applications	
Albania	AL	5	150.0%	2	100.0%	7	133.3%
Austria	AT	1 353	0.5%	1 032	8.3%	2 385	3.7%
Belgium	BE	1 509	5.2%	1 097	4.6%	2 606	5.0%
Bulgaria	BG	13	-40.9%	33	57.1%	46	7.0%
Switzerland	CH	4 922	-0.7%	4 104	14.9%	9 026	5.8%
Cyprus	CY	18	0.0%	25	0.0%	43	0.0%
Czech Republic	CZ	86	-16.5%	136	38.8%	222	10.4%
Germany	DE	13 770	-3.5%	10 884	-6.2%	24 654	-4.7%
Denmark	DK	1 441	-0.5%	1 225	2.3%	2 666	0.8%
Estonia	EE	33	-10.8%	32	0.0%	65	-5.8%
Spain	ES	1 214	1.1%	718	-3.6%	1 932	-0.7%
Finland	FI	876	-0.1%	1 266	2.7%	2 142	1.5%
France	FR	5 078	4.5%	5 898	0.9%	10 976	2.6%
United Kingdom	GB	1 762	-1.8%	3 932	3.4%	5 694	1.7%
Greece	GR	151	13.5%	35	-50.0%	186	-8.4%
Croatia	HR	23	64.3%	9	-30.8%	32	18.5%
Hungary	HU	38	22.6%	66	-25.0%	104	-12.6%
Ireland	IE	529	-4.9%	622	31.2%	1 151	11.7%
Iceland	IS	21	40.0%	27	-43.8%	48	-23.8%
Italy	IT	2 397	0.7%	2 471	-2.6%	4 868	-1.0%
Liechtenstein	LI	231	-10.5%	225	-4.3%	456	-7.5%
Lithuania	LT	49	-3.9%	30	36.4%	79	8.2%
Luxembourg	LU	124	-28.7%	223	-13.6%	347	-19.7%
Latvia	LV	6	-25.0%	15	7.1%	21	-4.5%
Monaco	MC	5	-37.5%	16	77.8%	21	23.5%
Montenegro	ME	0	-100.0%	0	-	0	-100.0%
North Macedonia	MK	1	0.0%	1	-75.0%	2	-60.0%
Malta	MT	31	-3.1%	43	72.0%	74	29.8%
Netherlands	NL	3 947	4.9%	2 848	1.3%	6 795	3.4%
Norway	NO	178	2.9%	480	5.3%	658	4.6%
Poland	PL	437	34.0%	172	-12.2%	609	16.7%
Portugal	PT	146	9.8%	166	3.1%	312	6.1%
Romania	RO	36	111.8%	10	-28.6%	46	48.4%
Serbia	RS	3	-40.0%	9	-40.0%	12	-40.0%
Sweden	SE	1 895	3.6%	3 148	1.1%	5 043	2.0%
Slovenia	SI	67	1.5%	56	12.0%	123	6.0%
Slovakia	SK	21	-19.2%	27	58.8%	48	11.6%
San Marino	SM	3	-50.0%	3	-50.0%	6	-50.0%
Türkiye	TR	134	-28.7%	427	-21.7%	561	-23.5%
<b>EPC contracting states</b>		<b>42 553</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>41 513</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>84 066</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
P.R. China	CN	3 324	-4.3%	15 747	20.5%	19 071	15.3%
Japan	JP	5 792	1.5%	15 788	-1.1%	21 580	-0.4%
Republic of Korea	KR	3 622	1.5%	6 759	15.3%	10 381	10.1%
United States of America	US	13 677	-4.2%	34 476	6.3%	48 153	3.1%
Other countries		4 011	-2.1%	6 358	-1.2%	10 369	-1.6%
Non EPC		30 426	-2.2%	79 128	7.3%	109 554	4.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>72 979</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>	<b>120 641</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>193 620</b>	<b>2.5%</b>

Status July 2023

### c) First filings at the EPO

Number of Euro-direct first filings and percentage out of total EP applications filed per country and change of this percentage to the latest 2021 figures.

Country of origin		2022		2022 / 2021
Albania	AL	5	71.4%	400.0%
Austria	AT	874	36.6%	4.3%
Belgium	BE	1 124	43.1%	3.2%
Bulgaria	BG	10	21.7%	-37.5%
Switzerland	CH	3 813	42.2%	-0.7%
Cyprus	CY	6	14.0%	-60.0%
Czech Republic	CZ	31	14.0%	-36.7%
Germany	DE	7 664	31.1%	-3.4%
Denmark	DK	1 163	43.6%	6.9%
Estonia	EE	18	27.7%	-5.3%
Spain	ES	986	51.0%	0.4%
Finland	FI	439	20.5%	2.1%
France	FR	2 551	23.2%	5.1%
United Kingdom	GB	616	10.8%	6.0%
Greece	GR	116	62.4%	11.5%
Croatia	HR	20	62.5%	53.8%
Hungary	HU	28	26.9%	300.0%
Ireland	IE	204	17.7%	13.3%
Iceland	IS	21	43.8%	200.0%
Italy	IT	471	9.7%	-12.3%
Liechtenstein	LI	201	44.1%	-16.3%
Lithuania	LT	32	40.5%	14.3%
Luxembourg	LU	42	12.1%	-4.5%
Latvia	LV	2	9.5%	-60.0%
Monaco	MC	3	14.3%	-40.0%
Montenegro	ME	0	-	-
North Macedonia	MK	1	50.0%	-
Malta	MT	16	21.6%	23.1%
Netherlands	NL	3 159	46.5%	7.0%
Norway	NO	94	14.3%	-5.1%
Poland	PL	206	33.8%	11.4%
Portugal	PT	37	11.9%	-32.7%
Romania	RO	26	56.5%	136.4%
Serbia	RS	2	16.7%	-33.3%
Sweden	SE	1 374	27.2%	8.0%
Slovenia	SI	40	32.5%	8.1%
Slovakia	SK	8	16.7%	-52.9%
San Marino	SM	0	0.0%	-100.0%
Türkiye	TR	37	6.6%	-33.9%
<b>EPC states</b>		<b>25 440</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
P.R. China	CN	337	1.8%	-18.6%
Japan	JP	421	2.0%	-7.5%
Rep. Korea	KR	62	0.6%	-13.9%
United States of America	US	1 204	2.5%	14.9%
Other countries		549	5.3%	1.7%
Non EPC		2 573	2.3%	1.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>28 013</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>

## B. EUROPEAN PROCEDURES

### a) Grant procedure

Fate of 100 applications filed from 1978 to 2017.

Fate of applications by filing route

Procedural phase		Euro-direct applications	PCT regional phase	Total
Before examination	Refused	0	0	0
	Withdrawn	21	8	15
Forwarded for examination		79	92	85
Examination	Refused	3	3	3
	Withdrawn	21	29	25
	Granted	55	60	57
Total		100	100	100

Fate of 100 PCT international filings 1978-2017

Not pursued in the EPO regional phase		47
Entered the European procedure		53
Before examination	Refused	0
	Withdrawn	4
Forwarded for examination		49
Examination	Refused	2
	Withdrawn	15
	Granted	32
Total		100

## Fate of applications filed from 2018 to 2022.

### Fate of applications by filing route

<b>Euro-direct</b>		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		
Applications filed		72 231	100.0%	75 810	100.0%	73 495	100.0%	73 679	100.0%	72 979	100.0%	
Before examination	Refused	463	0.6%	650	0.9%	387	0.5%	187	0.3%	47	0.1%	
	Withdrawn	20 552	28.5%	20 890	27.6%	20 077	27.3%	12 853	17.4%	3 574	4.9%	
	Not yet forwarded for examination:											
	Search completed		175	0.2%	233	0.3%	299	0.4%	10 275	13.9%	15 338	21.0%
	Search not completed		32	0.0%	55	0.1%	120	0.2%	206	0.3%	29 987	41.1%
Examination	Forwarded	51 009	70.6%	53 982	71.2%	52 612	71.6%	50 158	68.1%	24 033	32.9%	
	Refused	1 042	1.4%	510	0.7%	106	0.1%	9	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Withdrawn	6 120	8.5%	4 088	5.4%	1 583	2.2%	333	0.5%	7	0.0%	
	Granted	30 453	42.2%	23 487	31.0%	10 099	13.7%	1 782	2.4%	9	0.0%	
	Examination pending	13 394	18.5%	25 897	34.2%	40 824	55.5%	48 034	65.2%	24 017	32.9%	

<b>PCT with supplementary search</b>		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		
Applications filed		48 951	100.0%	51 665	100.0%	53 329	100.0%	58 745	100.0%	62 744	100.0%	
Before examination	Refused	7	0.0%	9	0.0%	7	0.0%	18	0.0%	10	0.0%	
	Withdrawn	5 188	10.6%	5 443	10.5%	4 450	8.3%	2 482	4.2%	415	0.7%	
	Not yet forwarded for examination:											
	Search completed		37	0.1%	32	0.1%	81	0.2%	2 143	3.6%	556	0.9%
	Search not completed		2	0.0%	7	0.0%	64	0.1%	5 093	8.7%	50 106	79.9%
Examination	Forwarded	43 717	89.3%	46 174	89.4%	48 727	91.4%	49 009	83.4%	11 657	18.6%	
	Refused	1 031	2.1%	585	1.1%	115	0.2%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Withdrawn	6 666	13.6%	4 182	8.1%	1 758	3.3%	291	0.5%	7	0.0%	
	Granted	22 362	45.7%	15 518	30.0%	6 007	11.3%	766	1.3%	1	0.0%	
	Examination pending	13 658	27.9%	25 889	50.1%	40 847	76.6%	47 950	81.6%	11 649	18.6%	

<b>PCT without supplementary search</b>		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		
Applications filed		53 263	100.0%	54 050	100.0%	53 588	100.0%	56 394	100.0%	57 897	100.0%	
Before examination	Refused	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Withdrawn	63	0.1%	71	0.1%	94	0.2%	55	0.1%	55	0.1%	
	Not yet forwarded for examination:											
	Search completed		4	0.0%	5	0.0%	3	0.0%	5	0.0%	43	0.1%
	Search not completed		0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Examination	Forwarded	53 195	99.9%	53 974	99.9%	53 491	99.8%	56 334	99.9%	57 799	99.8%	
	Refused	941	1.8%	585	1.1%	128	0.2%	11	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Withdrawn	9 772	18.3%	7 938	14.7%	4 826	9.0%	1 952	3.5%	530	0.9%	
	Granted	31 455	59.1%	25 161	46.6%	14 829	27.7%	4 902	8.7%	156	0.3%	
	Examination pending	11 027	20.7%	20 290	37.5%	33 708	62.9%	49 469	87.7%	57 113	98.6%	

<b>Total applications</b>		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		
Applications filed		174 445	100.0%	181 525	100.0%	180 412	100.0%	188 818	100.0%	193 620	100.0%	
Before examination	Refused	471	0.3%	659	0.4%	394	0.2%	205	0.1%	57	0.0%	
	Withdrawn	25 803	14.8%	26 404	14.5%	24 621	13.6%	15 390	8.2%	4 044	2.1%	
	Not yet forwarded for examination:											
	Search completed		216	0.1%	270	0.1%	383	0.2%	12 423	6.6%	15 937	8.2%
	Search not completed		34	0.0%	62	0.0%	184	0.1%	5 299	2.8%	80 093	41.4%
Examination	Forwarded	147 921	84.8%	154 130	84.9%	154 830	85.8%	155 501	82.4%	93 489	48.3%	
	Refused	3 014	1.7%	1 680	0.9%	349	0.2%	22	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Withdrawn	22 558	12.9%	16 208	8.9%	8 167	4.5%	2 576	1.4%	544	0.3%	
	Granted	84 270	48.3%	64 166	35.3%	30 935	17.1%	7 450	3.9%	166	0.1%	
	Examination pending	38 079	21.8%	72 076	39.7%	115 379	64.0%	145 453	77.0%	92 779	47.9%	

## b) Opposition procedure

### Opposition rate and oppositions filed according to fields of technology

Technology	Patents which could be opposed	Opposed patents	Opposition rate	Oppositions filed	Opposition ratio
Electrical engineering	30 120	230	0.8%	258	1.12
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	6 759	102	1.5%	115	1.13
Audio-visual technology	2 470	42	1.7%	44	1.05
Telecommunications	2 715	14	0.5%	16	1.14
Digital communication	9 071	44	0.5%	49	1.11
Basic communication processes	650	2	0.3%	2	1.00
Computer technology	6 185	20	0.3%	24	1.20
IT methods for management	222	1	0.5%	3	3.00
Semiconductors	2 048	5	0.2%	5	1.00
Instruments	18 413	307	1.7%	373	1.21
Optics	2 327	12	0.5%	13	1.08
Measurement	5 897	54	0.9%	60	1.11
Analysis of biological materials	527	6	1.1%	8	1.33
Control	1 842	28	1.5%	32	1.14
Medical technology	7 820	207	2.6%	260	1.26
Chemistry	19 696	913	4.6%	1 306	1.43
Organic fine chemistry	3 104	106	3.4%	130	1.23
Biotechnology	2 299	113	4.9%	191	1.69
Pharmaceuticals	2 789	146	5.2%	312	2.14
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	1 849	96	5.2%	120	1.25
Food chemistry	492	68	13.8%	92	1.35
Basic materials chemistry	2 097	112	5.3%	139	1.24
Materials, metallurgy	2 015	129	6.4%	159	1.23
Surface technology, coating	1 435	53	3.7%	62	1.17
Micro-structural and nano-technology	106	1	0.9%	1	1.00
Chemical engineering	2 453	68	2.8%	77	1.13
Environmental technology	1 057	21	2.0%	23	1.10
Mechanical engineering	26 541	734	2.8%	838	1.14
Handling	2 514	114	4.5%	129	1.13
Machine tools	2 461	73	3.0%	86	1.18
Engines, pumps, turbines	4 088	76	1.9%	83	1.09
Textile and paper machines	1 755	51	2.9%	68	1.33
Other special machines	3 984	167	4.2%	195	1.17
Thermal processes and apparatus	1 811	32	1.8%	36	1.13
Mechanical elements	2 948	80	2.7%	89	1.11
Transport	6 980	141	2.0%	152	1.08
Other fields	7 460	246	3.3%	292	1.19
Furniture, games	2 006	55	2.7%	65	1.18
Other consumer goods	2 542	105	4.1%	133	1.27
Civil engineering	2 912	86	3.0%	94	1.09
Not classified	33	2	6.1%	2	1.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>102 263</b>	<b>2 432</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>3 069</b>	<b>1.26</b>

## Opposition rate and oppositions filed according to proprietor origin

Country of residence of the patent proprietor	Patents which could be opposed	Opposed patents	Opposition rate	Oppositions filed	Opposition ratio
AL Albania	1	0	0.0%	0	-
AT Austria	1 299	49	3.8%	59	1.20
BE Belgium	1 105	58	5.2%	81	1.40
BG Bulgaria	22	0	0.0%	0	-
CH Switzerland	3 716	164	4.4%	245	1.49
CY Cyprus	21	0	0.0%	0	-
CZ Czech Republic	119	0	0.0%	0	-
DE Germany	15 503	626	4.0%	721	1.15
DK Denmark	1 065	72	6.8%	90	1.25
EE Estonia	11	0	0.0%	0	-
ES Spain	753	26	3.5%	32	1.23
FI Finland	1 116	37	3.3%	41	1.11
FR France	6 470	154	2.4%	183	1.19
GB United Kingdom	3 011	80	2.7%	101	1.26
GR Greece	67	2	3.0%	2	1.00
HR Croatia	7	0	0.0%	0	-
HU Hungary	57	1	1.8%	1	1.00
IE Ireland	513	17	3.3%	26	1.53
IS Iceland	34	2	5.9%	2	1.00
IT Italy	3 053	82	2.7%	89	1.09
LI Liechtenstein	197	3	1.5%	3	1.00
LT Lithuania	20	2	10.0%	2	1.00
LU Luxembourg	267	12	4.5%	13	1.08
LV Latvia	15	0	0.0%	0	-
MC Monaco	16	0	0.0%	0	-
ME Montenegro	0	0	-	0	-
MK North Macedonia	1	0	0.0%	0	-
MT Malta	33	2	6.1%	3	1.50
NL Netherlands	2 696	101	3.7%	125	1.24
NO Norway	381	6	1.6%	7	1.17
PL Poland	226	6	2.7%	6	1.00
PT Portugal	108	3	2.8%	3	1.00
RO Romania	13	0	0.0%	0	-
RS Serbia	2	0	0.0%	0	-
SE Sweden	2 710	52	1.9%	62	1.19
SI Slovenia	72	4	5.6%	4	1.00
SK Slovakia	27	1	3.7%	1	1.00
SM San Marino	2	0	0.0%	0	-
TR Türkiye	250	9	3.6%	10	1.11
EPC states	44 979	1 571	3.5%	1 912	1.22
CN P.R. China	6 667	45	0.7%	53	1.18
JP Japan	14 126	162	1.1%	185	1.14
KR Rep. Korea	5 495	38	0.7%	45	1.18
US United States of America	25 773	533	2.1%	774	1.45
Other	5 223	83	1.6%	100	1.20
Total	102 263	2 432	2.4%	3 069	1.26

Outcome of the opposition procedures completed in 2022 (examiner decisions).

According to the field of technology

Technology	Opposition rejected		Patent revoked		Patent amended		Total	
Electrical engineering	76	21%	132	37%	147	41%	355	100%
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	44	28%	44	28%	71	45%	159	100%
Audio-visual technology	6	12%	25	48%	21	40%	52	100%
Telecommunications	1	5%	9	47%	9	47%	19	100%
Digital communication	7	14%	22	44%	21	42%	50	100%
Basic communication processes	0	0%	2	40%	3	60%	5	100%
Computer technology	11	21%	25	48%	16	31%	52	100%
IT methods for management	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%
Semiconductors	7	41%	4	24%	6	35%	17	100%
Instruments	112	22%	137	27%	251	50%	500	100%
Optics	6	15%	9	23%	25	63%	40	100%
Measurement	21	21%	26	26%	54	53%	101	100%
Analysis of biological materials	2	13%	7	44%	7	44%	16	100%
Control	8	13%	26	43%	26	43%	60	100%
Medical technology	75	27%	69	24%	139	49%	283	100%
Chemistry	398	28%	437	31%	580	41%	1 415	100%
Organic fine chemistry	42	30%	44	31%	55	39%	141	100%
Biotechnology	43	22%	60	31%	91	47%	194	100%
Pharmaceuticals	47	20%	106	45%	80	34%	233	100%
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	27	19%	45	31%	73	50%	145	100%
Food chemistry	35	28%	33	26%	57	46%	125	100%
Basic materials chemistry	60	35%	45	26%	68	39%	173	100%
Materials, metallurgy	58	38%	38	25%	58	38%	154	100%
Surface technology, coating	37	37%	25	25%	39	39%	101	100%
Micro-structural and nano-technology	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%
Chemical engineering	37	34%	31	29%	40	37%	108	100%
Environmental technology	12	30%	9	23%	19	48%	40	100%
Mechanical engineering	373	33%	236	21%	530	47%	1 139	100%
Handling	56	37%	28	19%	66	44%	150	100%
Machine tools	41	38%	20	19%	46	43%	107	100%
Engines, pumps, turbines	44	27%	35	22%	82	51%	161	100%
Textile and paper machines	41	49%	14	17%	29	35%	84	100%
Other special machines	77	31%	61	25%	109	44%	247	100%
Thermal processes and apparatus	20	34%	9	16%	29	50%	58	100%
Mechanical elements	37	27%	32	24%	66	49%	135	100%
Transport	57	29%	37	19%	103	52%	197	100%
Other fields	137	35%	69	18%	181	47%	387	100%
Furniture, games	28	41%	10	14%	31	45%	69	100%
Other consumer goods	45	25%	41	23%	91	51%	177	100%
Civil engineering	64	45%	18	13%	59	42%	141	100%
Unclassified	0	0%	2	67%	1	33%	3	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 096</b>	<b>28.8%</b>	<b>1 013</b>	<b>26.7%</b>	<b>1 690</b>	<b>44.5%</b>	<b>3 799</b>	<b>100%</b>

Status: May 2023



**c) Appeal procedures**

Refusals by the examining divisions and appeals in 2022

Technology	Decisions to refuse	Appealed decisions	
Electrical engineering	3 479	360	10%
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	177	22	12%
Audio-visual technology	354	33	9%
Telecommunications	133	12	9%
Digital communication	353	33	9%
Basic communication processes	100	14	14%
Computer technology	1 445	133	9%
IT methods for management	833	107	13%
Semiconductors	84	6	7%
Instruments	784	95	12%
Optics	76	5	7%
Measurement	202	17	8%
Analysis of biological materials	14	1	7%
Control	275	45	16%
Medical technology	217	27	12%
Chemistry	319	65	20%
Organic fine chemistry	26	4	15%
Biotechnology	53	11	21%
Pharmaceuticals	57	16	28%
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	10	3	30%
Food chemistry	12	2	17%
Basic materials chemistry	37	10	27%
Materials, metallurgy	22	2	9%
Surface technology, coating	22	2	9%
Micro-structural and nano-technology	2	0	0%
Chemical engineering	40	7	18%
Environmental technology	38	8	21%
Mechanical engineering	223	37	17%
Handling	26	6	23%
Machine tools	15	6	40%
Engines, pumps, turbines	36	8	22%
Textile and paper machines	4	1	25%
Other special machines	34	5	15%
Thermal processes and apparatus	18	3	17%
Mechanical elements	14	1	7%
Transport	76	7	9%
Other fields	96	9	9%
Furniture, games	36	1	3%
Other consumer goods	30	4	13%
Civil engineering	30	4	13%
Unclassified	1	1	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 902</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>12%</b>

## Decisions by the opposition divisions and appeals filed in 2022

Type of decision	Total cases	Appealed cases	
Opposition rejected	1 096	444	41%
Patent revoked	1 013	438	43%
Patent amended	1 690	1 049	62%
Total	3 799	1 931	51%

### d) Processing times

As part of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2023, the times indicated in the table below are represented as mean average delays in months for the European search, the substantive examination and the opposition procedures. In order to properly reflect the delay of the procedures, the statistics are based on standard cases. Previous year figures (also measured as mean averages) are presented for reference.

The delays are measured:

- European search: from date of receipt at the EPO to end of search
- All searches: from date of receipt at the EPO to date of dispatch of the search report
- Examination: from valid request for examination (all formalities completed) to dispatch of the examiner's intention to grant.
- Opposition: from expiry of the opposition filing period to the date of the opposition decision.

The times are calculated for the applications for which the corresponding stage ended in 2022.

Procedure	Months	<i>Previous year</i>
Search (all searches) <sup>(1)</sup>	4.9	4.8
Examination <sup>(2)</sup>	24.3	23.0
Opposition <sup>(3)</sup>	19.6	19.3

- (1) Mean value for standard searches (i.e. excluding non-unity, clarification request or incomplete search).
- (2) Mean value calculated from valid examination request to dispatch of examiner's intention to grant for standard examination (i.e. excluding two or more late payment of fees, two or more requests for extension of time limit, or re-scheduling of oral proceedings).
- (3) Mean value calculated from expiry of opposition filing period to date of opposition decision for standard opposition cases (i.e. excluding cases with more than one opponent, participation of a legal member or re-scheduling of oral proceedings).

## C. PUBLICATIONS

Technology	Applications		Examination requests		Granted patents	
Electrical engineering	59 005	33%	56 919	33%	23 753	29%
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	12 405	6.9%	11 608	6.8%	5 616	6.9%
Audio-visual technology	5 322	3.0%	5 205	3.0%	1 749	2.1%
Telecommunications	4 188	2.3%	4 112	2.4%	1 977	2.4%
Digital communication	15 460	8.6%	15 345	8.9%	6 989	8.5%
Basic communication processes	1 031	0.6%	972	0.6%	484	0.6%
Computer technology	14 562	8.1%	14 047	8.2%	5 146	6.3%
IT methods for management	2 254	1.3%	2 171	1.3%	183	0.2%
Semiconductors	3 783	2.1%	3 459	2.0%	1 609	2.0%
Instruments	31 856	17.8%	30 614	17.8%	15 741	19.3%
Optics	3 951	2.2%	3 768	2.2%	2 048	2.5%
Measurement	8 527	4.8%	8 181	4.8%	5 133	6.3%
Analysis of biological materials	1 105	1%	1 003	1%	438	1%
Control	3 389	1.9%	3 156	1.8%	1 624	2.0%
Medical technology	14 884	8.3%	14 506	8.4%	6 498	7.9%
Chemistry	40 862	22.8%	38 908	22.7%	14 783	18.1%
Organic fine chemistry	4 924	2.7%	4 732	2.8%	2 171	2.7%
Biotechnology	6 708	3.7%	6 477	3.8%	1 521	1.9%
Pharmaceuticals	8 255	4.6%	7 956	4.6%	1 919	2.3%
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	3 778	2.1%	3 565	2.1%	1 599	2.0%
Food chemistry	1 617	0.9%	1 525	0.9%	306	0.4%
Basic materials chemistry	3 682	2%	3 461	2%	1 715	2%
Materials, metallurgy	3 652	2.0%	3 462	2.0%	1 548	1.9%
Surface technology, coating	2 493	1.4%	2 353	1.4%	1 235	1.5%
Micro-structural and nano-technology	150	0.1%	144	0.1%	79	0.1%
Chemical engineering	3 848	2.1%	3 614	2.1%	1 878	2.3%
Environmental technology	1 755	1.0%	1 619	0.9%	812	1.0%
Mechanical engineering	35 568	20%	33 689	20%	21 143	26%
Handling	4 435	2.5%	4 270	2.5%	2 205	2.7%
Machine tools	3 506	2.0%	3 249	1.9%	2 193	2.7%
Engines, pumps, turbines	3 913	2.2%	3 737	2.2%	2 789	3.4%
Textile and paper machines	2 178	1.2%	2 093	1.2%	1 310	1.6%
Other special machines	6 099	3.4%	5 807	3.4%	3 073	3.8%
Thermal processes and apparatus	2 645	1.5%	2 401	1.4%	1 456	1.8%
Mechanical elements	3 653	2.0%	3 433	2.0%	2 391	2.9%
Transport	9 139	5%	8 699	5%	5 726	7%
Other fields	12 048	6.7%	11 493	6.7%	6 309	7.7%
Furniture, games	3 154	1.8%	3 031	1.8%	1 534	1.9%
Other consumer goods	4 592	2.6%	4 451	2.6%	2 115	2.6%
Civil engineering	4 302	2.4%	4 011	2.3%	2 660	3.3%
Unclassified	79	0.0%	72	0.0%	25	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>179 418</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>171 695</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>81 754</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## **D. VALIDATION AND MAINTENANCE OF EUROPEAN PATENTS**

In the following pages, for each member state, the figures presented in the first table indicate the number of applications filed and designating the country, the number of those which have been granted by the EPO, the number of these grants which have been validated and entered into force in the country, and the number of European patents still in force at the end of 2022. The data cover the filing period 2003-2022 for which patents can still be in force.

As the patent term is 20 years, the figures cover the applications filed between January 2003 and December 2022.

Applications for a European patent are counted in the year of the international filing date. In the case of the Euro-direct applications this corresponds to the filing date at the EPO. In the case of the PCT applications only those that entered the regional phase at the EPO are taken into account and they are counted in the year of the international PCT filing date. As a consequence, the yearly counts for applications filed are different from the count of applications at the EPO as reported in sections A and B of the document.

The statistics reflect the current status of the designations in the EPO granting procedure.

The second table indicate the proportion of granted European patents still in force at the end of each patent year. All data are extracted from the EPO database on the basis of data transmitted by the contracting states offices. A patent is considered as maintained until its abandonment is legally recorded and transmitted to the EPO.

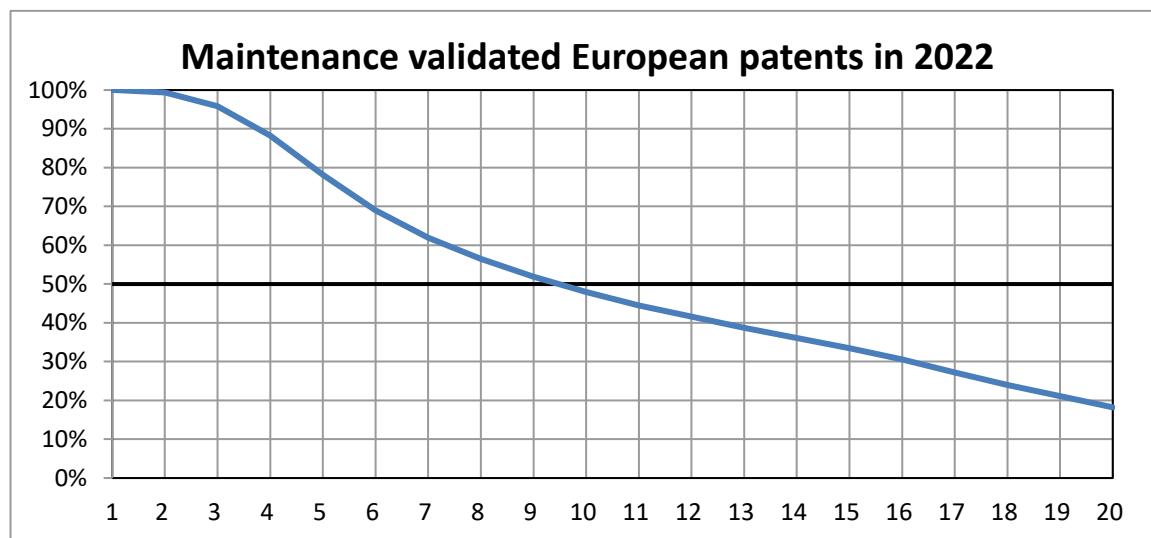
The following table and chart give an overview of the fate of the resulting patent rights granted by the EPO.

Filing period	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
Total counts of designated states				
Total filed: 2003 - 2022	96 788 594	40 087 191	12 517 387	5 740 487
Total filed: 2002 - 2021	91 511 909	37 961 919	12 566 748	6 216 823
<i>Growth: status end of 2022 over status end of 2021</i>	6%	6%	0%	-8%

Due to the legal delay for paying the national renewal fees, the number of patents still in force at the end of 2022 is still provisional.

As shown in the chart below, EP patents validated are maintained on average (median) up to 10 years. As previous year, about 18% are maintained up until the expiration of the 20th patent-year (18% in 2021).

Half of the patent rights granted by the EPO were maintained at least 9.5 years (10.3 years as of 2021).



**a) Albania**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009				
2010	98 672	53 313	629	468
2011	149 281	82 644	1 081	909
2012	153 081	87 501	1 158	1 031
2013	157 655	90 397	1 364	1 274
2014	162 601	93 077	1 643	1 598
2015	161 752	89 387	1 988	1 968
2016	164 589	84 263	2 648	2 645
2017	168 475	72 189	3 706	3 706
2018	171 069	51 138	4 186	4 186
2019	175 174	27 755	4 218	4 218
2020	172 723	8 684	2 166	2 166
2021	104 782	1 329	735	735
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009																			
2010	629	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	87%	80%	76%	74%	74%	74%							
2011	1 081	100%	100%	100%	98%	96%	90%	86%	85%	84%	84%								
2012	1 158	100%	100%	100%	98%	93%	90%	89%	89%	89%									
2013	1 364	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	93%	93%	93%										
2014	1 643	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	97%	97%											
2015	1 988	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%												
2016	2 648	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%													
2017	3 706	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2018	4 186	100%	100%	100%															
2019	4 218	100%	100%																
2020	2 166	100%																	
2021	735																		
2022	2																		

## b) Austria

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	90 860	41 300	12 507	2 170
2004	98 350	44 531	12 672	2 618
2005	107 354	47 310	12 672	3 088
2006	114 415	51 167	13 890	3 622
2007	120 503	55 574	15 124	3 961
2008	131 003	64 526	16 579	4 711
2009	135 166	71 367	16 806	5 172
2010	143 967	77 822	17 730	5 795
2011	149 308	82 669	18 069	6 608
2012	153 107	87 523	18 219	7 014
2013	157 675	90 415	18 090	7 789
2014	162 631	93 104	18 580	8 750
2015	161 766	89 399	18 697	9 438
2016	164 614	84 283	18 769	10 202
2017	168 493	72 199	17 827	16 605
2018	171 088	51 145	14 206	14 206
2019	175 188	27 760	8 841	8 841
2020	172 727	8 684	3 193	3 193
2021	104 784	1 329	635	635
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	12 507	100%	96%	90%	84%	76%	69%	64%	58%	52%	47%	42%	37%	33%	30%	26%	22%	19%	17%
2004	12 672	99%	95%	89%	82%	75%	69%	62%	56%	51%	45%	41%	36%	33%	29%	25%	22%	21%	
2005	12 672	99%	95%	88%	82%	76%	69%	63%	57%	52%	46%	42%	38%	33%	29%	26%	24%		
2006	13 890	99%	95%	95%	78%	72%	65%	59%	54%	49%	44%	40%	35%	31%	28%	26%			
2007	15 124	99%	99%	99%	72%	66%	60%	55%	50%	45%	40%	36%	31%	28%	26%				
2008	16 579	100%	100%	100%	69%	64%	59%	53%	48%	43%	38%	33%	30%	28%					
2009	16 806	100%	100%	100%	68%	62%	57%	51%	46%	41%	36%	32%	31%						
2010	17 730	100%	100%	100%	67%	61%	55%	49%	44%	38%	34%	33%							
2011	18 069	100%	100%	100%	68%	61%	55%	49%	43%	39%	37%								
2012	18 219	100%	100%	100%	66%	59%	52%	46%	40%	38%									
2013	18 090	100%	100%	100%	67%	59%	51%	45%	43%										
2014	18 580	100%	100%	100%	62%	55%	49%	47%											
2015	18 697	100%	100%	100%	59%	53%	50%												
2016	18 769	100%	100%	100%	57%	54%													
2017	17 827	100%	100%	100%	93%														
2018	14 206	100%	100%	100%															
2019	8 841	100%	100%																
2020	3 193	100%																	
2021	635																		
2022	2																		



### c) Belgium

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	91 035	41 368	15 519	2 668
2004	98 554	44 600	16 218	3 144
2005	107 556	47 429	16 879	3 660
2006	114 425	51 189	18 169	4 280
2007	120 444	55 484	19 509	4 639
2008	130 906	64 435	22 364	5 476
2009	135 133	71 341	24 789	6 148
2010	143 959	77 814	28 660	7 044
2011	149 303	82 664	33 019	8 196
2012	153 098	87 515	37 973	9 313
2013	157 664	90 408	44 739	10 921
2014	162 614	93 087	51 460	13 105
2015	161 768	89 401	51 478	15 030
2016	164 605	84 279	50 686	17 544
2017	168 486	72 195	46 305	20 140
2018	171 080	51 138	36 230	20 322
2019	175 173	27 750	21 676	15 280
2020	172 725	8 682	7 657	6 245
2021	104 784	1 329	1 329	1 329
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	15 519	99%	94%	87%	81%	73%	67%	61%	56%	51%	46%	42%	39%	35%	30%	26%	22%	19%	17%
2004	16 218	99%	93%	86%	78%	72%	66%	60%	55%	51%	47%	43%	39%	34%	28%	24%	21%	19%	
2005	16 879	99%	93%	85%	79%	73%	68%	63%	58%	53%	49%	45%	39%	32%	27%	23%	22%		
2006	18 169	99%	93%	86%	79%	74%	68%	64%	59%	55%	51%	43%	35%	29%	25%	24%			
2007	19 509	99%	93%	86%	80%	74%	69%	64%	60%	56%	46%	37%	30%	26%	24%				
2008	22 364	99%	94%	87%	81%	76%	71%	66%	62%	51%	39%	31%	27%	24%					
2009	24 789	99%	93%	87%	82%	77%	73%	68%	55%	42%	32%	27%	25%						
2010	28 660	99%	96%	89%	84%	79%	74%	59%	45%	34%	27%	25%							
2011	33 019	99%	96%	90%	85%	81%	65%	50%	36%	28%	25%								
2012	37 973	99%	96%	90%	86%	68%	51%	37%	28%	25%									
2013	44 739	99%	97%	91%	74%	55%	39%	29%	24%										
2014	51 460	99%	97%	81%	62%	44%	31%	25%											
2015	51 478	99%	92%	73%	53%	37%	29%												
2016	50 686	97%	88%	67%	46%	35%													
2017	46 305	96%	85%	60%	43%														
2018	36 230	95%	79%	56%															
2019	21 676	90%	70%																
2020	7 657	82%																	
2021	1 329																		
2022	2																		

## d) Bulgaria

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 629	40 544	19 375	579
2004	97 434	43 915	20 206	714
2005	106 505	46 733	20 505	732
2006	113 573	50 603	21 548	872
2007	119 820	55 064	21 944	819
2008	130 585	64 189	24 410	976
2009	135 018	71 243	24 946	1 128
2010	143 931	77 785	25 703	1 312
2011	149 285	82 646	28 588	1 583
2012	153 084	87 501	33 247	1 853
2013	157 656	90 397	41 206	2 366
2014	162 610	93 083	46 814	3 099
2015	161 756	89 389	45 643	3 818
2016	164 597	84 265	43 662	5 182
2017	168 484	72 191	39 425	7 147
2018	171 084	51 141	30 342	8 492
2019	175 182	27 756	18 568	8 495
2020	172 728	8 684	6 703	4 077
2021	104 783	1 329	1 304	1 115
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	19 375	96%	80%	65%	52%	42%	33%	25%	18%	15%	13%	13%	11%	9%	7%	5%	4%	3%	3%
2004	20 206	92%	78%	64%	52%	41%	32%	23%	19%	17%	17%	15%	11%	8%	6%	5%	4%	4%	
2005	20 505	93%	78%	65%	52%	40%	30%	24%	22%	21%	18%	13%	10%	7%	5%	4%	4%		
2006	21 548	92%	80%	65%	50%	37%	30%	27%	26%	23%	17%	12%	8%	6%	5%	4%			
2007	21 944	94%	78%	63%	47%	39%	35%	34%	30%	22%	15%	9%	6%	4%	4%				
2008	24 410	93%	78%	61%	49%	45%	44%	39%	28%	19%	11%	7%	5%	4%					
2009	24 946	92%	74%	62%	57%	56%	50%	36%	24%	14%	8%	6%	5%						
2010	25 703	92%	81%	75%	73%	66%	48%	33%	19%	11%	7%	5%							
2011	28 588	95%	89%	87%	79%	59%	41%	24%	13%	8%	6%								
2012	33 247	97%	95%	87%	65%	45%	26%	15%	8%	6%									
2013	41 206	99%	92%	71%	50%	31%	17%	9%	6%										
2014	46 814	97%	82%	61%	38%	21%	10%	7%											
2015	45 643	93%	76%	51%	29%	14%	8%												
2016	43 662	90%	69%	42%	21%	12%													
2017	39 425	88%	62%	33%	18%														
2018	30 342	82%	49%	28%															
2019	18 568	71%	46%																
2020	6 703	61%																	
2021	1 304																		
2022	2																		

e) Switzerland/Liechtenstein

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	92 012	42 106	24 842	3 372
2004	99 674	45 397	27 703	4 123
2005	108 649	48 115	32 127	4 858
2006	115 596	51 949	35 413	5 778
2007	121 310	56 091	37 471	6 548
2008	131 503	64 896	42 952	7 785
2009	135 292	71 476	46 429	8 782
2010	143 959	77 814	50 783	9 766
2011	149 287	82 649	49 659	11 502
2012	153 099	87 515	52 469	12 756
2013	157 663	90 407	55 495	14 547
2014	162 620	93 093	58 690	16 662
2015	161 761	89 394	56 826	18 090
2016	164 586	84 256	55 584	20 469
2017	168 435	72 149	51 504	21 997
2018	171 038	51 105	40 841	20 816
2019	175 151	27 734	25 174	17 271
2020	172 716	8 677	8 677	8 677
2021	104 784	1 328	1 328	1 328
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	24 842	100%	100%	89%	86%	75%	67%	60%	53%	46%	41%	36%	32%	28%	24%	21%	18%	15%	14%
2004	27 703	100%	100%	89%	79%	71%	63%	56%	49%	44%	39%	34%	30%	26%	22%	18%	16%	15%	
2005	32 127	100%	100%	80%	72%	65%	58%	51%	45%	40%	35%	31%	27%	22%	19%	17%	15%		
2006	35 413	100%	100%	78%	71%	63%	56%	49%	44%	38%	33%	28%	24%	20%	18%	16%			
2007	37 471	100%	100%	78%	70%	63%	56%	49%	43%	37%	32%	26%	22%	19%	17%				
2008	42 952	100%	100%	77%	69%	61%	54%	47%	40%	34%	27%	23%	20%	18%					
2009	46 429	100%	100%	75%	67%	59%	52%	44%	37%	29%	24%	21%	19%						
2010	50 783	100%	100%	74%	66%	58%	49%	41%	32%	25%	21%	19%							
2011	49 659	100%	91%	82%	73%	62%	52%	41%	32%	26%	23%								
2012	52 469	100%	91%	81%	69%	57%	44%	34%	28%	24%									
2013	55 495	100%	92%	80%	67%	52%	39%	31%	26%										
2014	58 690	100%	90%	77%	60%	45%	34%	28%											
2015	56 826	100%	87%	72%	54%	40%	32%												
2016	55 584	100%	84%	66%	48%	37%													
2017	51 504	100%	80%	60%	43%														
2018	40 841	100%	73%	51%															
2019	25 174	100%	69%																
2020	8 677	100%																	
2021	1 328																		
2022	2																		

## f) Cyprus

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 584	40 558	1 919	429
2004	97 428	43 904	1 761	574
2005	106 496	46 727	1 667	634
2006	113 561	50 594	1 890	770
2007	119 813	55 060	1 936	813
2008	130 573	64 180	1 969	1 044
2009	135 020	71 244	1 968	1 408
2010	143 928	77 783	2 462	1 966
2011	149 284	82 645	3 368	2 961
2012	153 083	87 501	4 054	3 728
2013	157 655	90 397	5 867	5 562
2014	162 608	93 082	8 323	8 117
2015	161 754	89 388	11 867	11 716
2016	164 592	84 265	17 434	17 359
2017	168 485	72 191	24 632	24 597
2018	171 083	51 140	28 550	28 538
2019	175 179	27 755	20 994	20 992
2020	172 728	8 684	8 684	8 683
2021	104 783	1 329	1 329	1 329
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	1 919	87%	87%	86%	83%	77%	71%	65%	61%	56%	50%	46%	41%	37%	33%	29%	26%	24%	22%
2004	1 761	100%	100%	97%	94%	86%	80%	74%	69%	62%	57%	54%	50%	45%	40%	37%	34%	33%	
2005	1 667	100%	99%	97%	87%	84%	78%	73%	68%	63%	59%	54%	50%	47%	43%	40%	38%		
2006	1 890	100%	99%	86%	83%	79%	75%	71%	66%	62%	58%	53%	50%	46%	43%	41%			
2007	1 936	100%	80%	79%	77%	73%	69%	66%	62%	58%	53%	50%	46%	44%	42%				
2008	1 969	86%	86%	85%	83%	80%	76%	72%	68%	64%	60%	57%	54%	53%					
2009	1 968	98%	98%	98%	96%	95%	91%	87%	83%	80%	77%	73%	72%						
2010	2 462	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	93%	90%	87%	84%	81%	80%							
2011	3 368	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	91%	89%	88%								
2012	4 054	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	95%	93%	92%									
2013	5 867	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	95%										
2014	8 323	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%	98%											
2015	11 867	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%												
2016	17 434	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%													
2017	24 632	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2018	28 550	100%	100%	100%															
2019	20 994	100%	100%																
2020	8 684	100%																	
2021	1 329																		
2022	2																		

## g) Czech Republic

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 945	40 849	5 129	1 236
2004	97 840	44 209	5 402	1 549
2005	106 863	47 004	5 157	1 718
2006	113 912	50 859	5 286	2 000
2007	120 080	55 261	5 054	2 047
2008	130 749	64 314	5 400	2 619
2009	135 059	71 281	5 208	2 713
2010	143 941	77 795	5 377	3 114
2011	149 289	82 650	5 580	3 523
2012	153 086	87 504	5 683	3 899
2013	157 660	90 401	5 770	4 283
2014	162 611	93 084	6 244	5 028
2015	161 757	89 391	6 282	5 437
2016	164 598	84 267	6 255	5 717
2017	168 485	72 192	6 786	6 510
2018	171 085	51 143	6 435	6 321
2019	175 184	27 758	5 505	5 494
2020	172 729	8 685	2 540	2 540
2021	104 783	1 329	771	771
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	5 129	100%	100%	98%	95%	89%	83%	77%	71%	65%	59%	54%	49%	44%	40%	35%	30%	27%	24%
2004	5 402	100%	99%	97%	92%	87%	81%	76%	70%	64%	59%	54%	49%	45%	40%	35%	31%	29%	
2005	5 157	100%	100%	97%	93%	89%	84%	78%	72%	66%	62%	56%	51%	46%	40%	36%	33%		
2006	5 286	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	85%	79%	74%	68%	62%	57%	52%	46%	41%	38%			
2007	5 054	100%	99%	98%	95%	90%	85%	79%	74%	68%	62%	55%	49%	44%	41%				
2008	5 400	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	87%	81%	76%	70%	64%	57%	52%	49%					
2009	5 208	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	86%	80%	75%	69%	61%	55%	52%						
2010	5 377	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	87%	81%	74%	67%	62%	58%							
2011	5 580	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	81%	73%	67%	63%								
2012	5 683	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	87%	79%	73%	69%									
2013	5 770	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	85%	78%	74%										
2014	6 244	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	84%	81%											
2015	6 282	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	87%												
2016	6 255	100%	100%	98%	94%	91%													
2017	6 786	100%	100%	98%	96%														
2018	6 435	100%	99%	98%															
2019	5 505	100%	100%																
2020	2 540	100%																	
2021	771																		
2022	2																		

## h) Germany

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	126 276	62 355	60 020	18 378
2004	132 665	64 498	62 233	23 248
2005	140 931	66 940	64 820	28 196
2006	146 165	69 872	67 715	33 331
2007	145 995	71 392	69 220	37 397
2008	145 250	74 451	71 989	42 791
2009	138 533	73 762	71 201	45 641
2010	144 002	77 857	75 026	51 608
2011	149 298	82 666	79 676	59 017
2012	153 076	87 495	84 262	65 311
2013	157 641	90 387	87 192	71 483
2014	162 608	93 087	89 988	76 904
2015	161 751	89 389	86 543	77 143
2016	164 601	84 276	81 812	75 754
2017	168 478	72 192	70 426	67 045
2018	171 057	51 123	50 278	48 887
2019	175 123	27 715	27 419	27 045
2020	172 710	8 677	8 650	8 562
2021	104 783	1 330	1 330	1 330
2022	63 029	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	60 020	100%	99%	99%	97%	95%	91%	87%	84%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	54%	49%	43%	36%	31%
2004	62 233	100%	99%	99%	97%	94%	91%	88%	85%	80%	76%	71%	66%	61%	55%	49%	42%	37%	
2005	64 820	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	89%	85%	81%	76%	72%	67%	62%	55%	49%	43%		
2006	67 715	100%	100%	99%	97%	96%	93%	90%	86%	82%	77%	72%	67%	61%	54%	49%			
2007	69 220	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	90%	86%	82%	77%	72%	66%	59%	54%				
2008	71 989	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	90%	86%	82%	77%	71%	65%	59%					
2009	71 201	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	90%	86%	81%	76%	69%	64%						
2010	75 026	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	90%	86%	80%	74%	69%							
2011	79 676	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	90%	85%	79%	74%								
2012	84 262	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	88%	83%	78%									
2013	87 192	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	91%	86%	82%										
2014	89 988	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	85%											
2015	86 543	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	89%												
2016	81 812	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%													
2017	70 426	100%	99%	98%	95%														
2018	50 278	100%	99%	97%															
2019	27 419	100%	99%																
2020	8 650	99%																	
2021	1 330																		
2022	2																		

**i) Denmark**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	90 122	40 929	11 033	1 744
2004	97 843	44 177	8 616	2 118
2005	106 889	46 976	6 634	2 413
2006	113 950	50 833	6 636	2 802
2007	120 107	55 268	6 442	2 970
2008	130 737	64 305	6 816	3 620
2009	135 075	71 294	6 997	3 904
2010	143 946	77 799	7 304	4 421
2011	149 294	82 655	7 661	5 129
2012	153 089	87 507	7 483	5 292
2013	157 658	90 401	7 686	5 908
2014	162 620	93 093	7 685	6 218
2015	161 762	89 396	7 299	6 315
2016	164 601	84 270	6 792	6 228
2017	168 488	72 195	5 980	5 742
2018	171 086	51 143	4 595	4 485
2019	175 183	27 757	3 065	3 043
2020	172 727	8 684	1 233	1 231
2021	104 783	1 329	327	327
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	11 033	92%	68%	59%	58%	54%	51%	48%	45%	41%	38%	35%	31%	28%	25%	22%	20%	17%	16%
2004	8 616	84%	75%	74%	71%	68%	65%	61%	57%	52%	48%	44%	40%	37%	33%	29%	26%	25%	
2005	6 634	97%	96%	94%	92%	88%	84%	79%	73%	67%	62%	56%	52%	47%	42%	39%	36%		
2006	6 636	100%	99%	98%	96%	92%	87%	82%	76%	70%	65%	60%	55%	49%	44%	42%			
2007	6 442	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	87%	82%	76%	71%	65%	60%	53%	48%	46%				
2008	6 816	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	83%	77%	72%	66%	60%	56%	53%					
2009	6 997	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	83%	77%	71%	65%	59%	56%						
2010	7 304	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	88%	82%	76%	69%	63%	61%							
2011	7 661	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	88%	83%	75%	70%	67%								
2012	7 483	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	87%	80%	74%	71%									
2013	7 686	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	85%	80%	77%										
2014	7 685	100%	100%	99%	95%	90%	84%	81%											
2015	7 299	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	87%												
2016	6 792	100%	100%	98%	94%	92%													
2017	5 980	100%	100%	98%	96%														
2018	4 595	100%	99%	98%															
2019	3 065	100%	99%																
2020	1 233	100%																	
2021	327																		
2022	2																		

## j) Estonia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 477	40 546	1 975	523
2004	97 404	43 905	1 860	588
2005	106 473	46 727	1 653	597
2006	113 558	50 598	1 689	647
2007	119 814	55 060	1 444	588
2008	130 578	64 184	1 461	706
2009	135 020	71 244	1 460	817
2010	143 928	77 783	1 501	881
2011	149 284	82 645	1 569	1 096
2012	153 084	87 502	1 638	1 185
2013	157 656	90 397	1 976	1 544
2014	162 609	93 082	2 116	1 831
2015	161 755	89 389	2 341	2 128
2016	164 595	84 264	2 819	2 717
2017	168 484	72 191	3 748	3 708
2018	171 083	51 140	4 321	4 307
2019	175 181	27 755	4 373	4 372
2020	172 728	8 684	2 215	2 215
2021	104 783	1 329	746	746
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	1 975	100%	100%	98%	95%	89%	82%	76%	70%	65%	59%	54%	48%	43%	39%	34%	29%	27%	26%
2004	1 860	100%	100%	97%	92%	88%	82%	75%	69%	63%	58%	54%	49%	45%	40%	36%	33%	32%	
2005	1 653	100%	99%	97%	94%	89%	82%	77%	72%	66%	61%	56%	51%	47%	42%	38%	36%		
2006	1 689	100%	99%	98%	94%	89%	84%	78%	72%	66%	60%	55%	49%	45%	41%	38%			
2007	1 444	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	84%	79%	72%	66%	59%	54%	48%	43%	41%				
2008	1 461	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	84%	79%	72%	66%	61%	55%	50%	48%					
2009	1 460	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	82%	76%	71%	63%	58%	56%						
2010	1 501	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	85%	80%	72%	66%	61%	59%							
2011	1 569	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	89%	84%	76%	72%	70%								
2012	1 638	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	86%	80%	75%	72%									
2013	1 976	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	86%	81%	78%										
2014	2 116	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	88%	87%											
2015	2 341	100%	100%	98%	95%	93%	91%												
2016	2 819	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%													
2017	3 748	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2018	4 321	100%	100%	100%															
2019	4 373	100%	100%																
2020	2 215	100%																	
2021	746																		
2022	2																		



**k) Spain**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	95 229	44 299	29 745	5 158
2004	102 506	47 245	29 821	6 041
2005	110 964	49 682	29 362	6 959
2006	117 659	53 337	29 465	8 159
2007	123 171	57 357	28 939	9 218
2008	132 518	65 620	29 021	10 781
2009	135 520	71 650	26 609	11 428
2010	143 980	77 830	23 547	12 356
2011	149 301	82 662	21 112	13 671
2012	153 109	87 526	20 364	14 952
2013	157 678	90 421	20 423	16 055
2014	162 618	93 090	20 849	17 429
2015	161 772	89 405	19 316	17 067
2016	164 610	84 279	17 959	16 532
2017	168 492	72 200	15 139	14 472
2018	171 089	51 146	10 809	10 617
2019	175 187	27 760	5 732	5 698
2020	172 727	8 684	1 849	1 844
2021	104 783	1 329	300	300
2022	63 030	2	1	1

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	29 745	99%	93%	86%	79%	71%	63%	57%	51%	45%	41%	38%	34%	31%	28%	25%	21%	18%	17%
2004	29 821	97%	91%	85%	77%	69%	62%	55%	49%	45%	41%	38%	34%	31%	28%	24%	21%	20%	
2005	29 362	97%	91%	83%	75%	68%	60%	53%	50%	46%	42%	39%	35%	32%	28%	25%	24%		
2006	29 465	97%	90%	82%	74%	65%	58%	54%	51%	47%	43%	40%	36%	32%	29%	28%			
2007	28 939	97%	89%	80%	71%	63%	60%	57%	53%	49%	45%	41%	37%	33%	32%				
2008	29 021	96%	88%	77%	67%	65%	62%	59%	55%	51%	47%	42%	38%	37%					
2009	26 609	96%	84%	73%	71%	69%	66%	62%	59%	54%	49%	44%	43%						
2010	23 547	93%	83%	82%	80%	78%	74%	70%	65%	59%	54%	49%	52%						
2011	21 112	94%	94%	93%	90%	87%	83%	79%	72%	67%	65%								
2012	20 364	99%	99%	98%	96%	93%	88%	81%	75%	73%									
2013	20 423	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	86%	80%	79%										
2014	20 849	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	85%	84%											
2015	19 316	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	88%												
2016	17 959	100%	100%	97%	94%	92%													
2017	15 139	100%	99%	97%	96%														
2018	10 809	100%	99%	98%															
2019	5 732	100%	99%																
2020	1 849	100%																	
2021	300																		
2022	1																		

## I) Finland

Filing year	Applications atled	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	90 741	41 257	5 742	1 412
2004	98 351	44 465	5 467	1 686
2005	107 368	47 266	5 356	1 956
2006	114 429	51 060	5 469	2 230
2007	120 452	55 442	5 136	2 268
2008	130 853	64 369	5 484	2 869
2009	135 077	71 289	5 254	3 012
2010	143 945	77 798	5 375	3 254
2011	149 300	82 661	5 477	3 653
2012	153 090	87 507	5 354	3 723
2013	157 668	90 410	5 514	4 116
2014	162 615	93 087	5 585	4 491
2015	161 762	89 394	5 148	4 409
2016	164 603	84 272	4 653	4 215
2017	168 486	72 193	3 679	3 477
2018	171 085	51 142	2 596	2 527
2019	175 181	27 755	1 342	1 329
2020	172 728	8 684	432	430
2021	104 783	1 329	58	58
2022	63 030	2	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	5 742	100%	100%	99%	96%	90%	84%	78%	72%	66%	61%	55%	49%	44%	39%	35%	30%	27%	25%
2004	5 467	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	84%	78%	72%	66%	60%	55%	51%	46%	41%	37%	33%	31%	
2005	5 356	100%	100%	97%	94%	90%	85%	80%	73%	68%	63%	58%	54%	48%	43%	39%	37%		
2006	5 469	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	86%	81%	74%	69%	64%	59%	53%	48%	43%	41%			
2007	5 136	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	86%	80%	75%	69%	64%	58%	52%	47%	44%				
2008	5 484	100%	100%	99%	95%	92%	87%	82%	76%	71%	65%	59%	55%	52%					
2009	5 254	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	87%	82%	77%	71%	65%	60%	57%						
2010	5 375	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	87%	82%	75%	69%	64%	61%							
2011	5 477	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	83%	76%	70%	67%								
2012	5 354	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	86%	78%	73%	70%									
2013	5 514	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	84%	79%	75%										
2014	5 585	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	85%	80%											
2015	5 148	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	86%												
2016	4 653	100%	100%	98%	94%	91%													
2017	3 679	100%	99%	97%	95%														
2018	2 596	100%	99%	97%															
2019	1 342	100%	99%																
2020	432	100%																	
2021	58																		
2022																			

## m) France

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	121 704	59 647	52 909	13 629
2004	128 293	61 940	55 275	17 069
2005	136 175	64 148	57 821	20 343
2006	141 067	66 822	60 234	24 379
2007	141 923	68 749	61 864	27 680
2008	142 156	72 220	64 074	31 543
2009	137 838	73 282	64 119	34 186
2010	144 056	77 915	67 677	38 749
2011	149 342	82 711	71 506	44 376
2012	153 137	87 554	75 907	49 668
2013	157 707	90 454	78 845	55 010
2014	162 676	93 152	81 835	60 284
2015	161 818	89 449	78 742	61 188
2016	164 648	84 325	74 517	60 929
2017	168 524	72 232	64 916	55 443
2018	171 096	51 155	47 129	42 036
2019	175 187	27 763	26 199	24 305
2020	172 724	8 683	8 415	8 044
2021	104 785	1 330	1 320	1 319
2022	63 029	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	52 909	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	86%	82%	77%	71%	65%	60%	55%	50%	44%	39%	33%	28%	26%
2004	55 275	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	86%	82%	76%	71%	65%	61%	55%	49%	44%	38%	33%	31%	
2005	57 821	100%	99%	96%	93%	90%	86%	81%	76%	70%	66%	61%	55%	49%	43%	37%	35%		
2006	60 234	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	81%	76%	71%	66%	60%	54%	48%	43%	40%			
2007	61 864	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	81%	76%	71%	65%	59%	53%	47%	45%				
2008	64 074	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	85%	81%	76%	70%	64%	57%	52%	49%					
2009	64 119	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	85%	80%	75%	68%	62%	56%	53%						
2010	67 677	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	85%	79%	73%	66%	60%	57%							
2011	71 506	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	84%	78%	71%	65%	62%								
2012	75 907	100%	99%	96%	92%	87%	82%	74%	68%	65%									
2013	78 845	100%	99%	96%	91%	86%	79%	73%	70%										
2014	81 835	100%	98%	95%	90%	83%	77%	74%											
2015	78 742	100%	98%	94%	88%	81%	78%												
2016	74 517	100%	98%	92%	86%	82%													
2017	64 916	99%	97%	90%	85%														
2018	47 129	99%	95%	89%															
2019	26 199	98%	93%																
2020	8 415	96%																	
2021	1 320																		
2022	2																		

## n) United Kingdom

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	120 873	58 824	52 470	13 141
2004	127 181	60 911	54 228	16 523
2005	135 146	63 201	56 885	19 686
2006	140 001	65 763	59 561	23 411
2007	140 809	67 718	60 983	26 095
2008	141 716	71 726	63 989	29 917
2009	137 569	72 994	64 149	32 393
2010	143 758	77 632	68 007	36 439
2011	149 061	82 445	71 732	41 640
2012	152 773	87 210	75 998	46 787
2013	157 295	90 067	79 415	52 437
2014	162 267	92 767	82 670	57 468
2015	161 452	89 122	79 964	57 657
2016	164 309	84 010	76 565	57 496
2017	168 287	72 035	67 911	52 281
2018	170 867	50 998	50 228	42 580
2019	175 000	27 654	27 654	27 653
2020	172 642	8 668	8 668	8 668
2021	104 762	1 326	1 326	1 326
2022	63 025	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	52 470	100%	100%	97%	95%	89%	84%	80%	75%	70%	64%	59%	53%	48%	43%	38%	32%	27%	25%
2004	54 228	100%	100%	97%	93%	89%	84%	80%	75%	70%	64%	59%	54%	48%	43%	37%	33%	30%	
2005	56 885	100%	100%	95%	92%	88%	84%	79%	74%	69%	64%	59%	53%	47%	42%	37%	35%		
2006	59 561	100%	100%	94%	91%	88%	83%	78%	74%	68%	63%	58%	52%	46%	42%	39%			
2007	60 983	100%	100%	94%	91%	87%	82%	78%	73%	68%	62%	56%	50%	45%	43%				
2008	63 989	100%	100%	94%	90%	86%	82%	77%	72%	66%	61%	55%	49%	47%					
2009	64 149	100%	100%	92%	89%	85%	81%	76%	70%	64%	58%	53%	50%						
2010	68 007	100%	100%	92%	88%	84%	80%	74%	68%	62%	56%	54%							
2011	71 732	100%	100%	92%	89%	84%	79%	73%	66%	61%	58%								
2012	75 998	100%	100%	92%	88%	83%	77%	70%	64%	62%									
2013	79 415	100%	100%	92%	87%	81%	75%	69%	66%										
2014	82 670	100%	100%	91%	85%	79%	73%	70%											
2015	79 964	100%	100%	88%	82%	76%	72%												
2016	76 565	100%	100%	86%	79%	75%													
2017	67 911	100%	100%	82%	77%														
2018	50 228	100%	100%	85%															
2019	27 654	100%	100%																
2020	8 668	100%																	
2021	1 326																		
2022	2																		

**o) Greece**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 637	40 614	21 777	908
2004	97 509	43 970	23 059	1 020
2005	106 556	46 784	24 250	1 192
2006	113 610	50 628	26 304	1 349
2007	119 862	55 090	27 730	1 326
2008	130 600	64 201	32 039	1 526
2009	135 029	71 251	34 619	1 645
2010	143 934	77 788	38 036	1 869
2011	149 285	82 646	40 790	2 163
2012	153 084	87 502	43 485	2 376
2013	157 655	90 397	46 326	2 856
2014	162 609	93 083	48 406	3 356
2015	161 756	89 389	45 795	3 726
2016	164 592	84 265	43 323	4 327
2017	168 484	72 191	38 799	5 313
2018	171 082	51 139	29 368	5 616
2019	175 180	27 755	17 431	5 010
2020	172 727	8 684	6 140	2 333
2021	104 783	1 329	1 291	750
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	21 777	95%	82%	69%	58%	48%	40%	33%	27%	22%	18%	16%	13%	10%	8%	7%	5%	5%	4%
2004	23 059	93%	81%	70%	58%	49%	40%	33%	27%	23%	19%	16%	12%	10%	7%	6%	5%		
2005	24 250	94%	82%	70%	59%	50%	41%	33%	28%	23%	19%	14%	11%	8%	7%	6%	5%		
2006	26 304	94%	82%	71%	59%	49%	40%	34%	27%	22%	17%	13%	9%	7%	6%	5%			
2007	27 730	94%	82%	70%	59%	49%	40%	33%	27%	20%	14%	10%	7%	6%	5%				
2008	32 039	95%	84%	71%	58%	49%	40%	32%	24%	17%	11%	7%	6%	5%					
2009	34 619	94%	82%	69%	58%	47%	38%	28%	20%	12%	8%	6%	5%						
2010	38 036	95%	83%	70%	58%	47%	35%	24%	15%	9%	6%	5%							
2011	40 790	94%	84%	70%	57%	43%	31%	19%	12%	7%	5%								
2012	43 485	94%	82%	68%	51%	36%	22%	13%	8%	5%									
2013	46 326	95%	83%	65%	46%	29%	17%	10%	6%										
2014	48 406	94%	80%	60%	38%	22%	12%	7%											
2015	45 795	92%	76%	52%	30%	16%	8%												
2016	43 323	91%	70%	43%	22%	10%													
2017	38 799	88%	62%	33%	14%														
2018	29 368	82%	49%	19%															
2019	17 431	70%	29%																
2020	6 140	38%																	
2021	1 291																		
2022	2																		

**p) Croatia**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008	130 555	64 181	1 856	736
2009	135 018	71 244	1 894	828
2010	143 933	77 787	1 859	961
2011	149 284	82 645	1 651	1 009
2012	153 083	87 502	1 636	1 095
2013	157 656	90 397	1 648	1 175
2014	162 611	93 084	1 625	1 307
2015	161 756	89 389	1 570	1 323
2016	164 596	84 265	1 350	1 215
2017	168 484	72 191	1 089	1 022
2018	171 083	51 140	811	775
2019	175 180	27 755	430	426
2020	172 728	8 684	150	150
2021	104 783	1 329	27	27
2022	63 030	2	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008	1 856	100%	100%	98%	84%	79%	74%	69%	63%	56%	51%	46%	42%	40%					
2009	1 894	100%	100%	85%	82%	79%	74%	69%	63%	57%	51%	46%	44%						
2010	1 859	100%	91%	89%	86%	82%	77%	71%	65%	59%	54%	52%							
2011	1 651	97%	96%	95%	93%	89%	83%	77%	69%	64%	61%								
2012	1 636	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	84%	76%	70%	67%									
2013	1 648	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	81%	75%	71%										
2014	1 625	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	83%	80%											
2015	1 570	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	84%												
2016	1 350	100%	99%	97%	93%	90%													
2017	1 089	100%	100%	97%	94%														
2018	811	100%	98%	96%															
2019	430	100%	99%																
2020	150	100%																	
2021	27																		
2022																			

**q) Hungary**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 447	40 601	15 842	1 081
2004	97 571	44 018	14 584	1 359
2005	106 645	46 853	12 538	1 552
2006	113 791	50 744	10 337	1 878
2007	120 141	55 267	7 228	1 953
2008	130 715	64 268	5 160	2 562
2009	135 052	71 267	4 733	2 929
2010	143 931	77 786	5 200	3 563
2011	149 287	82 648	6 060	4 643
2012	153 086	87 504	7 004	5 546
2013	157 657	90 398	8 605	7 541
2014	162 610	93 083	10 921	10 104
2015	161 757	89 390	14 307	13 729
2016	164 597	84 266	19 597	19 149
2017	168 484	72 191	26 017	25 844
2018	171 083	51 140	29 191	29 125
2019	175 180	27 755	21 257	21 248
2020	172 728	8 684	8 653	8 653
2021	104 783	1 329	1 329	1 329
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	15 842	97%	82%	63%	47%	31%	21%	20%	18%	17%	15%	14%	13%	11%	10%	9%	8%	7%	7%
2004	14 584	95%	78%	58%	38%	25%	24%	22%	20%	19%	17%	16%	14%	13%	12%	11%	10%	9%	
2005	12 538	95%	74%	49%	31%	30%	28%	26%	24%	22%	21%	19%	17%	16%	14%	13%	12%		
2006	10 337	93%	66%	41%	39%	37%	35%	33%	31%	28%	26%	24%	22%	21%	19%	18%			
2007	7 228	89%	58%	57%	55%	52%	49%	46%	43%	40%	37%	34%	31%	28%	27%				
2008	5 160	92%	92%	91%	88%	84%	80%	75%	70%	66%	63%	58%	55%	53%					
2009	4 733	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	84%	79%	74%	68%	64%	62%						
2010	5 200	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	84%	79%	74%	71%	69%							
2011	6 060	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%	87%	82%	78%	77%								
2012	7 004	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	91%	87%	84%	82%									
2013	8 605	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	92%	89%	88%										
2014	10 921	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	94%	93%											
2015	14 307	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%												
2016	19 597	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%													
2017	26 017	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2018	29 191	100%	100%	100%															
2019	21 257	100%	100%																
2020	8 653	100%																	
2021	1 329																		
2022	2																		

r) Ireland

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	90 187	40 966	18 674	1 790
2004	97 956	44 218	19 698	2 110
2005	106 979	47 026	21 128	2 446
2006	114 131	50 923	23 517	2 877
2007	120 346	55 401	25 457	3 066
2008	130 883	64 391	30 890	3 623
2009	135 087	71 290	34 909	4 102
2010	143 926	77 781	40 080	4 709
2011	149 275	82 636	43 147	5 482
2012	153 074	87 492	46 184	6 228
2013	157 644	90 387	49 156	7 586
2014	162 598	93 072	51 420	8 978
2015	161 744	89 378	49 142	10 010
2016	164 569	84 243	47 250	11 989
2017	168 428	72 142	43 031	14 358
2018	171 031	51 100	33 321	15 182
2019	175 145	27 729	19 858	12 516
2020	172 716	8 677	7 015	5 377
2021	104 781	1 328	1 328	1 328
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	18 674	100%	95%	86%	77%	66%	59%	51%	45%	38%	33%	29%	25%	21%	18%	15%	12%	11%	10%
2004	19 698	100%	95%	86%	76%	68%	60%	53%	45%	38%	33%	29%	24%	21%	17%	14%	12%	11%	
2005	21 128	100%	95%	86%	78%	69%	61%	52%	44%	38%	33%	27%	23%	19%	15%	13%	12%		
2006	23 517	100%	94%	87%	78%	69%	59%	50%	43%	37%	30%	25%	19%	16%	14%	12%			
2007	25 457	100%	95%	87%	79%	67%	57%	49%	41%	34%	27%	20%	16%	13%	12%				
2008	30 890	100%	96%	88%	75%	64%	54%	46%	37%	29%	21%	16%	13%	12%					
2009	34 909	99%	95%	82%	70%	60%	51%	40%	31%	23%	17%	13%	12%						
2010	40 080	99%	92%	79%	68%	57%	46%	36%	25%	18%	14%	12%							
2011	43 147	98%	92%	79%	68%	55%	43%	31%	21%	15%	13%								
2012	46 184	98%	91%	78%	64%	49%	35%	24%	17%	13%									
2013	49 156	98%	93%	77%	61%	43%	30%	20%	15%										
2014	51 420	98%	91%	74%	54%	36%	24%	17%											
2015	49 142	97%	89%	69%	47%	30%	20%												
2016	47 250	97%	86%	62%	39%	25%													
2017	43 031	96%	83%	55%	33%														
2018	33 321	94%	75%	46%															
2019	19 858	89%	63%																
2020	7 015	77%																	
2021	1 328																		
2022	2																		



s) Iceland

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004	18 284	8 270	496	95
2005	106 460	46 729	23 097	656
2006	113 554	50 596	25 192	738
2007	119 817	55 064	26 647	682
2008	130 569	64 180	30 865	771
2009	135 019	71 245	33 558	960
2010	143 929	77 784	37 006	977
2011	149 284	82 645	39 893	1 243
2012	153 084	87 502	42 940	1 396
2013	157 656	90 397	45 762	1 707
2014	162 607	93 081	47 904	2 150
2015	161 754	89 387	45 412	2 512
2016	164 596	84 265	43 083	3 335
2017	168 484	72 191	38 182	4 522
2018	171 083	51 140	29 038	5 375
2019	175 179	27 755	17 412	5 492
2020	172 728	8 684	6 255	2 829
2021	104 783	1 329	1 295	870
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004	496	100%	96%	91%	77%	70%	65%	60%	51%	46%	40%	37%	32%	28%	24%	22%	19%	19%	
2005	23 097	95%	82%	68%	57%	46%	36%	30%	24%	20%	15%	11%	8%	5%	4%	3%	3%		
2006	25 192	94%	82%	69%	57%	45%	37%	30%	24%	19%	14%	9%	6%	4%	3%	3%			
2007	26 647	95%	82%	69%	56%	47%	38%	31%	24%	17%	11%	6%	4%	3%	3%				
2008	30 865	95%	84%	70%	58%	48%	39%	31%	22%	15%	8%	5%	3%	2%					
2009	33 558	95%	82%	70%	58%	48%	38%	27%	18%	10%	6%	4%	3%						
2010	37 006	95%	84%	71%	58%	46%	34%	23%	13%	7%	4%	3%							
2011	39 893	95%	85%	71%	58%	43%	30%	17%	10%	5%	3%								
2012	42 940	95%	83%	68%	51%	36%	21%	12%	6%	3%									
2013	45 762	96%	84%	65%	47%	29%	16%	7%	4%										
2014	47 904	95%	81%	61%	38%	21%	10%	4%											
2015	45 412	93%	78%	53%	31%	14%	6%												
2016	43 083	92%	72%	45%	21%	8%													
2017	38 182	89%	66%	34%	12%														
2018	29 038	84%	52%	19%															
2019	17 412	73%	32%																
2020	6 255	45%																	
2021	1 295																		
2022	2																		

t) Italy

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	104 993	50 295	30 084	7 805
2004	111 567	52 806	30 141	9 164
2005	119 599	55 078	29 473	10 547
2006	125 334	58 222	29 228	12 536
2007	128 883	61 271	29 224	14 089
2008	135 252	67 694	29 739	16 119
2009	136 131	72 147	28 777	17 113
2010	144 006	77 857	29 233	19 006
2011	149 321	82 681	30 025	21 512
2012	153 119	87 536	31 256	23 812
2013	157 694	90 437	31 910	25 962
2014	162 636	93 109	34 070	29 418
2015	161 782	89 415	33 277	30 228
2016	164 619	84 292	33 788	31 958
2017	168 513	72 221	32 972	32 094
2018	171 097	51 153	28 853	28 639
2019	175 189	27 762	19 346	19 346
2020	172 728	8 684	7 575	7 575
2021	104 783	1 329	1 327	1 327
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	30 084	100%	100%	99%	93%	88%	83%	78%	73%	67%	62%	56%	51%	46%	42%	37%	31%	27%	26%
2004	30 141	100%	100%	95%	91%	87%	83%	78%	73%	68%	62%	57%	51%	46%	41%	35%	31%	30%	
2005	29 473	100%	97%	95%	92%	89%	85%	80%	75%	69%	64%	58%	53%	48%	41%	37%	36%		
2006	29 228	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	88%	83%	78%	72%	67%	61%	56%	48%	44%	43%			
2007	29 224	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	83%	79%	73%	68%	62%	54%	49%	48%				
2008	29 739	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	89%	84%	79%	74%	68%	60%	56%	54%					
2009	28 777	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	84%	80%	74%	66%	61%	59%						
2010	29 233	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	85%	80%	72%	67%	65%							
2011	30 025	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	85%	78%	73%	72%								
2012	31 256	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	82%	78%	76%									
2013	31 910	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	87%	83%	81%										
2014	34 070	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	86%											
2015	33 277	100%	100%	99%	95%	92%	91%												
2016	33 788	100%	100%	98%	96%	95%													
2017	32 972	100%	100%	98%	97%														
2018	28 853	100%	100%	99%															
2019	19 346	100%	100%																
2020	7 575	100%																	
2021	1 327																		
2022	2																		

## u) Lithuania

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004	9 758	4 442	166	40
2005	106 464	46 729	1 716	597
2006	113 560	50 602	1 778	678
2007	119 822	55 065	1 515	607
2008	130 576	64 183	1 539	702
2009	135 020	71 245	1 498	789
2010	143 929	77 784	1 526	869
2011	149 284	82 645	1 492	963
2012	153 084	87 502	1 431	948
2013	157 656	90 397	1 494	1 041
2014	162 609	93 082	1 429	1 122
2015	161 754	89 388	1 350	1 107
2016	164 589	84 263	1 143	1 015
2017	168 485	72 192	938	878
2018	171 083	51 140	632	595
2019	175 181	27 755	323	318
2020	172 728	8 684	104	104
2021	104 783	1 329	13	13
2022	63 030	2	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004	166	100%	99%	97%	92%	90%	84%	74%	66%	60%	57%	53%	45%	39%	35%	27%	24%	24%	
2005	1 716	100%	99%	97%	93%	89%	83%	77%	71%	65%	60%	55%	50%	46%	41%	38%	35%		
2006	1 778	100%	99%	98%	94%	90%	86%	79%	73%	67%	61%	56%	50%	46%	42%	38%			
2007	1 515	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	83%	79%	72%	66%	60%	54%	48%	43%	40%				
2008	1 539	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	84%	78%	72%	65%	59%	53%	49%	46%					
2009	1 498	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	87%	82%	75%	69%	62%	57%	53%						
2010	1 526	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	86%	80%	72%	65%	61%	57%							
2011	1 492	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	87%	81%	73%	68%	65%								
2012	1 431	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	84%	76%	71%	66%									
2013	1 494	100%	100%	98%	96%	90%	81%	75%	70%										
2014	1 429	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	84%	79%											
2015	1 350	100%	100%	97%	91%	87%	82%												
2016	1 143	100%	100%	97%	95%	89%													
2017	938	100%	100%	97%	94%														
2018	632	100%	99%	94%															
2019	323	99%	98%																
2020	104	100%																	
2021	13																		
2022																			

v) Luxembourg

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 617	40 612	21 720	742
2004	97 478	43 936	22 929	904
2005	106 538	46 763	24 172	990
2006	113 609	50 634	26 316	1 099
2007	119 859	55 091	27 817	1 119
2008	130 594	64 197	32 157	1 401
2009	135 025	71 247	34 880	1 679
2010	143 937	77 792	38 301	1 879
2011	149 287	82 648	40 926	2 418
2012	153 082	87 500	43 861	2 894
2013	157 656	90 399	46 729	3 676
2014	162 606	93 079	48 950	4 714
2015	161 759	89 392	46 652	5 862
2016	164 595	84 264	44 883	7 982
2017	168 482	72 192	40 830	10 661
2018	171 077	51 135	31 738	12 458
2019	175 174	27 750	18 859	11 104
2020	172 727	8 684	6 664	4 957
2021	104 783	1 329	1 329	1 329
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	21 720	99%	91%	75%	63%	51%	42%	34%	27%	22%	18%	15%	13%	10%	8%	6%	5%	4%	3%
2004	22 929	99%	88%	75%	62%	52%	42%	34%	28%	23%	19%	16%	12%	10%	7%	5%	4%		
2005	24 172	99%	90%	75%	64%	53%	44%	35%	29%	24%	20%	15%	11%	8%	6%	5%	4%		
2006	26 316	99%	88%	76%	64%	53%	43%	35%	29%	24%	18%	13%	9%	6%	5%	4%			
2007	27 817	98%	89%	76%	64%	53%	43%	36%	29%	22%	16%	10%	7%	5%	4%				
2008	32 157	99%	91%	77%	64%	53%	44%	36%	27%	20%	12%	8%	5%	4%					
2009	34 880	99%	89%	76%	64%	53%	43%	33%	24%	15%	9%	6%	5%						
2010	38 301	98%	91%	77%	64%	53%	40%	29%	18%	11%	7%	5%							
2011	40 926	98%	91%	77%	65%	50%	37%	25%	14%	9%	6%								
2012	43 861	98%	91%	76%	60%	44%	29%	17%	10%	7%									
2013	46 729	98%	92%	75%	57%	38%	23%	13%	8%										
2014	48 950	98%	90%	72%	50%	30%	17%	10%											
2015	46 652	97%	88%	66%	42%	23%	13%												
2016	44 883	97%	85%	59%	34%	18%													
2017	40 830	95%	81%	51%	26%														
2018	31 738	93%	73%	39%															
2019	18 859	88%	59%																
2020	6 664	74%																	
2021	1 329																		
2022	2																		

w) Latvia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005	54 214	23 904	746	239
2006	113 551	50 596	1 722	606
2007	119 812	55 060	1 471	545
2008	130 574	64 181	1 437	614
2009	135 019	71 244	1 465	718
2010	143 928	77 783	1 415	770
2011	149 284	82 645	1 360	863
2012	153 085	87 503	1 300	833
2013	157 656	90 397	1 344	927
2014	162 609	93 082	1 227	965
2015	161 755	89 388	1 173	967
2016	164 592	84 265	984	881
2017	168 484	72 191	798	757
2018	171 083	51 140	501	481
2019	175 181	27 755	269	265
2020	172 728	8 684	86	86
2021	104 783	1 329	15	15
2022	63 030	2	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005	746	100%	99%	97%	95%	90%	83%	78%	71%	64%	59%	51%	46%	41%	37%	33%	32%		
2006	1 722	100%	99%	98%	95%	90%	86%	80%	72%	65%	58%	53%	47%	42%	39%	35%			
2007	1 471	100%	100%	97%	93%	89%	83%	78%	69%	62%	56%	50%	44%	40%	37%				
2008	1 437	100%	100%	98%	95%	89%	83%	76%	69%	62%	57%	50%	45%	43%					
2009	1 465	100%	100%	99%	97%	92%	85%	78%	71%	65%	58%	52%	49%						
2010	1 415	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	83%	78%	69%	61%	57%	54%							
2011	1 360	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	85%	79%	71%	66%	63%								
2012	1 300	100%	100%	99%	97%	92%	83%	74%	68%	64%									
2013	1 344	100%	100%	98%	95%	89%	79%	74%	69%										
2014	1 227	100%	99%	97%	93%	87%	82%	79%											
2015	1 173	100%	100%	97%	91%	86%	82%												
2016	984	100%	100%	97%	94%	90%													
2017	798	100%	100%	98%	95%														
2018	501	100%	99%	96%															
2019	269	100%	99%																
2020	86	100%																	
2021	15																		
2022																			

**x) Monaco**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 523	40 552	17 700	415
2004	97 398	43 895	17 224	515
2005	106 470	46 723	16 141	577
2006	113 548	50 589	15 324	637
2007	119 814	55 057	13 100	581
2008	130 572	64 179	10 825	712
2009	135 015	71 239	7 494	875
2010	143 927	77 782	3 984	1 015
2011	149 283	82 644	2 560	1 461
2012	153 081	87 499	2 162	1 642
2013	157 653	90 396	2 760	2 299
2014	162 602	93 076	3 561	3 163
2015	161 757	89 390	4 423	4 147
2016	164 590	84 263	6 112	5 929
2017	168 476	72 186	8 486	8 400
2018	171 077	51 135	10 456	10 407
2019	175 171	27 748	10 055	10 049
2020	172 725	8 682	4 629	4 629
2021	104 783	1 329	1 288	1 288
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	17 700	99%	88%	68%	53%	38%	27%	18%	10%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%
2004	17 224	98%	84%	66%	48%	34%	22%	11%	7%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%	4%	3%	3%	
2005	16 141	98%	84%	61%	44%	27%	14%	8%	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%	4%	4%		
2006	15 324	98%	79%	58%	36%	17%	10%	9%	8%	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%			
2007	13 100	97%	76%	47%	21%	11%	10%	9%	8%	7%	7%	6%	5%	5%	4%				
2008	10 825	96%	71%	31%	14%	13%	12%	11%	10%	9%	9%	8%	7%	7%					
2009	7 494	93%	47%	22%	21%	20%	19%	18%	17%	15%	14%	12%	12%						
2010	3 984	81%	43%	42%	41%	39%	37%	34%	31%	29%	27%	25%							
2011	2 560	81%	80%	80%	78%	75%	71%	68%	62%	59%	57%								
2012	2 162	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	83%	79%	76%									
2013	2 760	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	90%	87%	83%										
2014	3 561	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%	89%											
2015	4 423	100%	100%	99%	97%	96%	94%												
2016	6 112	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%													
2017	8 486	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2018	10 456	100%	100%	100%															
2019	10 055	100%	100%																
2020	4 629	100%																	
2021	1 288																		
2022	2																		

**y) Montenegro**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009				
2010				
2011				
2012				
2013				
2014				
2015				
2016				
2017				
2018				
2019				
2020				
2021				
2022	17 033	0	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009																			
2010																			
2011																			
2012																			
2013																			
2014																			
2015																			
2016																			
2017																			
2018																			
2019																			
2020																			
2021																			
2022																			

**z) North Macedonia**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009	135 011	71 240	3 464	3 343
2010	143 926	77 782	4 842	4 752
2011	149 284	82 645	6 896	6 871
2012	153 083	87 502	9 077	9 072
2013	157 656	90 397	13 506	13 503
2014	162 607	93 081	19 319	19 318
2015	161 753	89 387	27 472	27 472
2016	164 596	84 265	38 824	38 824
2017	168 484	72 191	49 136	49 136
2018	171 083	51 140	44 179	44 179
2019	175 180	27 755	27 754	27 754
2020	172 728	8 684	8 684	8 684
2021	104 783	1 329	1 329	1 329
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009	3 464	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%						
2010	4 842	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%						
2011	6 896	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%						
2012	9 077	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%						
2013	13 506	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%									
2014	19 319	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%										
2015	27 472	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%											
2016	38 824	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%													
2017	49 136	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2018	44 179	100%	100%	100%															
2019	27 754	100%	100%																
2020	8 684	100%																	
2021	1 329																		
2022	2																		



aa) Malta

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007	102 371	47 188	5 323	1 658
2008	130 567	64 177	9 486	2 148
2009	135 018	71 244	12 106	2 926
2010	143 929	77 784	16 267	4 382
2011	149 285	82 646	21 096	6 619
2012	153 084	87 502	26 329	8 914
2013	157 654	90 396	30 773	13 428
2014	162 606	93 079	33 261	19 371
2015	161 756	89 389	34 493	27 559
2016	164 591	84 264	41 771	38 912
2017	168 480	72 188	49 932	49 172
2018	171 077	51 135	44 190	44 189
2019	175 173	27 749	27 748	27 748
2020	172 726	8 682	8 682	8 682
2021	104 784	1 329	1 329	1 329
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007	5 323	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	76%	55%	36%	33%	31%	31%	31%				
2008	9 486	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%	77%	53%	32%	24%	23%	23%	23%					
2009	12 106	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	78%	54%	33%	25%	24%	24%	24%						
2010	16 267	100%	100%	100%	100%	80%	57%	36%	28%	27%	27%	27%							
2011	21 096	100%	100%	100%	82%	60%	40%	32%	31%	31%	31%								
2012	26 329	100%	100%	85%	64%	43%	34%	34%	34%	34%									
2013	30 773	100%	94%	77%	55%	44%	44%	44%	44%										
2014	33 261	99%	91%	72%	58%	58%	58%	58%											
2015	34 493	98%	90%	80%	80%	80%	80%												
2016	41 771	98%	93%	93%	93%	93%													
2017	49 932	99%	99%	98%	98%														
2018	44 190	100%	100%	100%															
2019	27 748	100%	100%																
2020	8 682	100%																	
2021	1 329																		
2022	2																		

**bb) Netherlands**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	94 747	43 414	15 264	3 904
2004	102 389	46 567	15 681	4 934
2005	110 915	49 090	15 866	5 789
2006	117 975	52 961	16 538	6 992
2007	123 000	56 822	16 672	7 821
2008	132 370	65 255	17 814	9 510
2009	135 419	71 502	17 916	10 376
2010	143 966	77 821	18 688	11 801
2011	149 321	82 682	19 223	13 167
2012	153 118	87 535	19 778	14 266
2013	157 677	90 419	20 606	15 984
2014	162 628	93 101	20 701	16 926
2015	161 773	89 406	19 591	16 885
2016	164 611	84 284	18 614	16 469
2017	168 500	72 208	15 798	14 262
2018	171 088	51 143	11 192	10 528
2019	175 186	27 758	5 560	5 364
2020	172 729	8 685	1 758	1 758
2021	104 784	1 329	256	256
2022	63 030	2	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	15 264	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	88%	83%	79%	74%	68%	59%	54%	48%	43%	38%	33%	29%	26%
2004	15 681	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	84%	79%	74%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%	39%	34%	31%	
2005	15 866	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	90%	86%	81%	72%	67%	62%	56%	51%	45%	40%	36%		
2006	16 538	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%	86%	78%	73%	68%	62%	57%	51%	46%	42%			
2007	16 672	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	91%	84%	79%	73%	69%	63%	56%	51%	47%				
2008	17 814	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	89%	85%	80%	75%	70%	63%	57%	53%					
2009	17 916	100%	100%	99%	98%	93%	90%	85%	80%	75%	68%	61%	58%						
2010	18 688	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	80%	73%	67%	63%							
2011	19 223	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	79%	72%	68%								
2012	19 778	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	89%	83%	76%	72%									
2013	20 606	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	88%	82%	78%										
2014	20 701	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	86%	82%											
2015	19 591	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	86%												
2016	18 614	100%	100%	95%	92%	88%													
2017	15 798	100%	94%	93%	90%														
2018	11 192	96%	96%	94%															
2019	5 560	97%	96%																
2020	1 758	100%																	
2021	256																		
2022																			

cc) Norway

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008	130 657	64 249	33 141	2 403
2009	135 050	71 273	35 888	2 776
2010	143 939	77 793	39 418	3 170
2011	149 292	82 653	42 247	3 789
2012	153 087	87 505	45 121	4 216
2013	157 657	90 398	47 865	4 826
2014	162 609	93 082	49 921	5 439
2015	161 760	89 393	47 078	5 782
2016	164 602	84 271	44 483	6 147
2017	168 490	72 196	39 453	6 683
2018	171 082	51 139	29 698	6 324
2019	175 180	27 755	17 496	5 286
2020	172 728	8 684	6 184	2 437
2021	104 783	1 329	1 293	757
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008	33 141	95%	84%	72%	60%	51%	42%	34%	27%	19%	13%	10%	8%	7%					
2009	35 888	95%	83%	71%	60%	50%	41%	31%	22%	15%	11%	9%	8%						
2010	39 418	95%	83%	72%	60%	49%	37%	27%	18%	13%	9%	8%							
2011	42 247	95%	85%	72%	59%	46%	34%	23%	15%	11%	9%								
2012	45 121	95%	83%	69%	54%	39%	26%	17%	12%	9%									
2013	47 865	95%	84%	67%	49%	33%	20%	13%	10%										
2014	49 921	95%	81%	62%	41%	25%	16%	11%											
2015	47 078	93%	77%	54%	34%	20%	12%												
2016	44 483	91%	71%	45%	25%	14%													
2017	39 453	88%	64%	35%	17%														
2018	29 698	82%	50%	21%															
2019	17 496	70%	30%																
2020	6 184	39%																	
2021	1 293																		
2022	2																		

dd) Poland

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004	84 587	38 110	6 453	2 280
2005	106 882	47 027	7 748	3 160
2006	114 020	50 926	8 270	3 752
2007	120 269	55 392	8 343	4 084
2008	130 830	64 353	8 869	4 974
2009	135 096	71 308	9 114	5 328
2010	143 947	77 801	9 413	6 068
2011	149 291	82 655	9 683	6 805
2012	153 094	87 512	9 566	7 158
2013	157 661	90 404	9 686	7 680
2014	162 614	93 087	9 842	8 385
2015	161 763	89 396	9 695	8 702
2016	164 596	84 265	9 120	8 529
2017	168 489	72 197	8 132	7 894
2018	171 083	51 141	6 436	6 387
2019	175 184	27 758	3 937	3 931
2020	172 729	8 685	1 554	1 554
2021	104 783	1 329	350	350
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004	6 453	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	85%	80%	74%	69%	63%	59%	54%	49%	44%	39%	36%	35%	
2005	7 748	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	87%	82%	76%	71%	66%	60%	55%	50%	45%	41%	41%		
2006	8 270	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	87%	82%	77%	71%	66%	61%	56%	51%	46%	45%			
2007	8 343	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	87%	82%	76%	71%	65%	60%	54%	50%	49%				
2008	8 869	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	83%	78%	72%	67%	60%	57%	56%					
2009	9 114	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%	83%	77%	71%	64%	59%	58%						
2010	9 413	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	88%	83%	76%	70%	65%	64%							
2011	9 683	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	88%	82%	75%	71%	70%								
2012	9 566	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	87%	80%	75%	75%									
2013	9 686	100%	100%	98%	96%	91%	85%	80%	79%										
2014	9 842	100%	100%	98%	95%	89%	86%	85%											
2015	9 695	100%	100%	98%	94%	90%	90%												
2016	9 120	100%	100%	98%	94%	94%													
2017	8 132	100%	99%	98%	97%														
2018	6 436	100%	100%	99%															
2019	3 937	100%	100%																
2020	1 554	100%																	
2021	350																		
2022	2																		

ee) Portugal

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 687	40 672	21 876	1 147
2004	97 584	44 022	22 900	1 324
2005	106 627	46 839	23 890	1 471
2006	113 654	50 664	25 761	1 708
2007	119 888	55 113	26 700	1 684
2008	130 633	64 219	29 627	2 094
2009	135 040	71 262	32 255	2 305
2010	143 938	77 792	34 633	2 539
2011	149 289	82 650	36 230	2 934
2012	153 086	87 503	37 545	3 250
2013	157 663	90 405	38 981	3 732
2014	162 613	93 086	40 683	4 443
2015	161 756	89 390	42 316	4 846
2016	164 596	84 265	42 553	5 641
2017	168 485	72 192	39 287	6 746
2018	171 084	51 141	29 841	7 199
2019	175 181	27 755	17 856	6 554
2020	172 727	8 684	6 376	3 161
2021	104 783	1 329	1 296	924
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	21 876	97%	87%	73%	62%	50%	42%	34%	28%	23%	19%	16%	13%	11%	10%	8%	7%	6%	5%
2004	22 900	96%	85%	73%	60%	50%	42%	34%	28%	23%	20%	16%	13%	12%	9%	8%	6%	6%	
2005	23 890	97%	85%	72%	61%	50%	41%	33%	28%	23%	19%	15%	13%	10%	8%	7%	6%		
2006	25 761	96%	84%	72%	60%	49%	40%	33%	27%	22%	18%	15%	12%	9%	8%	7%			
2007	26 700	95%	84%	71%	59%	48%	39%	32%	25%	20%	17%	12%	9%	7%	6%				
2008	29 627	99%	88%	73%	60%	49%	41%	32%	25%	22%	14%	11%	8%	7%					
2009	32 255	96%	83%	69%	57%	47%	37%	29%	25%	16%	11%	9%	7%						
2010	34 633	95%	83%	69%	57%	45%	36%	31%	20%	13%	9%	7%							
2011	36 230	95%	84%	70%	56%	45%	39%	25%	16%	11%	8%								
2012	37 545	94%	82%	66%	54%	47%	30%	19%	12%	9%									
2013	38 981	96%	83%	70%	60%	39%	24%	14%	10%										
2014	40 683	95%	88%	76%	50%	30%	17%	11%											
2015	42 316	97%	87%	61%	38%	21%	11%												
2016	42 553	96%	76%	49%	26%	13%													
2017	39 287	90%	68%	38%	17%														
2018	29 841	85%	55%	24%															
2019	17 856	75%	37%																
2020	6 376	50%																	
2021	1 296																		
2022	2																		

ff) Romania

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	75 690	34 432	2 474	623
2004	97 427	43 927	2 963	910
2005	106 490	46 739	2 857	997
2006	113 583	50 616	3 083	1 251
2007	119 847	55 084	2 838	1 192
2008	130 614	64 211	2 979	1 506
2009	135 025	71 249	2 912	1 597
2010	143 931	77 785	2 949	1 755
2011	149 285	82 646	3 159	2 065
2012	153 084	87 502	3 243	2 303
2013	157 657	90 398	3 402	2 598
2014	162 607	93 081	3 586	2 959
2015	161 756	89 389	3 900	3 446
2016	164 596	84 265	4 291	4 019
2017	168 487	72 194	4 820	4 702
2018	171 083	51 140	5 103	5 063
2019	175 181	27 756	4 705	4 703
2020	172 727	8 684	2 328	2 328
2021	104 783	1 329	752	752
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	2 474	100%	100%	99%	96%	90%	84%	77%	72%	66%	60%	54%	48%	44%	39%	34%	30%	27%	25%
2004	2 963	100%	100%	98%	93%	88%	83%	77%	71%	65%	59%	55%	50%	45%	40%	36%	33%	31%	
2005	2 857	100%	100%	97%	93%	89%	83%	77%	71%	66%	61%	57%	52%	47%	42%	37%	35%		
2006	3 083	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	86%	80%	75%	69%	63%	59%	54%	49%	43%	41%			
2007	2 838	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	86%	80%	75%	69%	63%	57%	51%	45%	42%				
2008	2 979	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	86%	81%	75%	69%	64%	59%	54%	51%					
2009	2 912	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	88%	82%	76%	70%	64%	58%	55%						
2010	2 949	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	87%	81%	75%	68%	62%	60%							
2011	3 159	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	83%	75%	69%	65%								
2012	3 243	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	89%	81%	74%	71%									
2013	3 402	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	86%	80%	76%										
2014	3 586	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	86%	83%											
2015	3 900	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	88%												
2016	4 291	100%	100%	99%	96%	94%													
2017	4 820	100%	100%	99%	98%														
2018	5 103	100%	100%	99%															
2019	4 705	100%	100%																
2020	2 328	100%																	
2021	752																		
2022	2																		

**gg) Serbia**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009				
2010	39 414	21 400	340	222
2011	149 279	82 642	1 393	820
2012	153 084	87 503	1 292	795
2013	157 655	90 397	1 252	844
2014	162 607	93 081	1 245	954
2015	161 755	89 388	1 238	1 031
2016	164 596	84 265	1 002	898
2017	168 484	72 191	843	796
2018	171 082	51 139	604	581
2019	175 179	27 755	260	258
2020	172 728	8 684	102	102
2021	104 783	1 329	17	17
2022	63 030	2	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009																			
2010	340	100%	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	86%	74%	69%	66%	65%							
2011	1 393	100%	94%	93%	91%	89%	84%	75%	66%	62%	59%								
2012	1 292	97%	96%	95%	94%	90%	81%	72%	65%	62%									
2013	1 252	99%	99%	98%	96%	89%	77%	71%	67%										
2014	1 245	100%	100%	99%	94%	86%	81%	77%											
2015	1 238	100%	100%	98%	92%	88%	83%												
2016	1 002	100%	100%	97%	93%	90%													
2017	843	100%	100%	97%	94%														
2018	604	100%	99%	96%															
2019	260	100%	99%																
2020	102	100%																	
2021	17																		
2022																			

## hh) Sweden

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	92 620	42 637	19 487	2 526
2004	100 080	45 729	18 013	3 068
2005	108 915	48 380	16 045	3 719
2006	115 698	52 054	13 603	4 301
2007	121 277	56 081	10 902	4 599
2008	131 290	64 738	10 808	5 570
2009	135 197	71 382	10 716	6 017
2010	143 953	77 808	10 635	6 528
2011	149 303	82 664	10 981	7 265
2012	153 088	87 505	10 983	7 818
2013	157 666	90 409	11 149	8 444
2014	162 616	93 089	11 246	9 123
2015	161 764	89 397	10 707	9 257
2016	164 609	84 278	9 603	8 717
2017	168 493	72 199	8 282	7 875
2018	171 089	51 146	5 956	5 789
2019	175 182	27 756	3 177	3 149
2020	172 728	8 685	1 050	1 049
2021	104 783	1 329	137	137
2022	63 030	2	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	19 487	96%	83%	71%	59%	49%	46%	43%	40%	36%	33%	30%	27%	24%	22%	19%	16%	14%	13%
2004	18 013	93%	80%	66%	55%	52%	49%	46%	42%	39%	36%	33%	30%	27%	24%	21%	18%	17%	
2005	16 045	93%	77%	65%	63%	60%	57%	53%	49%	45%	41%	38%	35%	31%	27%	25%	23%		
2006	13 603	90%	78%	76%	74%	71%	67%	63%	59%	54%	50%	46%	42%	37%	33%	32%			
2007	10 902	94%	94%	93%	90%	86%	81%	76%	71%	66%	61%	56%	49%	44%	42%				
2008	10 808	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	87%	82%	77%	71%	66%	59%	54%	52%					
2009	10 716	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	88%	83%	79%	73%	65%	59%	56%						
2010	10 635	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	88%	83%	78%	70%	64%	61%							
2011	10 981	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	88%	83%	75%	69%	66%								
2012	10 983	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	88%	80%	74%	71%									
2013	11 149	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	85%	79%	76%										
2014	11 246	100%	100%	99%	95%	90%	84%	81%											
2015	10 707	100%	100%	98%	94%	89%	86%												
2016	9 603	100%	100%	97%	94%	91%													
2017	8 282	100%	99%	97%	95%														
2018	5 956	100%	99%	97%															
2019	3 177	100%	99%																
2020	1 050	100%																	
2021	137																		
2022																			



## ii) Slovenia

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 409	40 558	2 600	631
2004	97 415	43 921	2 504	753
2005	106 494	46 743	2 326	814
2006	113 589	50 617	2 449	981
2007	119 834	55 070	2 248	959
2008	130 595	64 187	2 315	1 156
2009	135 025	71 248	2 391	1 334
2010	143 933	77 787	2 448	1 533
2011	149 284	82 645	2 623	1 869
2012	153 084	87 502	2 788	2 129
2013	157 656	90 397	3 342	2 740
2014	162 610	93 083	3 950	3 472
2015	161 755	89 388	5 135	4 301
2016	164 591	84 264	6 425	5 956
2017	168 484	72 191	9 401	9 330
2018	171 083	51 140	11 428	11 399
2019	175 181	27 755	11 094	11 087
2020	172 728	8 684	5 291	5 291
2021	104 783	1 329	1 316	1 316
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	2 600	100%	100%	98%	95%	88%	82%	76%	70%	63%	58%	53%	47%	42%	38%	33%	29%	26%	24%
2004	2 504	100%	100%	98%	92%	87%	82%	76%	70%	63%	57%	52%	48%	43%	39%	35%	32%	30%	
2005	2 326	100%	99%	97%	93%	89%	82%	77%	70%	64%	59%	54%	50%	45%	41%	37%	35%		
2006	2 449	100%	99%	98%	94%	90%	85%	79%	73%	67%	61%	56%	51%	47%	43%	40%			
2007	2 248	100%	99%	98%	94%	90%	83%	78%	72%	66%	59%	55%	49%	45%	43%				
2008	2 315	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	85%	79%	73%	66%	61%	56%	51%	50%					
2009	2 391	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	87%	81%	76%	70%	64%	58%	56%						
2010	2 448	100%	100%	98%	96%	92%	87%	80%	75%	69%	65%	63%							
2011	2 623	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	89%	84%	78%	73%	71%								
2012	2 788	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	89%	83%	78%	76%									
2013	3 342	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	88%	84%	82%										
2014	3 950	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	90%	88%											
2015	5 135	100%	90%	89%	87%	85%	84%												
2016	6 425	95%	95%	95%	94%	93%													
2017	9 401	100%	100%	100%	99%														
2018	11 428	100%	100%	100%															
2019	11 094	100%	100%																
2020	5 291	100%																	
2021	1 316																		
2022	2																		

**jj) Slovakia**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 481	40 577	2 940	722
2004	97 469	43 950	2 956	889
2005	106 515	46 759	2 750	957
2006	113 604	50 631	2 859	1 039
2007	119 864	55 092	2 535	1 011
2008	130 596	64 193	2 720	1 284
2009	135 027	71 250	2 691	1 392
2010	143 934	77 788	2 643	1 506
2011	149 285	82 646	2 829	1 833
2012	153 085	87 503	2 929	2 056
2013	157 657	90 398	3 070	2 305
2014	162 611	93 084	3 235	2 639
2015	161 755	89 389	3 421	3 033
2016	164 597	84 266	3 734	3 516
2017	168 484	72 191	4 452	4 340
2018	171 083	51 140	4 869	4 836
2019	175 180	27 755	4 590	4 590
2020	172 728	8 684	2 296	2 296
2021	104 783	1 329	753	753
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	2 940	100%	100%	98%	95%	88%	82%	76%	70%	64%	58%	52%	47%	42%	38%	33%	30%	26%	25%
2004	2 956	100%	100%	97%	92%	87%	82%	75%	70%	63%	58%	54%	49%	44%	39%	35%	32%	30%	
2005	2 750	100%	100%	97%	92%	89%	82%	77%	71%	66%	61%	56%	50%	46%	41%	37%	35%		
2006	2 859	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	83%	77%	71%	65%	59%	54%	49%	44%	39%	36%			
2007	2 535	100%	99%	98%	95%	91%	84%	79%	73%	67%	60%	54%	47%	42%	40%				
2008	2 720	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	86%	80%	73%	66%	61%	55%	50%	47%					
2009	2 691	100%	100%	98%	95%	92%	87%	81%	75%	69%	61%	54%	52%						
2010	2 643	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	85%	79%	72%	66%	60%	57%							
2011	2 829	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	88%	82%	74%	67%	65%								
2012	2 929	100%	100%	99%	96%	92%	86%	79%	73%	70%									
2013	3 070	100%	100%	99%	96%	91%	83%	78%	75%										
2014	3 235	100%	100%	98%	95%	90%	84%	82%											
2015	3 421	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	89%												
2016	3 734	100%	100%	98%	96%	94%													
2017	4 452	100%	100%	99%	97%														
2018	4 869	100%	100%	99%															
2019	4 590	100%	100%																
2020	2 296	100%																	
2021	753																		
2022	2																		

**kk) San Marino**

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008				
2009	70 357	37 460	373	223
2010	143 925	77 781	689	437
2011	149 284	82 645	707	499
2012	153 083	87 501	680	509
2013	157 656	90 397	701	559
2014	162 607	93 081	731	617
2015	161 755	89 388	833	762
2016	164 596	84 265	872	836
2017	168 484	72 191	889	868
2018	171 083	51 140	820	814
2019	175 179	27 755	387	387
2020	172 728	8 684	146	146
2021	104 783	1 329	4	4
2022	63 030	2	0	0

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003																			
2004																			
2005																			
2006																			
2007																			
2008																			
2009	373	100%	100%	99%	98%	98%	97%	90%	83%	76%	72%	65%	60%						
2010	689	100%	100%	98%	97%	94%	91%	86%	78%	73%	68%	63%							
2011	707	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	91%	86%	80%	75%	71%								
2012	680	100%	100%	100%	99%	95%	91%	84%	79%	75%									
2013	701	100%	100%	99%	98%	95%	90%	85%	80%										
2014	731	100%	100%	99%	97%	93%	89%	84%											
2015	833	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	91%												
2016	872	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%													
2017	889	100%	100%	99%	98%														
2018	820	100%	100%	99%															
2019	387	100%	100%																
2020	146	100%																	
2021	4																		
2022																			

## II) Türkiye

Filing year	Applications filed	Granted patents	Validated patents	Patents still in force
2003	89 771	40 746	6 055	2 323
2004	97 835	44 202	6 531	2 898
2005	106 792	46 964	6 939	3 499
2006	113 876	50 844	7 663	4 291
2007	120 105	55 288	8 078	4 918
2008	130 778	64 356	9 342	6 309
2009	135 087	71 303	10 036	7 322
2010	143 949	77 803	11 680	9 275
2011	149 295	82 656	14 046	11 899
2012	153 090	87 508	15 927	14 211
2013	157 662	90 405	20 083	18 775
2014	162 612	93 085	25 695	24 802
2015	161 757	89 391	32 655	32 186
2016	164 601	84 269	42 612	42 455
2017	168 486	72 193	51 014	50 992
2018	171 083	51 140	44 604	44 604
2019	175 180	27 756	27 707	27 707
2020	172 728	8 684	8 684	8 684
2021	104 783	1 329	1 329	1 329
2022	63 030	2	2	2

Percentage of patents still in force at the end of the patent year

Filing year	Validated patents	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2003	6 055	100%	100%	100%	97%	92%	87%	82%	78%	73%	68%	63%	57%	53%	48%	43%	39%	38%	38%
2004	6 531	100%	100%	98%	95%	91%	86%	82%	77%	73%	68%	64%	59%	54%	50%	45%	44%	44%	
2005	6 939	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	61%	56%	51%	50%	50%		
2006	7 663	100%	100%	99%	96%	93%	90%	85%	81%	77%	71%	66%	61%	56%	56%	56%			
2007	8 078	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	90%	86%	82%	77%	72%	67%	61%	61%	61%				
2008	9 342	100%	100%	99%	97%	94%	91%	87%	83%	78%	73%	68%	68%	68%					
2009	10 036	100%	100%	99%	97%	95%	92%	87%	83%	79%	74%	73%	73%						
2010	11 680	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	89%	85%	80%	79%	79%							
2011	14 046	100%	100%	99%	98%	96%	93%	90%	85%	85%	85%								
2012	15 927	100%	100%	100%	98%	96%	93%	89%	89%	89%									
2013	20 083	100%	100%	100%	98%	97%	94%	93%	93%										
2014	25 695	100%	100%	100%	99%	97%	97%												
2015	32 655	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%												
2016	42 612	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%													
2017	51 014	100%	100%	100%	100%														
2018	44 604	100%	100%	100%															
2019	27 707	100%	100%																
2020	8 684	100%																	
2021	1 329																		
2022	2																		

## ANNEX 2 NATIONAL STATISTICS

### A. NATIONAL PATENT APPLICATIONS

#### a) Filing route and growth over 2021

Country		National		PCT national phase		Total		Resident		Non Resident	
Albania	AL	22	-4%	1	-	23	-4.2%	19	6%	4	-33.3%
Austria	AT	1 797	-10.7%	434	-7.1%	2 231	-10.0%	1 912	-11.2%	319	-2.1%
Belgium <sup>(1)</sup>	BE	1 207	0.0%			1 207	0.0%	676	-15.5%	531	30.5%
Bulgaria	BG	170	-28.3%	1	-50.0%	171	-21.6%	166	-23.9%	5	-76.2%
Switzerland/Liechtenstein	CH/LI	1 463	-3.7%	83	-4.6%	1 546	-3.7%	1 247	-4.6%	299	0.0%
Cyprus <sup>(1)</sup>	CY	7	133.3%			7	133.3%	5	400.0%	2	0.0%
Czech Republic	CZ	524	-8.2%	27	-15.6%	551	-8.6%	505	-6.7%	46	-25.8%
Germany	DE	50 207	-2.8%	7 005	1.5%	57 212	-2.3%	37 203	-6.6%	20 009	6.7%
Denmark	DK	1 153	-5.3%	74	27.6%	1 227	-3.8%	1 052	-3.5%	175	-5.9%
Estonia	EE	11	-56.0%	4	-	15	-42.3%	10	-60.0%	5	400.0%
Spain	ES	1 231	-9.6%	87	19.2%	1 318	-8.1%	1 150	-12.1%	168	33.3%
Finland	FI	1 410	-13.2%	37	0.0%	1 447	-12.9%	1 359	-12.8%	88	-15.4%
France <sup>(1)</sup>	FR	14 747	-0.1%			14 747	-0.1%	13 369	-0.6%	1 378	4.6%
United Kingdom	GB	16 594	0.6%	2 893	22.8%	19 487	3.4%	11 183	-3.5%	8 304	14.3%
Greece <sup>(1)</sup>	GR	1 085	17.4%			1 085	17.4%	437	11.5%	648	21.8%
Croatia	HR	127	49.4%	3	0.0%	130	47.7%	122	58.4%	8	-27.3%
Hungary	HU	433	-1.6%	68	1 033%	501	12.3%	414	-4.4%	87	569.2%
Ireland <sup>(1)</sup>	IE	207	-10.8%			207	-10.8%	169	3.0%	38	-44.1%
Iceland	IS	37	8.8%	7	250.0%	44	22.2%	37	8.8%	7	250.0%
Italy	IT	9 077	-18.0%	144	860.0%	9 221	-16.8%	8 440	-17.2%	781	-11.4%
Lithuania <sup>(1)</sup>	LT	77	-14.4%			77	-14.4%	69	-14.8%	8	-11.1%
Luxembourg	LU	1 793	27.8%	301	56.0%	2 094	31.7%	104	-5.5%	1 990	34.5%
Latvia <sup>(1)</sup>	LV	112	3.7%			112	3.7%	112	7.7%	0	-100.0%
Monaco <sup>(1)</sup>	MC	4	-55.6%			4	-55.6%	4	0.0%	0	-100.0%
Montenegro	ME	7	-	0	-	7	-	7	-	0	-
North Macedonia	MK	649	1 483%	1	0%	650	1 448%	24	-38.5%	626	20 767%
Malta <sup>(1)</sup>	MT	16	60.0%			16	60.0%	8	60.0%	8	60.0%
Netherlands <sup>(1)</sup>	NL	3 772	8.7%			3 772	8.7%	1 858	-10.5%	1 914	37.4%
Norway	NO	896	-12.3%	517	-7.3%	1 413	-10.6%	863	-8.9%	550	-13.1%
Poland	PL	3 284	-4.3%	39	-32.8%	3 323	-4.7%	3 240	-4.1%	83	-25.2%
Portugal	PT	880	-2.1%	36	80.0%	916	-0.3%	738	-4.4%	178	21.1%
Romania	RO	825	2.4%	9	-18.2%	834	2.1%	801	3.8%	33	-26.7%
Serbia	RS	134	-18.3%	14	40.0%	148	-14.9%	127	-18.6%	21	16.7%
Sweden	SE	2 112	-1.6%	68	38.8%	2 180	-0.7%	1 799	1.1%	381	-8.4%
Slovenia <sup>(1)</sup>	SI	246	2.9%			246	2.9%	224	1.4%	22	22.2%
Slovakia	SK	197	32.2%	6	-33.3%	203	28.5%	184	26.9%	19	46.2%
San Marino <sup>(1)</sup>	SM	34	-17.1%			34	-17.1%	8	14.3%	26	-23.5%
Türkiye	TR	8 785	7.7%	334	4.4%	9 119	7.6%	8 837	7.3%	282	16.5%
EPC States		125 332	-1.8%	12 193	8.2%	137 525	-1.0%	98 482	-5.3%	39 043	11.7%

(1) PCT national route closed



### c) First filings

First filings as % of national domestic applications

Albania	AL	100.0%
Austria	AT	95.2%
Belgium	BE	90.2%
Bulgaria	BG	97.6%
Switzerland/Liechtenstein	CH/LI	91.6%
Cyprus	CY	80.0%
Czech Republic	CZ	99.0%
Germany	DE	92.5%
Denmark	DK	96.9%
Estonia	EE	90.0%
Spain	ES	98.8%
Finland	FI	97.5%
France	FR	97.7%
United Kingdom	GB	88.0%
Greece	GR	99.1%
Croatia	HR	99.2%
Hungary	HU	96.1%
Ireland	IE	90.5%
Iceland	IS	100.0%
Italy	IT	97.1%
Lithuania	LT	100.0%
Luxembourg*	LU	
Latvia*	LV	
Monaco	MC	100.0%
Montenegro*	ME	
North Macedonia	MK	100.0%
Malta	MT	100.0%
Netherlands	NL	94.9%
Norway	NO	92.7%
Poland	PL	99.3%
Portugal	PT	99.5%
Romania	RO	99.6%
Serbia	RS	99.2%
Sweden	SE	96.4%
Slovenia	SI	97.8%
Slovakia	SK	99.5%
San Marino	SM	100.0%
Türkiye	TR	98.4%
<b>EPC states</b>		<b>94.5%</b>

\* No data provided

In addition 66% of the national applications filed by residents from other EPC states were first filings.

## B. GRANT PROCEDURE

Country		Granted patents			Applications			Total
		Residents	Non residents	Total	Withdrawn	Deemed withdrawn	Refused	
Albania	AL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Austria	AT	1 012	139	1 151	77		453	1 681
Belgium	BE	754	327	1 081	35	0	50	1 166
Bulgaria	BG	86	1	87	0	16	43	146
Switzerland / Liechtenstein	CH/LI	530	252	782	113		650	1 545
Cyprus	CY	0	1	1	0	5	0	6
Czech Republic	CZ	307	45	352	87	126	159	724
Germany	DE	13 925	9 667	23 592	3 552	27 313	9 451	63 908
Denmark	DK	287	111	398	127	766	2	1 293
Estonia	EE	9	0	9	0	9	4	22
Spain	ES	669	45	714	85	46	11	856
Finland	FI	623	54	677	34	1 045	9	1 765
France	FR	10 825	1 596	12 421	495	401	1 602	14 919
United Kingdom	GB	4 894	5 684	10 578	2 162	11 294		24 034
Greece	GR	216	8	224	41	18	1	284
Croatia	HR	6	5	11	8	70	13	102
Hungary	HU	114	18	132	54	182	20	388
Ireland	IE	36	35	71	46	37	39	193
Iceland	IS	3	7	10	1	0	0	11
Italy	IT	6 788	560	7 348	543		2 271	10 162
Lithuania	LT	79	14	93	2	2	10	107
Luxembourg	LU	128	1 756	1 884	33			1 917
Latvia*	LV							
Monaco	MC	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Montenegro	ME	5	0	5	0	0	0	5
North Macedonia	MK	6	263	269	1	0	0	270
Malta	MT	4	6	10	0	0	0	10
Netherlands	NL	1 742	1 073	2 815	318	240	8	3 381
Norway	NO	460	301	761	42	672	4	1 479
Poland	PL	2 224	66	2 290			727	3 017
Portugal	PT	112	104	216	15		202	433
Romania	RO	303	61	364	10	313	384	1 071
Serbia	RS	28	2	30	13	74	44	161
Sweden	SE	642	157	799	126	1 125	22	2 072
Slovenia	SI	173	22	195	12	52	0	259
Slovakia	SK	75	20	95	11	47	40	193
San Marino	SM	7	34	41	0	0	2	43
Türkiye	TR	3 231	218	3 449	97	968	656	5 170
<b>Total</b>		<b>50 305</b>	<b>22 652</b>	<b>72 957</b>	<b>8 140</b>	<b>44 821</b>	<b>16 877</b>	<b>142 795</b>

\* Data not provided



### C. WORKING AGREEMENTS EPO-NPO ON SEARCH

As per CA/37/08 rev. 1, the table below shows the latest figures on the numbers and proportions of national applications for which the EPO has conducted search on behalf of the 15 Contracting States (FR, NL, BE, LU, CY, GR, IT, LT, LV, MC, MT, SM, UK, AL, HR), and the number and proportion of those which were subsequently filed as European applications or PCT international applications.

Applications are counted in the year of the subsequent applications. Counts for 2021 are still provisional.

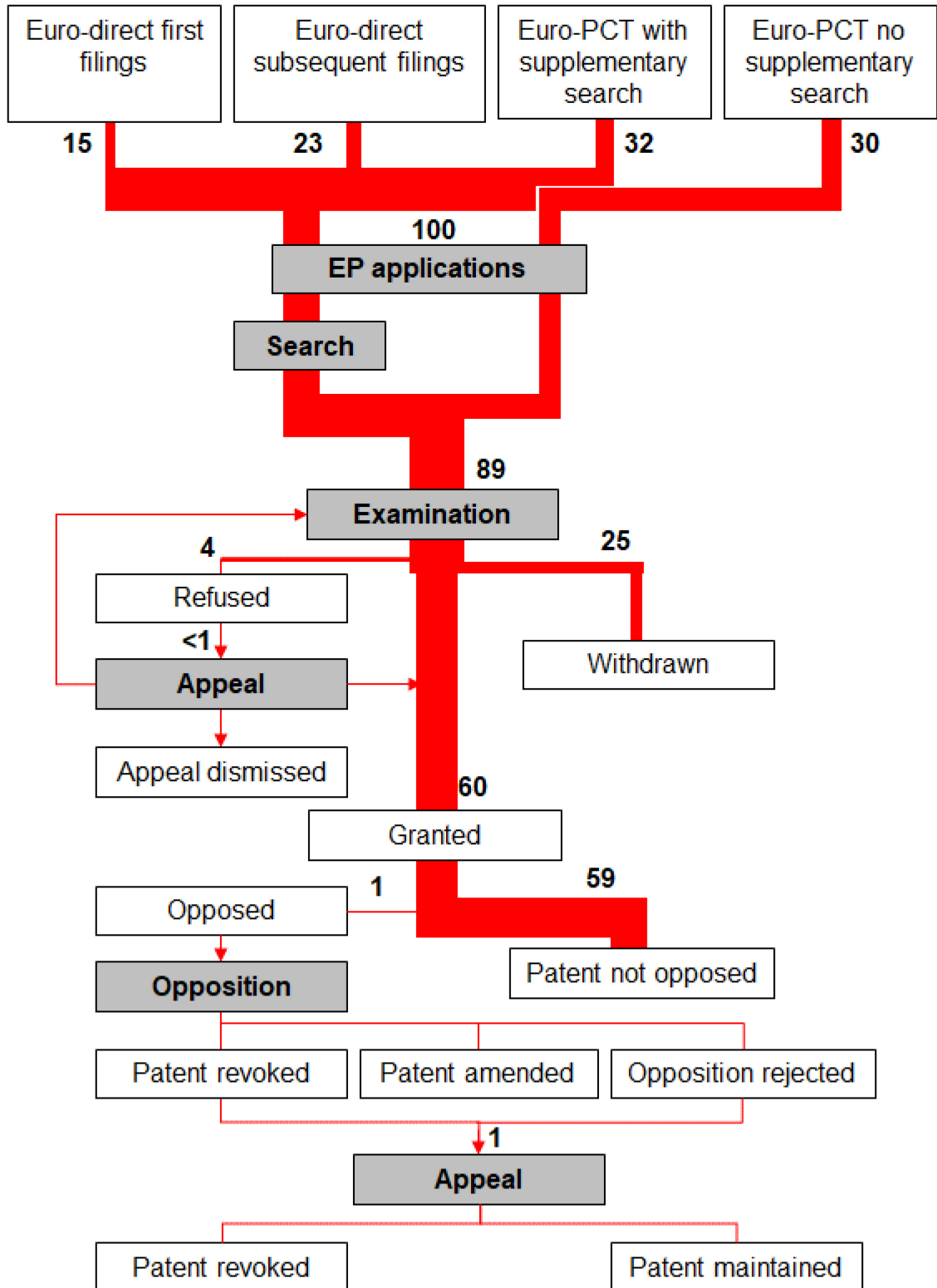
As proposed in CA/51/20, the statistics of the return rates are now presented for one group of the 15 Contracting States having a working agreement in place instead of two groups.

Year	Searched by the EPO	Remained national		Subsequently filed as			
				European		PCT international	
2021	26 814	11 970	44%	4 152	16%	10 692	40%
2022	28 602	12 058	42%	4 886	17%	11 658	41%

### ANNEX 3 THE EUROPEAN PATENT PROCEDURE IN 2022

The figures illustrate the 2022 values of the different parameters.

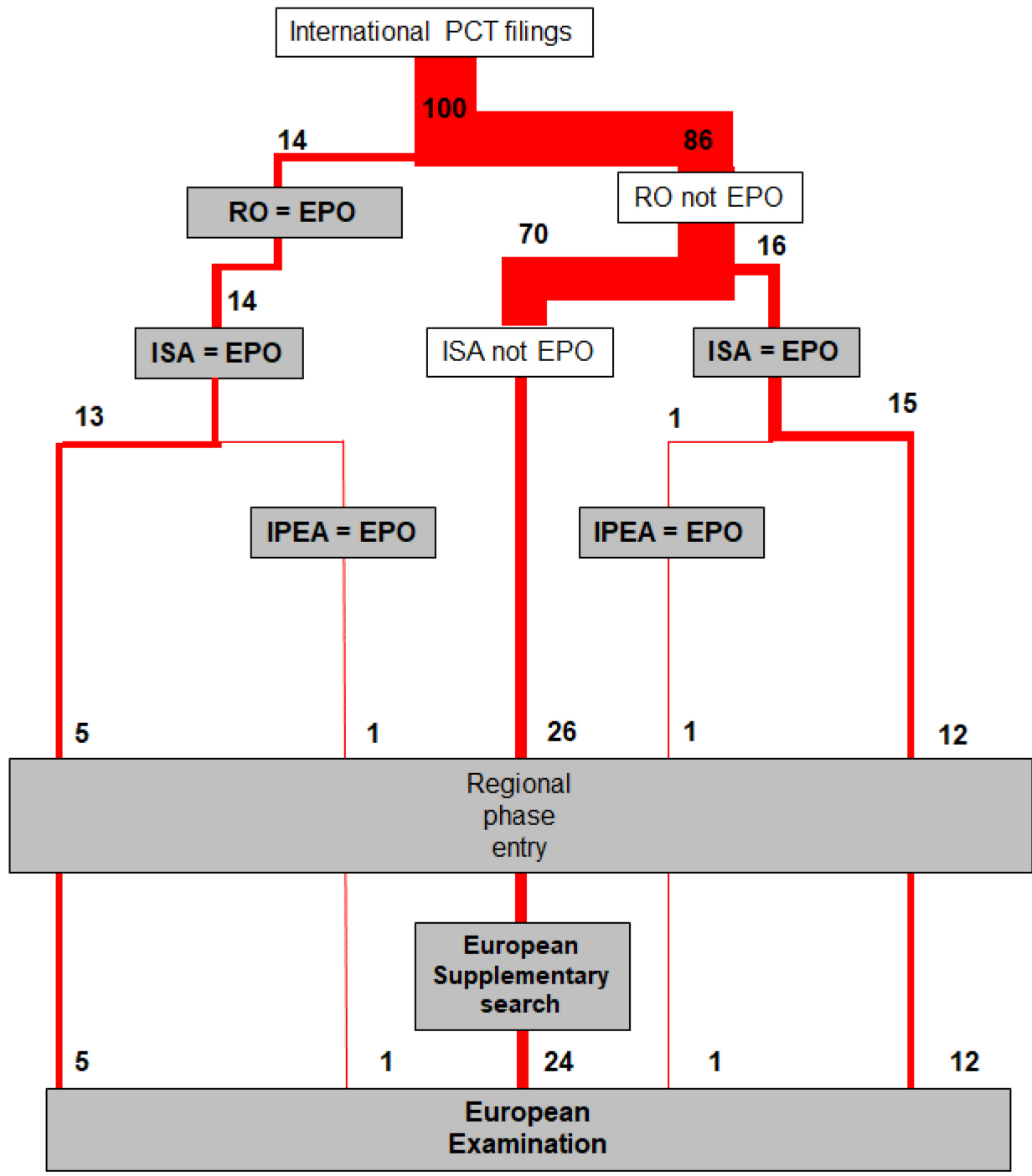
#### European grant procedure in 2022



**ANNEX 4 THE PCT INTERNATIONAL PHASE AND THE EPO IN 2022**

The figures illustrate the 2022 values of the different parameters.

**PCT International phase and the EPO activities in 2022**



RO: Receiving Office  
 ISA: International Search Authority  
 IPEA: International Preliminary Examining Authority

## ANNEX 5 GLOSSARY

**Amended form:** patent application (description, claims or drawings) has been amended before grant (Article 123 EPC) or during the opposition proceedings (Article 101 EPC) .

**Appeal:** *ex parte* appeal, *inter partes* appeal or a PCT protest as well as a legal appeal, a disciplinary appeal (Article 106 EPC).

**Country of origin:** country of residence of the first named applicant.

**Direct European route (application):** patent application filed under Article 75 EPC (also Euro-direct application).

**Designation:** indication of the contracting state(s) in which the protection for the invention is desired (Article 79 EPC).

**EPC:** European Patent Convention (39 contracting states as at 1 August 2023) enables the patent applicant, by means of a single procedure, to obtain a patent in some or all of the contracting states.

**Euro-PCT route:** a way to obtain a European patent by designating the EPO in a PCT application (Article 11 PCT).

**Euro-PCT application – international phase (or Euro-PCT application or PCT international):** a PCT application designating the EPO (Article 153(2) EPC).

**Euro-PCT application – regional phase (or PCT regional):** PCT application entering the European (or regional) phase once the applicant has fulfilled the conditions under Article 22 or 39 PCT, Article 153(3) and (4) and Rule 159 EPC.

**Euro-PCT search (or PCT Chapter I):** search carried out by the EPO acting as International Searching Authority for a Euro-PCT application in the international phase (Article 16 PCT).

**European patent application:** either a direct European application or a PCT international application entering the regional phase during the reporting period.

**European examination:** on written request the EPO shall examine a European patent application (Article 94 EPC).

**European first filings:** a European application filed without claiming the priority of a previous application.

**European search:** search carried out by the EPO on a direct European application or a Euro-PCT application having entered the European phase (Article 92 EPC).

**Ex parte case:** appeal filed against a decision taken by an examining division where only one party is involved.

**Final action:** the last decision taken by the examining division in the examination procedure, either refusing the patent application or indicating the intention to grant a patent (Article 97 EPC).

**First action:** the first communication sent to the applicant in the examination procedure (Article 94(3), Rule 71(3) EPC).

**Inter partes case:** appeal filed against a decision taken by an opposition division where two or more parties are involved.

**International PCT filings:** (see PCT applications)

**International preliminary examination (or PCT Chapter II):** non-binding examination which can be requested for a PCT application (Article 31 PCT).

**International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA):** (24 authorities as of 1 August 2023) office with competence to carry out the international preliminary examination for a PCT application. It may be either a national office (AT, AU, BR, CA, CL, CN, EG, ES, FI, IL, IN, JP, KR, PH, RU, SE, SG, TR, UA, US) or an intergovernmental organisation (EPO, Eurasian PO, Nordic PI, Visegrad PI) (Article 32 PCT, Article 152 EPC).

**International search report with written opinion:** search report drawn up by a PCT International Searching Authority (Article 18 PCT and Article 153(6) EPC).

**International Searching Authority (ISA):** (24 authorities as of 1 August 2023) office with competence to carry out the international search for a PCT application. It may be either a national office (AT, AU, BR, CA, CL, CN, EG, ES, FI, IL, IN, JP, KR, PH, RU, SE, SG, TR, UA, US) or an intergovernmental organisation (EPO, Eurasian PO, Nordic PI, Visegrad PI), (Article 16 PCT, Article 152 EPC).

**IPC (classification):** all patent applications are classified in this internationally recognised classification system, which facilitates searches to be carried out on all existing patent documents by technical fields.

**National application:** filed at a national patent office according to a national procedure or a PCT international application entering the national phase during the reporting period.

**Opposition:** under Articles 99 and 100 EPC, within nine months from the publication of the mention of the grant of a European patent in the European Patent Bulletin, any person may give notice to the EPO of opposition to the European patent granted, invoking lack of patentability, e.g. lack of novelty or inventive step (Articles 52-57 EPC); or lack of sufficiently clear and complete disclosure of invention (Article 83 EPC); or that the granted patent extends beyond the application as filed (Article 123(2) EPC).

**Patent granted:** when the examining division is of the opinion that the application and the invention to which it relates meet the requirements of the EPC, it shall decide to grant the European patent, Article 97(1) EPC. The grant will be effective from the date on which the European Patent Bulletin mentions the grant (Article 97(3) EPC).

**PCT:** Patent Cooperation Treaty, which encompassed 157 contracting states on 1 August 2023, enabling a patent applicant, by means of a single procedure, to file a patent application in some or all of the contracting states.

**PCT application or filing:** international application filed under the PCT (Article 3 PCT).

**PCT international phase:** part of the PCT procedure from filing until the end of the delay to enter national or regional phase (see PCT national phase and Euro-PCT application).

**PCT international search:** search carried out by an International Searching Authority.

**PCT national phase:** PCT application entering the national phase once the applicant has fulfilled the conditions under Article 22 or 39 PCT.

**PCT regional phase:** PCT application entering the European phase at the EPO once the applicant has fulfilled the conditions under Article 22 or 39 PCT.

**PCT route:** one possible way of filing a patent application within any of the PCT contracting states.

**Processing time:** time elapsing between the moments the examiner starts and completes a given phase of the procedure.

**Protest:** appeal filed by an applicant in the PCT procedure if he does not agree with the request to pay an additional fee following a decision on lack of unity of invention taken during either the international search or the international preliminary examination (international phase of the PCT) (Articles 17(3)(a) and 34(3)(a), Rules 40.2 and 68.3 PCT, Rule 158 (3) EPC).

**Publication:** a patent application is published twice during the procedure:

- a European patent application is published as soon as possible after the expiry of a period of eighteen months from the date of filing or, if priority has been claimed, as from the date of priority (Article 93, Rules 67-69 EPC);
- at the same time as the Office publishes the mention of the grant of the European patent, the Office publishes a specification of the European patent containing the description, the claims and any drawings, Articles 98 and 103, Rule 73 EPC. An international patent application, where the Office is designated, is published under Article 21 PCT and is mentioned in the European Patent Bulletin (Article 153(3)-(6) EPC).

**Refusal/rejection:**

- the examination division will refuse a European patent application if it is of the opinion that such application or the invention to which it relates does not meet the requirements of the EPC, or if the applicant fails to observe a given time limit (Articles 97(2) EPC).
- the Office will reject an opposition or an appeal if it does not fulfil the necessary requirements (Articles 101 and 110 EPC).

**Revocation:** a patent is revoked after an opposition procedure if the subject-matter of the patent application is not patentable or if it does not disclose the invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for it to be carried out by a person skilled in the art or if the subject matter goes beyond the content of the application filed. The patent can also be revoked if the patent applicant fails to meet all formal requirements (Article 101(2) EPC).

**Search report:** a report of the results of the search drawn up by the search division if the patent application has been accorded a date of filing and is not deemed to be withdrawn (Article 92 EPC).

**Supplementary European search:** search carried out by the EPO on a Euro-PCT application entering the regional phase for which the ISA was not the EPO (Article 153(7) EPC).

**Technical appeal:** *ex parte* appeal, *inter partes* appeal or a PCT protest.

**Withdrawal:** this is the result of non-compliance to the EPC rules, at any stage of the procedure the applicant does:

- not pay fees in due time
- not file a request for examination within the given time period (Article 94(2) EPC)
- not reply in due time to any invitation within the examination procedure (Article 94(4) EPC).

A patent application can be withdrawn by the applicant at any stage except where a third party proves to the Office that he has initiated proceedings concerning entitlement and then until such time as the Office resumes the proceedings for grant (Rule 14 EPC).