

CERTAIN ASPECTS OF NATIONAL/REGIONAL PATENT LAWS*

(2) Novelty

Country/Region	Novelty
Albania	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by means of written or oral description, use or any other way before filing date (priority date), and contents of subsequently published Albanian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Algeria	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Andorra	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Andorran patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Argentina	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of all technical knowledge made public by oral or written description, exploitation or other means of dissemination or communication before the filing date (priority date), in the country or abroad.
Armenia	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of all information available before the filing date (priority date), and contents of subsequently published or granted Armenian applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Australia	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of information from documents or acts publicly available before the filing date (priority date), whether in Australia or elsewhere and information contained in an Australian patent application (including all PCT applications designating Australia) published on or after the priority date with an earlier filing date (priority date), if the information was contained in the application at its filing date.
Austria	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date), and contents of certain Austrian, European and international patent applications and Austrian utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Azerbaijan	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art comprises any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and contents of Azerbaijan patents and applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date) published in official bulletin.
Bahrain	The invention does not form part of the state of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public in or outside the Kingdom of Bahrain by means of written or oral disclosure, use, or any other way by which the subject matter of the invention is realized prior to the filing date (priority date).
Barbados	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public in a tangible

* Information is gathered from the primary legislation (for example, a patent law of an intellectual property code). The secondary legislation, such as Regulations under the primary legislation, has not been consulted.

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	form, by oral description or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Belarus	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and contents of Belarus patents and applications for inventions and utility models with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Belgium	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and contents of certain subsequently published Belgian, European and international patent applications and Belgian utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Belize	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of anything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date).
Bhutan	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. Prior art shall consist of everything disclosed to the public, anywhere in the world, by publication in tangible form or by oral disclosure, by use or in any other way, prior to the filing or, where appropriate, the priority date, of the application claiming the invention.
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	The invention is not included in the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, commercialization or any other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Bolivian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art comprises of everything made available to the public in the world by a written or oral description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Bosnia and Herzegovina, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Brazil	The invention is not part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or by any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain subsequently published Brazilian and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Bulgaria	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Bulgarian, European and international patent applications designating Bulgaria with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Canada	The subject matter of the invention had not been disclosed: (a) to the public, more than one year before the filing date by the applicant or by a person who obtained knowledge from the applicant; (b) to the public, before the filing date (priority date) by a person not mentioned in (a); (c) in a Canadian patent application with an earlier filing date (priority date) filed by a person other than the applicant.
Chile	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, sale or marketing or use, or in any other manner, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Chilean patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
China	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art is defined as technology known to the public before the filing date (priority date) in China or abroad. The contents of subsequently published Chinese patent application documents or patent documents with an earlier filing date (priority date) shall be also taken into consideration for the

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Hong Kong China	<p>determination of novelty.</p> <p>The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. everything made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date); and 2. the contents of any Hong Kong patent applications and designated patent applications as filed in the designated patent offices with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after the filing date of the application (or filing date of the corresponding designated patent application) or the priority date.
Colombia	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Colombian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Costa Rica	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by any means before the filing date (priority date) and contents of previous non-published patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) in so far as said contents remain included in the previous patent application upon publishing.
Côte d'Ivoire	An invention shall be new if it has not been anticipated by prior art. Prior art shall consist of everything made available to the public, anywhere and by any means or method, before the filing date (priority date).
Croatia	An invention shall be considered to be new if it does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art shall be held to comprise everything made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use, or in any other way, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Croatian patent and utility model applications, and certain European and international patent applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date), published on or after the filing date (priority date).
Cyprus	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, or by oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Cyprus patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Czech Republic	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Czech, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Denmark	The invention is new in relation to the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Danish, European and international patent applications and Danish utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Dominica	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by oral or written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Dominican Republic	The invention does not previously exist in the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made accessible to the public, anywhere in the world, by means of publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, marketing, use

Country/Region	Novelty
	or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of published ONAPI applications with an earlier filing date (priority date). It also falls within the state of the art the disclosure resulting from a publication by an Intellectual Property Office as part of the procedure for granting a patent save where the application was filed by a person not entitled to the patent, or that the publication had been improperly effected.
Ecuador	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Ecuador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or [prescribed period has elapsed].
Egypt	The invention has not previously been disclosed, used or claimed in prior art. The prior art consists of anything publicly described or used before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Egyptian and foreign patents granted, and applications filed, before the filing date (priority date).
El Salvador	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published El Salvador patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Estonia	The invention is not anticipated by the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Estonian patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Ethiopia	An invention shall be considered new/novel if it is not anticipated by prior art.
Finland	The invention is new in relation to what was known before the filing date (priority date), i.e., everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). The contents of certain Finnish, European and international patent applications, and Finnish utility model applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
France	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of French patent applications and European and international patent applications designating France with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Georgia	The invention is not known from the state of the art. The state of the art consists of data made available to the public from a written or verbal description, public use or other source before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Georgian patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published after the filing date (priority date).
Germany	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain German, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date published on or after the filing date (priority date).
Ghana	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Ghana patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public.

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Greece	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Guatemala	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world and by whatever medium before the filing date (priority date) and contents of previous patent applications filed with the Registry with an earlier filing date (priority date) provided that the patent applications were published.
Honduras	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made available to the public anywhere in the world by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, sale or commercialization, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date) in Honduras, and the contents of a patent application pending before the Industrial Property Registry, whose filing date, if any, is earlier than that of the application under examination, but only to the extent that such contents are included in the earlier application of the earlier date, when it is published.
Hungary	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written description, oral communication, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Hungarian patent and utility model applications, and certain European and international applications, with an earlier filing date (priority date), published in the course of the patent granting procedure after the filing date (priority date).
Iceland	The invention is new in relation to what was known before the filing date (priority date), i.e., everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by public use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). The contents of certain Icelandic, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are made available to the public shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
India	The invention is not anticipated by the publication in any document or used or known in India or elsewhere in the world before the filing date (priority date), i.e., the subject matter has not fallen in public domain or that it does not form part of the state of the art, and the invention has not been claimed in any claim of any other complete specification claiming earlier priority date and published on or after priority date of the application.
Indonesia	The invention is not the same as any previous technological disclosure. The previous technological disclosure consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of earlier Indonesian patent applications published on or after that date.
Ireland	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of earlier Irish patent applications published on or after that date.
Israel	The invention was not published in the prior art. The prior art consists of anything made available to the public before the filing date (priority date) by a written, visual, audible or any other description, use, exploitation or exhibition.
Italy	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Italian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Japan	The invention was not publicly known or has not been publicly worked, published, or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines before the filing date (priority date). The contents of certain Japanese patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of enlarged novelty.

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Jordan	The invention is novel with regard to the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by a written or oral description, use, or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Kazakhstan	The invention is not anticipated by prior state of the art. The state of the art shall consist of any kind of information published anywhere in the world and made available to the public before the priority date of the invention. When the novelty of an invention is being determined, the state of the art shall also include, upon the condition of their earlier priority, all applications filed in the Republic of Kazakhstan by other applicants for inventions and utility models (except for the revoked ones), and inventions and utility models that have been patented in the Republic of Kazakhstan..
Kenya	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other non-written means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Kenyan and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public.
Kyrgyz Republic	An invention shall be deemed new if it is not anticipated by prior art. Prior art shall include any information made available to the public before the priority date of the invention.
Latvia	The invention is not comprised in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure or use before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of published Latvian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Liechtenstein	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Swiss patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date). (in accordance with the agreements with Switzerland and the European Economic Area (EEA))
Lithuania	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything published or publicly used before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Lithuanian patent applications or European patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Luxembourg	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Luxembourg, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Madagascar	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public anywhere by a written publication, oral disclosure, use or in any other way any time before the filing date (priority date).
Malaysia	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by a written publication, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently granted Malaysian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Malta	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public in a written or other graphic form, oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain subsequently published Malta, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Mauritius	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Mexico	The invention is new if it is not in the state of the art. Any substance, compound or composition in the state of the art shall not be excluded from patentability, provided that its use is new.
Republic of Moldova	An invention shall be considered to be new if it does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of

Country/Region	Novelty
	everything made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use, or in any other way before the date of filing of the patent application or of the acknowledged priority.
Mongolia	A product or industrial process shall be regarded as “new” if it is not anticipated by the prior art. The disclosure of matter constituting an invention shall be taken not to occur prior the filing date of the application.
Morocco	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art comprises everything accessible to the public by means of a written or oral description, use or any other means before the filing date of a patent application in Morocco or of a patent application filed abroad and with a valid priority claim.
Mozambique	The invention has no precedent in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by verbal description, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Netherlands	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of previously filed Netherlands patent applications entered on the patent register on or after the filing date (priority date), and of certain European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
New Zealand	An invention, as far as claimed in a claim is novel if it does not form part of the prior art base. The prior art base consists of: 1. Everything made available to the public before the priority date of the claim, whether in New Zealand or elsewhere. 2. The contents of New Zealand patent applications, including PCT applications designating New Zealand, with an earlier priority date than the priority date of the claim.).
Nicaragua	The invention is not anticipated by the current state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything disclosed or made accessible to the public in any form before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Nicaraguan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Nigeria	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art comprises everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Norway	The invention is new in relation to what was known before the filing date (priority date), i.e., everything made available to the public in writing, in lectures, by use or otherwise before the filing date (priority date). The contents of certain Norwegian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
Republic of North Macedonia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Macedonian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Oman	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public, anywhere in the world, by publication in tangible form or by oral disclosure, by use or in any other way, prior to the filing date (priority date).
Pakistan	An invention shall be considered to be new if it does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art comprises everything disclosed to the public anywhere in the world, by publication in tangible form or oral disclosure, by use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of complete specifications and priority documents filed in Pakistan published in the official Gazette, on the acceptance of patent applications. The state of the art also comprises traditionally developed or existing knowledge available or in possession of a local or indigenous community.
Panama	The invention is not anticipated by the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made accessible to the

Country/Region	Novelty
	public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, sale or marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Panama patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Papua New Guinea	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public by tangible publication, oral disclosure, use or any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Paraguay	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of everything disclosed or made accessible to the public anywhere in the world by means of publication in tangible form, oral disclosure, marketing, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Paraguayan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Peru	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, marketing or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Peru patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are subsequently published or made available for public inspection.
Philippines	An invention shall not be considered new if it forms part of the prior art.
Poland	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use, displaying or disclosure in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Polish patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Portugal	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available, inside or outside the country, to the public by description, use or other means before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of non published patent and utility model requests of a previous date than that of the patent application with effect in Portugal.
Republic of Korea	The invention was not publicly known or has not been publicly worked, described in a publication or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines before the filing date (priority date). The invention described in certain Korean patent and utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) shall be also taken into consideration for the determination of novelty.
Romania	The invention does not form part of the prior art. The prior art consists of all knowledge made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use or any other means, before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of patent applications filed with OSIM, international applications that have been entered in the national phase in Romania and certain European patent application designating Romania, as filed, with an earlier filing date (priority date) made available to the public on or after that date.
Russian Federation	The invention is not anticipated by the prior art. The prior art consists of any information made available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of published Russian Federation national patent applications for patents, utility models and industrial designs and granted patents, international and of Eurasian applications with an earlier filing date (priority date), and published information thereon.
Saint Lucia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Saudi Arabia	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. In this respect, prior art means all that is disclosed to the public anywhere by means of written or oral disclosure, by use or by any other way through which knowledge of the invention is realized. This has to be prior to the filing date of the patent application or the priority application.

Country/Region	Novelty
Serbia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of all applications in the Republic of Serbia as filed, with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Singapore	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Slovak Republic	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by any means of disclosure before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Slovak, European and international patent applications and Slovak utility model applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Slovenia	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public by means of an oral or written description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Slovenian, European and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
South Africa	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of South African and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) which are or become open to public inspection, and inventions used secretly on a commercial scale in South Africa before the filing date (priority date).
Spain	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made available to the public in Spain or abroad by a written or oral description, use or by any other way before the filing date, and the contents of Spanish patent or utility model applications, European patent applications designating Spain and international PCT patent applications that have entered the national phase in Spain, as originally filed, with an earlier filing date than that indicated in the preceding subparagraph and published in Spanish on or after that date.
Sri Lanka	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written publication to the public anywhere in the world, by oral disclosure, use or in any other way, before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently granted Sri Lankan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Sweden	The invention is new in relation to what was known before the filing date (priority date). The prior art consists of everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date) in writing, in lectures, use or otherwise, and the contents of certain Swedish, international and European patent applications an earlier filing date (priority date) subsequently made available to the public.
Switzerland	The invention is not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other means before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently granted Swiss patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Syrian Arab Republic	The invention has not previously been disclosed, used or claimed in prior art. The prior art consists of anything publicly described or used before the filing date (priority date) and the contents of Syrian and foreign patents granted, and application filed, before the filing date (priority date).
Tajikistan	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The prior art consists of any information generally available to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Tajik patent applications and grants and registered utility

Country/Region	Novelty
	models, international and of Eurasian applications with an earlier filing date (priority date), and published information thereon.
Thailand	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of inventions widely known or used in Thailand before the filing date (priority date); printed publications and other documents publicly disclosed before the filing date (priority date); Thai and foreign patents and petty patents granted before the filing date (priority date); the contents of Thai and foreign patent and petty patent applications published before the filing date (priority date); and the contents of foreign patent and petty patent applications filed more than 18 months before the filing date (priority date) and a patent or petty patent has not been granted for such inventions.
Trinidad and Tobago	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date).
Tunisia	The invention not included in the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Tunisian patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Türkiye	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Turkish, European, and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Uganda	An invention is new if it is not anticipated by prior art or where a person who is highly skilled in the relevant area could not derive the invention from a combination of prior disclosed art.
Ukraine	Invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of certain Ukraine and international patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
United Kingdom	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of everything made accessible to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of UK patent applications, including European patents (UK) and international applications designating the UK which have entered the national or regional phase, with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
United States of America	<p><u>For applications filed on or after March 16, 2013 (after AIA):</u> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless:</p> <p>(a) the claimed invention was patented, described in a printed publication, or in public use, on sale, or otherwise available to the public before the effective filing date of the claimed invention;</p> <p>(b) the claimed invention was described in an issued patent, or in an application for patent published or deemed published, in which the patent or application names another inventor and was effectively filed before the effective filing date of the claimed invention.</p> <p><u>For applications filed before March 16, 2013 (before Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (AIA)):</u> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless:</p> <p>(a) the invention was known or used by others in US, or patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country, before the invention by the applicant;</p> <p>(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in US or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in US, more than one year before the filing date;</p>

Country/Region	Novelty
	<p>(c) he has abandoned the invention;</p> <p>(d) the invention was patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate filed by applicant or his legal representatives or assignees in a foreign country more than 12 months prior to the filing date;</p> <p>(e) the invention was described in a published US patent application by another or in a patent filed by another before the invention by the applicant (for the PCT international applications, only if they designate US and are published in English language);</p> <p>(f) during the course of interference, another inventor establishes that, before the invention date, he/she invented the invention and not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention; or another inventor made the invention in US before the invention date and he/she had not abandoned, suppressed or concealed the invention.</p>
Uruguay	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or any other method of dissemination or information before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of subsequently published Uruguay patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Uzbekistan	The invention is not known from the prior art. The prior art consists of any information generally accessible before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of withdrawn Uzbekistan patent applications with an earlier filing date (priority date).
Zambia	<p>The invention must not be anticipated by the prior art at the effective date of the patent application. The prior art consists of everything made accessible to the public by way or written or oral disclosure before the relevant filing or effective date of a patent application including regional and international applications designating Zambia. The invention is new if on or before the effective date of patent application is not:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. known or used anywhere; 2. worked anywhere other than by way of reasonable technical trial or experiment by the applicant or any person or persons from or through whom such applicant has derived his right or title; 3. described in a patent specification available to public inspection and bearing a date less than fifty years prior to such effective date; 4. described in writing in any publication of which there was a copy anywhere at the effective date of the application, or in a publication printed and published less than fifty years prior to such date; and 5. claimed in any complete specification for a patent which was lodged in, though not available to public inspection at the effective date of the application, which may be granted in respect of the said invention.
Zimbabwe	An invention is new if it is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art is considered everything made available to the public anywhere in the world by means of written disclosure (including drawings and other illustrations) or by use or exhibition shall be considered prior art provided that such making available occurred before the filing date (priority date).

Regional Offices	Novelty
African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI)	An invention shall be new if it has not been anticipated by prior art. Prior art shall consist of everything made available to the public, anywhere and by any means or method, before the filing date (priority date).
African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of everything made available to the public by means of written disclosure, use or exhibition before the filing date (priority date).
Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO)	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. The prior art consists of any information made available in the world before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of Eurasian patent applications and international applications entered into the regional phase with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
European Patent Organisation (EPO)	The invention does not form part of the state of the art. The state of the art consists of anything made available to the public by a written or oral description, use or in any other way before the filing date (priority date), and the contents of European patent applications (and of PCT applications designating EP subject to the payment of the filing fee, and, where required, the filing of the translation of the international application as originally filed) with an earlier filing date (priority date) published on or after that date.
Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)	The invention is not anticipated by prior art. Prior art consists of everything disclosed to the public anywhere by means of written or oral disclosure, by use, or by any other way by which the invention is realized before the filing date (priority date).