



EPLAW 20TH ANNIVERSARY A FAMILY ALBUM

EPLAW Congress
26 November 2021
The Hotel
Brussels



EPLAW was born here,
in Paris,
in 2000

SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF MAY 5, 2000
ABOUT THE EUROPEAN PATENT COURT SYSTEM

PARTICIPANTS :

Belgium	Fernand de VISCHER (BRAUN BIGWOOD) Olivier LEMAIRE (NAUTA DUTILH)
France	Jacques ARMENGAUD (ARMENGAUD, GUERLAIN) Pierre LENOIR (JEANTET) Damien REGNIER (COMBEAU) Dariusz SZLEPER (GAULTIER, LAKITS-JOSSE, SZLEPER) Pierre VÉRON (LAMY, VÉRON, RIBEYRE) Isabelle ROMET (LAMY, VÉRON, RIBEYRE)
Germany	Peter CHROCZIEL (BRUCKHAUS, WESTRICK, HELLER, LOBER) Bernhard GEISSLER (BARDEHLE, PAGENBERG & PARTNERS) Thomas REIMANN (CLIFFORD CHANCE PÜNDER) Peter VON ROSPATT (VON ROSPATT, VON DER OSTEN) Winfried TILMANN (LOVELLS, BOESEBECK, DROSTE)
Italy	Mario FRANZOSI (FRANZOSI, DAL NEGRO e Associati) Luca TREVISAN (TREVISAN & CUONZO)
Netherlands	Willem A. HOYNG (DE BRAUW BLACKSTONE WESTBROEK, LINKLATERS & ALLIANCE)
Spain	David PELLISE
U.K.	Robert ANDERSON (LOVELLS) Miles GAYTHWAITE (BIRD & BIRD) Nigel JONES (LINKLATERS) Edward J. NODDER (BRISTOWS)

5 MAY 2000

First meeting in Paris

FIRST MEETING WITH EU COMMISSION

MEETING WITH MR. NOTEBOOM

JUNE 9, 2000

Commission : Mr. NOTEBOOM, Mrs. SÖDELHOLM, Mr. GASTER

⚡ Lawyers : W. TILMANN, P. VON ROSPATT, E. NODDER, R. ANDERSON,
F. de VISSCHER, W. HOYNG, M. FRANZOSI, P. VÉRON

Presentation by Mr. NOTEBOOM

Community Patent (CP) is considered by the Commission as one of its *"highest priority"*.

An *"extremely ambitious"* approach will be taken.

25 APRIL 2001

Board as of April 25, 2001

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First EPLAW Board

25 APRIL 2001

EPLA

European Patent Lawyers Association

April 25, 2001

Resolution on a Central European Patent Court

I.

1. EPLA welcomes the proposal of the EU-Commission regarding the Community Patent Regulation. Based on the practical patent litigation experience of its members with (national and European) Patents, EPLA would like to contribute to the creation of a Community Patent related court system which is of high quality, is reasonably swift and which achieves its results with reasonable costs for both parties concerned (i.e. the claimant and the defendant).
2. EPLA is concerned about the prospect of possible duplication of patent-related court systems arising out of the parallel plans of the EU-Commission (regarding the Community Patent) and members of the European Patent Convention (regarding a Protocol to that Convention).

First Resolution

Patent Lawyers in Europe form new association to improve litigation proposals

Lawyers specialising in patent litigation in Europe have formed a new professional body known as the European Patent Lawyers Association (EPLA). The aim of the new Association is to promote the efficient handling of patent disputes in Europe. One of its key roles will be to help the improvement of current proposals to harmonise patent litigation.

1. One proposal is the draft European Commission Regulation on the Community Patent and the Centralised Community Court system (CIPC) for the enforcement of the Community Patent*.

EPLA argues that it would be impracticable to have one Centralised Court considering the amount of patent litigation which the Community must process. Instead, EPLA recommends that each Member State or a group of Member States should have a specialised Community Patent Court, and that there should be a centralised court of higher instance. This was further discussed at the first general meeting of the Association held in Brussels on 19 September 2001. More than 70 patent lawyers present expressed a clear preference for existing national courts to act as the specialist community courts of first instance.

Mr Klaus-Heiner Lehne (MEP), member of the Legal Affairs Committee at the European Parliament, addressing the meeting, stated that he supported EPLA's view and stated that it was consistent with the attitude of the Commission in European competition law.

19 September 2001 First Press Release



FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF EPLA BRUSSELS 19 SEPTEMBER 2001

Mooney - Tilmann – Heinrich – Véron – MEP Lehne – de Visscher

EPLA

European Patent Lawyers Association

March 14, 2003

Community Patent « Common political approach »

EPLA Position paper

Regarding the structure of the Community Patent Court, the Council, until now, has not followed the European Parliament Resolution that the first instance should consist of regional courts with a central appeal court giving guidance to their decisions which was also the unanimous advice of European patent litigators represented by EPLA. Instead, the Council has opted for a central court of first instance for all Community Patents. The Council, thus, went further than the court system in the United States, where patent cases are heard, in the first instance, by different Federal Courts and, on appeal only, by a central appeal court and is not coherent with the court system for Community Trademarks, Designs and Plant-Breeders-Rights (entrusted to the national courts of member-states). The solution favoured by the Council will, as EPLA and its members expect, deter many inventors, especially small and medium size firms, from using the Community Patent system.

14 March 2003 Position Paper on community Patent

2004 “EPLA” BECOMES “EPLAW”

In 2002 the members of the Working Party on Litigation set up by the European Patent Office who had christened their baby “European Patent Litigation Protocol” (EPLP) considered that the name Protocol was no longer suitable and decided to call their future baby “European Patent Litigation Agreement” (**EPLA**).

Our association was left with no other option than either to sue several EU Member States or to change its name.

As professional litigators, we know that litigation is not always the best way to start building a strong and friendly relationship...

The association therefore decided to change its acronym to **EPLAW**, its current name.

2nd President
Kevin Mooney
UK
2003-2007



3rd President
Willem Hoyng
NL
2007-2009



4th President
Jochen
Pagenberg
DE
2009-2011



5th President
Christian
Gassauer-
Fleissner
AT
2011-2014



6th President
Richard Ebbink
NL
2014-2015



7th President
Penny Gilbert
UK
2015-2016



8th President
Klaus Haft
DE
2016-2018



9th President
Thierry Calame
CH
2018-2020





10th President
Myles Jelf
UK
2020-

ET MARIUS FRANCISCUS FECIT VENETIAM...



Mario Franzosi
2005

* AND MARIO FRANZOSI CREATED VENICE...



Lord Hoffmann
(House of Lords)



Peter Meier-Beck
Bundesgerichtshof

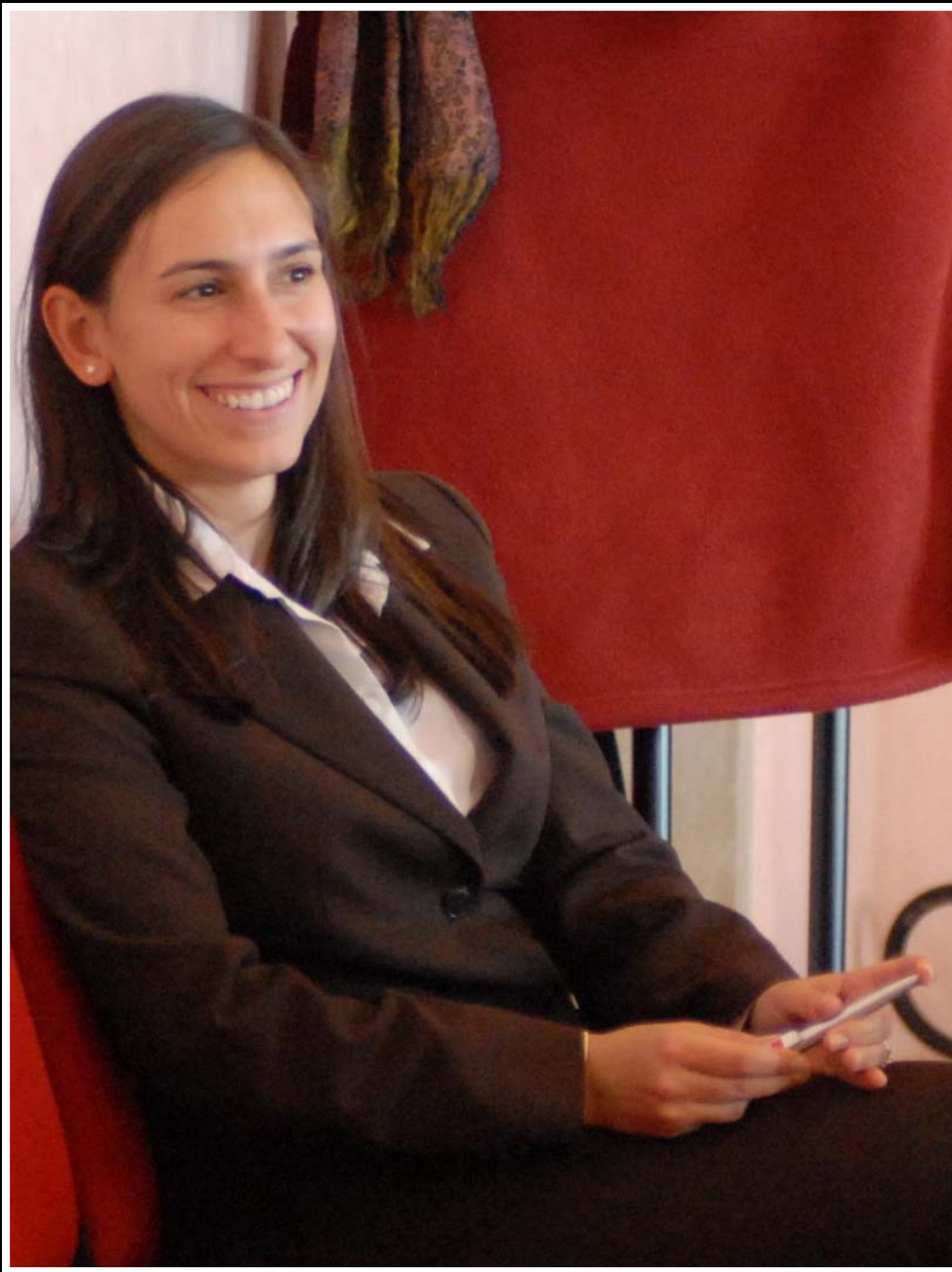


Claude Vallet
Paris Court
then EPO Legal BOA



Massimo Scuffi
Corte di cassazione





MARIELLE PIANA
EPO

Thank you for your hard work!

VENICE 1



Winfried Tilmann
The EPLAW's brain
16 October 2005

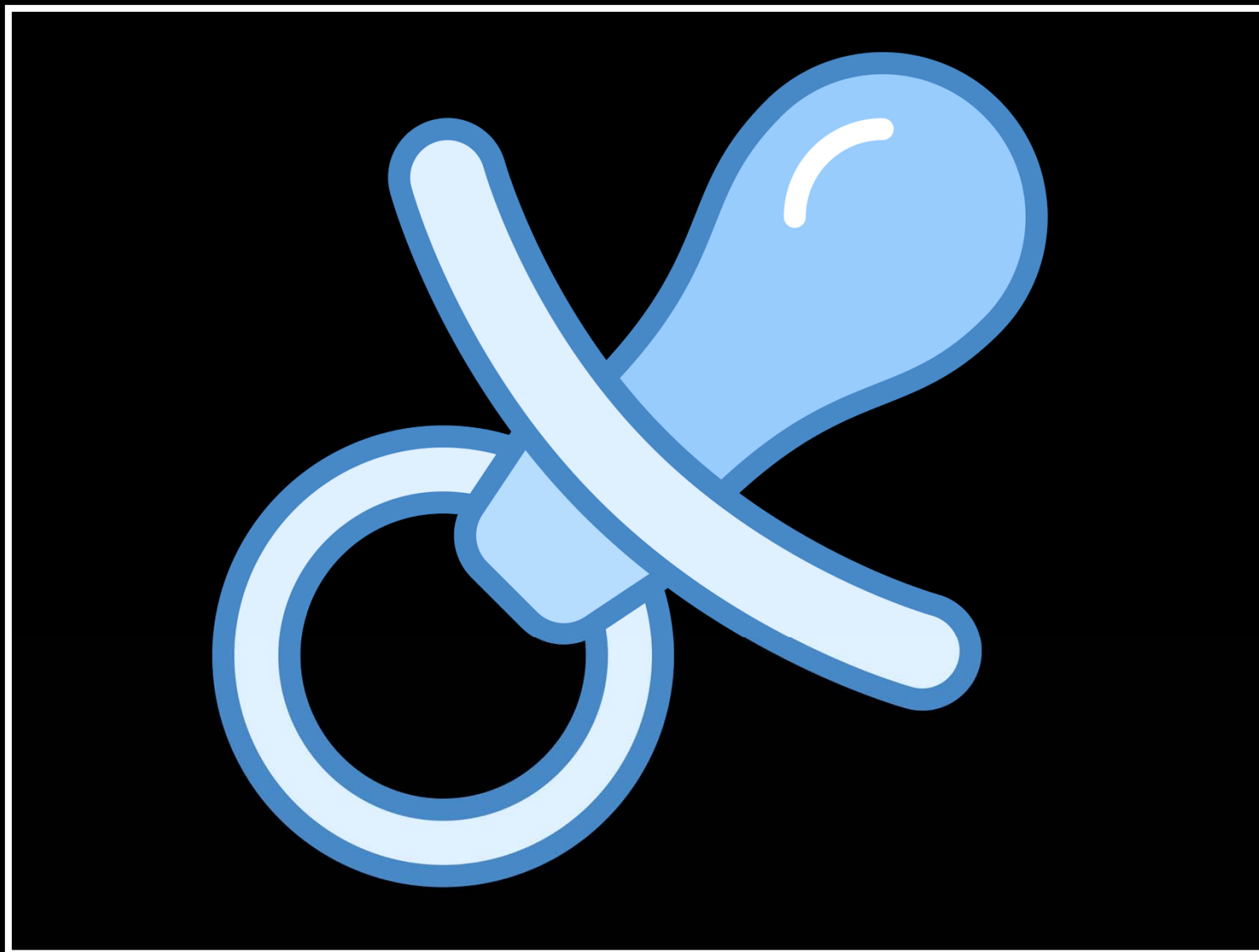
VENICE MOCK TRIALS





VENICE SCEPTER HELD BY KEVIN MOONEY

15 November 2008 (Venice IV)



YOUNG EPLAW



THE UPC BAND ON ABBEY ROAD

Starting their European tour

The Unitary Patent a new tool for European innovators long overdue

18 February 2013



BRUSSELS 18 FEBRUARY 2013



Margot Fröhlinger



Kevin Mooney



Michel Barnier

UNIFIED PATENT COURT AGREEMENT



Signing ceremony

Brussels

19 February 2013

RULES OF PROCEDURE THE MAKING OF



DRAFTING PROCESS: STAGE 0



SECOND VENICE RESOLUTION

San Servolo, 4th November 2006

We, the European Patent Judges named below, approve the attached principles for the Rules of Procedure of the European Patent Court

4 November 2006, Venice Forum:

European Patent Judges approve the principles of the Rules of Procedure

DRAFTING PROCESS: STAGES 1-5



Christian Vang Michael Loch Örjan Grundén Robert van Peursem Eurico Marques dos Reis Alice Pezard Kevin Mooney Pierre Véron Anna Mazur Demetra Kalli
Eskil Waage Tim Frain Margot Fröhlinger Klaus Grabinski Robin Jacob David Rosenberg Simona Šeikytė
(Absentees: József Tálas, Jochen Pagenberg)

Expert Meeting Judges, Lawyers and Business Representatives on Unified Patent Court in Europe
3 February 2012, Brussels, European Commission, rue de Spa, 2, room Cassis de Dijon

2007-2012:

EU Commision's Expert group Judges, Lawyers and Business representatives

DRAFTING PROCESS: STAGES 6-15



2012-2014: Drafting Committee
Judges and Lawyers

DRAFT 16 (31 JANUARY 2014)

Reviewed and modified in 2014 by
the Preparatory Committee



DRAFTING PROCESS: STAGES 17 +



26 November 2014: Public hearing in Trier

RATIFICATION PROCESS IN GERMANY



GERMANY WILL PRESS THE IGNITION BUTTON



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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