



European
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How to make best use of the Unitary Patent system

Programme | 10 September 2025 | 14.00-16.30 CEST

Organised by the European Patent Academy

In collaboration with the European Innovation Council

Supported by the European IP Helpdesk

Online training

Event page: epo.org/en/learning/events/bs03-2025

Intermediate level

European Patent Office

academy@epo.org

epo.org/learning



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How to make best use of the Unitary Patent system

1. Description

This event focuses on the implications of the Unitary Patent system, highlighting how growth-oriented tech businesses can leverage its benefits to monetise intellectual property. It will explore how both the Unitary Patent and traditional European/national patent systems can be used to support different business cases and IP transactions.

Organised in collaboration with the European Innovation Council (EIC/EISMEA), the online event offers practical insights for business decision-makers and IP professionals in SMEs, as well as for dealing with their advisors, investors and technology licensing offices.

2. Technical requirements

The session will be held on Zoom, coordinated by the EPO.

Speakers

Viorel Peca	Head of Unit, EIC Transition, European Innovation Council (EISMEA)
Raquel Xalabarder	Director, European Patent Academy, EPO
Eskil Waage	Patent Developments & IP Lab, EPO
Martin Wilming	Hepp Wenger Ryffel
Csaba Janáky	eChemicles
Mariella Massaro	Berggren
Robert Alderson	Berggren
Thomas Bereuter	European Patent Academy, EPO
Adéla Dvořáková	European Innovation Council, EISMEA

Moderator: Stephanie Weber, European IP Helpdesk

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14.00	Welcome <i>Stephanie Weber</i> , European IP Helpdesk <i>Viorel Peca</i> , EIC <i>Raquel Xalabarder</i> , EPO
14.05	Overview of invention protection in Europe Introduction to the Unified Patent Court and enforcement <i>Eskil Waage</i> , EPO
14.40	Q&A
14.45	Why patent protection strategies matter <i>Martin Wilming</i> , Hepp Wenger Ryffel
15.05	Q&A
15.10	EIC case studies – SolarCO2Value <i>Csaba Janáky</i> , eChemicles, and <i>Adéla Dvořáková</i> , EIC
15.20	Break
15.30	Navigating the options: best practices for patent protection and agreements <i>Mariella Massaro and Robert Alderson</i> , Berggren
15.55	Q&A
16.00	Panel discussion
16.20	Key takeaways <i>Adéla Dvořáková</i> , EIC <i>Thomas Bereuter</i> , EPO
16.30	End of event

All times CEST

Speaker biographies

Viorel Peca

Head of Unit, EIC Transition, EISMEA

Brussels, Belgium



Viorel Peca is Head of Unit at EIC Transition (EISMEA). After joining the European Commission in 2008, he has held several leadership positions at the intersection of deep tech innovation, digital transformation and strategic R&D policy. Previously, he worked on the development of advanced communication products at Alcatel in Romania and Belgium. Viorel holds advanced degrees from Politehnica University of Timișoara, KU Leuven, VUB, and the Hertie School of Governance.

Raquel Xalabarder

Director, European Patent Academy, EPO

Vienna, Austria



Raquel Xalabarder holds an LLM from Columbia University Law School and a PhD in Law from the University of Barcelona. Before joining the EPO in 2023, Raquel was Dean of the School of Law and Political Science at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. She has taught and written in the fields of copyright and intellectual property, private international law and internet law. Raquel has previously been a tutor at the WIPO Academy.

Eskil Waage

Patent Developments & IP Lab, EPO

Munich, Germany



Eskil Waage studied law in Copenhagen and Strasbourg. He joined the EPO in 1998, contributing to the revision of the EPC, the EPLA and the London Agreement, as well as the Unitary Patent and Unified Patent Court projects. He currently heads the EPO's framework for user consultations (SACEPO Secretariat) and is a member of the EPO's Disciplinary Board for professional representatives.

Martin Wilming

Swiss/European Patent Attorney
Partner at Hepp Wenger Ryffel

Wil, Switzerland



Martin Wilming is a Swiss and European patent attorney with a PhD in bioorganic chemistry. He is a member of the epi's European Patent Practice Committee and the Standing Advisory Committee before the EPO. Martin is also one of the founding fathers of I3PM, the International Institute for IP Management.

Csaba Janáky

Co-founder and Chairman of the Board
eChemicles

Szeged, Hungary



Csaba Janáky received his PhD from the University of Szeged (Hungary) and was a Marie Curie Fellow at UT Arlington (USA, 2011–2014). Since 2014, he has led a research group at Szeged on materials and energy-oriented electrochemistry, focusing on system-level development and scale-up of CO₂ electrolysis and hydrogen generation. He has published 125+ papers, filed 20+ patents, and developed flow-cell platforms for industrial testing. He is Founding Director of the Greennovation Center (60+ researchers) and co-Founder and Chairman of eChemicles.

Robert Alderson

US and European Patent Attorney
Partner at Berggren Oy

Helsinki, Finland



Robert Alderson has degrees in both veterinary medicine and law from the United States and is qualified to practice before both the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the European Patent Office. In addition, he can represent clients before the Unified Patent Court. Prior to moving to Europe in 2011 he worked for over ten years in the IP department of an Am Law 100 law firm in New York.

Mariella Massaro

**Certified Licensing Professional, J.D.
Partner at Berggren Oy**

Helsinki, Finland



Mariella Massaro has nearly two decades of practice as an IP professional and supports clients from different jurisdictions in navigating the complexity of the European intellectual property landscape. In her previous role as an IP attorney in Italy she litigated numerous patent, trade secret, design, copyright, trademark infringement and unfair competition actions over the course of more than 15 years. Mariella was included in the IAM300 IP Strategist rankings for the 2024 edition.

Thomas Bereuter

**Innovation Networks Manager, PATLIB,
European Patent Academy, EPO**

Munich, Germany



Thomas Bereuter is a certified licensing professional (CLP) with over 25 years of experience in the international commercialisation of early-stage technologies. He has founded and supported several high-tech startups and university spin-offs and was one of the driving forces behind the business incubation and technology transfer wave in Austria in the early 2000s.

Adéla Dvořáková

Project Adviser, EIC Transition, EISMEA

Brussels, Belgium



Adéla Dvořáková is a tech-to-market adviser at EIC Transition, working closely with researchers and innovators to help turn scientific breakthroughs into market-ready products and businesses. Before joining EISMEA, she held various roles at the Research Executive Agency (REA), EUIPO and the EPO, gaining strong expertise in intellectual property and EU-funded R&D projects.

Moderator

Stephanie Weber

Communications Manager, European Intellectual Property (IP) Helpdesk

St. Ingbert, Germany



Heading the communications team at the European Research and Project Office GmbH (EURICE), Stephanie Weber is a communication all-rounder with more than 15 years of experience in the strategic planning and implementation of communication measures for multiple international R&I projects. She has also been engaged in a number of European intellectual property (IP) support initiatives, which include managing the European IP Helpdesk's outreach activities since 2011. Stephanie collaborates with the EPO, EIC, European Commission and other stakeholders from Europe's research, IP and innovation landscape across various media formats, workshops and events on a regular basis.