

B1**Information on Contracting States****B1****BG****BULGARIA****BG****General information**

Name of Office:	Patentno vedomstvo na Republica Bulgaria Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria
Location and mailing address:	52B, Dr. G.M. Dimitrov Blvd., 1040 Sofia, Bulgaria
Telephone:	(359-2) 970 13 14
Facsimile machine:	(359-2) 873 52 58
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Internet:	www.bpo.bg
Does the Office accept the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4)?	Yes, by facsimile machine
Which kinds of documents may be so transmitted?	All kinds of documents
Must the original of the document be furnished in all cases?	Yes, within one month from the date of the transmission
Does the Office send notifications via e-mail in respect of international applications?	Yes
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)?	No
Competent receiving Office for nationals and residents of Bulgaria:	Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria, European Patent Office (EPO) or International Bureau of WIPO, at the choice of the applicant ¹ (see Annex C)
Competent designated (or elected) Office if Bulgaria is designated (or elected):	National protection: Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria (see National Phase) European patent: European Patent Office (EPO) (see National Phase)
May Bulgaria be elected?	Yes (bound by Chapter II of the PCT)
Types of protection available via the PCT:	National: Patents, utility models (a utility model may be sought instead of or in parallel with a national patent) European: Patents
Provisions of the law of Bulgaria concerning international-type search:	Article 68(2) of the Law on Patents and Utility Model Registration

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¹ A resident of Bulgaria may file an international application directly with the European Patent Office or with the International Bureau of WIPO three months after an application for a patent for the same invention has been filed at the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria and the latter application has been classified by the defense authorities of Bulgaria as not being of a confidential nature.

B1 Information on Contracting States B1

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Provisional protection after international publication:

Where the designation is made for the purposes of a national patent:
The international application made available to the public shall obtain temporary protection, under paragraphs (1) and (2) of PCT Article 29, as from the day on which the issue of the Official Bulletin of the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria containing the announcement of the publication of the Bulgarian translation of the international application has come out.

Where the designation is made for the purposes of a European patent:

The European application made available to the public shall obtain temporary protection under Art. 67(1) of the European Patent Convention, as from the day of publication of the issue of the Official Bulletin of the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria containing the announcement of the publication of the Bulgarian translation of the European application (see Art. 72b(3) of the Law on Patents and Utility Model Registration).

Information of interest if Bulgaria is designated (or elected)

For national protection

Time when the name and address of the inventor must be given if Bulgaria is designated (or elected):

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 three months from the date of invitation.

Are there special provisions concerning the deposit of microorganisms and other biological material?

Yes (see Annex L)

For a European patent — See European Patent Organisation (EP) in Annex B2