

Objective

Just before the Unitary Patent Court starts functioning, this one-day conference will offer an update on the most recent political and legal developments regarding the Unitary Patent in the EU and the rules of procedure applicable before the Unitary Patent Court.

Key topics

- Adoption of the 18th draft of the rules of procedure
- Result of the public consultation on the fee structure for the Unified Patent Court
- Adjusted proposals from the EPO on renewal fee levels for Unitary Patent with unitary effect
- Implications of the Unitary Patent system for large and small industries
- Deadlines with the Unified Patent Court: being prepared for changes in legal practice and in internal organisation of law firms

Who should attend?

Patent attorneys, lawyers in private practice, in-house counsel and other practitioners of law dealing with patent law and industrial property law.

Speakers

Robert Burrows, Partner, Bristows LLP, London

Jérôme Debrulle, General Counsel, Belgian Office for Intellectual Property, Chairman of the EPO Select Committee, Brussels

Luc Hendrickx, Director, Enterprise Policy and External Relations, UEAPME, Brussels

Clemens-August Heusch, Head of European Litigation, NOKIA, Düsseldorf

Aloys Hüttermann, Partner, Michalski, Hüttermann & Partner Patentanwälte, Düsseldorf

Ilias Konteas, Senior Adviser, Legal Affairs Department, BUSINESSEUROPE, Brussels

Kevin Mooney, Partner and Head of Intellectual Property, Simmons & Simmons, London, Member of the expert group of the UPC

Alexander Ramsay, Deputy Director, Division for Intellectual Property and Transport Law, Ministry of Justice, Government Offices of Sweden, Stockholm; Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the UPC

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON THE EU UNITARY PATENT 2016

LAST CORNER BEFORE THE FINAL
STRAIGHT?

Brussels, 22 January 2016
Management Centre Europe (MCE)
Rue de l'Aqueduc 118
1040 Brussels

Organiser:
Florence Hartmann-Vareilles, ERA

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English

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215R07



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Friday, 22 January 2016

09:15 Arrival and registration of participants

09:45 **Welcome and introduction**
Florence Hartmann-Vareilles

I. POLITICAL AND LEGAL UPDATE

Chair: Florence Hartmann-Vareilles

10:00 **The Unitary Patent System: where do we stand?**
Alexander Ramsay

10:30 **The 18th draft of the rules of procedure: what are the main changes?**
Kevin Mooney

11:00 Discussion

11:30 Coffee break

12:00 **Being prepared for changes in your legal practice and internal organisation**
Aloys Hüttermann

12:30 Discussion

12:45 Lunch

II. RENEWAL FEES BEFORE THE EPO

Chair: Kevin Mooney

14:00 **Level of renewal fees, distribution key between Member States and financial implementation of Unitary Patent protection**
Jérôme Debrulle

14:30 **To which extent does the "True Top 4" proposal on renewal fees meet the objectives set by the UPC Regulation?**

- Is the "True Top 4" a business-friendly model for big and small players?
- Is the level of fees sufficient to cover the costs associated with European and Unitary patent protection?
- Can a balanced budget of the European Patent Office be obtained?

*Clemens-August Heusch
Luc Hendrickx
Ilias Konteas*

15:30 Discussion

15:45 Coffee break

Programme may be subject to amendment.
For programme updates: www.era.int

III. COURT FEES AND RECOVERABLE COSTS

16:15 **First results of the public consultation**
Kevin Mooney

16:45 **The views from different actors:**

- Counterclaim for revocation: value-based or low fixed-based fee?
- SME support or NPE (non-practising entities) support?
- Is the maximum ceiling for recoverable costs adequate?
- What about the opt-out fees?
- How to assess the value of a dispute?

*Clemens-August Heusch
Robert Burrows
Luc Hendrickx*

17:45 Discussion

18:15 End of seminar and Reception

SAVE THE DATE

[Annual Conference on EU Law in the Pharmaceutical Sector 2016](#)
Brussels, 25-26 February 2016

[Geographical Indications and Trade Marks at the Crossroads](#)
Trier, 21-22 April 2016

[Summer Course on European Intellectual Property Law](#)
Trier, 27 June 2016 – 1 July 2016