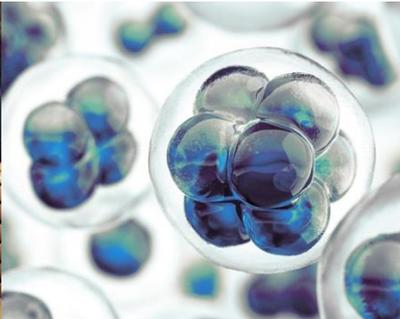




Europäisches  
Patentamt  
European  
Patent Office  
Office européen  
des brevets

# The European Patent Office

An introduction to the EPO and the PES Programme



# The EPO at a glance



## Our mission

We provide patent protection for inventions in up to 40 European countries on the basis of one single application

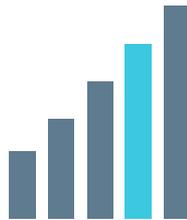


## Our locations:

Munich (headquarters),  
The Hague, Berlin,  
Vienna and  
Brussels



**2<sup>nd</sup>** largest  
intergovernmental  
institution in Europe



**Self-financing:**  
Budget of **EUR 2.4bn**  
without any public funding



**7 000**  employees, of which around **4 300**  highly  
qualified patent examiners working in all fields of technology

# Our mission

As **the patent office for Europe**, we support **innovation**, competitiveness and **economic growth** across Europe through a commitment to **high quality** and efficient services delivered under the European Patent Convention.



# Our status

- **Second-largest intergovernmental institution** in Europe
- Not an EU institution
- **Self-financing**, i.e. revenue from fees covers operating and capital expenditure



# We provide patent protection to an area of 700m inhabitants

## 38 European member states

Belgium • Germany • France • Luxembourg • Netherlands  
Switzerland • United Kingdom • Sweden • Italy • Austria  
Liechtenstein • Greece • Spain • Denmark • Monaco  
Portugal • Ireland • Finland • Cyprus • Turkey  
Bulgaria • Czech Rep. • Estonia • Slovakia  
Slovenia • Hungary • Romania • Poland • Iceland  
Lithuania • Latvia • Malta • Croatia • Norway  
North Macedonia • San Marino • Albania • Serbia

## Two European extension states

Bosnia and Herzegovina • Montenegro

## Four validation states

Republic of Moldova • Morocco • Tunisia  
Cambodia



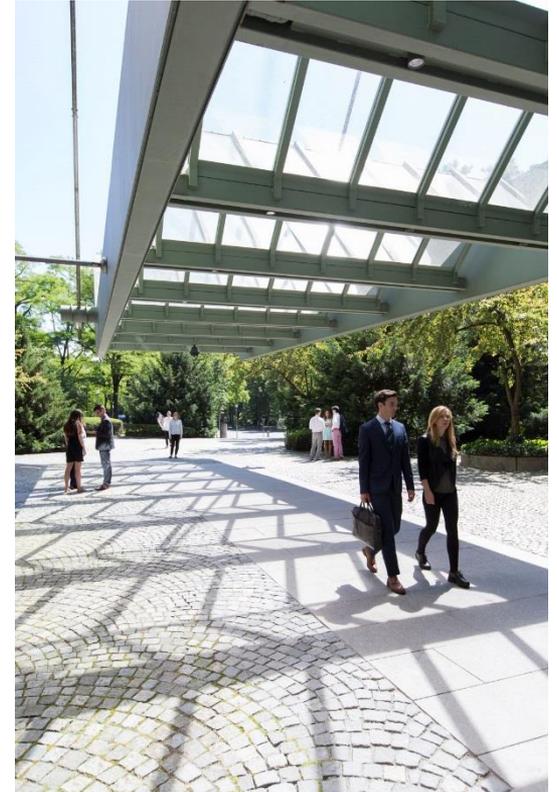
# Our five locations in Europe



# Our staff

Munich	3 734
The Hague	2 643
Berlin	227
Vienna	88
Brussels	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 696</b>

**64% are patent examiners**



Source: EPO data on 31.12.2018.

# Our role in the European grant procedure

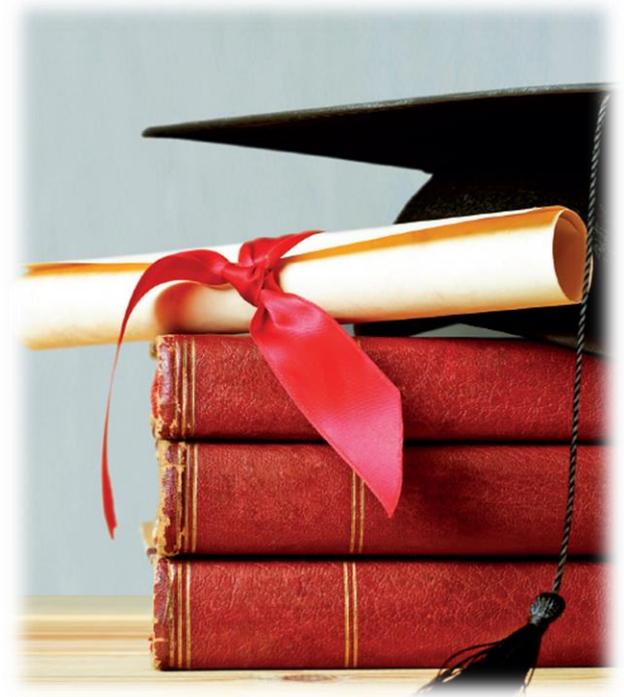
- provide **patent protection** in up to 44 countries in Europe and beyond, based on a single application, and we **are responsible** for:
  - limitation and revocation by patentees,
  - opposition by third parties,
  - appeal proceedings before the Boards of Appeal.



# Pan European Seal Programme

PES Programme provides **high-achieving young** university graduates with valuable on-the-job **professional work experience** in the multicultural environments of EPO and EUIPO.

- Runs in partnership with EUIPO since **2015 – 2016** starting with **35** trainees,
- Traineeship agreements with more than **70 [partner universities](#)** from **35** European countries,
- For the year 2020-2021, the EPO will offer more than **90** traineeships throughout all the units of the Office.



# Benefits of the PES Programme

- **working in an international organization** which will enrich the student's perspective and contribute to their professional growth
- **guidance** on different career pathways in the IP business,
- a chance to **gain real work experience**, while keeping the work-life balance in order,
- **on-the-job coaching** from an EPO mentor,
- **language courses** (French, German),
- **online trainings & classroom trainings** (covering patents, trademarks, designs and enforcement),
- **personal development and growth.**

# Pan European Seal Programme - Application

- PES Candidates at the EPO are to be shortlisted by:
  - partner Universities
  - EUIPO (*exchange programme*)
- **Shortlisted** students are to submit their [application online](#) in order to be considered for the traineeship.
- **Only online applications** of the shortlisted candidates will be considered.
- Traineeship vacancies are foreseen in the following areas:
  - Science & Engineering
  - Business Administration
  - Law (including patent law)
  - Economics & Finance
  - International Relations & Communication

# Pan European Seal Programme – Documents

## Application documents

- **motivation letter** including the preferred business area,
- **curriculum vitae**,
- **degree/Master diploma** (it can be replaced by a provisional declaration, until the final diploma is issued),

## Upon start of traineeship

- **certificate(s) of completion of the e-learning course(s)** as indicated below, depending on the graduate's profile (*e-courses are free of charge*):
  - [Introduction to the European patent system](#) (*mandatory for all*)
  - [Using CPC](#) (*mandatory for science and engineering only*)
  - [The EPO as PCT authority](#) (*mandatory for all other academic areas*)

# Pan European Seal Programme – Selection process

- Shortlisted candidates are to submit their applications through the e-recruitment tool available [here](#) by **mid-March 2020**,
- Suitable candidates will be invited to a phone/Skype **interview** (April 2020),
- Communication of results to the candidates will be completed by **mid – May 2020**,
- The traineeship will start of **14/15 September 2020** at the EPO premises in Munich, Germany.
- More information is provided in the [PES webpage](#).

Any questions regarding the Pan-European

Seal Programme at the EPO

can be addressed to

[paneuropeanseal@epo.org](mailto:paneuropeanseal@epo.org)

