

Procedural standards and the principle of good faith

Programme | 22 – 23 September 2026

Format - **Online lecture**

Course reference - **OL03-2026**

Level - **Intermediate level**

Organised by

European Patent Academy

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Description

This lecture provides an overview of the fundamental procedural principles governing proceedings before the European Patent Office. Topics include the right to be heard (Article 113 EPC), the right to oral proceedings (Article 116 EPC), the protection of legitimate expectations or the principle of good faith, equal treatment of parties, the duty to provide reasoned decisions (Rule 111(2) EPC), procedural efficiency, and legal certainty.

The lecture illustrates how these principles shape EPO practice and decision-making throughout the various stages of proceedings.

The lecture is aimed mainly at lawyers and administrators at national patent offices.

Technical requirements

The online session will be held on Zoom.
All times given in the programme are CEST.

Duration

1 hour online session

Wednesday,
23 September

EPO tutor:
Maria Oliete Ballester,
lawyer patent law and procedures

- 09.50 Zoom link activated
- 10.00 Procedural standards and the principle of good faith
- 10.45 Q&A
- 11.00 End of session