

PATENT REGISTER PORTAL

▶ Background

The Portal is the result of two [Development Agenda](#) projects on intellectual property and the public domain ([DA 16 20 01](#) and [DA 16 20 03](#)) which contribute to [Recommendations 16 and 20](#) of the Development Agenda towards a rich and accessible public domain.

The Portal was first developed in 2013 as a result of a [WIPO Study](#) recommending the establishment of a global portal that would provide information and links to online patent registers of WIPO's Member States. It was redesigned between 2016 and 2018 to offer advanced search features and additional information to better assist users in searching legal status information.

Linked to [PATENTSCOPE](#), the Portal currently provides links to online patent registers and gazettes and further legal-status-related information from over 200 jurisdictions and patent information collections worldwide.

▶ Why is patent legal status information important?

Patent legal status information is an important component of patent information.

Such information is used to determine whether:

- examination of a patent application is still pending;
- the application has been withdrawn or was rejected;
- a patent has been granted and is still valid; or
- a granted patent has expired, lapsed or been revoked.

As such, it plays an essential role in, e.g., technology transfer since it answers the question which technology is still protected and where, or whether it will soon become freely available to the public (described as entry into "the public domain" in expert terms).

Legal status information needs to be up-to-date to allow correct conclusions. However, given that the legal status of patents is linked to legal events or actions, the status changes over time and therefore poses particular problems to the availability and reliability of up-to-date information.

WIPO has the goal to narrow the knowledge gap in the world and to develop an enabling infrastructure for promoting technology transfer through effective use of patent information. WIPO has therefore launched activities for improving worldwide availability, reliability and comparability of patent legal status data, e.g. to further develop patent legal status databases and widen the participation of countries in data sharing. You can find more information on WIPO's work on related activities [here](#).