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OBSERVATORY NEWS

IP in the Digital World and Awareness



Agorateka.eu is a Pan-European portal of the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), created through the European Observatory, in line with the awareness raising initiative Ideas Powered. It allows you to search through national-level portals that link to sites for music, film & television, e-books, video games and sports events. With 19 countries, 24 national portals and over 1850 Legal Offer Sites, it provides a single access point to national portals and allows EU citizens to find legal content sources easily and quickly.



Expert Workshop: 'Working together to enhance trade mark protection on e-commerce marketplaces', 25 February, Alicante.

Representatives from e-commerce marketplaces and the EUIPO met in Alicante, for a first exploratory workshop, to discuss opportunities and concrete ways to jointly develop the EUIPO's initiatives envisioned in its [Strategic Plan 2025](#) to adapt its services to the growth of e-commerce. [Read more.](#)

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Observatory Impact of Technology Expert Group Meeting

The European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights held the second Observatory Impact of Technology Expert Group Meeting from 30 to 31 January at the EUIPO's premises in Alicante. [Read more.](#)



Celebrating the International Day of Education by bringing IP concepts closer to the classroom

On the International Day of Education the global community celebrated learning, one of the best tools to boost growth, innovation and creativity. [Read more.](#)



13 new projects to boost awareness of the value of IP and of the negative effects of IPR infringement

The EUIPO contributes EUR 1 million to national awareness projects targeting European citizens and youngsters, selected from an open and competitive call for proposals. [See more.](#)



Meeting with technical experts on establishing the out-of-commerce works portal

The event was dedicated to establishing a public single online portal for out-of-commerce works, which has been entrusted to the EUIPO in accordance with Directive (EU) 2019/790 of 17 April 2019. Out-of-commerce works are copyright protected works that are no longer available to the public through the customary channels of commerce. [See more.](#)

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Enforcement and SMEs



High-level meeting on a joint strategy related to IP crime

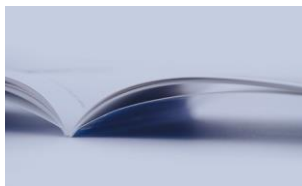
On 28 January, the Executive Director of the EUIPO met with high-level representatives of EU agencies and European Commission Directorates-General to discuss and align strategies to tackle IP crime. [Read more.](#)

Reports and Studies



EUIPO-OECD Trade in Counterfeit Pharmaceutical Products Study

The joint EUIPO-OECD Trade in Counterfeit Pharmaceutical Products study which was launched on March 23 is one in a series of studies designed to enhance understanding of the issues and challenges facing governments, businesses and society posed by the trade in fake pharmaceutical products. [Read more.](#)



Report on the protection and enforcement of IPR in third countries

The European Commission has published its biannual *Report on the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights in third countries*(Third Country Report). [Read more.](#)

Case-Law

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Recent european case-law on the infringement and enforcement of intellectual property rights

The Observatory published a new issue (January and February) of important and recent decisions relating to the infringement and enforcement of IPRs. [Read more](#)

Stakeholder news



Observatory public sector representatives meeting and conference on IP and the health and safety of citizens in Zagreb

In the context of Croatia's Presidency of the European Union, the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights (the Observatory) held its public sector representatives meeting on 3 and 4 March in Zagreb. [Read more.](#)



Coordination Group on IP rights

On 29 January, representatives from the European Commission's DGs GROW, TAXUD, OLAF, as well as EU agencies Europol, Eurojust, CEPOL, CPVO, EUIPO and international organisations OECD, WIPO, UNICRI, WCO, WTO, EPO met at the EUIPO premises in Brussels to coordinate on their activities and priorities for 2020. [Read more.](#)

Other

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Covid-19 and signed AFAs - temporary acceptance of scanned paper forms

Dear users

Due to the exceptional circumstances of Covid-19, a number of EU Customs authorities will temporarily accept the signed paper form of the AFA **scanned and send to them by e-mail**. Please find the e-mail addresses under the following [link](#).

The EU Custom authorities that already have agreed to this practice are: Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal and Slovenia,

For Spain (Sede Electrónica) and Italy (Falstaff) electronic signature is already in place.

For Czech Republic you can make use of its national system of guaranteed electronic communication.

In addition, outside the EU, the customs authorities from the United Kingdom will also adhere to this exception. For the United Kingdom the e-mail address is:

approvals.ip@hmrc.gov.uk

Events

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The next IP in Education network meeting will be held as a **virtual meeting via Zoom** on **7 May**.



The EIPPN meeting will held as a **virtual meeting via Zoom** on **May 19**.



Due to Covid-19, the **2020 IP Enforcement Portal Forum** (formerly EDB Forum) has been postponed to the **1-2 December 2020**. Users of the IP Enforcement Portal, rights holders and enforcement authorities from all EU Member States, as well as representatives from the European Commission and Europol, will have the opportunity to meet each other and exchange ideas and best practices. The event will take place, as planned, at the EUIPO premises in Alicante.

[Click here to see all upcoming events](#)

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