THE FUTURE OF THE PCT SYSTEM: TRENDS AND PROSPECTS

VISEGRAD PATENT INSTITUTE
10 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

10th Anniversary Conference of the Visegrad Patent Institute

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PART II – Panel 2
Perspective of the Users of the PCT System (panel discussion)
Introduction of the panellists

Moderator



Mr Thierry Debled
Adjunct Professor at CEIPI
European, Belgian, French and Luxembourg Patent Attorney, Gevers Patents

Thierry Debled has been active in the patent profession since 1990. After a long career in industry, he moved into private practice in 2017, gaining insight into both the client and attorney perspectives. He joined Gevers in November 2025.
Alongside his professional activities, Thierry has been deeply involved in education, teaching at CEIPI and several Belgian and international universities. This commitment led to his appointment as Associate Professor and Director of CEIPI's International Section, a role he held for 16 years. In 2021, he was appointed President of the Board of the Belgian Institute of Patent Attorneys and currently serves as President of its General Assembly.

Participants



Ms Kateřina Hartvichová
Vice President of epi, Czech and European Patent Attorney, HARBER IP

Kateřina Hartvichová is the founding partner of HARBER IP, the Czech patent and trademark firm established in 2018. A chemist by training, she spent six years researching new catalysts at the Czech Academy of Sciences before turning to intellectual property, qualifying as a Czech and European patent attorney and completing the CEIPI Course on Patent Litigation in Europe. She lectures on European patent law for the Institute of Industrial Law Education (CZ), CEIPI and epi, and co-authored the commentary on the Czech Patent Act. Since 2023 she has served as Vice President of epi. Her years with catalysts left her convinced that the right ingredient can speed up almost any reaction, patent proceedings included.



Ms Katarzyna Krupa-Lipińska
Polish Patent and Trademark Attorney, Apator SA

Katarzyna Krupa-Lipińska is a Polish patent and trademark attorney, a professional representative before the EUIPO, and the owner of KKL Intellectual Property Law Firm. As a patent attorney, she works for the business sector and the university. She is also an adiunkt at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, Poland, conducting research and lecturing on IP Law.



Mr Jurgen Duyver
European, Belgian, and Dutch Patent Attorney, Gevers Patents

After studying physics at the University of Antwerp, Jurgen Duyver started in the patent profession in 2005 at GEVERS. His specializes in technical fields like machinery and electromechanics. He supports clients through all innovation stages — from novelty searches to IP enforcement. Jurgen for example advises on protection strategies, patent validity, infringement and licensing. Jurgen has extensively used the PCT system to obtain patent protection for his clients.



Mr Ádám Svingor
Hungarian and European Patent Attorney
Danubia Patent and Law Office

Ádám Svingor is a Hungarian and European patent attorney and a partner at Danubia Patent and Law Office. A former research scientist, he advises a broad range of clients, including large entities, SMEs, research organizations, and universities, on matters in the life sciences, pharmaceutical, and food industries. His practice focuses primarily on patent prosecution, and he frequently supports clients with early-stage innovation matters.



Mr Bojan Šunderić
Attorney at Law, Šunderić Law, Serbia

Bojan Šunderić is an attorney-at-law, European Patent Attorney and Patent and Trademark Agent based in Belgrade, Serbia. He founded Šunderić Law Office in 2020 and has nearly two decades of experience advising domestic and international clients on intellectual property matters. His patent practice includes preparing and prosecuting patent applications in Serbia and advising clients on the international protection of their inventions. He also advises on trademarks, copyright and intellectual property disputes.

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