

# Training catalogue 2024

European Patent Academy



# Foreword

Patents play a fundamental role in global economies and in our society. One of the EPO's core missions is to provide greater access to quality education and knowledge products on patents so as to foster innovation, competitiveness, economic growth and, ultimately, contribute to improving the world in which we live. Since 2004, the European Patent Academy has been delivering training programmes and products to a broad spectrum of learners. The EPO learning catalogue has been developed closely with contracting states of the EPC to ensure that the offer corresponds to the needs of users throughout Europe, and now includes a comprehensive offering that combines quality content with solid online educational methodologies. This approach has expanded the international reach and improved the accessibility of EPO training, catering to unique user needs and circumstances. Currently, the European Patent Academy programme supports thousands of people worldwide. Through a digital, modular, flexible and quality offering, it continues to introduce new audiences to learning on patents, technologies and innovation.

Academy training covers the patent granting process, innovation, technology transfer and broader patent knowledge. It is structured across the three areas that shape the life of patents and innovation cycles: patent granting; patent litigation and enforcement; and patent knowledge and technology transfer.

To mention just a few upcoming highlights of 2024, the Academy will continue offering the Examination Matters conference series on search, examination, opposition, and litigation, as well as multiple training activities on patent granting and enforcement. We will introduce new activities on the Unitary Patent and Unified Patent Court. The Modular Intellectual Property Education Framework (MIPEF) will be expanded in close co-operation with the PanEuropean Seal university network. To further strengthen the PATLIB network of patent information centres, we will continue offering training to over 329 centres, as well as training and support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs), startups and universities. For the first time, the 2024 catalogue includes an expanded offering of training on patent data, services and analysis tools, including how to use EPO databases for the extraction of patent intelligence.

Sustainability is at the core of the EPO's mission, and our catalogue reinforces our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4 on inclusive, quality and lifelong learning for all. SDG 4 is a highly worthwhile goal in itself, but it is also a powerful instrument for achieving other key SDGs. In this respect, the content also reflects SDGs related to health, environment, energy, water,

industry, innovation and economic growth. These are all areas in which our partnerships and institutional collaboration play an important role in helping to pave the way to achieving the SDGs.

Co-operation with national patent offices, and various stakeholders such as judges, lawyers, universities and businesses, is essential for developing and delivering this portfolio. Similarly, the incisive contributions of EPO patent examiners and experts are fundamental to the success of the Academy. I would like to thank the member states and all those who contribute to our Academy's training programme – this input is invaluable and plays a vital role in delivering high-quality IP education to users worldwide.



**António Campinos**  
President  
of the EPO

# Content

Foreword	Training areas	Activity types and formats	Patent granting	Patent litigation and enforcement	Patent knowledge and technology transfer	Research and certifications	Other learning products
			Training overview	Training overview	Training overview		
			National patent offices	Selected self-paced courses	Businesses		
			Patent attorneys		Patent knowledge		
			Selected self-paced courses		Academia		
					Selected self-paced courses		

# Contributions to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The European Patent Academy provides high-quality training and knowledge of patents and innovation, as well as supporting a range of stakeholders (from NPOs to universities, businesses and IP professionals) that offer IP services and foster technology transfer and innovation.

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 interlinked goals targeting public goods and designed as a blueprint for achieving a better and more sustainable future.

Through its Academy the European Patent Office works towards achieving the SDGs, and particularly SDG 4 aimed at ensuring inclusive, equitable education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Guided by SDG 4, the Academy designs training activities for a varied audience that includes professionals, researchers, students

and youngsters. The training covers a broad range of topics from patent granting – both in general and focused on specific technologies - to procedural and legal matters and addresses issues of global concern.

SDG 4 underlines the importance of accessibility, inclusiveness, flexibility and quality in education. These priorities are reflected in the Academy's four pillars of action: digitalisation, co-operation, modularity and certification.

Specific training activities in the Academy's catalogue contribute to other SDGs such as health (SDG 3), the environment (SDG 12), energy (SDG 7), water (SDG 6), industry and innovation (SDG 9), as well as economic growth (SDG 8). To achieve these goals, the Academy is constantly working to strengthen institutions and create partnerships (SDGs 16 and 17).



# Training areas

The European Patent Academy 2024 catalogue reflects the structuring of the Academy’s training in three areas, i.e. patent granting, technology transfer and dissemination, and patent litigation and enforcement. These areas correspond to the life of a patent from the inception of a patentable invention to its exploitation and protection in the market.

Structuring the training in three main areas enables an integrated approach to training and the development of training itineraries that attract a variety of audiences. The table below captures the main target audiences for the areas.

Training areas	Audiences:	
	Professionals	Institutional
Patent granting	<div></div> <div><div>– patent examiners</div><div>– formalities officers / paralegals</div></div>	<div><div>– national patent offices</div></div>
	<div></div> <div><div>– patent attorneys</div><div>– formalities officers / paralegals</div></div>	<div><div>– patent attorneys’ firms</div><div>– professional associations of patent attorneys and formalities officers / paralegals</div></div>
Technology transfer and dissemination	<div></div> <div><div>– researchers</div><div>– students and PhD students</div><div>– data scientists</div><div>– patent information experts</div></div>	<div><div>– universities</div><div>– research centres</div><div>– PATLIBs</div><div>– national patent offices</div></div>
	<div></div> <div><div>– IP managers</div><div>– CEOs and managers</div><div>– TT professionals</div></div>	<div><div>– technology transfer associations</div><div>– SMEs</div><div>– business associations</div></div>
Patent litigation and enforcement	<div></div> <div><div>– judges</div><div>– lawyers</div><div>– prosecutors</div><div>– patent attorneys</div></div>	<div><div>– ministries of justice</div><div>– courts</div><div>– IP associations</div><div>– professional associations</div></div>

# Activity types and formats

The Academy provides several types of educational activity: conferences, seminars, courses, workshops, lectures, and internships. Common in academic settings, they facilitate standardisation while enhancing communication with participants and training partners. The decision on what type of activity to offer is based on its size, format, learning objectives, frequency and duration and the nature of the information taught and the level of the participants.

The Academy activities are delivered in a variety of formats, aiming to respond to the needs and availability of participants. Activities range from live formats to self-paced ones, and allow for different levels of tutoring and interaction.

The training catalogue presents the live training offer and a few selected self-paced courses for each area. For a full overview of Academy's self-paced training offer, visit our e-learning centre <https://e-courses.epo.org/>

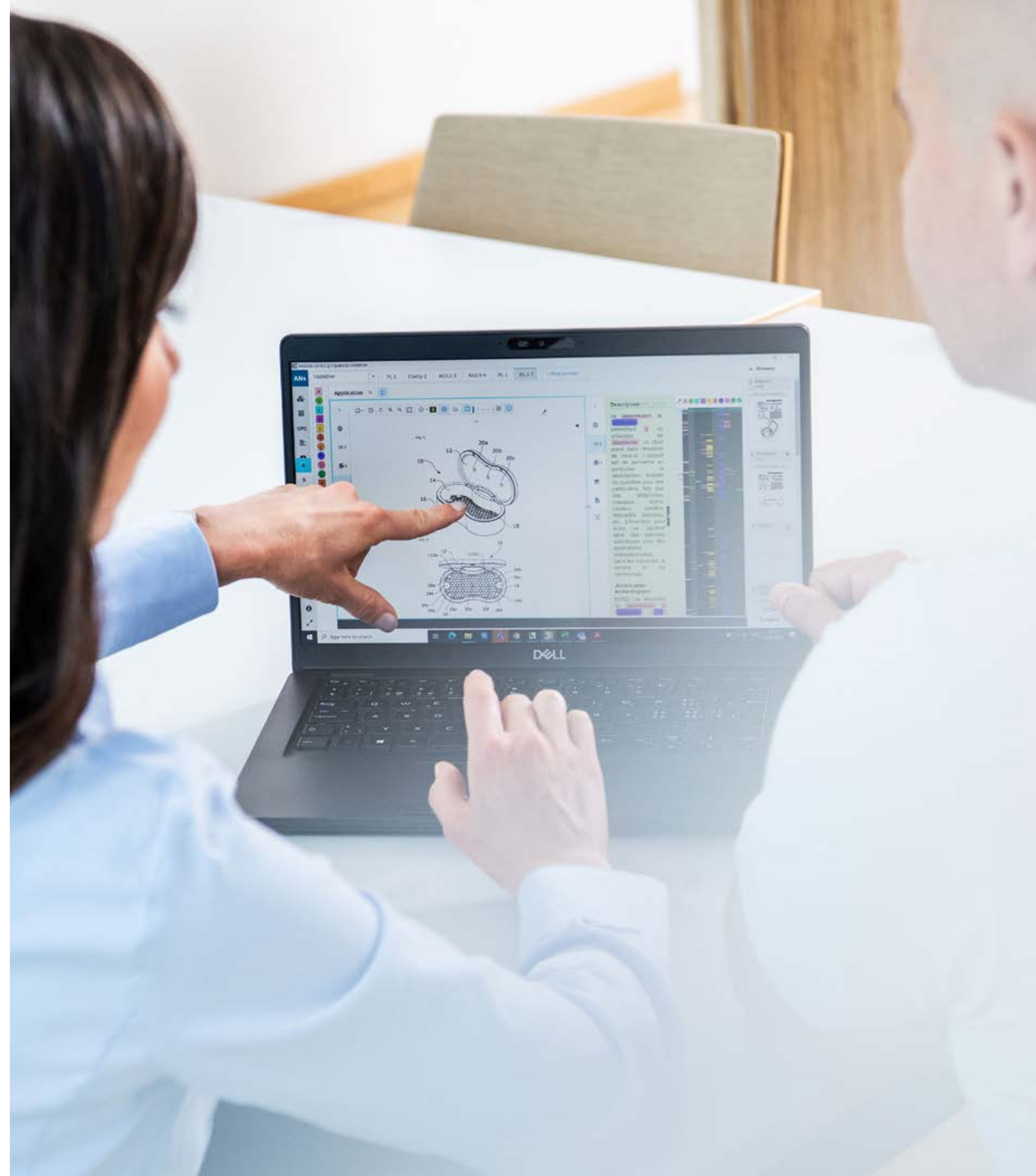


# Patent granting

The “patent granting” training area offers learning activities relating to substantive, legal and procedural aspects of the life of a patent at the EPO, from application filing to patent grant. It also covers the post-grant procedure under the EPC.

The area addresses, primarily but not exclusively, the training needs of patent examiners from national patent offices, formalities officers, and paralegal staff.












The training programme is structured into general curricula that cover the life of a patent from filing to grant, opposition and appeal. It also includes shorter curricula on granting, such as substantive aspects specific to a given technical field or procedural aspects.

















# Training overview

Audiences	Type	Title	Date
	Seminar	Introduction to the European patent system and to the Unitary Patent system	Q1
	Lecture	Registers go digital	Q1
	Conference	Search Matters 2024	Q1
	Course	Tutored self-paced course on patentability criteria and clarity	Q1
	Seminar	Patenting seminar series on artificial intelligence and applied fields	Q1-Q2
	Seminar	Tutored programme on clarity and non-unity	Q1-Q2
	Course	ABS for newcomers	Q1
	Course	Behind the scenes	Q1-Q2
	Lecture	Guidelines2day	Q1-Q2
	Seminar	Support for EPAC candidates	Q1-Q3
	Conference	iLearn together	Q2
	Seminar	Tutored programme on novelty and inventive step	Q2
	Course	ABS for experienced users	Q2
	Seminar	CPC collective training	Q2



Audiences	Type	Title	Date
	Seminar	Update on recent decisions of the Boards of Appeal	Q2
	Workshop	Divisional applications	Q2
	Workshop	Advanced examination topics in chemistry	Q2
	Course	Oral proceedings in opposition at the EPO	Q2
	Lecture	Tackling the future	Q2
	Lecture	UP in practice with users	Q2
	Lecture	PCT for US paralegals and patent agents	Q2
	Lecture	PCT for European paralegals and patent agents	Q2
	Lecture	PCT update	Q2 and Q3
	Seminar	Tutored programme on computer-implemented inventions: artificial intelligence and programmes for computers	Q3
	Course	Implementing ABS at national patent offices	Q2-Q3
	Course	ABS for experienced users (repeated)	Q4
	Course	Tutored self-paced course on structured search	Q3

Audiences	Type	Title	Date
	Course	Becoming a trainer for ABS	Q3
 	Conference	Examination Matters 2024	Q3
	Lecture	Tackling the future	Q3
	Course	Taking of evidence	Q3
	Seminar	Patent seminar series on searching non-patent literature	Q3-Q4
	Course	EQE pre-examination online training course	Q3-Q4
	Conference	iLearn together	Q4
	Seminar	Sufficiency of disclosure for patent examiners	Q4
	Seminar	Legal updates for national patent offices: UP procedures at the EPO and Guidelines revisions	Q4
	Workshop	Search strategies, search reports and written opinions	Q4
 	Conference	Opposition Matters 2024	Q4
	Course	Patenting computer-implemented inventions	Q4



# ■ NATIONAL PATENT OFFICES





# Conferences

## iLearn together

Advanced level

Reference OC01-2024, OC02-2024  
Conference | Online | Q2 and Q4, 6 hrs each

The iLearn together days are venues for NPOs and EPO professionals to share best practices and knowledge on topical subjects directly related to their work. The iLearn together series is open to both EPO and non-EPO patent examiners, formalities officers and personnel.

Participants can choose to attend all or selected sessions, depending on the addressed subject and their interest. Each session is typically about one hour, and the whole conference lasts a full day.

It is planned one session in spring (OC01-2024) and one session in autumn (OC02-2024).

Further information:

[OC01-2024](#)

[OC02-2024](#)





# Patenting seminar series

The “patenting seminar series” comprises short technical, online curricula about one concrete aspect of substantive examination or search. Each series includes up to three complementary seminars, with each seminar comprising two online sessions: a theoretical session followed by a practical session. The two sessions are usually separated by about one week, during which participants and experts can interact via a dedicated forum. Participants are invited to register for the complete series. They may also select one or more seminars from each series.

Participation in the session 1 is open to both patent examiners and patent attorneys, while participation in the session 2 is generally reserved for patent examiners only.

## Patenting seminar series on artificial intelligence and applied fields

Advanced level

Reference OS01-2024

Seminar | Online | Q1-Q2, 24 hr(s)

This patenting seminar series comprises three seminars on artificial intelligence (AI), 8 hours each:

- February: The general challenges of patenting AI-related patent applications
- March: AI and business methods
- April: AI and medical science

The session 1 of each seminar is open to patent attorneys and patent examiners, while participation in the session 2 is restricted to patent examiners.

[Further information](#)

## Patenting seminar series on searching non-patent literature

Advanced level

Reference OS02-2024

Seminar | Online | Q3-Q4, 24 hr(s)

This patenting seminar series comprises three seminars relating to various aspects of searching non-patent literature (NPL), 8 hours each:

- September: The challenges of searching NPL: databases, search techniques, citations and copyright
- October: field-specific databases and search techniques will be addressed in parallel breakout sessions
- November: review of exercises and global wrap-up.

This patent seminar series is exclusively for patent examiners.

[Further information](#)

# Tutored online seminars

“Tutored online seminars” address a theme over several online sessions with the goal of increasing the level of knowledge on a specific topic. Participants are invited to complete tests and assignments under the supervision of EPO tutors.

## Tutored programme on clarity and non-unity

Intermediate level

Reference OS03-2024

Seminar | Online | Q1-Q2, 22 hr(s)

This is an intermediate-level, tutored seminar covering clarity, unity of invention and sufficiency of disclosure, with an emphasis on practical examples and exercises. It includes general tests and tests for:

- organic chemistry
- pharmaceutical claims

It also includes optional assignments.

[Further information](#)

## Tutored programme on novelty and inventive step

Intermediate level

Reference OS04-2024

Seminar | Online | Q2, 22 hr(s)

This tutored seminar deals with the evaluation of novelty and inventive step from a substantive perspective and with an emphasis on practical examples. The seminar includes a large number of examples, exercises, tests and optional assignments.

[Further information](#)



## Tutored programme on computer-implemented inventions: artificial intelligence and programmes for computers

Intermediate level

Reference OS12-2024

Seminar | Online | Q3, 84 hr(s)

This tutored seminar addresses the specific challenges of patent examination in the field of computer-implemented inventions. It comprises three consecutive modules, each extending over two weeks:

- The hurdle 1 and the hurdle 2 approach
- Focus on artificial intelligence: what does it imply for substantive examination?
- Programmes for computers and claim formulation: what should patent examiners be aware of?

Participants will be able to validate each module with an online quiz.

Further information



# The ANSERA based search tool courses

The Academy extends the training programme on the ANSERA based search tool (ABS). The catalogue proposes one course for beginners that are followed by two courses for advanced users. For the first time, the catalogue comprises a new train-the-trainers programme for national patent offices wishing to develop their own training capacities.

Additional ANSERA based search tool training courses for experienced searchers will be held monthly on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 11.00 hrs CET. Made up of a mix of presentations, live demonstrations, and collaborative discussions between participants and trainers, these courses will look at advanced search techniques and rely on a deep understanding of data and databases.

Further, should the need arise and be clearly defined, the Academy would propose tutored online courses for supporting the implementation of ABS at national patent offices, focusing on the specific needs of national office examiners as they transition from EPOQUE Net to ABS. Such training would be organised either for examiners from one office, concentrating on the particularities of the search process and techniques at that specific office, or as a collective training course for examiners from multiple implementing offices who have common training needs.

Furthermore, national patent offices are invited to refer to the recorded training sessions that are made available on the e-learning centre of the Academy.

## ABS for newcomers

### Entry level

Reference OU30-2024  
Course | Online | Q1, 21 hr(s)

This tutored course is intended for examiners from national patent offices having no knowledge or very basic knowledge of ABS.

Recordings introducing the tool's functionalities, as well as example searches, are provided to participants in advance of the virtual classes and discussed during online sessions with EPO tutors. In addition, an online forum will enable participants to further interact with each other and with tutors.

This training course will focus on powerful new search options, changes to workflow which allow for more efficient searching, the advanced user interface and a new functionality that allows users to save intellectual input directly as documents.

[Further information](#)

## ABS for experienced users

Advanced level

Reference OU31-2024, OU34-2024

Course | Online | Q2 and Q4, 15 hr(s)

This tutored course is intended for examiners from national industrial property offices who are already familiar with ABS.

Recordings on its functionalities are made available and brief examples are provided before virtual classes and discussed during the online sessions with EPO tutors. A forum will be offered for further interaction between participants and with tutors.

This training course will focus on powerful new search options, the workflow change which allows for more efficient searching, the advanced user interface and new functionality that allows users to save intellectual input directly to documents.

Further information:

[OU31-2024](#)

[OU34-2024](#)

## Becoming a trainer for ABS

Advanced level

Reference OU32-2024

Course | Online | Q3, 14 hr(s)

Participants in this course will be trained to become trainers on ABS in their offices. The course will comprise three sessions:

- one session focusing on the essential advanced features of the tool
- one session addressing search efficiency and methodology
- one session on exercising the soft skills of a trainer

Participation in the course is subject to a successful acceptance test. Candidates should have attended the entry level and the advanced level courses on ABS. The number of seats is limited to 20.

[Further information](#)

## Implementing ABS at national patent offices (tbc)

Advanced level

Reference OU35-2024

Course | Onsite (tbc) | Q2-Q3 (tbc), 20 hr(s)

This onsite, tutored course is intended to support the implementation of ABS at national patent offices.

The training sessions will be split into beginner, intermediate and advanced sessions for different technical areas. The number of seats will be limited to one hundred.

[Further information](#)



# Other seminars

## Introduction to the European patent system and to the Unitary Patent

Intermediate level

**Reference OS05-2024**  
**Seminar | Online | Q1, 12 hr(s)**

With this seminar, participant will deepen their knowledge of the European patent system and of the Unitary Patent system. Participants will be given the possibility to ask any procedural questions directly to the EPO presenters. The seminar will address all the procedural steps before the EPO, from filing an application to post-grant procedures, as well as the interface with the national patent authorities.

Participants will also receive insight into the role of the EPO in the international patent system (PCT) and in the Unitary Patent system.

[Further information](#)

## CPC collective training

Intermediate level

**Reference OS08-2024**  
**Seminar | Online | Q2, 8 hr(s)**

The tutored CPC field-specific seminar is intended for patent examiners with some classifying experience using the CPC scheme, who wish to improve their skills in selected fields. The fields will be announced closer to the date .

[Further information](#)

## Update on recent decisions of the Boards of Appeal

Intermediate level

**Reference OS10-2024**  
**Seminar | Online | Q2, 4 hr(s)**

This seminar offers a unique opportunity for participants to engage with members of the Boards of Appeal and each other on important topics relating to Boards of Appeal decisions. The seminar focuses on recent selected case-law highlights.

[Further information](#)

## Sufficiency of disclosure for patent examiners

Intermediate level

**Reference OS13-2024**  
**Seminar | Online | Q4, 8 hr(s)**

This seminar addresses the concept of sufficiency of disclosure in detail: has a detailed description of at least one way of carrying out the invention been given in the description?

This a priori simple requirement will be studied under various aspects: what it means in general and how its assessment needs to be carried out in specific selected fields; the practice at the EPO will be illustrated with concrete examples.

[Further information](#)

## Legal updates for national patent offices: UP procedures at the EPO and Guidelines revisions

Intermediate level

**Reference OS14-2024**  
**Seminar | Online | Q4, 6 hr(s)**

The Unitary Patent system entered into force on 1 June 2023. This means that the first European patents with unitary effect registered by the EPO on or after 1 June 2023 will take effect in the 17 EU member states participating in enhanced co-operation that ratified the Agreement on a Unified Patent Court (the UPC Agreement) by that date.

The first session of this seminar will update participants on Unitary Patent procedures at the EPO after the grant of the European Patent.

The second session will address the latest revision process of the Guidelines, presenting the revision process and the addition of new content.

[Further information](#)

# Workshops

Expert workshops are a unique platform for experts from the national patent offices of member states to interact with their peers at the EPO. Participants discuss selected cases in a technical field and compare the practices at the different national patent offices and at the EPO. If applicable, the main decisions of the Boards of Appeal and the most relevant national case law are discussed from the point of view of patent examiners.

## Divisional applications

Intermediate level

Reference OW01-2024

Workshop | Online | Q2, 8 hr(s)

This workshop focuses on how divisional applications are processed at the EPO:

- session 1: definition and legal background, formal aspects; relevant excerpts of the Guidelines and relevant Boards of Appeal decisions
- session 2: presentation and discussion of typical cases

The workshop is not specific to a technical field.

[Further information](#)

## Advanced examination topics in chemistry

Advanced level

Reference OW02-2024

Workshop | Online | Q2, 18 hr(s)

This workshop focuses on advanced aspects of examining patent applications in the field of chemistry:

- session 1: What makes novelty and inventive step specific in the various chemical fields?
- session 2: What makes clarity and sufficiency of disclosure specific in the various chemical fields?
- session 3: application of the general concepts to the specific case of Markush formulae

The theoretical aspects will be supported by numerous practical examples and participants will be encouraged to discuss their personal experiences.

[Further information](#)



## Search strategies, search reports and written opinions

Intermediate level

Reference OW04-2024

Workshop | Online | Q4, 21 hr(s)

This workshop focuses on the key aspects of conducting a search:

- session 1: How to design and implement a successful search strategy? At the end of the session, three dummy applications will be distributed to the participants, who will be asked to design a search strategy and to conduct the search with their respective search tool.
- session 2: How to best draft a search report and a written opinion? Participants will be asked to draft a search report and a written opinion for a dummy application of their choice.
- session 3: During this last workshop session, experiences will be exchanged and a possible model solution will be demonstrated.

The workshop does not focus on a particular technical field.

Further information

## Discussion platforms for exchange on patenting procedures

The discussion platforms are reserved for the national patent offices (NPOs) of member states. They aim to facilitate the exchange of information and the dissemination of knowledge on the latest developments in patenting practices and procedures.

The exchanges focus on a specific technical field agreed in consultation between the Academy and the interested NPOs.

Discussion platforms are organised as online workshops with a duration of six to eight hours and their format is generally as follows:

- day 1: exchange between the NPO examiners and their peers at the EPO on patenting practices in a specific technical field
- day 2: public event aimed at raising user awareness about European and national patent practices and procedures in the specific technical field.

Nine such discussion platforms took place in 2023.



# Tutored self-paced courses

In recent years, training on substantive matters at entry level has been redesigned and now includes a number of self-learning resources. The most relevant self-paced courses for staff from national patent offices are listed at the end of the current section of the catalogue.

To improve the impact of self-paced learning, the European Patent Academy is offering two tutored self-paced courses in 2024. Participants are invited to register with an online course room that gives access to the self-learning resources. Approximately two months after the course room opens, an online day is made available, comprising two two-hour sessions, for answering questions from participants and illustrating the main concepts with examples. The courses conclude with an online test.

Reference	Level	Title	Format	Online sessions	Duration
OU01-2024 <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	Patentability criteria and clarity	Online	Q1	28 hrs
OU02-2024 <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	Structured search	Online	Q3	28 hrs



# PATENT ATTORNEYS





# Patent Matters Conferences



## Search Matters 2024

Intermediate level

Reference PC03-2024

Conference | Hybrid (tbc) | Q1, 16hr(s)

Search Matters is an annual conference that showcases the EPO's patent search strategies and techniques as well as its various publicly accessible databases and search programmes to enable businesses and research organisations to improve their patent searches. This conference is a blend of lectures and workshops in a hybrid format (tbc). Participants will learn about the best search strategies in specific technological areas in interactive workshops, plenary lectures and on-desk sessions.

[Further information](#)

## Examination Matters 2024

Intermediate level

Reference PC01-2024

Conference | Online | Q3, 16 hr(s)

Examination Matters has become the meeting place for patent attorneys dealing with the EPO in the patent granting procedure. Examiners and practitioners provide insights into the mind of the examiner and the day-to-day work performed.

The conference consists mainly of workshops, which offer you the opportunity to conduct detailed discussions with your peers on relevant aspects of examination, share day-to-day experiences and get immediate answers to your practical questions from EPO examiners and lawyers and epi experts.

This conference is organised in co-operation with the epi.

[Further information](#)



## Opposition Matters 2024

Advanced level

Reference PC02-2024

Conference | Online | Q4, 7 hr(s)

Opposition Matters is the EPO's key event for professional users to keep abreast of the latest and most relevant developments in opposition proceedings.

With EPO examiners and lawyers presenting alongside senior European patent attorneys, participants will hear about the best practices they have derived from years of opposition experience. Panel discussions and presentations given by various presenters will give participants direct insight into the work involved in opposition proceedings from several viewpoints.

This conference is organised in co-operation with the epi.

[Further information](#)



# Courses, lectures, seminars





## Patenting computer-implemented inventions

Intermediate level

Reference PU40-2024

Course | Online | Q4, 20 hr(s)

A one-month complete course on computer-implemented inventions (CII) with detailed learning modules about essential concepts, definitions and exclusions to patentability. The course offers the opportunity to explore the relationship between CII and business methods, game rules, mathematics (including artificial intelligence) and the presentation of information/graphical user interfaces. This course includes self-paced reading, exercises and interaction with tutors who will guide you from the principles underlying patenting CII to knowledge of how to patent specific topics related to CII and their difficulties. This course is for those already familiar with the concepts underlying patenting CII who would like to refresh the essentials of CII and deepen their knowledge of patenting CII by exploring particular topics.

[Further information](#)

## Oral proceedings in opposition at the EPO

Advanced level

Reference PU30-2024

Course | Online | Q2, 30 hr(s)

From soft skills to real procedural cases, this complete course gives participants an overview of oral proceedings in opposition before the EPO, where they will learn how to present a case in the most effective way in front of an opposition division.

A trainer with a background in acting, experienced patent attorneys and senior examiners with many years of experience in oral proceedings will guide participants through a range of hearings. Mock oral proceedings designed to let attendees experience different events in real time in a variety of roles (i.e. opposition division, proprietor or opponent), along with preparatory documentation provided in advance, will allow the participants to put their acquired presentation skills into practice.

The length of the online course is one month including live sessions, and it is run in parallel groups, each with a limited number of

participants. Procedural matters, including appropriate reactions to situations occurring during oral proceedings, such as the hearing of witnesses and the handling of requests for apportioning costs in opposition proceedings, as well as what (and what not) to do during oral proceedings will be dealt with in the course.

The course is for professional representatives seeking to improve their presentation skills and practical expertise in opposition.

Basic experience in oral proceedings is recommended.

This course is organised in co-operation with the epi.

[Further information](#)



## Behind the scenes

### Intermediate level

#### Reference PU10-2024 and PU11-2024a- Course | Online | Q1-Q2, 12 hr(s)

Do you want to get insight into the various procedures before the EPO and enter into dialogue with experienced examiners and members of the Boards of Appeal, to have a look at what happens behind the scenes?

Would you like to learn more about how texts laid down in the EPC and described in the EPO Guidelines for Examination are implemented by EPO examiners on a day-to-day basis? Or about how examiners tackle challenging searches? How a division reaches a consensus on proposing a patent grant or, conversely, on refusing a patent application? What patent examiners discuss during the breaks in oral proceedings in opposition? Or how members of the Boards of Appeal review decisions of the first-instance departments?

This course is divided into two sessions, which can also be booked separately.

The first session addresses the topics of “Search & Examination” where you’ll have the opportunity to exchange interactively with EPO examiners, who will present you with examples to illustrate the practical application of the legal texts by EPO staff in their daily work. Participants will have the opportunity to experience what the work of an examiner is.

The second session will address the topics of “Opposition & Appeal” where you will have the chance to interact with experienced EPO examiners in opposition, as well as with members of the Boards of Appeal.

[Further information](#)



## Taking of evidence

### Intermediate level

#### Reference PU20-2024

Course | Online | Q3, 15 hr(s)

Taking of evidence, such as hearing of witnesses or inspecting an object, can be fundamental for proceedings before the EPO. EPO lawyers, EPO examiners and patent attorneys will guide participants through the steps needed to take evidence properly, including practical examples and a mock witness hearing in oral proceedings.

[Further information](#)

## Tackling the future

### Intermediate level

#### Reference PL70-2024 and PL71-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2 and Q3, 2 lectures of 1,5 hr each

Our dynamic world is constantly faced with challenges, such as changes in consumer trends and behaviour, with remarkable investments being made in research and innovation to meet these needs.

A recent development in our interconnected world is cross-field inventions, which combine technologies from several different technological fields. This provides new challenges in finding the best way to protect such inventions with regard to several aspects in the patent-granting process.

This lecture series is aimed at patent professionals seeking to gain deeper insight into the new challenges faced when patenting cross-field inventions. Selected technological fields are chosen to illustrate this new evolution.

Find out more by joining EPO experts and IP experts in novel cross-field technologies.

Further information:

[PL70-2024](#)

[PL71-2024](#)

## Guidelines2day

### Intermediate level

#### Reference PL90-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1-Q2, 6 online lectures of 1 hr each

This series of six online lectures gives an overview of the new Guidelines for Examination (in force as of March 2024) and the updates relevant for patent-granting procedures. The speakers are lawyers and administrators from the EPO's Patent Law directorate.

The lectures deal in detail with the most important changes to the Guidelines.

[Further information](#)

## UP in practice with users

Intermediate level

Reference PL97-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, 2 hr(s)

One year after the launch of the Unitary Patent system, the EPO offers a refresher on the procedure to obtain UP protection and on other related UP services at the disposal of the user community.

This lecture will include practical information as well as insights on the practice of the Unitary Patent Division.

[Further information](#)

## Registers go digital

Intermediate level

Reference PL95-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1, 3 hr(s)

Since last year, the EPO has been offering new services to professional representatives, and EP Register procedures have been simplified. This lecture will update you on these developments, and include practical information as well as insights on the practice of the Legal Division.

[Further information](#)

## Support for EPAC candidates

Intermediate level

Reference PS01-2024

Seminar | Online | Q1-Q3, 60 hr(s)

The syllabus of the European patent administration certification (EPAC) seminar comprises five modules. Support for candidates is provided in the form of a seminar series that runs over five months, covering one module each month.

Module format: after a self-learning phase of approximately two weeks, a first online session is offered during which EPO tutors summarise the main takeaways. A second online session can be organised approximately one week later to answer any remaining questions. At the end of the month, candidates can do an assessment (self-evaluation) on the module under discussion.

The current plan is to hold each seminar in English, but participants can interact with the tutors in French and German.

[Further information](#)



## EQE pre-examination online training course

Intermediate level

Reference PU01-2024

Course | Online | Q3-Q4, 180 hr(s)

This is a six-month, online course for the EQE pre-examination paper that offers a blended e-learning experience, including introductory videos, in-depth articles, mock questions based on the real examination and in-depth case studies. There are around 800 pages of training materials altogether, plus quizzes and virtual classroom sessions on a number of different topics.

Course participants will have access to experienced epi tutors from around Europe, who will be available via a discussion forum to answer exam-related queries. Interaction with tutors takes place during regular virtual classes. Virtual classes are recorded and uploaded to the course virtual space, so that participants can watch them at any time.

A fee is charged.

[Further information](#)





# PCT lectures

## PCT update

Intermediate level

Reference PL81-2024, PL82-2024 and PL83-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, Q3, 2 hr(s) each

This two-hour online lecture updates and complements the series of lectures from previous years on the PCT procedure at the EPO as receiving Office, International Searching Authority, International Preliminary Examining Authority and designated Office. An EPO team of PCT experts will provide information relevant for PCT users, including the latest PCT developments. The lecture in French (July) is organised in co-operation with the CNCPI. The lectures in German and English (June) are organised in co-operation with the epi.

Further information:

[PL81-2024](#)

[PL82-2024](#)

[PL83-2024](#)

## PCT for US paralegals and patent agents

Intermediate level

Reference PL85-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, 3 hr(s)

Many PCT applicants at the EPO are based in the USA. In recent years, the EPO has regularly attended live events throughout the USA to explain the benefits of using the EPO not just as an International Searching Authority, but also for Chapter II. This often results in faster processing in the European regional phase.

This online lecture is for paralegals and patent agents with a role in administering the procedure.

[Further information](#)



## PCT for European paralegals and patent agents

Intermediate level

Reference PL86-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, 2 hr(s)

A large number of PCT applicants at the EPO are based in Europe. In recent years, the EPO has regularly attended live events throughout Europe to explain the benefits of using the EPO not just as an International Searching Authority, but also for Chapter II. This often results in faster processing in the European regional phase.

This online lecture is for paralegals and patent agents with a role in administering the procedure.

[Further information](#)



# Activities organised by the epi with the support of the EPO

Each year, the epi organises training activities for its members and IP professionals in general. The EPO contributes to these activities by providing expertise. The joint 2024 programme will include a course on the life of a patent, a seminar on opposition and appeal, a seminar on case law and seminars on the Unitary Patent/Unified Patent Court.

For details of these EPO-supported activities, visit the [epi website](#).



# Selected self-paced courses

Self-paced courses are available 24/7 on the [EPO e-learning centre](#)

Title	Level	Duration
Introduction to the European patent system <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	8 hours
Patentability requirements at the EPO <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	15 hours
Assessing patentability requirements at the EPO <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	10 hours
Search reports and written opinions <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	6 hours
Searching prior art based on patent applications <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	15 hours
Patentability in specific fields <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	6 hours
Patentability in information and communications technology <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	26 hours
Patentability in healthcare, biotechnology and chemistry <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	9 hours
Using CPC in classification <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	16 hours
CPC field-specific training: recorded lectures <a href="#">↗</a>	Intermediate	13 hours
The EPO as a PCT authority <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	6 hours

Title	Level	Duration
The European patent system from filing to grant <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	7 hours
Lectures on PCT <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	16 hours
Guidelines2day <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	14 hours
Examination Matters: recorded lectures <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	14 hours
Guide to EQE papers A, B, C and D <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	20 hours
Practising for the EQE pre-examination paper <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	20 hours
Opposition procedure at the EPO <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	4 hours
Oral proceedings by videoconference <a href="#">↗</a>	Advanced	4 hours
The Unitary Patent <a href="#">↗</a>	Intermediate	4 hours
New technologies and the IP system <a href="#">↗</a>	Intermediate	9 hours
How to apply for a patent <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	4 hours
Virtual Communication <a href="#">↗</a>	Entry	2 hours



# Patent litigation and enforcement

The “litigation” training area provides training activities aimed at promoting a harmonised approach to patent law in member states by developing sound knowledge of patent litigation. Activities are offered on different types on post-grant litigation and enforcement proceedings.

The area is aimed mainly at the judiciary, in particular judges sitting in courts competent to hear patent cases. Some training activities are also addressed to other practitioners, such as IP lawyers and patent attorneys and litigators wishing to increase their knowledge of enforcement and post-grant issues.

The work of the European Patent Academy focuses on promoting legal expertise on patents throughout Europe. To this end, the Academy has developed several training initiatives offered at different levels which enable judges to progressively build their knowledge of patent law, ranging from capacity-building training to expert-level exchanges.





# Training overview

Audiences	Type	Title	Date
■	Course	Patentability and revocation proceedings	Q2
■	Internship	Judicial internships at the Boards of Appeal	Q2
■	Workshop	Patentability issues for judges and the Boards of Appeal	Q3
■	Workshop	UPC mock trial	Q3
■	Conference	Litigation Matters 2024	Q4
■ ■ ■	Conference	Boards of Appeal Case Law Conference	Q4
■	Conference	European Judges' Forum	Q4
■	Course	Patent infringement and infringement proceedings	Q4
■	Lecture	Patent litigation in Europe	Q2-Q4



## Litigation Matters 2024

### Intermediate level

#### Reference JC04-2024

Conference | Online | Q4, 4 hr(s)

The Litigation Matters conference completes the annual cycle of standing EPO Matters Conferences (Search, Examination and Opposition Matters), reflecting life of a patent. It is devoted to the latest practices of patent litigation in Europe, with particular attention to the UPC litigation. The conference is held over two consecutive mornings and is of interest to judges, lawyers and patent attorneys and litigators.

This conference is organised by the EPO in cooperation with the European Patent Lawyers Association (EPLAW) and European Patent Litigators Association (EPLIT).

[Further information](#)

## Boards of Appeal Case Law Conference

### Intermediate level

#### Reference JC06-2024

Conference | Online | Q4, 12 hr(s)

The annual Boards of Appeal Case Law Conference provides a unique opportunity for patent practitioners to gain insight into the case law and practice of the Boards. The training provides a forum for the participants to engage with members of the Boards on important topics relating to Boards of Appeal decisions.

The conference is aimed at patent practitioners (patent attorneys, attorneys-at-law, in-house counsel), judges and national patent offices' staff with a minimum of four years' experience in the field of patents.

[Further information](#)

## European Judges' Forum

### Advanced level

#### Reference JC07-2024

Conference | On-site | Q4, 12 hr(s)

The annual European Judges' Forum is organised in partnership with the IP Judges' Association (IPJA) and the European Patent Lawyers Association (EPLAW). The conference is a high-level platform for the most experienced judges and litigators in Europe to discuss issues arising in patent litigation. This training includes a mock trial exercise.

This conference is by invitation only.

[Further information](#)

## Patentability and revocation proceedings

### Entry level

#### Reference JU02-2024

Course | Hybrid | Q2, 20 hr(s)

Combining self-study with online live sessions, this course serves as an introduction to patentability and revocation proceedings for judges who have limited experience of hearing patent cases but who work in courts which are competent to deal with them.

The course covers all the fundamental issues, such as the state of the art, claim construction, novelty, inventive step, sufficiency of disclosure, amendment of claims, opposition and appeal procedures. It serves as a “fundamentals” course, which should be completed before attending other training relating to patent litigation and enforcement.

The self-study material is accessible from within a private online course room allowing for flexibility and time management. The self-study material is complemented by weekly interactive and hands-on online group sessions where participants can meet their colleagues from around Europe and discuss specific topics with judicial patent experts.

Further information

## Patent infringement and infringement proceedings

### Entry level

#### Reference JU05-2024

Course | Hybrid | Q4, 24 hr(s)

Combining self-study with online live sessions, this course provides judges with a comprehensive overview and understanding of issues arising in patent infringement cases and proceedings.

After reviewing the fundamentals, the course focuses on specific topics such as the construction of patent specifications, the concepts of equivalence and file wrapper, types of infringement and defences, measures available for the enforcement of patents and the jurisdictional framework in Europe. The final session takes the form of mock proceedings dealing with a case that brings together everything learned in the course.

The self-study material is accessible via a private online course room allowing for flexibility and time management. The self-study material is complemented by weekly interactive and hands-on online group sessions where participants can meet their colleagues from around Europe and discuss specific topics with judicial patent experts.

Further information

## Patentability issues for judges and the Boards of Appeal

### Advanced level

#### Reference JW04-2024

Workshop | (tbc) | Q3, 6 hr(s)

This expert workshop will bring together an equal number of expert patent judges and members of the Boards of Appeal to discuss and exchange views on issues and practices relating to patentability. It will only cover a limited number of questions, leaving ample time to scrutinise them.

This workshop is by invitation only.

Further information



## UPC mock trial

Advanced level

Reference JW01-2024, JW02-2024

Workshop | Hybrid | Q3, 8 hr(s) each

This training event is organised in the form of a mock UPC trial. The simulation is based on a fictional case and follows the UPC Rules of Procedure, offering participants the chance to learn about patent litigation by observing the application of procedural rules in practice. Organised in co-operation with the EPAW and EPLIT and simulcasted online, the event is aimed at lawyers, patent attorneys and judges from around Europe. Registered participants will be provided with the case materials in advance. The two workshops will be looking at different issues of patent litigation law and practice each time.

Further information

## Judicial internships at the Boards of Appeal

Entry level

Reference JI01-2024

Internship | On-site | Q2, 10 hr(s)

These internships for judges are jointly organised by the Boards of Appeal and the European Patent Academy. Internships' objectives include the promotion of the harmonised understanding of the EPC, of appeal proceedings at the EPO Boards of Appeal and of their relation between national and EPO proceedings.

Each internship lasts two weeks. Prior to the internship, judicial interns must complete a hybrid course on patentability and revocation proceedings, reference JU02-2024, duration 20 hours.

Further information

## Patent litigation in Europe

Advanced level

Reference JL01-2024, JL02-2024, JL03-2024, JL04-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2-Q4, Four sessions, one hour each

This advanced lecture series is dedicated to examining current topics in patent litigation in Europe, including the launch of the UPC and the emergence of new European patent jurisprudence. The series feeds the content of and leads up to the annual Litigation Matters conference. Participants can attend each session separately or the entire series. It is organised by the EPO in co-operation with the European Patent Lawyers Association (EPLAW) and the European Patent Litigators Association (EPLIT).

Further information:

JL01-2024

JL02-2024

JL03-2024

JL04-2024

# Selected self-paced courses

Self-paced courses are available 24/7 on the [EPO e-learning centre](#)

Title	Level	Duration
Unitary Patent package ↗	Entry	25 hrs
Patent litigation A to Z ↗	Intermediate	45 hrs



# Patent knowledge and technology transfer






















The training offer in Patent Knowledge and Technology Transfer primarily targets universities and research centres, SMEs, start-ups and businesses more generally.

The goal is to foster education and research into patents and innovation, nurturing the next generation of engineers, researchers, managers and entrepreneurs. Training also endeavours to provide economic actors and policymakers with the learning resources that will enable them to make the best use of the patent system.

As part of its contribution to technology transfer and knowledge, the Academy supports educational activities by third parties and stakeholders and organises courses, advanced lecture series, inventors' talks and university modules.



# Training overview

Audiences	Type	Title	Date
 	Lecture	EPO's fighting cancer platform	Q1
 	Lecture	Self-learning patent knowledge products and services	Q1
 	Lecture	Patent documentation basics	Q1
	Course	IP management - evaluation and protection	Q1
 	Lecture	Patent statistics in PATSTAT	Q1
	Lecture	INPADOC worldwide legal event data for beginners	Q1
	Lecture	INPADOC worldwide legal event data for advanced users	Q1
 	Lecture	Deep Tech Finder	Q1
	Seminar	Licensing as an exit strategy	Q1
 	Lecture	Searching in Espacenet	Q1
	Seminar	EIT-EUIPO-EPO training on intellectual property rights	Q1
 	Lecture	Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: quantum technology	Q1
 	Lecture	EPO patent insight report on offshore wind energy	Q1



Audiences	Type	Title	Date
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: artificial intelligence in MedTech	Q1
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Course	Patenting innovation for RTTP candidates	Q1-Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Seminar	PATLIB introductory sessions	Q1-Q3
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Seminar	Input, updates and perspectives: regular PATLIB networking events	Q1-Q4
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	EPO patent insight report on propulsion systems for space	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Conference	PATLIB Annual Conference	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	WIPO ST.27: overview and uses related to INPADOC legal event data	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	Self-learning patent knowledge products and services	Q2
<div><div></div></div>	Course	IP management - value extraction and commercialisation	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Seminar	EPO search tools to improve business decisions	Q2
<div><div></div></div>	Lecture	INPADOC legal event data and the unitary effect: background, legal event codes, initial statistics	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	The Unitary Patent in EPO patent knowledge data and tools – an overview	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Workshop	IP assessment: how to improve informed decision-making	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Course	Create - Protect - Innovate: bringing ideas to market (MIPEF Part I)	Q2

Audiences	Type	Title	Date
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	Advanced lecture series: Unitary Patent package	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	The Unitary Patent in the European Patent Register and the EP Bulletin	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	Inspiring Inventors talk series: Avelino Corma Canos	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	Challenging pending applications and granted rights in Asia: procedures and data	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: green technologies	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Course	Train the Trainer: Espacenet course	Q2
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Seminar	How to make best use of the unitary patent system	Q2-Q4
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Seminar	Innovation case studies: information and communication technology	Q2-Q4
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Seminar	Innovation case studies: life science	Q2-Q4
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Seminar	Innovation case studies: sustainability	Q2-Q4
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	Patent documentation basics	Q3
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Lecture	Searching legal status and event information in the Register and Espacenet	Q3
<div><div></div><div></div></div>	Seminar	Business use of patent information	Q3
<div><div></div></div>	Lecture	INPADOC worldwide legal event data for beginners	Q3

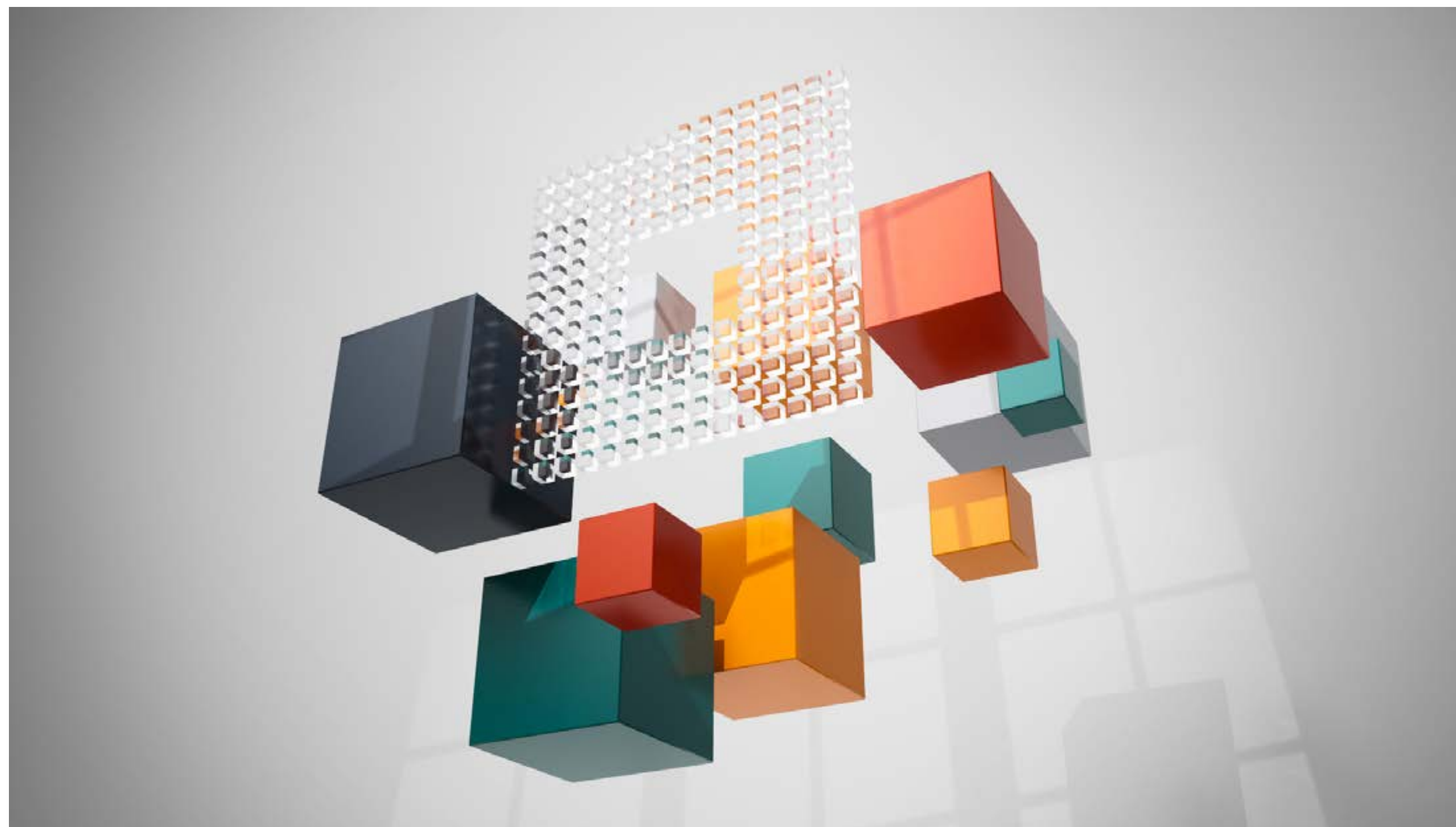


Audiences	Type	Title	Date
	Lecture	INPADOC worldwide legal event data for advanced users	Q3
 	Course	Create - Protect - Innovate: bringing ideas to market (MIPEF Part II)	Q4
 	Lecture	PATSTAT introduction	Q4
 	Lecture	Introduction to the European Patent Register and the Unitary Patent Register	Q4
 	Lecture	Advanced lecture series: photovoltaics	Q4
 	Lecture	EPO patent insight report on advances in photovoltaics	Q4
 	Lecture	Advanced lecture series: Unitary Patent package	Q4
 	Lecture	Inspiring Inventors talk series: Rhona Togher and Eimear O'Carroll	Q4
 	Lecture	The Common Citation Document - a hidden treasure	Q4
 	Lecture	Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: digital communication	Q4
 	Lecture	Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: biotechnology	Q4
 	Lecture	Creating patent insight reports	Q4

# PATLIB centres

Patent information (PATLIB) centres provide local access to patent information and related issues. They are familiar with the local industrial, economic and business landscape and provide valuable services to entrepreneurs, SMEs, private inventors and students. PATLIB centres are hosted within their NPOs, in chambers of commerce, in universities and research institutions and in city libraries.

This section of the catalogue lists the training activities organised by the European Patent Academy for PATLIB centre staff.





## PATLIB Annual Conference

### Entry level

**Reference NC04-2024**

**Conference | Hybrid (tbc) | Q2, 16 hr(s)**

The annual PATLIB conference is organised for PATLIB centres across the European Patent Office's (EPO) member states.

This conference brings together the staff from more than 300 centres across the PATLIB network to discuss pertinent issues relating to the centres and to share experiences with other players in the innovation ecosystem.

Further information

## Input, updates and perspectives: regular PATLIB networking events

### Entry level

**Reference NS05-2024**

**Seminar | Online | Q1-Q4, 15 hr(s)**

Under the motto “from the network for the network”, the EPO together platform (spatial chat) enables PATLIB centres to discuss, be informed and share knowledge and experience. PATLIB centres can present their best practices to the rest of the network and guest speakers from other innovation networks and institutions can present their activities and initiatives.

In 2024 there will be five such events organised, one each in January, March, June, September and November.

Further information

## PATLIB introductory sessions

### Entry level

**Reference NS03-2024**

**Seminar | Online | Q1-Q3, 12 hr(s)**

The introductory sessions provide a harmonised approach helping new PATLIB centres and new members of staff of existing PATLIB centres gain access to coherent information and knowledge. The package is delivered in a series of four online events:

- Part I: introduction to the PATLIB network itself, its goals as well as information on points of contact and support in all issues regarding PATLIB and an introduction to the European patent procedure.
- Part II: presentation on the benefits of patent information and basic search skills in Espacenet and the European Patent Register services.
- Part III: access to tools available for the network, advanced online training courses, single access portal.
- Part IV: collaborating with other innovation networks and knowledge transfer initiatives.

Further information

## Train the Trainer: Espacenet course

Advanced level

Reference NU02-2024

Course | Online | Q2, Q4, 30 hr(s)

This online training course runs over five weeks and was developed especially for the PATLIB network. It focuses more on the methodology used in problem-solving rather than on the tool itself.

In 2024, the course will be offered in Q2 and in Q4.

[Further information](#)

## Patenting innovation for RTTP candidates

Entry level

Reference NU06-2024

Course | Online | Q1-Q2, 12 hr(s)

Patents are a powerful asset in the toolbox of a technology transfer professional. This course, developed in collaboration with the Alliance of Technology Transfer Professionals and with accreditation points for the Registered Technology Transfer Professional (RTTP) professional qualification, covers how innovative ideas are protected within the patenting system.

[Further information](#)





# BUSINESSES





# High-growth technology business (HTB) initiative

This initiative supports business decision makers in technology-driven enterprises by sharing how IP can support their business. It focuses on IP strategy, operational excellence, financing and the management of strategic transactions, all underpinned by intellectual assets and best practice in IP management.

Throughout the year, multiple online activities will be organised to support strategic decision making on issues such as selling a company, growth financing, digital innovation and IP strategy and management. They will be based on case studies discussed by an international panel. You can see some examples at [High-growth technology business forum | EPO.org](https://www.epo.org/activities/online-activities/high-growth-technology-business-forum)





## IP management – evaluation and protection

Intermediate level

Reference BU05-2024

Course | Online | Q1, 15 hr(s)

In this interactive training, participants will delve deeper into the aspects of IP management. The training revolves around general management and economic aspects, on the one hand, and specific patent aspects on the other.

In collaboration with I3PM, a dedicated presentation on IP portfolio and IP innovation management will be given as an introduction. Building on these insights and on the accompanying modules on this topic, the participants will then be assigned to a case-study-based group exercise. This will require active participation and interaction among the participants as well as with the presenters and moderators. The accompanying modules require self-study (approximately 6 hours). At the end of the course the participants will present their solutions to the exercises. Certification is based on active participation and taking quizzes.

Further information

## IP management – value extraction and commercialisation

Intermediate level

Reference BU06-2024

Course | Online | Q2, 15 hr(s)

In this interactive training, participants will delve deeper into the aspects of IP management. The training focuses on the basic IP value extraction mechanisms and how they can be implemented through licensing and enforcement actions. Determining the value of IP is an essential component.

In collaboration with I3PM a dedicated presentation on IP valuation will be given as an introduction. Building on these insights and on the accompanying modules on this topic, the participants will then be assigned to two group case studies, one on an individual basis at base level and one as a group assignment on a more advanced

level. The latter case study will require active participation and interaction among the participants and with the presenter and moderators of this course. The accompanying modules require self-study (approximately four hours).

At the end of the course the participants will present their solutions to the case study. Certification is based on active participation and taking quizzes.

Further information

# Workshops and seminars

## EPO search tools to improve business decisions

### Entry level

#### Reference BS01-2024

**Seminar | Online | Q2, 3.5 hr(s)**

This seminar will show business decision makers what can be done with the EPO's free search tools and the additional features offered by more advanced tools.

#### Content:

- using Espacenet to filter and analyse search results
- using PATSTAT for more advanced statistics

[Further information](#)

## Business use of patent information

### Intermediate level

#### Reference BS02-2024

**Seminar | Online | Q3, 7 hr(s)**

Patent analytics enable businesses to monitor the competitive environment. This seminar shows why patent information matters and how to engage search tools, as well as comparing patent intelligence with traditional patent searches. Case studies illustrate how deep tech businesses can benefit from patent intelligence. The seminar consists of three hours of online lecture and four hours of self-paced study.

[Further information](#)



## IP assessment: how to improve informed decision-making

Intermediate level

**Reference BW01-2024**

**Workshop | Online | Q2, 20 hr(s)**

This workshop focuses on the IP-related challenges and issues that arise when systematically assessing technologies and patents. It is aimed at intellectual capital managers, R&D project leaders, entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs, SMEs, startups, spin-offs and technology transfer businesses. Participants are invited to attend all three sessions, which include the evaluation of a real case study. The workshop includes self-study and homework.

[Further information](#)

## From lab to market

In collaboration with the European IP Helpdesk, this series aims to equip participants with the knowledge they need to leverage IP assets for business success. Delving into real-world examples of both new and established businesses that have developed strategic IP management capabilities, the seminars will demonstrate how it can give them a competitive edge.

This series of online seminars is aimed at business decision-makers and IP professionals in high-growth technology businesses from different sectors, and particularly at SMEs. To maximise your learning experience, you can attend individual seminars or the entire series.

## How to make best use of the Unitary Patent system

**Reference BS03-2024**

**Seminar | Online | Q2-Q4, 3 hr(s)**

The spotlight in this seminar is on the advantages offered by the Unitary Patent system. Exploring how businesses can harness these benefits to protect and monetise their intellectual property will pave the way for subsequent seminars featuring selected case studies from different industries. These follow-up seminars will cover key lessons on the implications of the Unitary Patent system for research-driven SMEs.

[Further information](#)

## Innovation case studies: information and communication technology

Intermediate level

**Reference BS04-2024**  
**Seminar | Online | Q2-Q4, 3 hr(s)**

Industry experts will dissect a selected case study of a business operating in the information and communication technology (ICT) industry. Shedding light on the key learnings of how IP can be strategically managed to gain a competitive advantage and maximise business opportunities in this rapidly evolving field, learning from successful businesses that have effectively navigated the IP landscape.

[Further information](#)

## Innovation case studies: life science

Intermediate level

**Reference BS05-2024**  
**Seminar | Online | Q2-Q4, 3 hr(s)**

A selected case study showcases the impact of effective IP management on business success in the life science industry.

Participants will gain practical insights, explore challenges and learn from successful companies that have navigated the IP landscape in the more regulated life sciences.

[Further information](#)

## Innovation case studies: sustainability

Intermediate level

**Reference BS06-2024**  
**Seminar | Online | Q2-Q4, 3 hr(s)**

Industry experts will dissect a selected case study of a business dedicated to sustainability. Shedding light on the key learnings of how IP can be strategically managed to gain a competitive advantage and maximise business opportunities in this rapidly evolving field, participants will gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities specific to the sustainability sector and learn from successful businesses that have effectively navigated the IP landscape.

[Further information](#)



# Other seminars

## EIC – Licensing as an exit strategy

Entry level

Reference BS10-2024

Seminar | Online | Q1, 2 hr(s)

This seminar offers a unique opportunity to explore the practical applications of licensing early-stage technologies. In the first part, participants will gain insights from business experts in the biotech, energy, food and digital sectors who will present their real-life licensing experiences. In the second part, a dynamic panel discussion will foster exchanges between licensing experts and participants, encouraging interaction and facilitating a collaborative environment.

This event is organised in co-operation with the European Innovation Council (EIC).

[Further information](#)

## EIT-EUIPO-EPO training on intellectual property rights

Intermediate level

Reference BS09-2024

Seminar | Online | Q1, 10 hr(s)

This training activity aims to support the EIT Manufacturing KIC and its associated SMEs, startups, and spin offs on IP topics, raise awareness among participants, and strengthen their IP agenda.

By providing specialised guidance, promoting responsible IP management, and fostering a culture of innovation, the training equips participants with the skills needed to leverage IP benefits in the global market. With interactive sessions, practical case studies, and access to up-to-date resources, the program empowers participants to navigate the complex IP landscape and drive business growth. The seminar combines 5 h of online lecture and 5 h of self-paced study.

The seminar is organised in co-operation with the European Institute of Innovation and Technology.

[Further information](#)



# PATENT KNOWLEDGE





# Business information

Patent information contains a wealth of information which, if you know how to use it, can be a strategic source of business information based on technical developments, and one which provides unique market insights. These lectures provide insights into the latest technological advances and how to apply the methodology used to create your own insight reports.

## EPO's fighting cancer platform

Entry level

Reference KL01-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1, one hour

In the fight against cancer, innovation is essential. Global success depends on access to the right know-how and the technical information contained in patents. These provide insights into the latest advances and can help researchers and innovators find inventive solutions. In this lecture, we introduce you to the new Espacenet platform on technologies against cancer.

[Further information](#)

## Creating patent insight reports

Entry level

Reference KL29-2024

Lecture | Online | Q4, one hour

The EPO's patent insight reports look at future and emerging technologies. Learn about the methodology we use to create these reports, with a focus on one particular example. You can apply the same analytical approach to reveal trends and prospects for other future and emerging technologies.

[Further information](#)

## EPO patent insight report on offshore wind energy

Entry level

Reference KL03-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1, one hour

Get a brief introduction to offshore wind generation. Find out how we worked together with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) on this patent insight report and learn about the key findings and implications.

[Further information](#)

## EPO patent insight report on propulsion systems for space

Entry level

Reference KL16-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, one hour

Get a brief introduction to propulsion systems for space. Find out how we worked together with the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) and the European Space Agency (ESA) on this patent insight report, and learn about the key findings and implications.

[Further information](#)

## EPO patent insight report on advances in photovoltaics

Entry level

Reference KL28-2024

Lecture | Online | Q4, one hour

Find out more about our patent insight report into future and emerging technologies. Learn about the methodology used to create this report on advances in photovoltaics.

[Further information](#)



# Deep Tech Finder

Entry level

Reference KL35-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1, one hour

The EPO is aware of the importance of patents for deep tech innovation, not only as a means of protecting investments in new technologies, but also as way to signal potential value to prospective investors. The Deep Tech Finder was developed precisely for this purpose. By enabling other companies and researchers active in deep tech, as well as investors, to search for European startups filing patent applications with the EPO, this new tool sheds light on ventures that have the potential to bring new technology to market on a European scale. By harnessing the EPO's expertise in patent information, the tool also helps potential investors and business partners to find out what inventions are being developed in specific technology fields and assess their levels of protection by European patents.

[Further information](#)



# Patent statistics (PATSTAT)

The EPO's PATSTAT is a point of reference in the field of patent intelligence and statistics. It helps you perform sophisticated statistical analyses of bibliographical and legal event patent data. These lectures will introduce you to the basic use of PATSTAT (with case study) and explain more advanced analyses using structured query language (SQL).

## Patent statistics in PATSTAT

### Entry level

Reference KL05-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1, one hour

Get started with PATSTAT Online. After an overview, we look at who should use it, differences between the beginner and advanced interfaces, where to find documentation to get started and SQL basics. We also look at a case study.

[Further information](#)

## PATSTAT introduction

### Intermediate level

Reference KL27-2024

Lecture | Online | Q4, one hour

The PATSTAT product line provides a unique basis for advanced statistical analyses of patent data. It opens up exciting opportunities for detailed assessments of new technologies, market trends and the competitive environment. This online lecture introduces PATSTAT Online and the beginner interface and looks at more advanced analyses using structured query language (SQL).

[Further information](#)



# Getting to know the e-learning materials

There is an abundance of e-learning materials and content related to the Patent knowledge products and services. You will learn how to find this information and set up your own self-paced learning strategy to enhance understanding of the patent knowledge products and services.

## Self-learning patent knowledge products and services

Entry level

Reference KL06-2024 and KL23-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1 and Q2, one hour

We offer various self-learning materials – including recordings, tutorials, learning paths and documentation – which help you learn to search effectively and to better understand our patent knowledge products and services. Following the introduction of the Unitary Patent, we'll also be taking a look at the Unitary Patent Register self-learning materials.

Further information [KL06-2024](#) and [KL23-2024](#)



# Using the EPO patent knowledge products

The EPO provides access to the largest single source of technical information in the world: our databases containing millions of patent documents. This allows you to see what already exists, find out about technical aspects of your competitors' work or spot trends in technology. These lectures will teach you how to understand patent documentation, as well as how to effectively search in Espacenet and use its integrated Common Citation Document tool. You will also learn how to find and understand legal status and event information in the Register and Espacenet.

## Searching in Espacenet

Entry level

Reference KL04-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1, one hour

Get started with Espacenet – learn basic functions, including how to build a query and download the results.

[Further information](#)

## Searching legal status and event information in the Register and Espacenet

Entry level

Reference KL22-2024

Lecture | Online | Q3, one hour

Learn how to find the legal status of a European patent in the European Patent Register and in the prior-art search tool Espacenet. Find out how the legal statuses shown in these two different EPO search tools differ.

[Further information](#)



## The Common Citation Document – a hidden treasure

Advanced level

Reference KL25-2024

Lecture | Online | Q4, one hour

An in-depth look at the Common Citation Document application.

[Further information](#)

## Patent documentation basics

Entry level

Reference KL02-2024 and KL24-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1, Q3, one hour

There are many different kinds of patent documents that help you perform a good prior-art or legal search. Learn about EPs, PCTs, Euro-PCTs and national patents, and how they end up as European patents. You'll also get to know about number formatting rules.

Further information:

[KL02-2024](#)

[KL24-2024](#)



# Worldwide legal event data: INPADOC

**In addition to the searchable databases and tools, EPO patent information data is available as linked open data, bulk data sets or via our web services for everyone wishing to obtain EPO data directly. These lectures will show you all the different aspects of INPADOC legal event data from entry to advanced level and will enable you to better understand implications of the legal status of patent applications and patents and European patents with unitary effect in everyday situations.**

## WIPO ST.27: overview and uses related to INPADOC legal event data

Advanced level

Reference KL15-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, one hour

ST.27 is an international standard for the exchange of legal event and legal status information. It is used by more and more patent offices worldwide. The standard helps patent information users understand the nature of legal events and their impact on the status of patent applications and patents. This is an overview of the fundamentals of the standard. Using examples of EP legal event data in the EPO worldwide legal event data service (INPADOC), we demonstrate how ST.27 information can help patent information users in everyday situations.

[Further information](#)

## INPADOC worldwide legal event data for beginners

Entry level

Reference KL07-2024 and KL20-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1 and Q3, one hour

INPADOC is a unique collection of legal event data from over 50 authorities worldwide. In this lecture, you'll get an introduction and learn the basics. What is a legal event? What do legal events look like in Espacenet? Working with examples, you'll learn how to include legal event data in your searches.

Further information:

[KL07-2024](#)

[KL20-2024](#)



## INPADOC worldwide legal event data for advanced users

Advanced level

Reference KL08-2024 and KL21-2024

Lecture | Online | Q1 and Q3, one hour

This online lecture gives more advanced users a deep dive into the INPADOC legal event data available in Espacenet and the Global Patent Index.

Further information:

[KL08-2024](#)

[KL21-2024](#)

## INPADOC legal event data and the unitary effect: background, legal event codes, initial statistics

Entry level

Reference KL12-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, one hour

With the introduction of the Unitary Patent System in June 2023, a new era started. In this lecture, we use INPADOC data to look at event codes and some initial statistics on the Unitary Patent system.

[Further information](#)



# Patent knowledge tools and the Unitary Patent

The introduction of the Unitary Patent (UP) and the Unified Patent Court (UPC) has created new data relating to unitary effect. This data is present in the EPO patent information tools and services, providing users with an additional layer of patent information. These lectures are designed to help you get to know and understand the Unitary Patent system in the patent knowledge tools and data.

## The Unitary Patent in EPO patent knowledge data and tools – an overview

Entry level

Reference KL14-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, one hour

A run-through of the UP-related information that you can find in our patent knowledge products and services.

[Further information](#)

## Introduction to the European Patent Register and the Unitary Patent Register

Entry level

Reference KL26-2024

Lecture | Online | Q4, one hour

Introduction to the basic features and functionalities of the European Patent Register and the Unitary Patent Register.

[Further information](#)



## The Unitary Patent in the European Patent Register and the EP Bulletin

Entry level

Reference KL13-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, one hour

Learn about the UP-related information available in the Register and the EP Bulletin, and how you can find it.

[Further information](#)



# Asian patent information

The patent knowledge products and services contain worldwide prior art data. These lectures take a special look at the various procedures third parties can use to challenge an application or granted patent in Japan, Korea as well as China and Chinese Taipei.

## Challenging pending applications and granted rights in Asia: procedures and data.

Intermediate level

Reference KL10-2024, KL11-2024 and KL37-2024  
Lecture | Online | Q2, one hour each

This series of three online lectures introduces various procedures third parties can use to challenge an application or granted patent in Japan (KL10-2024), Korea (KL11-2024) as well as China and Chinese Taipei (KL37-2024): third-party observations, invalidations and post-grant oppositions. As well as getting an introduction to these procedures, you will also learn how to find and understand information on these procedures.

Further information:

[KL10-2024](#)

[KL11-2024](#)

[KL37-2024](#)









## Create - Protect - Innovate: Bringing ideas to market (MIPEF Part I)

Entry level

Reference AU01-2024

Course | Online | Q2, 75 hr(s)

Within the new Modular IP Education Framework (MIPEF), this course is aimed at master's and PhD students who want to know more about intellectual property rights, particularly when it comes to patent protection and commercialising inventions. The course consists of a carefully selected set of case studies, live sessions, self-paced modules and respective quizzes, tutored for a and final marked assignment.

It comprises the following modules:

- Module I: Introduction to IP
- Module II: Patent essentials
- Module III: Introduction to patent information
- Module IV: Patent information in practice
- Module V: Developing an IP strategy

Further information

For information on how your university can participate in the programme, please contact the MIPEF team at [mipef@epo.org](mailto:mipef@epo.org).

## Create - Protect - Innovate: Bringing ideas to market (MIPEF Part II)

Advanced level

Reference AU02-2024

Course | Online | Q4, 75 hr(s)

Within the new Modular IP Education Framework (MIPEF), this course is aimed at master's and PhD students who want to know more about intellectual property rights, particularly when it comes to patent protection and commercialising inventions. The course consists of a carefully selected set of case studies, live sessions, self-paced modules and respective quizzes, tutored and final marked assignment.

The course comprises the following modules:

- Module I: Grant of patents
- Module II: Enforcement of patents
- Module III: Scouting and assessment of technology
- Module IV: IP commercialisation
- Module V: Use of IPRs

Further information

For information on how your university can participate in the programme, please contact the MIPEF team at [mipef@epo.org](mailto:mipef@epo.org).





## Advanced lecture series: Unitary Patent package

Intermediate level

Reference AL01-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2 and Q4, four sessions, 1 hr each

Introducing an informative series of four online lectures to delve into the Unitary Patent package. Moderated by a lawyer of the EPO, these sessions will empower participants with a comprehensive understanding of the Unitary Patent and the Unified Patent Court.

Throughout the series, explore the conceptual framework, legal implications and practical aspects surrounding the new patent system. Discover more about the benefits and challenges of the Unitary Patent package, as well as its impact on inventors, businesses and the European patent landscape.

[Further information](#)

## Advanced lecture series: photovoltaics

Advanced level

Reference AL02-2024

Lecture | Online | November, four sessions, 1 hr each

This series will explain how patents help to protect inventions related to photovoltaics and contribute to a sustainable future. Participants will see how patent protection can be obtained for a wide range of technical subject-matter (such as materials, devices and processes) and will become familiar with typical steps and challenges in the patent-granting process specific to this field.

This series will also explain how patents help to prevent the unauthorised commercial exploitation of inventions by third parties, how they help to find and attract investors and partners and to follow trends. The four online lectures in this series are an ideal opportunity for participants to interact with EPO experts, IP experts and inventors specialising in the field of photovoltaics.

[Further information](#)

## Inspiring Inventors talk series: Avelino Corma Canos

Entry level

Reference AL92-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, 1 hr(s)

The Inspiring Inventors talk series features distinguished inventors who were nominated as finalists for the European Inventor Award, and their inventions. The series provides a unique opportunity to interact with the inventors and learn how to successfully bring an invention to market and contribute to innovation. An EPO expert will interview the inventor and participants will have the opportunity to ask questions.

[Further information](#)



## Inspiring Inventors talk series: Rhona Togher and Eimear O’Carroll

Entry level

Reference AL93-2024  
Lecture | Online | Q4, 1 hr(s)

The Inspiring Inventors talk series features distinguished inventors who were nominated as finalists for the European Inventor Award, and their inventions. The series provides a unique opportunity to interact with the inventors and learn how to successfully bring an invention to market and contribute to innovation. An EPO expert will interview the inventor and participants will have the opportunity to ask questions.

[Further information](#)



## Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: quantum technology

Entry level

Reference AL03-2024  
Lecture | Online | Q1, 1.5 hours

This lecture, organised in co-operation with the European IP Helpdesk, addresses the IP related aspects of EU-funded projects in five areas. It introduces the main aspects of IP management, notably IP ownership, protection and exploitation.

Each lecture explores the interface between patents and the respective technical field. The lectures may be of interest to a variety of audiences, from researchers to technology transfer officers. The online sessions include a Q&A and are complemented with optional self-paced courses.

[Further information](#)

## Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: artificial intelligence in MedTech

Entry level

Reference AL04-2024  
Lecture | Online | Q1, 1,5 hours

This lecture series, organised in co-operation with the European IP Helpdesk, addresses the IP-related aspects of EU-funded projects in five areas. It introduces the main aspects of IP management, notably IP ownership, protection and exploitation.

Each lecture explores the interface between patents and the respective technical field. The lectures may be of interest to a variety of audiences, from researchers to technology transfer officers. The online sessions include a Q&A and are complemented with optional self-paced courses.

[Further information](#)



## Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: green technologies

Entry level

Reference AL05-2024

Lecture | Online | Q2, 1,5 hours

This lecture series, organised in co-operation with the European IP Helpdesk, addresses the IP-related aspects of EU-funded projects in five areas. It introduces the main aspects of IP management, notably IP ownership, protection and exploitation.

Each lecture explores the interface between patents and the respective technical field. The lectures may be of interest to a variety of audiences, from researchers to technology transfer officers. The online sessions include a Q&A and are complemented with optional self-paced courses.

[Further information](#)

## Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: digital communication

Entry level

Reference AL06-2024

Lecture | Online | Q4, 1,5 hours

This lecture series, organised in co-operation with the European IP Helpdesk, addresses the IP-related aspects of EU-funded projects in five areas. It introduces the main aspects of IP management, notably IP ownership, protection and exploitation.

Each lecture explores the interface between patents and the respective technical field. The lectures may be of interest to a variety of audiences, from researchers to technology transfer officers. The online sessions include a Q&A and are complemented with optional self-paced courses.

[Further information](#)

## Patent protection for EU funding beneficiaries: biotechnology

Entry level

Reference AL07-2024

Lecture | Online | Q4, 1,5 hours

This lecture series, organised in co-operation with the European IP Helpdesk, addresses the IP-related aspects of EU-funded projects in five areas. It introduces the main aspects of IP management, notably IP ownership, protection and exploitation.

Each lecture explores the interface between patents and the respective technical field. The lectures may be of interest to a variety of audiences, from researchers to technology transfer officers. The online sessions include a Q&A and are complemented with optional self-paced courses.

[Further information](#)

# Selected self-paced courses

Self-paced courses are available 24/7 on the [EPO e-learning centre](#)

Title	Level	Duration
<a href="#">From idea to patent ↗</a>	Entry	8 hrs
<a href="#">The art of reading patent documentation ↗</a>	Entry	6 hrs
<a href="#">Introduction to the European patent system ↗</a>	Entry	8 hrs
<a href="#">The European patent system from filing to grant ↗</a>	Entry	7 hrs
<a href="#">Think patents: the value of patent documentation for innovation and research ↗</a>	Entry	4 hrs

Title	Level	Duration
<a href="#">EPO patent information tools ↗</a>	Entry	5 hrs
<a href="#">Use patents: cases from research results ↗</a>	Entry	12 hrs
<a href="#">Patent information tour ↗</a>	Entry	4 hrs
<a href="#">IP strategy ↗</a>	Intermediate	10 hrs
<a href="#">IP evaluation and protection ↗</a>	Intermediate	10 hrs
<a href="#">IP value extraction and commercialisation ↗</a>	Intermediate	8 hrs



# Research and certifications







## Certification for decision makers & IP professionals

EPO is working with selected universities to co-develop training content and programs resulting in the creation of new EPO-universities co-labelled certificates that later on will be made freely available worldwide. This will increase impact, ease diffusion, and inclusion of developed content in official educational programs. The first co-operation of this kind is established with CEIPI, the Centre for International Intellectual Property Studies of the University in Strasbourg. It will comprise three certificates covering the topics

- (i) IP for SME and Startups,
- (ii) IP in digital Technologies and
- (iii) IP in corporate sustainability

The material will become available on <https://e-courses.epo.org/>

## EPO Academic Research Programme

The EPO recognises the importance of high-quality research on patent-related IP matters to inform policymakers and facilitate sound business decisions in a context where intangible assets, innovation and IP rights as well as digital technologies for IP have become pivotal in the economy and education. The programme provides financial support for rigorous collaborative research schemes.

Find out more on the EPO Academic Research Programme



# Other learning products





## Learning path for patent examiners

This series of 48 booklets, downloadable from the EPO web site, is intended for patent examiners at national patent offices who are taking part in training organised by the European Patent Office. It is also freely available to the public for independent learning. Topics covered include novelty, inventive step, clarity, unity of invention, sufficiency of disclosure, amendments and search. Also addressed are patenting issues specific to certain technical fields: patentability exceptions and exclusions in biotechnology; assessment of novelty, inventive step, clarity, sufficiency of disclosure and unity of invention for chemical inventions; the patentability of computer-implemented inventions, business methods, game rules, mathematics and its applications, presentations of information, graphical user interfaces and programs for computers; claim formulation for computer-implemented inventions. Each publication focuses on one topic at entry, intermediate or advanced level. The explanations and examples are based on the European Patent Convention, the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO and selected decisions of the EPO's Boards of Appeal. References are made to the Patent Cooperation Treaty and its Regulations whenever appropriate.

[Further information](#)



## Learning path for patent administrators

This series of 22 booklets, downloadable from the EPO website, is intended for patent administrators who are taking part in training and certifications organised by the European Patent Office. It is also freely available to the public for independent learning. Topics covered include general aspects of the patent system, the European patent system and the European patent granting procedure, the International Patent System (PCT) and the PCT procedure, European and international publications, filing a European patent application and filing an international application, the formalities during the European examination and during the international preliminary examination, the formalities during the appeal procedure after refusal (EPC), during the opposition procedure (EPC), national validation (EPC) as well as entering national/regional phases and the entry into the European phase (formal requirements and examination). Each chapter focuses on one topic at entry, intermediate or advanced level.

[Further information](#)



## Learning path: the value of patent documentation

The world around us is full of new technical ideas that successfully transform our everyday life. But what is the role of patents in this landscape? What conditions does an invention have to meet to become a patent? Moreover, what is patent information and in which ways can you benefit from it? You will get the answers to all of these questions in this learning path.

[Further information](#)



## European qualifying examination – Guide for preparation

This guide is a collection of explanations, information and advice that gives candidates to the European qualifying examination (EQE) a head start in organising their exam preparation time. It will allow them to channel their efforts to maximise their chances of passing the examination. The guide has been drawn from official information sources and the experiences of previous candidates and their tutors and supervisors. Please note that this guide does not replace official publications on EQE regulations.

[Find out more on the guide for preparing the EQE](#)



## EPO innovation case studies

This series of innovation case studies reveals how innovators can make better use of the IP system to create value. The SME case studies, technology transfer case studies and high-growth technology case studies that make up the series showcase companies from different countries representing the main regions in Europe. International examples are expanding the horizons to the U.S. and Asia. They operate in a wide range of industries, from medical technology to ICT and the environment, and apply different business models.



## Inventors' handbook

The Inventors' handbook provides basic guidance on the key stages of turning an invention into a commercial product. The topics covered include patent searching, IP and business aspects. The guide is intended to help inventors obtain a 360° view on invention commercialisation so that they may avoid common mistakes associated with innovation projects. The handbook can be used for self-paced training or as further reading for other training events.





## Best of Search Matters

These web pages bring the content developed for the annual Search Matters conference to the attention of the wider network of patent system users, and SMEs in particular. A collection of selected recordings of presentations, presentation slides and articles published in the Elsevier journal “World Patent Information” is accessible for self-paced study.

## High-growth technology business handbook

On the one hand, the HTB handbook is designed to encourage business decision-makers to engage strategically to create value and, on the other hand, to support IP professionals in business-focused IP management practices.

This handbook serves as a strategic guide for business decision makers from company formation to exit. It focuses on intellectual assets, such as technology, brand and operational excellence, as key value drivers. All company stages will be addressed in the handbook: pre-formation, start-up, growth and exit.

For IP professionals the handbook serves as a source for developed best practices of IP management.

## IP Teaching Kit

The IP Teaching Kit (IPTK) is a follow-up to the successful Patent Teaching Kit launched in 2010 by the European Patent Academy of the European Patent Office (EPO). With the IPTK you have at your disposal free of charge an extensive set of professional teaching materials which represents one of the most comprehensive IP teaching resources in the world.



## Case studies on IP strategy and IP management (IPTK)

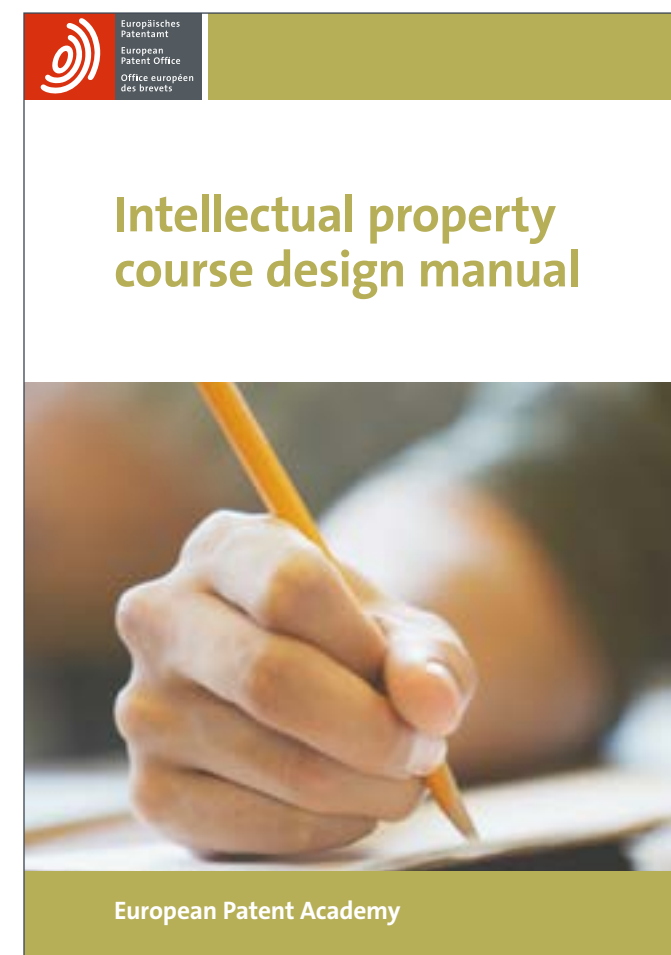
These case studies are reprints from the California Management Review special issue on IP management, produced in collaboration with the EPO and the University of California Berkeley. This special issue provides an in-depth look at the benefits, methods and potential pitfalls of IP management. It features authors such as Henry Chesbrough, David Teece, Abdulrahman Al-Aali and Eric L. Chen.



## Intellectual property course design manual

The European Patent Academy's intellectual property course design manual makes it easier for university lecturers to introduce intellectual property into various courses of study and educational programmes.

[Find out more](#)



## Patent enforcement in Europe

Comparison tool for national enforcement practices across Europe

An interactive online tool enabling users to search and compare specific enforcement measures and procedures between different EPO contracting states. The tool provides a comprehensive insight into national enforcement practices across Europe. The simple user-friendly interface offers overview of one, two or multiple jurisdictions side-by-side.





## Jurisdiction of European courts in patent disputes

This manual provides an overview and guide, including scenarios, to the jurisdiction of European courts concerning patent infringement and revocation disputes. The adjudication of cross-border patent infringement and revocation disputes in Europe is regulated by the rules of jurisdiction provided for in different legislative instruments, i.e. the Brussels I Regulation (recast), the Lugano Convention, and international and national law. Once the Unified Patent Court Agreement has entered into force, the Unified Patent Court will also have jurisdiction to adjudicate on disputes relating to European and national patents.



## Patent litigation in Europe

Publication and online map access

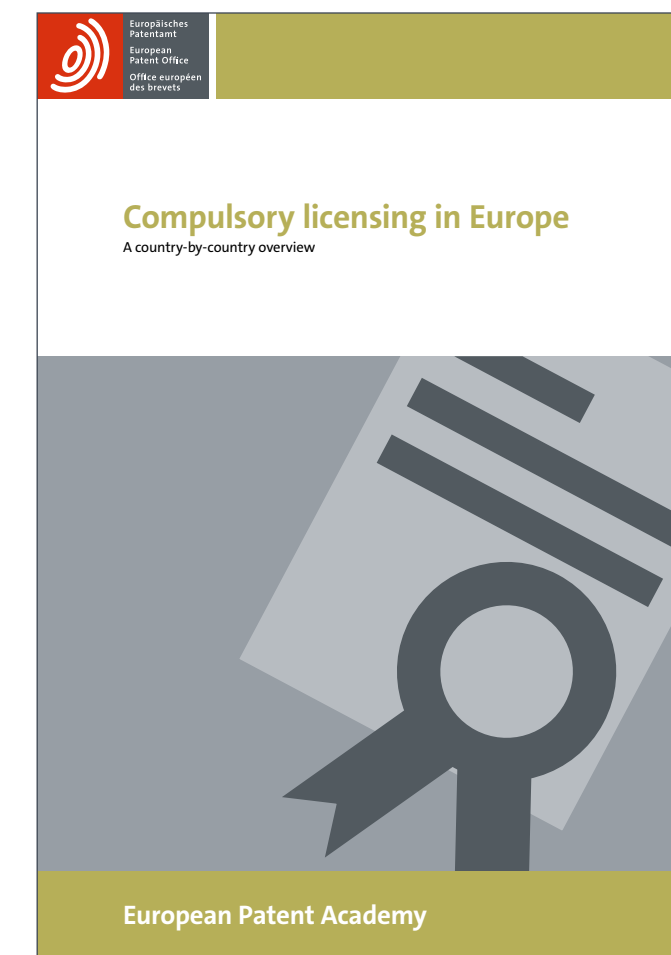
The fifth edition of this publication provides an overview of the national patent litigation systems across the European Patent Organisation's member states, giving readers an at-a-glance description of the different national revocation, nullity and infringement procedures currently in place, as well as information about the competent courts dealing with these matters at first instance and appeal. It also contains information on the Unified Patent Court.



## Compulsory licensing in Europe

Publication and online map access

In some cases, national authorities may license companies or individuals other than the patent owner to use the rights of the patent without the consent of the patent owner. "Compulsory licensing in Europe" provides a country-by-country guide to how compulsory licensing is regulated at national level in the EPC contracting states.



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