

PCT NEWSLETTER

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PCT Filings in 2023

In 2023, PCT filings decreased by 1.8% over 2022, totaling 272,600. China continued to be the largest origin of PCT filings, with 69,610 applications filed (-0.6% growth over 2022), followed by the United States of America (U.S.), with 55,678 applications (-5.3%). Japan (48,879, -2.9%), the Republic of Korea (22,288, +1.2%) and Germany (16,916, -3.2%) again held the third, fourth and fifth rankings, respectively. The top 10 countries of origin, followed by their respective percentage share of all PCT filings in 2023, were as follows:

1.	China	69,610	25.5%
2.	United States of America	55,678	20.4%
3.	Japan	48,879	17.9%
4.	Republic of Korea	22,288	8.2%
5.	Germany	16,916	6.2%
6.	France	7,916	2.9%
7.	United Kingdom	5,586	2.0%
8.	Switzerland	5,382	1.9%
9.	Sweden	4,323	1.6%
10.	Netherlands	4,258	1.5%

Beyond the top 10, India (#11) saw strong growth (3,791 applications, +44.6%) in PCT filings.

For information on the number of filings from all countries, including a comparison with filings in 2022, please refer to Annex 1 of WIPO Press Release PR/2024/914 at:

<https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/pressroom/en/documents/pr-services2024-annexes.pdf#page=1>

It is important to note that this total, as well as the filing figures which follow, are provisional because not all PCT applications that were filed with national and regional Offices in 2023 have

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been received at the International Bureau, and the final figures for filings will only be available later in the year.

China-based telecommunications company Huawei Technologies was the top PCT applicant for the seventh year running, with 6,494 applications published in 2023, followed by Samsung Electronics of the Republic of Korea (3,924), Qualcomm Inc. of the U.S. (3,410), Mitsubishi Electric Corp. of Japan (2,152) and BOE Technology of China (1,988). Of the top 10 applicants, Contemporary Amperex Technology of China recorded the most significant increase (+576.3%) in the number of published applications in 2023, and as a result moved up from ninety-second position in 2022 to eighth in 2023, followed by Beijing Zitiao Network Technology Co., Ltd. of China (+191.3%), which rose from eighty-fifth position in 2022 to twenty-seventh in 2023.

The top ten applicants are listed below, with the number of PCT applications published in 2023 in which they were named as applicant:

1.	Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd (CN)	6,494
2.	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd (KR)	3,924
3.	Qualcomm Incorporated (US)	3,410
4.	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (JP)	2,152
5.	BOE Technology Group Co., Ltd (CN)	1,988
6.	LG Electronics Inc. (KR)	1,887
7.	Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson (Publ) (SE)	1,863
8.	Contemporary Amperex Technology Co., Limited (CN)	1,799
9.	Guangdong OPPO Mobile Telecommunications Corp., Ltd (CN)	1,766
10.	Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (JP)	1,760

A list of the top 50 PCT applicants is available in Annex 2 of the press release.

In terms of filings by educational institutions, the University of California maintained its position held since 1993 as the largest user of the PCT System with 531 published applications in 2023. The top 10 list consists of five universities from the U.S., two universities from China, and one university each from the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Japan. For more detailed information on PCT filings by educational institutions, please refer to Annex 3 of the press release.

Computer technology once again accounted for the largest share of published PCT applications in 2023 (10.2% of the total), followed by digital communication (9.4%), electrical machinery (7.9%), medical technology (6.7%), and pharmaceuticals (4.7%). Only four of the top 10 technologies recorded growth in 2023, with electrical machinery (+8.8%) and transport (+7.7%) reporting the fastest rate of growth, followed by semiconductor (+5.6%) and biotechnology (+3.8%). For detailed information regarding the distribution of fields of technology of published applications, please refer to Annex 4 of the press release.

The publication of the final figures for 2023 filings (in the form of the Patent Cooperation Treaty Yearly Review – 2024) will be reported in the *PCT Newsletter* later in the year.

PCT Working Group

The seventeenth session of the PCT Working Group was held in Geneva from 19 to 21 February 2024 in hybrid format. The following topics were considered by the Working Group.

Filing Medium of International Applications and Related Documents

The Working Group agreed to submit proposed amendments to Rule 89*bis* of the PCT Regulations for approval by the Assembly at its session in July 2024 (see document PCT/WG/17/15). The proposed amendments will allow receiving Offices the option of requiring the filing of international applications and the submission of subsequently filed documents to be performed only in electronic form and not on paper, or optionally requiring the applicant to follow the submission of a document on paper with the filing of an electronic version of the document. Where a receiving Office selects either of these options, applicants will nonetheless be able to file applications on paper at the receiving Office of the International Bureau.

Languages of Communication for the International Bureau

The Working Group agreed to submit amendments to Rule 92 of the PCT Regulations for approval by the Assembly at its session in July 2024, to enable the International Bureau to expand the languages of communication with applicants and national Offices to any of the 10 languages of international publication, instead of being limited to only English or French as at present (see document PCT/WG/17/6). The International Bureau indicated that this service would be introduced gradually and would not apply to correspondence copied to many different national Offices (notably Forms that are copied to all designated Offices) but that improved translation tools were under development that would allow the viewing of IB forms in any of the languages of publication on demand through ePCT.

Color Drawings

The Working Group invited the International Bureau to consider how to amend Rule 11 to permit the filing and processing of international applications containing color drawings taking into account a variety of factors, including the need to distinguish between drawings, photographs and other forms of image, and the different circumstances in which they might be appropriate (see document PCT/WG/17/12).

Citation of Non-written Disclosures

The Working Group agreed to submit amendments to Rules 33 and 64 of the PCT Regulations for approval by the Assembly at its session in July 2024 that will broaden the definition of relevant prior art for both international search and international preliminary examination to include non-written disclosures (see document PCT/WG/17/10).

Further Amendment to Rule 26.3*ter* – Invitation to Correct Defects Under Article 3(4)(i)

The Working Group agreed to submit amendments to close a loophole in Rule 26.3*ter* that does not allow the receiving Office to issue invitations to furnish a translation of the abstract or text matter of the drawings into the language of international publication where the language of the abstract and text matter of drawings is filed in a language different from that of international publication but accepted by the International Searching Authority for carrying out the international search (see document PCT/WG/17/7).

Criteria for Fee Reductions to Certain Applicants from Certain Countries, Notably Developing and Least Developed Countries

The Working Group agreed to recommend to the Assembly at its session in July 2024 that the criteria under Item 5 of the PCT Schedule of Fees be maintained, and that the Assembly should review the criteria again in five years' time. The Working Group also agreed to recommend to the Assembly to adopt the proposed modifications to the Directives for Updating the Lists of States Meeting the Criteria for Reduction of Certain PCT Fees (see document PCT/WG/17/5 Rev).

Other Issues

The Working Group also considered the following:

- coordination of patent examiner training (see document PCT/WG/11);
- coordination of technical assistance under the PCT (see document PCT/WG/17/19);
- legal measures to support electronic processing (see document PCT/WG/17/9);
- global identifier and the PCT (see document PCT/WG/17/13);
- personal data protection and the PCT (see document PCT/WG/17/8);
- a report of a survey on search strategies (see document PCT/WG/17/14);
- a status report of the PCT minimum documentation task force (see document PCT/WG/17/16);
- PCT online services (see document PCT/WG/17/20);
- sequence listings (see documents PCT/WG/17/3, PCT/WG/17/4 and PCT/WG/17/18);
- a final report of the IP5 PCT collaborative search and examination pilot project (see document PCT/WG/17/17);
- a report on the thirtieth session of the Meeting of the International Authorities under the PCT (see document PCT/WG/17/2).

The Working Group also held a sharing session on the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) and the PCT. Presentations made during the sharing session are available from the WIPO website at:

https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=80912

Summary and Documents

The Summary by the Chair (document PCT/WG/17/21) is available on the WIPO website with the working documents and a link to the webcast videos and speech-to-text transcripts of the session at:

https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting_id=80912

30th Anniversary of the PCT Newsletter

“Since its inception in March 1994, the PCT Newsletter has been an indispensable resource for the PCT user community. Over the past 30 years, the Newsletter has offered essential updates, insights, and the invaluable Practical Advice column on a monthly basis to PCT users around the world. In more recent times, we have added translations of the Newsletter in Chinese, Japanese and Korean, so that even more users could benefit from its content.

I would like to celebrate this milestone for the PCT Newsletter and express my gratitude to my PCT colleagues here at WIPO for their work and dedication in bringing you the Newsletter every month, and to you, its readers, for your unwavering support and engagement with us in the PCT at WIPO. Here’s to the next chapter of bringing you more information and more value.”

(Lisa Jorgenson, Deputy Director General, Patents and Technology Sector, WIPO)

This month we are proud to mark the 30th anniversary of the PCT Newsletter. Since March 1994, 335 issues have been published.

Here are some of the comments that readers have kindly shared with us on this occasion:

“The PCT Newsletter is useful for our work at the JPO in the following ways:

- Practical advice: We sometimes gain valuable insights on topics discussed during recent meetings of the PCT Working Groups and PCT International Organizations, etc., which is helpful for us as an Office to manage practical situations related to the topic. The Q&A format is easy to understand, and the specific cases that we may encounter in our daily work are also shown, which is very useful.*
- The archive is open to the public, so it is very convenient when searching for actual cases.*
- The information is consolidated and easy to use.*
- The Japanese translation is also provided, which helps speed up our understanding.*
- I hope you will continue to provide us with useful information in a timely manner through newsletters and other means.”*

(Japan Patent Office)

“We particularly look forward to the 'Practical Advice' section in the PCT Newsletter. The Practical Advice is explained in a Q&A format, making it very easy to understand. We also find it very interesting that the questions are written in such specific detail.”

(Anonymous PCT user)

“Congratulations on the 30th anniversary of the first issue of the PCT Newsletter.

I have been a regular reader since around 2014.

I have learned a great deal from your advice, especially your practical advice, which is given from a comprehensive viewpoint that reflects agreements, guides, and the current status of applications, etc., for cases that are difficult to determine from the treaty rules alone. For me, the Newsletter has become a valuable source of information that I always refer to in addition to the Rules, AI, and guides.

We did not previously have the archive search function that we have today, so I used to take notes of the titles of the practical advice every month, but now I can easily access the information with the newly created search function, and I very much appreciate the improved convenience.

I also appreciate the fact that the PCT system and the background surrounding it are changing day by day, and you always cover topics based on the latest circumstances and ongoing discussions in the international arena. As a substantial user of your newsletter, I will continue to read it every month and wish for its further development.”

(Anonymous PCT user)

Reflections and Perspective on 30 years of the *PCT Newsletter* —Matthew Bryan, Director, PCT Legal and User Relations Division

In the early 1990s, the overall PCT system was a much more modest proposition than it is today: for example, in 1994 there were 67 PCT Contracting States, and just over 34,000 PCT applications were filed (while today we have 157 States and more than 270,000 PCT applications filed annually).

The leaders of the PCT area within WIPO in the early 1990s realized that they did not possess effective mechanisms for communicating with PCT users, and providing them with updated information about developments relating to the PCT. The only sources of PCT-related information being published were either not published sufficiently frequently to provide effective updates to users (the content of the *PCT Applicant’s Guide* was only updated two times per year) or they were not aimed at informing users about practical PCT issues.

It became clear to WIPO’s PCT leaders at that time that another information resource aimed at updating the experienced users of the PCT system was needed, and the Director of the then PCT Legal Division, Busso Bartels, decided that we should publish a monthly *PCT Newsletter*. In March 1994, the first issue of the *Newsletter* was published, giving the latest news about the PCT as well as practical advice to users of the system.



The first issue of the *PCT Newsletter*, March 1994

During its first three years, the *Newsletter* was available only as a paper publication, and was subject to an annual subscription fee to cover its printing and mailing costs. In those early years the *Newsletter* was also used as a mechanism for users to update their copies of the *Applicant's Guide* by including in the paper issues of the *Newsletter* provisional replacement or additional sheets for the loose-leaf *Guide*; it was also used to disseminate new versions of the paper PCT Request Form.

Although the option of subscribing to the paper version continued for a further ten years until the end of 2007, the arrival of online publication in January 1997 meant that the *Newsletter* could be accessed without having to subscribe, and could reach many more users. It also meant that the content of the *Newsletter* was available within a few hours of its being finalized, instead of the relatively long lead time needed to print and distribute it by postal mail, with the result that that users could be even more up-to-date with PCT news and developments.

Looking back now, it seems clear that the *PCT Newsletter* was an innovative development when it was first published, and met an important need. Predating e-mail and websites by a number of years, it was, for a significant period, the only means by which WIPO's PCT staff could regularly communicate with the PCT user community.

We in the PCT at WIPO have indeed come a long way since then – with PCT webinars, videos, Zoom, our website content and our ePCT platform. But even with all of the new information resources and new means of communication, we continue to publish the monthly *PCT Newsletter*, having had it confirmed to us over the years that PCT users continue to find it useful, and rely on it for important information and education.

The 2023/2024 PCT User Survey responses showed that 93% of readers of the *PCT Newsletter* were either satisfied or very satisfied with the consistency and accuracy of information it contained. And we received, as part of the most recent Survey responses, a number of textual

comments which are similar to the following two examples:

“I enjoy reading the PCT Newsletter. It is informative, keeps me up-to-date on what's happening, and I usually learn something new. I like the Practical Advice section.”

“The PCT Newsletter is an excellent source of information involving policy and proceedings of the PCT.”

As I am sure you are all aware, the *PCT Newsletter*'s development and endurance has resulted from a collective effort on the part of many WIPO colleagues, including the former WIPO colleagues who had the vision of creating the *Newsletter* in the early 1990s. Without question, the name of longtime *PCT Newsletter* Editor Debra Collier will forever be associated with it: Debbie managed and oversaw the *Newsletter* for more than 28 years, from its first issue in 1994 until her retirement from WIPO in September 2022.

Since her retirement, responsibility for the *Newsletter* has been shouldered by several other likewise talented and dedicated colleagues, including Katyana Norris Levy (who served as Assistant Editor since 2005) and most recently by Nathalie Beard, both of whom have been very ably supported by our colleagues Corinne Julliard and Geraldine Rodriguez, and all of the other staff members of the PCT Legal and User Relations Division. We are also indebted to a number of very dedicated colleagues who have managed the monthly translation of the *Newsletter* content into Chinese, Japanese and Korean languages, since it was added to the service.

While reflecting on 30 years of the *PCT Newsletter* and having been involved with it from its origin, I want to express my gratitude to my dedicated colleagues who have ensured that the *Newsletter* has been made available to PCT users month in and month out for these 30 years. And on behalf of my colleagues and WIPO, I would also like to thank the community of PCT users—the readership of the *PCT Newsletter*—for their support over the many years of its existence. Since its inception, we have received a great deal of feedback, questions and comments, which have helped to improve it. And we look forward to continuing to receive more feedback on how we can make the *Newsletter* better meet your PCT information needs.

We welcome ideas for articles, other feedback and “Practical Advice” suggestions; please e-mail us at:

pct.legal@wipo.int

PCT Information Update

CN China (criterion applied in respect of requests for restoration of the right of priority)

The China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) has notified the International Bureau (IB) under PCT Rule 49~~ter~~.2(g) that, with effect from 20 January 2024, in its capacity as designated Office, it applies the “unintentional” criterion in respect of requests for restoration of the right of priority filed with it as a designated Office. The Office has also notified the IB that the time limit for filing such a request is two months from the date of entry into the national phase before that Office, and that the fee it charges for such requests is CNY 1,000.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, National Chapter, Summary (CN))

LV Latvia (name of Office; location and mailing address)

The name, location and mailing address of the Latvian Patent Office have changed as follows:

Name of Office: Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia
 Location and mailing address: Raiņa bulvāris 15
 Rīga
 LV-1050
 Latvia

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (LV))

NO Norway (fees)

The amounts of the following national fees, payable to the Norwegian Industrial Property Office as designated (or elected) Office have changed with effect from 1 March 2024:

Basic fee, including examination fee:	NOK	6,050 (1,100) ¹
Claim fee for each claim in excess of 10:	NOK	330
Annual fee for the first three years:.....	NOK	910

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, National Chapter, Summary (NO))

OM Oman (e-mail address)

The e-mail address of the National Intellectual Property Office (Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion) (Oman) has changed, as follows:

E-mail: paof@tejarah.gov.om

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (OM))

RU Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation) (provisions concerning international-type search)

The Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) (Russian Federation) has notified the IB that its national law now permits the applicant who files a national application with it to request an international-type search to be carried out on such application (PCT Article 15(5)). The relevant provision in the national law of the Russian Federation is contained in Appendix 1 of the *Regulation on Patent and other fees for committing legally significant actions related to a patent for an invention, utility model, industrial design, state registration of a trademark and service mark, state registration and grant of the exclusive right to appellation of origin, as well as state registration of alienation of the exclusive right to a result of intellectual activity or means of individualization, pledge of the exclusive right, granting the right to use such result or such means under a contract, non-contracted transfer of the exclusive right to such result or such means*, under paragraph 14.13 of the List of legally significant actions related to a patent for invention, utility model, industrial design, state registration of a trademark and a service mark, state registration and grant of the exclusive right to an appellation of origin, state registration of

¹ The amount in parentheses is applicable where the applicant is a physical person or a legal entity with less than 20 permanent employees.

alienation of the exclusive right to a result of intellectual activity or means of individualization, pledge of the exclusive right, grant of a right of use of such result or such means under a contract, transfer of the exclusive right to such result or such means without concluding a contract, subject to patent or other fees.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex B1 (RU))

Search fee and other fees relating to international search (European Patent Office, Finnish Patent and Registration Office (PRH), Nordic Patent Institute, Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV), Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent), Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI))

As from 1 April 2024, there will be a change in the amount payable in EUR, as well as in the applicable equivalent amounts in other currencies, for international searches carried out by the European Patent Office, the Finnish Patent and Registration Office (PRH), the Nordic Patent Institute, the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, the Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV), the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent) and the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI), as indicated in Fee Table I(b).

As from the same date, there will also be a corresponding change in the amount of the additional search fee payable to those Offices, as follows:

European Patent Office, Finnish Patent and Registration Office, Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, Visegrad Patent Institute:.....	EUR	1,845
Nordic Patent Institute	DKK	13,750
Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV)	SEK	20,750
Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent)	TRY	61,090

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex D (EP, ES, FI, SE, TR, XN and XV))

Supplementary search fee (European Patent Office, Finnish Patent and Registration Office, Nordic Patent Institute, Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV), Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent))

As from 1 April 2024, there will be a change in the amount payable in CHF for a supplementary international search carried out by the European Patent Office, Finnish Patent and Registration Office, Nordic Patent Institute, Swedish Intellectual Property Office (PRV) and Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent). The new amount will be CHF 1,751.

(Updating of *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annex SISA (EP, FI, SE, TR and XN))

European Patent Office – Updated PCT EPO Guidelines

The European Patent Office (EPO) has announced that the *Guidelines for Search and Examination at the EPO as PCT Authority* (PCT EPO Guidelines) have been amended with effect from 1 March 2024. These Guidelines relate to the practice and procedure to be followed in the various aspects of the handling of international applications before the EPO as ISA and IPEA.

Amendments have been made to all parts of the PCT-EPO Guidelines with a view to providing up-to-date information. Among other changes, Part A has been expanded and now contains two new sections on the form and the signature of documents.

For further information, please refer to:

<https://www.epo.org/en/legal/official-journal/2024/01/a10.html>

The updated PCT-EPO Guidelines have been published as a complete March 2024 edition that supersedes the March 2023 edition, available in English, French and German at:

<https://www.epo.org/en/legal/guidelines-pct>

The latest amendments can be viewed by selecting the “show modifications” box in the HTML version of the dedicated PDF version highlighting them.

New/Updated PCT Resources

New ePCT video tutorials

ePCT video tutorials for applicants – Access Rights

The following ePCT video tutorial for applicants is now available:

- Manage Access Rights Following a Rule 92*bis* Change Request

The video provides a step-by-step guide on how to manage ePCT access rights following a request for change under PCT Rule 92*bis*, which automatically suspends access to the application in ePCT². The video is available at:

https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/epct/access_rights.html

New webinar recordings

Webinars in Russian

A recording of the following webinars in Russian:

- Introduction to the PCT System and the Latest Updates (27 February 2024);
- Exploring the PCT” webinar series: Entry into the National Phase (16 November 2023)

as well as the supporting documents, can now be accessed at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/ru/seminar/webinars/index.html>

Webinar in Japanese

A recording of the following webinar in Japanese:

- New "Non-Disclosure System for Patent Applications (in Specific Fields of Technology)" and PCT Applications (13 March 2024)

² Effective with the release of ePCT version 4.13 (planned beginning of April)

as well as the supporting documents, can now be accessed at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/ja/seminar/webinars/index.html>

Practical Advice

Consequences of an international application being considered withdrawn and potential remedial procedures in the national phase

Q: We failed to pay the fees for a new PCT application in time after receiving the 'Invitation to Pay Prescribed Fees Together with a Late Payment Fee' (Form PCT/RO/133). Now, the receiving Office has issued a decision to consider the application withdrawn (PCT/RO/117). Does the PCT provide for any possibility of revival of the application?

A: Other than the legal safeguard in PCT Rule 16bis.1(e) which allows for the late payment of fees after the expiration of the initial time limit but before the issuance of the declaration that the application is considered withdrawn, the PCT does not provide any general procedure for reviving an application in the international phase once it has been declared to be considered withdrawn by the receiving Office. When the receiving Office has made that declaration, the application loses its legal effect (see PCT Article 11(3)) in each designated State with the same consequences as the withdrawal of any national application in that State (PCT Article 24(1)).

To address this issue, you may first wish to investigate whether your having missed the time limit to pay the fees can be excused thus providing you with an opportunity to still pay the fees, in which case your application could potentially be reinstated. For more information about the excusable causes for the delay in meeting time limits, please refer to the Practical Advice of *PCT Newsletter* 03/2020: Possible remedies where time limits under the PCT have been missed due to unforeseen events.

You may also want to check if the Office acting as receiving Office has any national procedures to review a decision to consider the application withdrawn, taking into account the particular circumstances of your case.

If those investigations do not lead to a positive outcome for you, any attempt to reinstate rights can only be pursued directly with each designated Office where you still wish to enter the national phase and seek patent protection.

PCT Article 25 and Rule 51 provide that the applicant may ask the national Office concerned to review an unfavorable decision in certain situations, including where the receiving Office has considered an international application withdrawn. The time limit to make such a request is two months from the date of the notification of withdrawal (Form PCT/RO/117) and the applicant can request that the International Bureau send copies of relevant documents from the file of the application to the Offices specified by the applicant. Within the same time limit, the applicant must fulfil the requirements to enter the national phase in each of the Offices concerned, that is, pay the national fee and furnish any required translation.

Each Office will review the case, as far as it is concerned. If the Office finds that the declaration was the result of an error or omission on the part of the receiving Office, it will treat the international application as if it had not been considered withdrawn. Even if the Office finds the decision of the receiving Office to consider the application withdrawn justified under the PCT, the Office may, nevertheless, maintain the effect of the international application if the application of its national law would result in a more favorable outcome (see PCT Articles 24(2) and 27(4)).

For cases of delays in meeting PCT time limits, there are further provisions under which excuse of those delays can be sought. Article 48(2) and Rule 82*bis* provide that any Contracting State must, as far as that State is concerned, excuse any delay in meeting a time limit for reasons acceptable under its national law. You should therefore check whether the Office where the applicant wishes to continue seeking patent protection applies any national or regional provisions to excuse delays. If there are, the Office must apply the provisions in question to PCT applications in the same manner and under the same conditions as it would apply them to patent applications filed directly before that Office. Examples of such provisions are those that allow for the reinstatement of rights, restoration, *restitutio in integrum*, revival of abandoned applications, continuation of proceedings or “further processing” (for example Article 121 of the European Patent Convention). Any such remedies must also be available to PCT applicants and Article 48(2)(b) further clarifies that the PCT would not prevent any Contracting State from excusing, for reasons other than those admitted under its national law, any delay in meeting any time limit.

For specific procedures applied by each designated Office, information on remedial procedures can be found in the National Chapters of the *PCT Applicant’s Guide*, available at:

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/guide/>

and for further details, the national Office concerned should be contacted directly.

For national or regional case law on PCT Article 25 or Article 48, please refer to the WIPO PCT Case Law Database (<https://www.wipo.int/pctcaselawdb/en/list.jsp>). Please also do not hesitate to inform the International Bureau (pct.legal@wipo.int) about any legal and administrative decisions from courts and administrative bodies in and operating for PCT Contracting States which interpret or demonstrate the application of PCT provisions and which might be helpfully included in our database.

PCT Seminar Calendar

(<https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/pct/en/docs/seminar-calendar.pdf>)
(situation on 22 March 2024)

Dates and location	Language of seminar	Nature of seminar; WIPO speakers (and others where known)	Organizer and contact details
25-26 April 2024 Stockholm (SE)	English	Advanced PCT seminar WIPO speakers: Ms. Schumm and Ms. Kang	P-Akademien, Trona Patentrådgivning AB (Mr. Farhadi) Tel: (46-76) 097 18 40 E-mail: info@ipakademien.se Internet: www.ipakademien.se
20 June 2024 Lyon (FR)	French	PCT seminar WIPO speaker: to be announced	Centre Paul Roubier E-mail : info@paulroubier.com Tel: (33-4) 78 33 07 08
26 September 2024 London (GB)	English	PCT seminar within the framework of the 20 th Annual Conference for Senior Patent Administrators (26-27 September) WIPO speaker: to be announced	Management Forum Ltd. (Ms. Toms) E-mail: sophie.toms@management-forum.co.uk
30 September 2024 Zurich (CH)	German	Seminar on the latest developments concerning the PCT (CEIPI Course) WIPO speaker: to be announced	Centre d'études internationales de la propriété intellectuelle (CEIPI) (Ms. Dieter) E-mail: alexandra.dieter@tswpat.ch
27-29 November 2024 Augsburg (DE)/Hybrid	German/ English	PCT presentation on the latest developments in the PCT within the framework of the 14th PAFA-Tagung conference (hybrid) WIPO speaker: Mr. Reischle-Park Other WIPO speakers on other IP topics: Mr. Li	Intellectual Property for Intellectual People (IP for IP) GmbH (Ms. Monika Huppertz) Tel: (49-0) 6201 392 33-00 E-mail: info@ipforip.de Internet: https://www.ipforip.com/14-pafa-tagung/

PCT Webinars

(<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/seminar/webinars/index.html>)

Date and time	Language of webinar	Nature of webinar; WIPO speakers	Registration
16 April 2024 9:00 – 10:00 CEST	English	What's New for Applicants in ePCT (for Australia, Asia and Europe time zones) WIPO speakers: Ms. Mo and Mr. Piriou	https://wipo-int.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KjvdFD9QQ26cT6mqKFhqww
18 April 2024 16:30 – 17:30 CEST	English	What's New for Applicants in ePCT (for North and South America time zones) WIPO speakers: Ms. Mo and Mr. Piriou	https://wipo-int.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LosolhwAQXyozQzGBEi_nA
18 April 2024 10:00 – 12:30 CEST	Russian	Introduction to Intellectual Property and the PCT System: Online Regional Webinar for Students from CACEEC WIPO speakers: Mr. Spitsyn, Mr. Gribkov, Ms. Dolotbaeva and Ms. Krysanova	https://wipo-int.zoom.us/webinar/register/5917062604785/WN_VS28RfdTTnyzvzzCaqNrPA

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PATENTSCOPE Webinars (https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/webinar/)			
Date and time	Language of webinar	Nature of webinar; WIPO speakers	Registration
16 April 2024 17:30 – 18:15 CEST	English	PATENTSCOPE for Experts WIPO speakers: Ms. Ammann	https://wipo-int.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_L_6RmH45R8Oo4riP5n13Tw#/registration
18 April 2024 8:30 – 9:15 CEST	English	PATENTSCOPE for Experts WIPO speakers: Ms. Ammann	https://wipo-int.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2vVnma9YR9Gg_DXcF37dbw#/registration

PCT Seminar Calendar [continued]
Other IP events
<p>International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva (Switzerland), 17-21 April 2024 The 49th International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva will take place in Geneva from 17 to 21 April 2024. Further information is available at: https://inventions-geneva.ch/en/home/</p>
<p>World IP Day, 26 April 2024 World IP Day is celebrated globally. For information visit: www.wipo.int/ip-outreach/en/ipday</p>

