

B2 Information on Intergovernmental Organizations B2

EP EUROPEAN PATENT ORGANISATION (EPO) EP

General information

Name of Office:	European Patent Office (EPO)		
Location:	Headquarters at Munich: Bob-van-Benthem-Platz 1 80469 München Germany	Branch at The Hague: Patentlaan 2 2288 EE Rijswijk Netherlands	Filing Office at Berlin: Gitschiner Str. 103 10969 Berlin Germany
Mailing address:	80298 München Germany	Postbus 5818 2280 HV Rijswijk Netherlands	10958 Berlin Germany
Telephone:	(49-89) 2399-4500 00 800 80 20 20 20 (Customer Services)	(31-70) 340-4500	(49-30) 25901-4500
Facsimile machine:	(49-89) 2399-4465	(31-70) 340-3016	(49-30) 25901-840
E-mail:	support@epo.org		
Internet:	www.epo.org		
Does the Office accept the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4)?	Yes, by facsimile		
Which kinds of documents may be so transmitted?	All kinds of documents with the exception of authorizations and priority documents		
Must the original of the document be furnished in all cases?	Filing of the international application: yes, preferably simultaneously, but in any event not later than one month from the date of the invitation by the EPO Other documents: only upon invitation by the EPO ¹		
Does the Office send notifications via e-mail in respect of international applications?	No		
Would the Office accept evidence of mailing a document, in case of loss or delay, where a delivery service other than the postal authorities is used (PCT Rule 82.1)?	Yes, provided that the delivery service is Chronopost, DHL, Federal Express, Flexpress, SkyNet, TNT, Transworld or UPS		

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¹ See OJ EPO 2007, Special Edition No. 3, page 7 *et seq.*

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Competent receiving Office for nationals and residents of the following countries:	Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom: European Patent Office (EPO) (the applicant may also choose to file with the national Office of the country of which he is a national or resident or with the International Bureau of WIPO) (see Annex C)
Competent designated (or elected) Office for the granting of a European patent for the following countries:	Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom: European Patent Office (EPO) (see National Phase)
Competent designated and elected Office for requesting extension of a European patent to the following countries:	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro
Competent designated and elected Office for requesting validation of a European patent in the following countries:	Cambodia, ² Morocco, ³ Republic of Moldova, ⁴ Tunisia, ⁵
Types of protection available via the PCT:	European patents
Provisions of the European Patent Convention concerning international-type search:	None
Provisional protection after international publication:	The protection granted in each State party to both the PCT and the European Patent Convention is indicated under the heading "Where the designation is made for the purposes of a European patent" for such States. See also, for further information, Articles 67 and 153 of the European Patent Convention and the EPO brochure "National law relating to the EPC".

Information of interest if the EPO is a designated (or elected) Office

Time when the name and address of the inventor must be given if the EPO is a designated (or elected) Office:	May be in the request or may be furnished later. If not already complied with within the time limit applicable under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.
Are there special provisions concerning the deposit of microorganisms and other biological material?	Yes (see Annex L)

² For international applications filed on or after 1 March 2018.

³ For international applications filed on or after 1 March 2015.

⁴ For international applications filed on or after 1 November 2015.

⁵ For international applications filed on or after 1 December 2017.