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HELLENIC
INDUSTRIAL
PROPERTY
ORGANISATION

Annual Report

National Institution for the Protection of Inventions, Trademarks and Industrial Designs. Source of technological information from published Patents.



		Page
1	Preface	05
2	The highlights of the year	07
3	Statistics	15
4	Industrial Property Titles - Protection Procedure - Features	21
5	Activities & Collaborations	29

Preface



The annual report of the Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation (OBI) could only start with a date and a number. The date is that of 16th May 2022 when Trademarks fell officially under the competence of the Organisation and the number is that of 1.088 as corresponding to the applications concerning Patents. So, on the one hand the major reform of encompassing Industrial Property in Greece into a single authority had been implemented, while on the other hand the applications pertaining to Patents broke the national record.

In parallel though with the afore-mentioned numbers and symbolisms, the fact is that 3.000 unexamined files concerning trademarks had been concluded within 2022 while speeding up the issuance of decisions in respect of new applications, correcting and updating thousands of data in databases, and all these

were achieved in new and functional premises for both the public and the employees. The continuance of high – class service provision in the field of Patents, Utility Models and Designs is also a fact. This can be summarized to new e – filling and user – friendly tools, high – quality research reports, consistency and rapid response to the requests of users of the system of Industrial Property.

The Hellenic Industrial Property Academy (HIPA) contributed for its part to the acceleration of the Greek innovation eco – system by the means of implementing, for the first time, a basic study programme in Industrial Property and of participating in training events on issues aligning to technological innovation and to rights of protection.

However, the interest of OBI is not limited

solely to the provision of services to the users of Industrial Property's protection system. By participating in the European Programme 'Authenticities', the Organisation has implemented numerous actions under the aim of creating a culture of buying exclusively authentic products by continuously informing respectively the residents and visitors of the certified as authentic cities of Greece (Thessaloniki, Mykonos, Corfu).

Last but not least, a special reference should be made to the ever – increasing extroversion of the Organisation both to the general public and to more specialized sectors such as those of counsellors – at – law and engineers, by conducting events, conferences and seminars, the effects of which are reflected to in the numerical indicators that we publish on a daily basis.

Panagiotis Kanellopoulos
Director General



2

The highlights of the year

New brand identity



OBI's new logo is based upon the delicate re-designing of the pre-existing one indicating as such the main purpose of keeping up with the aesthetics, the needs and demands of nowadays.

It is a logo that conveys in an abstract way the values of co-operation, sharing, stability and effectiveness which consist of the essential characteristics of the Organisation.

Stepping on the lines drawn – up by the pre-existing logo, we simplified it, keeping the principal forms that made it recognizable, elevating it to a solid, fresh and stable – to the – eye mark that is capable of maintaining its identifiability both to physical and digital applications.

The real challenge in redefining the logo to nowadays was its simplification and the choice of typography contributed to this key goal. Equal sans serif typographical elements had been used in order to breathe a modern touch into the Organisation that is steadily moving towards the future, maintaining the foundations and values of its history.

A national record of 1.088 applications for Patents

2022 ended for the Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation with a significant contribution to its history: the achievement of the number of 1.088 applications for Patents within a single year -a number that is double to that corresponding to 2019, while it demonstrates a record for Greece.

This record highlights a more comprehensive and very promising renaissance of innovation in our country since ordinary citizens, scientists and companies are transubstantiating new ideas to Patents leading as such steadily both themselves and Greece to the paths of growth and development.

Our effort is to increasingly encourage the daily contact of citizens with the Organisation. By achieving very high standards of know – how and personalized assistance, the full now digitization of all deposit procedures, as well as the adherence of short response times, our goal is the friendly and efficient approach of the users of our services. Foremost though the milestone that our efforts are dedicated to through our constant public presence and our actions throughout Greece, is to inform the public in respect of Industrial Property Rights and to increasingly cultivate the culture of their protection.

Trademarks

The Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation continued working in order to welcome the competence over Trademarks and to succeed its smooth transition to the Organisation by preparing the issuance of the necessary legislative texts and regulatory acts. The transition was concluded on May 16, 2022, by the means of the Joint Ministerial Decision No. 48793/2022.

In order to cover the increased housing needs raised, OBI proceeded to the renting of a building where the staff dedicated to Trademarks had been accommodated and the greatest part of the respective archives had been moved.

The Service was staffed by experienced personnel of the General Secretariat of Trade and Consumer's Protection, while in parallel the staff of the Organisation was trained into the procedures concerning trademark in order to support the new competence of the Organisation. Particular attention and care were also given to the staffing and operation of Trademarks Administrative Committees whose members and secretaries are deployed by OBI.

In parallel, the transfer of the operation systems supporting trademarks to the G – Cloud (Network Infrastructures of Government Cloud Computing Databases of the General Secretariat of Public Administration Information Systems) of the Ministry of Digital Governance, was ensured.

Following the undertaking of this competence, a large number of pending ones, as well as new oppositions and appeals against decisions issued by the Administrative Committees of Trademarks before the Administrative Court of First Instance of Athens and the Court of Appeals of Athens, as well as the Conseil d' Etat, were completed, by submitting the Division's

views and written pleadings. The adjudication of present cases was facilitated by the means of the legislation that was initiated by OBI, which enables the Organisation to pursue pending cases. In parallel the formulation of the system that will allow interested parties to have recourse to alternative disputes resolution mechanisms in respect of trademarks is under consideration.

OBI is now collaborating with EUIPO and WIPO in the field of trademarks, it participates in the governing bodies of EUIPO, as well as in a large number of its working groups. This participation provides OBI's staff the possibility to deepen into the study of issues that they face in their daily work, as well as to exchange views and experience with their colleagues in other national offices, including also the Organisations themselves, thus promoting the perception and the ability to manage queries and difficulties in an effective manner.

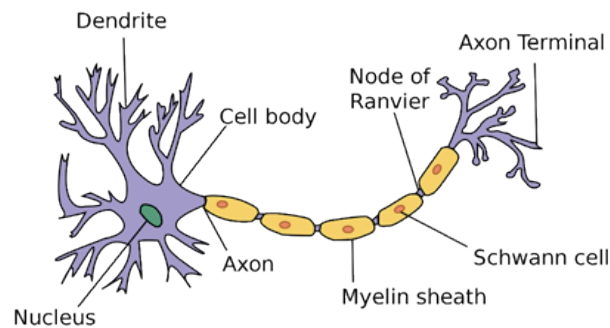
Lastly, the Organisation organized information events that were dedicated to the professionals of this filed, as well as to the legal and judicial sector as follows:

- in collaboration with the EUIPO's Boards of Appeals, on December 15, 2022, in Athens, in which the operation of the Boards of Appeals and the developments in the relevant case – law, were presented.
- in collaboration with the Thessaloniki Bar Association and the Hellenic Industrial Property Academy, on December 2nd and 3rd, in Thessaloniki in which the issues pertaining to the protection of Trademarks were presented.

THALIS

“THALIS” is a Deep Neural Network – DNN which was developed entirely at OBI and in particular in the Search Directorate by scientific staff with expertise in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

In very broad terms, a Deep Neutral Network is attempting to imitate, to the extent possible, the functioning of the human brain which consists of billions of Neurons which are interconnected with each other in a dense network along bonds that are called Synapses. Each neuron accepts information (electrical signals) through Dendrites from the neurons with which it is interconnected, it carries out a certain processing and, in the case, where the result exceeds a certain threshold, it triggers via Axon an electrical pulse to multiple other neurons with which it is interconnected, as depicted in the following figure of Wikipedia.



The structure and operation of THALIS is based upon the afore – mentioned rationality.

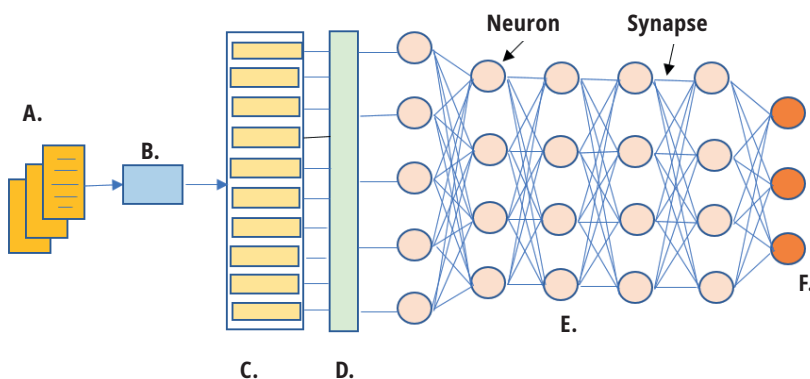
Its Architecture, that consists of the conclusion that we reached after long-term tests adapted to the technical/scientific texts of the Patents, is an Architecture that (without citing technical details) contains an overall of 483 Neurons or Units which are broken down into 5 Hidden Layers, with 31 million Educable Parameters.

A completely simplified schematic representation of THALIS is provided under the following scheme where each circle represents one Neuron, while the lines between them depict the Synapses. It is a Fully Connected Neural Network where each neuron of one Layer is aligned to and gets information from all neurons of the previous layer, it processes them and through a non – linear

Activation Function, it sends the information to the neurons of the next layer. THALIS was concluded and was for the first time put into a trial application at OBI in April 2022.

The objective of the development of THALIS was the automatization of the procedure of the First Study and Classification of the newly received applications for Patents in accordance with the technical/scientific field they refer to, and the subsequent routing/assignment to the relevant special examination departments of OBI.

Until April 2022, this specific process was carried-out by a two - or three-member working group of the scientific staff at the beginning of each month and was respectively requiring several days in order to be completed.



Each neuron in the Output layer on the right side of the figure corresponds to one of the Examiners Department of the Organisation.

Where:

- A. Technical Texts of Patents
- B. Natural language Processing – NLP
- C. Embeddings Layer
- D. Flatten Layer
- E. Five Hidden Layers with 483 neurons
- F. Output Layer

The said working group has now been replaced by THALIS and the new patents application of each month are supplied to THALIS which after Studying them, it Classifies them according to their technical content and Assigns them to the competent OBI examiners' departments.

The new procedure is now a minute long. Its effect is that the process of preliminary check of the new patents' application is shortened by approximately one month.

In order to train THALIS with the procedure of Supervised Machine Learning we established and use a Database which contains the texts of the Summaries or/and the Claims entailed into approximately 12.000 applications concerning patents and utility models certificates from 2000 until nowadays (all patents Published the last twenty years).

It is important to mention at this point that in parallel with the development of THALIS and for Language Processing needs (NLP) we produced 3 Greek Dictionaries containing approximately 11.000 technical terms that refer to the three main technological/scientific areas of Mechanical Engineering/Energy, Electronics/Information Technology and Chemistry/Biotechnology, as well as a Greek Dictionary with Stopwords tailor-made to the texts concerning patents. These Dictionaries consist of a significant part of the procedure of Machine Learning, and they greatly increase the accuracy of the results.

In these circumstances the accuracy of THALIS in relation to the Study/Classification/Assignment of patents' applications reaches a percentage of 96-97% in the current version, which is more than satisfactory.

Up to nowadays THALIS operates by the means of a special for this purpose workstation, without connection to the rest information systems of the Organisation in order on the one hand to be tested and on the other hand to set the various parameters included thereto.

Provided that this step has been successfully completed the remaining final one in relation to the whole procedure is to connect THALIS with the internal

network of OBI in order to be automatically supplied with every newly – received patent application immediately after its regular deposit, and at the same time to proceed with its study and assignment to the competent Examination Department.

An additional element that is worth mentioning is that during the conception, design and development of THALIS from the team of OBI, an additional capacity of OBI became apparent which we did not suspect in the initial conception of the system. This capacity relates to the capability of THALIS to carry out Semantic Search thus it is able to attribute meaningful content to any technical or scientific text.

The comprehension of this second capacity of OBI leads us to the development of a second version of THALIS where users can enter the technical/scientific text for which they are searching pre-existing relevant technology or pre-existing patents which had been submitted in Greece during the last 20 years and have the respective results within few seconds. This is succeeded with the need to know and use Keywords, Synonyms and Boolean Operators.

In this second version, that is used exclusively for research purposes, we use a different architecture and Unsupervised Machine Learning. It is currently being tested with very good results.

When it will be regularly implemented, the examiners of OBI will be able to use it in the process of drawing up the Search Reports facilitating as such the research concerning the Prior State of the Art, while also shortening the time needed to conclude the overall examination procedure of patents' applications.

In addition, this version could be provided via the website of OBI as a New Service to the public, where external users will be able to merely enter the technical/scientific text for which they are seeking relevant technology as related to the patents that had been submitted and published in Greece and have immediately the respective results.

*

Thales of Miletus, Ancient Greek philosopher, mathematician, physicist, astronomer and engineer, is widely considered as the first Greek philosopher who was highly influential on later philosophers. This is the reason why this name was chosen for this procedure thus demonstrating our Organisation's first attempt to use Artificial Intelligence.

HIPA's Actions

- Establishment of a Basic Education Curriculum in industrial property.
 - Completion of the procedure of educational staff selection process for the needs of HIPA.
 - Participation in the Research and Technology Committee of the Parliament of Greece which examined, among others, issues pertaining to technological innovation and industrial property rights, as well as the means through which they could contribute to the acceleration of the Greek innovation ecosystem.
 - Participation in the seminar about the Pan-European Seal Programme and technology transfer in collaboration with Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
- This programme provides students with the possibility to apply for a one-year paid internship either to the EPO (European Patent Office that is based in Munich) or to the EUIPO (European Union Intellectual Property Office that is based in Alicante).
- Co-organization with the corresponding Slovenian Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) and the Office of Economic and Commercial Affairs at the Embassy of Greece in Slovenia of a conference that concerned "Patents Protection System and Promotion of Innovation in Greece and Slovenia".
 - Co-organization with the Technical Chamber of Greece of a two-days training course under the title "New activities of engineers: The engineer – inventor and patent consultant".

Signage of buildings for people with disabilities and disabled people

INTERNAL SIGNAGE

The Ministerial Decision No. YPEN/DESEDP/65826/699/2020 (Technical instructions for the adaptation of existing buildings and infrastructures for their accessibility to people with disabilities and disabled people in accordance with current legislation) requires that the building should also have a Braille signage.

OBI, in full compliance with the said Ministerial Decision, proceeded in 2022, following the conclusion of the drawing-up of a relevant study, to the signage of its two buildings in Braille complementary to the already existing conventional writing. For the needs of the buildings, a wall signage was used, with materials that create a color contrast with the surfaces on which it was placed.

A few words for the Braille Code:

The Braille Code is not a language. In essence, it is a system of writing and

reading, a kind of «tangible alphabet», which can be used to write in almost any language such as (but not limited to) Chinese, Spanish, English, French, Greek and many others.

It is named after the inventor of Louis Braille.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), it is estimated that 253 million people on a global scale live today facing severe vision problems. On the basis of this number, 36 million people are blind, while 217 million are facing moderate to severe vision impairment (source: diavgia.eu)

EXTERNAL SIGNAGE

The signage on the external access points of the buildings had been renewed for people with disabilities and disabled people. These points were clearly marked with the International Symbol of Access (ISA). The signage was made from materials that are opaque, matte, non-reflective and with strong background/lettering color contrast.

Children's Creativity Award

Within the context of the Educational Course that OBI is providing since 2007 to students of the 5th and 6th grade of Primary School, it awarded 8 children for their creative ideas in a special ceremony that took place in the Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens (BRFAA).

The awards were for Inventions and Industrial Designs.

The Educational Course of OBI aims at introducing young students with small and steady steps into the Knowledge Economy that provides a development model, creating as such perspective and inspiration.

The Minister of Development and Investments, Mr. Adonis Georgiadis, who presented the awards, mentioned, among others, that "this is exactly the Greece that we want. The Greece of progress, the Greece of innovation,

the Greece of creation. In the modern world we live in, it seems that young people, the new generation, has talents and gains skills which for us who we are older seem very difficult. Today's initiative is indeed commendable thus providing the space and demonstrating to our children the means through which they can get connected with this new world of innovation. I sincerely congratulate all children who dare, as well as all the children who are awarded today".

We, at OBI are deeply aware of the fact that that Education and Research have a dynamically evolving character. Our aim is to trigger their creativity. We congratulate curiousness, fantasy, competition, expecting young researchers, inventors, industrial designers, successful future entrepreneurs who respond with original ideas to modern challenges and create prospects and ground of opportunities, for individual advancement and success.

STEAM Programme: Children design the cities of the future

During 2022, OBI in collaboration with the Educational Institute of Non-Typical Learning STEAM GREECE*, organized a series of STEAM workshop in Primary Education schools belonging to the Metropolitan Area of Thessaloniki, as well as to the Municipalities of Evosmos – Kordelio under the aim of promoting the culture of innovation. The action addressed to students of the 4th, 5th and 6th grade of Primary School and more than 600 students participated in these workshops.

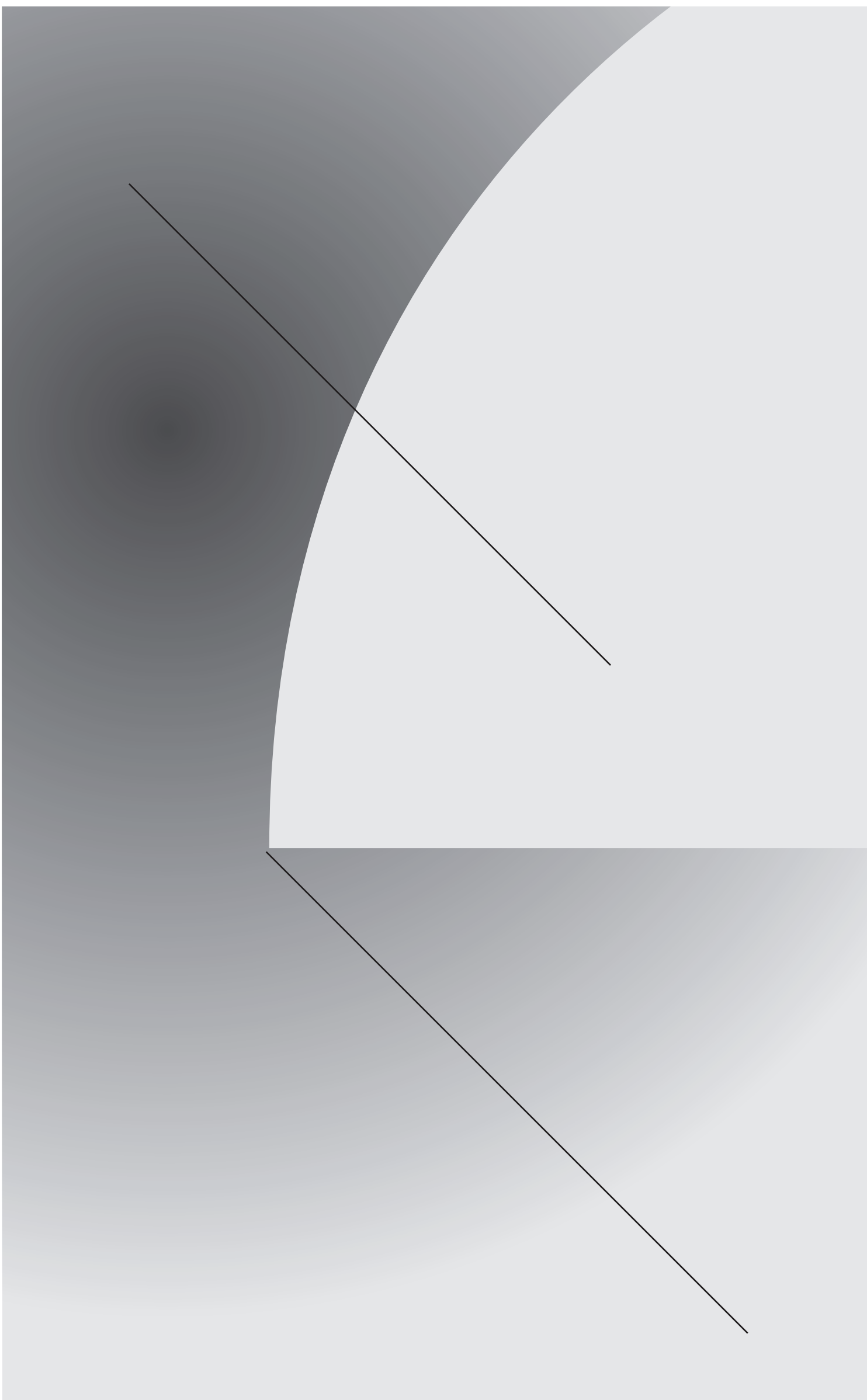
The STEAM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts & Mathematics) and robotics courses are aimed at exposing children to new technologies innovation. For OBI, the Organisation that safeguards intellectual property, it is essential that students indulge and understand from an early age the terms of innovation, of intellectual property and its protection. Many of these children will be stimulated to make their own inventions in the future and realize the value of the conceptions of the human mind.

The STEAM workshops, Young Students for Smart Cities Workshops, intend to introduce children to the world of sciences and robotics, always in a fun and original way, while offering opportunities for skills developments,

encouraging children to answer to questions and be involved in gaming activities referring to the science, mathematics, mechanics, Arts and technology.

Within the context of this programme, students shared their ideas on how the quality of life will be improved in the cities of future, as well as on which cities they would like to live in the future. They designed it in a mock – up, they wrote down their proposals and then they built a smart electric car with original equipment LEGO WeDo2 that operates with sensing devices and competed for first place in the respective races!

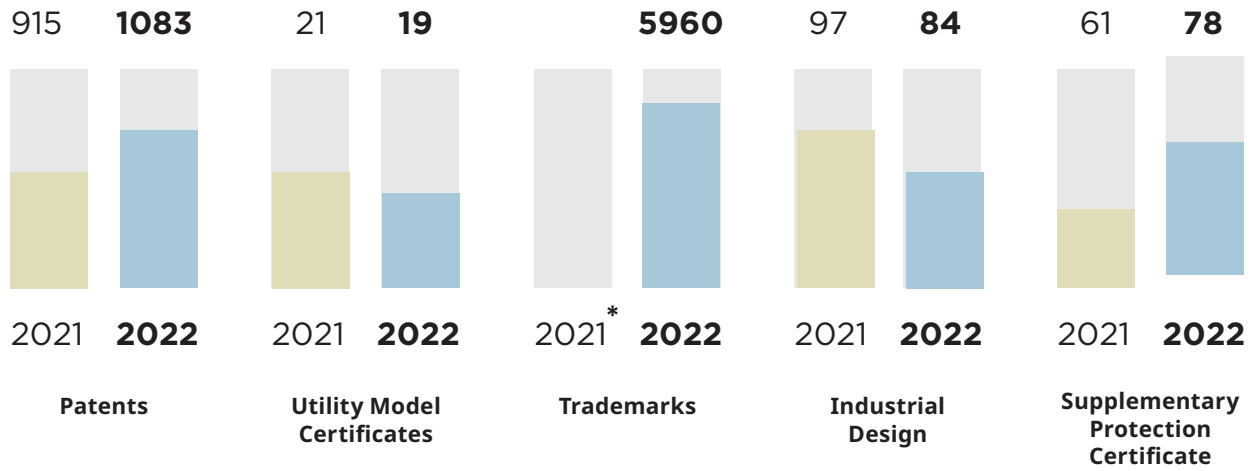
* The Non-Profit Making Organization STEAM Greece is specialized into innovative STEAM educational programmes and Robotics. The innovation of the programmes relies upon their harmonization with the teaching material of the school curriculum courses as modified by age group. Experienced specialists who are coming from different scientific disciplines (educators, engineers, psychologists etc.) undertake the design and implementation of the programmes.



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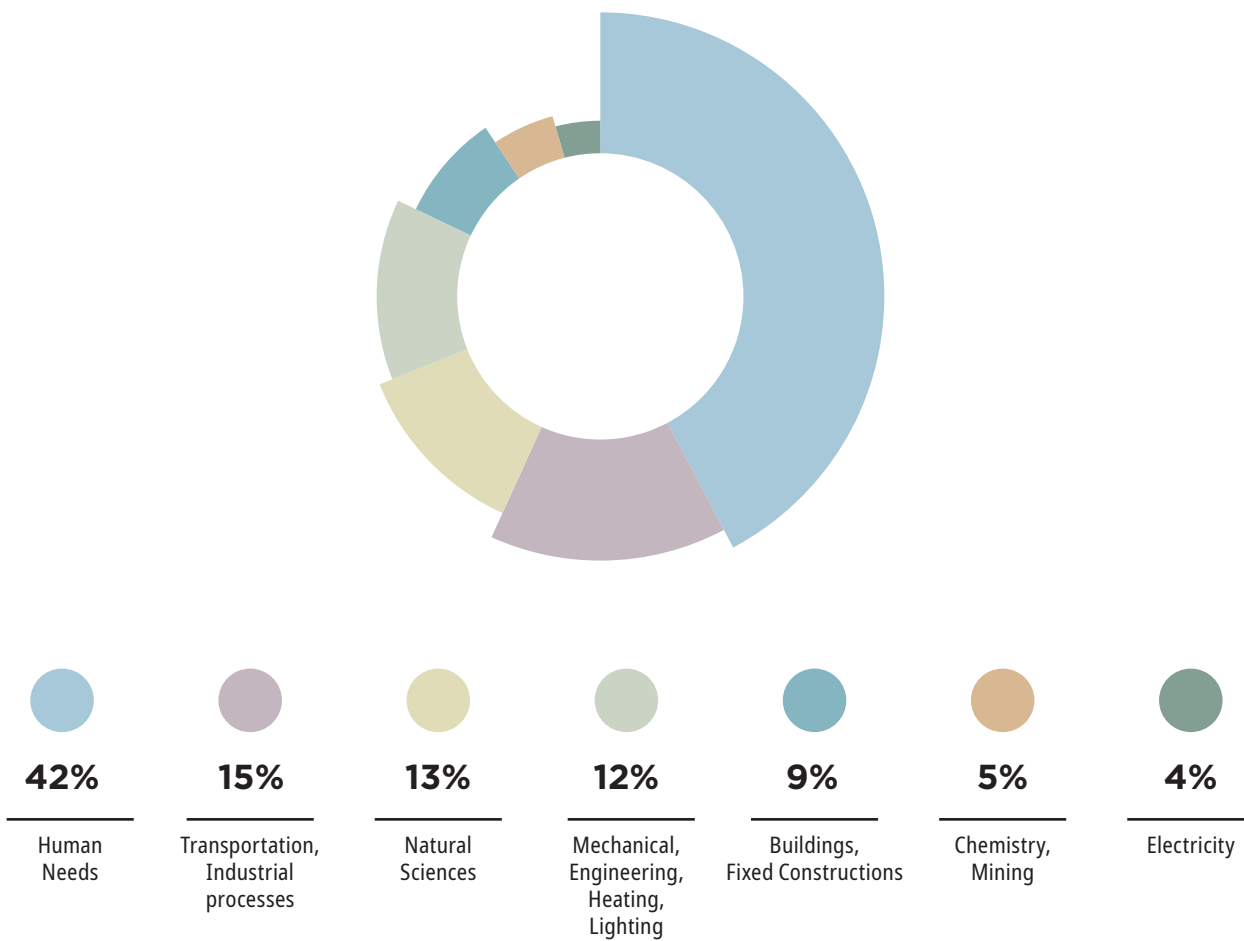
Statistics

3 Industrial Property Titles (filing)

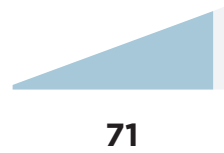


* OBI has the competence of Trademarks since 16 May 2022

Allocation of Patents' Applications during 2022



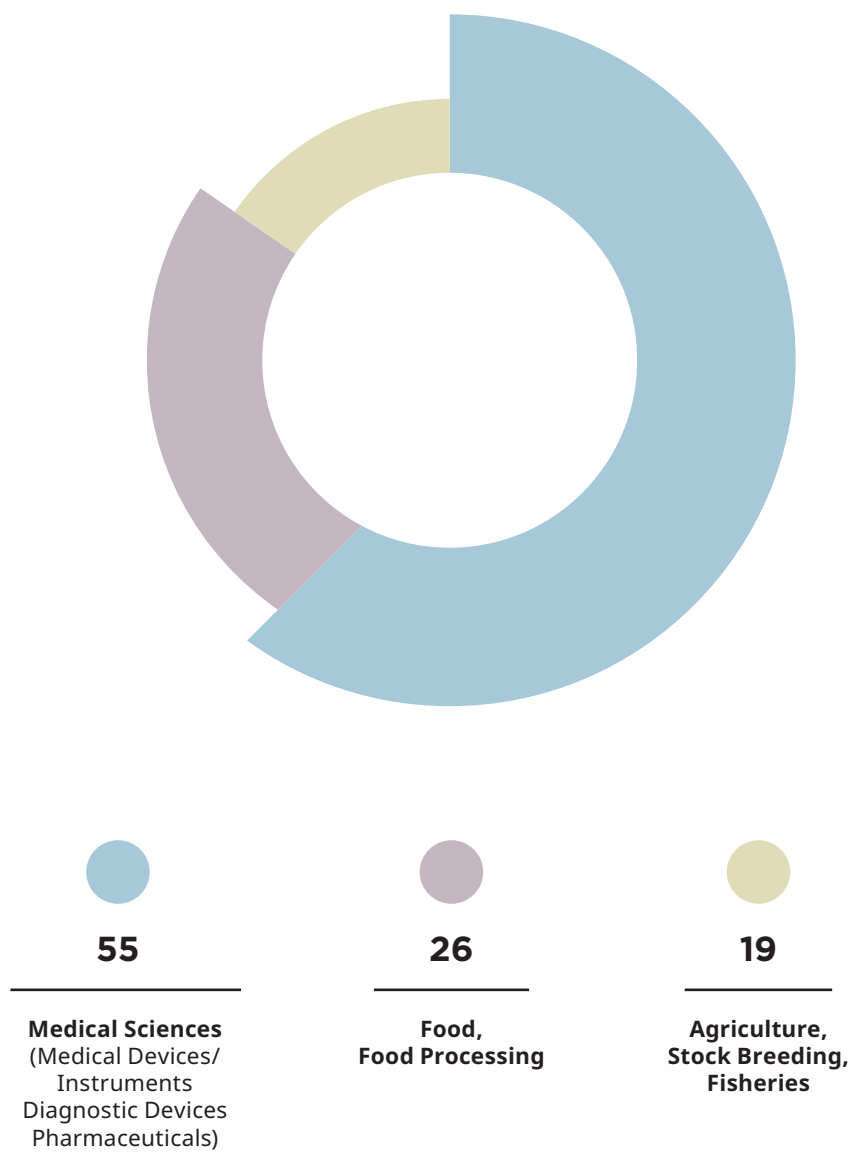
71 preliminary searches were carried out



Absolute number of patents' applications of the first 3 sectors that combine the Sector "Human Needs"

As in all previous years, so in 2022, the sector of Human Needs tops the poll as far and away, with a percentage of 42% of the total of applications for patents as demonstrated in the figure above.

Further analyzing the field of Human Needs, we see that the majority of its applications referred to the following 3 technological fields:



APPLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN PATENTS 2022

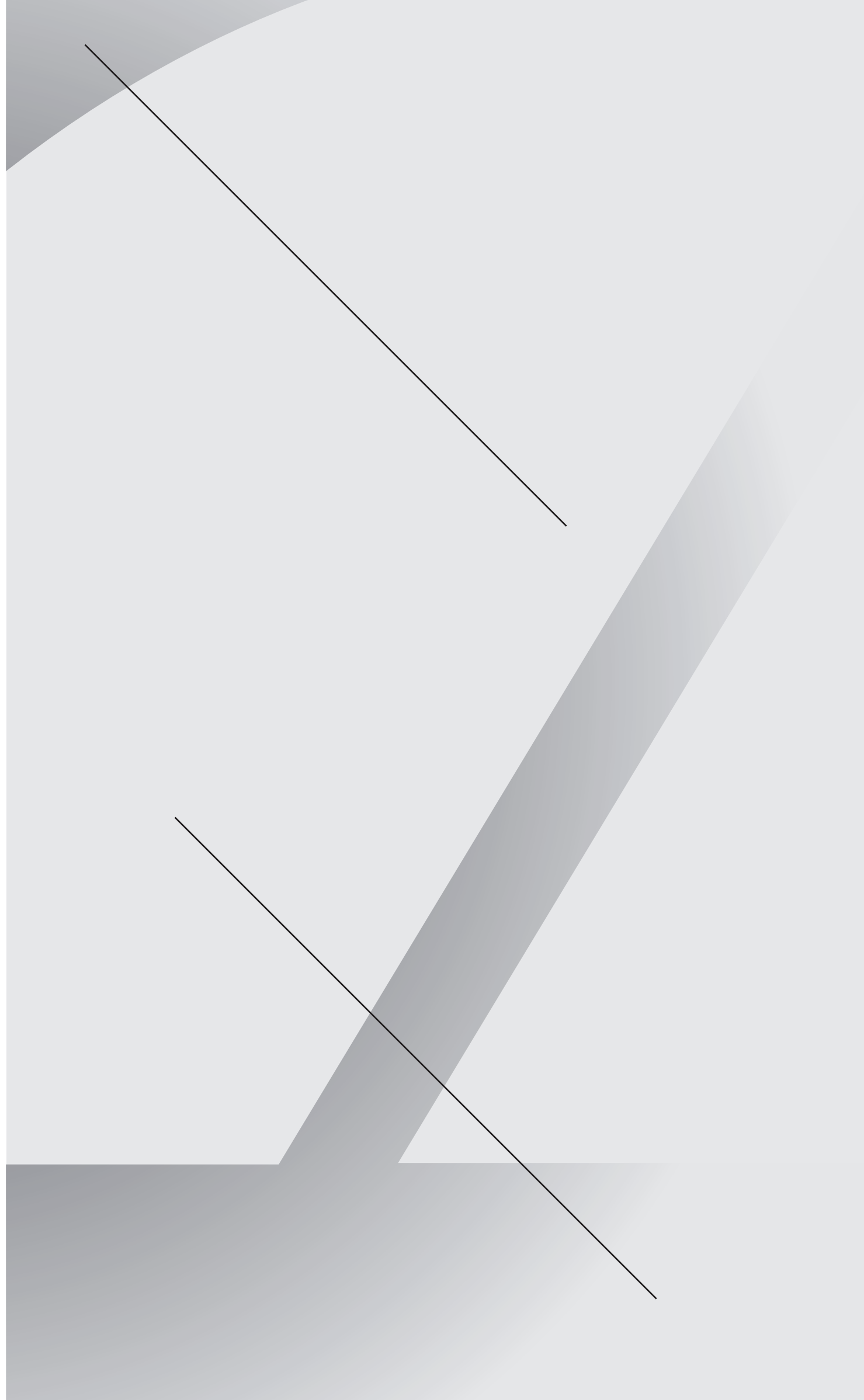
3 Applications for European Patents 2022

GREECE	26	LICHTENSTEIN	1
AUSTRIA	38	LUXEMBOURG	9
AUSTRALIA	15	MONACO	2
BELGIUM	61	MALTA	3
BULGARIA	2	MEXICO	2
BERMUDA	2	NETHERLANDS	81
BRAZIL	1	NORWAY	28
CANADA	21	NEW ZEALAND	3
SWITZERLAND	176	POLAND	17
CHILE	2	PORTUGAL	5
CHINA	114	RUSSIA	2
CUPRUS	6	ΣΟΥΗΔΙΑ	110
CZECH REPUBLIC	5	SINGAPORE	6
GERMANY	295	SLOVENIA	2
DENMARK	36	TURKEY	6
ESTONIA	1	SPECIAL CUSTOMS TERRITORY	10
SPAIN	62	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	639
FINLAND	27	BRITISH VERGIN ISLANDS	3
FRANCE	141	SOUTH AFRICA	3
UNITED KINGDOM (GREAT BRITAIN)	166	SLOVAKIA	3
HONG KONG	1	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	4
HUNGARY	6	ARGENTINA	2
IRELAND	31	ROMANIA	4
ISRAEL	26	CROATIA	1
INDIA	16	ICELAND	1
ITALY	183	MAURITIUS	2
JAPAN	95	KUWAIT	1
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	39	SRI LANKA (KEYLON)	1
LEBANON	1		

APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS 2022

Applications for Patents 2022

GREECE	437
AUSTRIA	2
AUSTRALIA	1
BELGIUM	5
BULGARIA	
SWITZERLAND	5
CYPRUS	3
GERMANY	5
DENMARK	2
SPAIN	1
FINLAND	1
FRANCE	5
UNITED KINGDOM (GREAT BRITAIN)	35
IRELAND	2
ISRAEL	27
ITALY	1
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	11
CAYMAN ISLANDS	2
NETHERLANDS	89
NORWAY	4
SWEDEN	64
TURKEY	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	378
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	2
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA	1
REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA	1

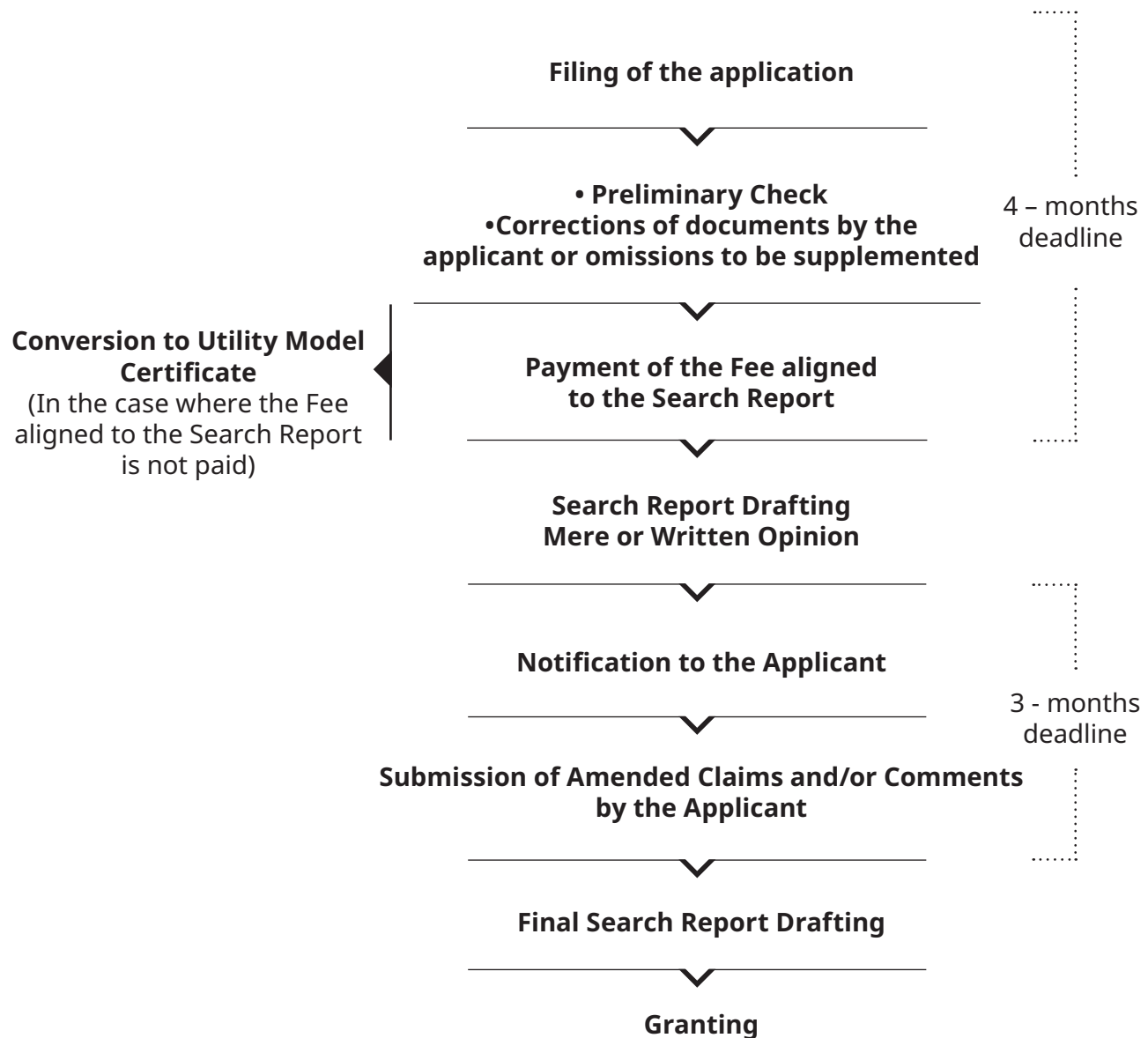


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Industrial Property Titles

Procedures for Granting Titles

Procedure for granting Patents



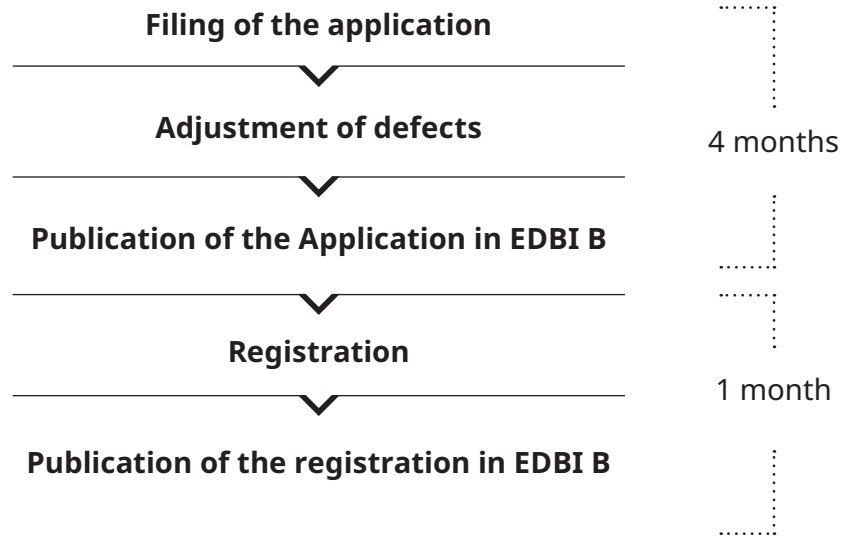
Procedure for the granting of Utility Model Certificates

**Normal Filing
of Application**

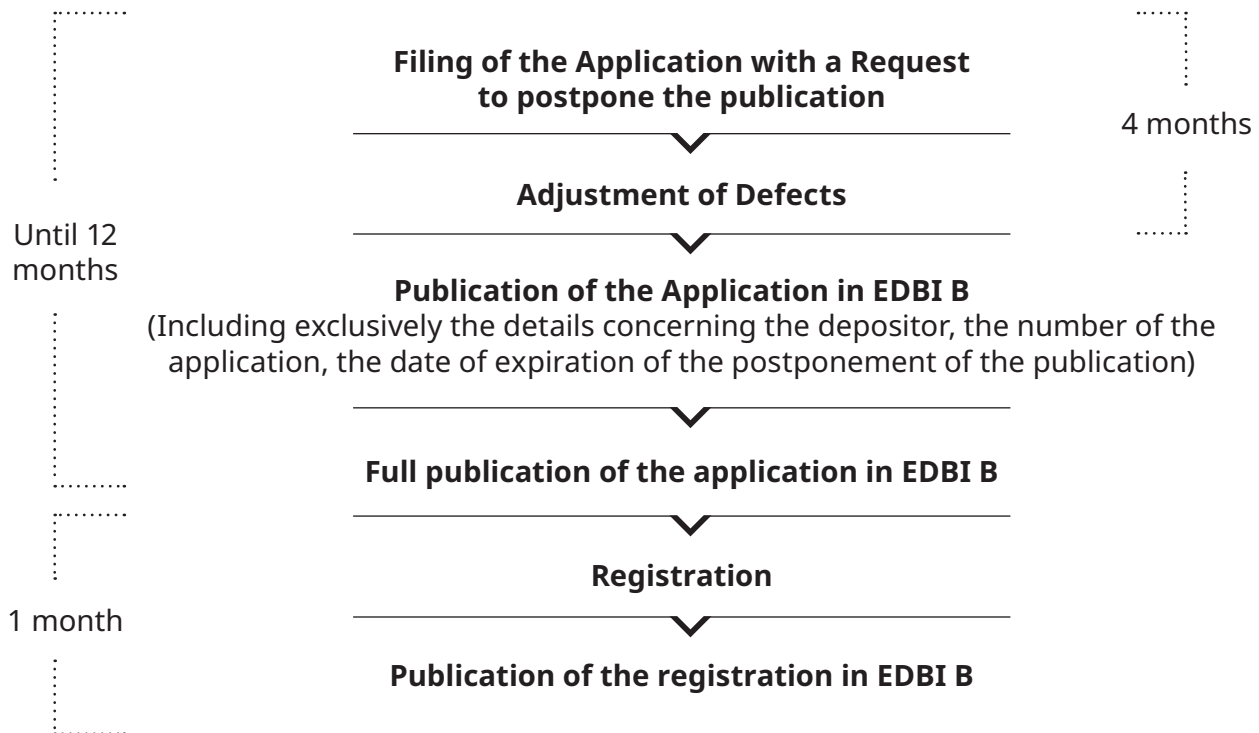
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Complete

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▼
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Granting of the Utility Model Certificate

Procedure for registering Designs or Utility Models



Procedure of registering Designs or Utility Models in the event of postponement of publication



Trademarks

**Filing
of the Application**

Examination Period

**Publication
of the Application**

Oppositions/Appeals Period

**Expiration of
the Oppositions/Appeals
Period
Finalization**

Registration

Features of Industrial Property Titles

	Trade Marks	Patents	Industrial Designs
Concept	<p>Trademarks distinguish the products or services of enterprises/their persons from those of their competitors</p> <p>Distinctive sign</p>	<p>Patents protect inventions/ technical creations which are new and demonstrate a level of inventiveness</p> <p>Technical conception</p>	<p>They protect the design/the external visual impression of a product or of parts therefrom</p> <p>Aesthetic creation</p>
Application	<p>Marks symbols, words, sounds on goods, which intends to distinguish</p>	<p>Product/method Industrial application</p>	<p>Designs which are integrated on a product</p>
Protection	<p>Distinguishing products or services Prevention of confusion with products or services of other enterprises</p> <p>Protection against unfair competition</p>	<p>Ideas are converted into methods/ products which are new and consist of the subject – matter of protection in absolute terms</p> <p>Prevention of illegal production and exploitation</p>	<p>Absolute right to use which extends also to designs which give users a similar impression</p> <p>It refers to the visible form of the design and it does not any case apply to the technical features</p>
Right to Submit Application	<p>Statement by a legal or a natural person</p>	<p>Statement by the inventor and applicant</p>	<p>Statement by the author and applicant</p>
Examination	<p>Absolute grounds for inadmissibility</p>	<p>Search Report Mere or Written Opinion</p>	<p>Without examination</p>
Duration	<p>10 years with a right to renewal every 10 years</p>	<p>Up to 20 years with a right to renewal every year</p>	<p>Up to 25 years with a right to renewal every 5 years</p>
Publication	<p>Website of OBI / TM View</p>	<p>EDBI Online Register (EMT)</p>	<p>EDBI Online Register (EMT)</p>
Territorial Protection	<p>Greece (OBI) - EUIPO - WIPO</p>	<p>Greece (OBI) - EPO - WIPO</p>	<p>Greece (OBI) - EUIPO - WIPO</p>
Exploitation	<p>Transfer/Licensing Pledge</p>	<p>Transfer/Licensing Pledge</p>	<p>Transfer/Licensing Pledge</p>



5

Activities & Collaborations

Partnership programmes with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) και European Patent Office (EPO)

OBI successfully implemented the projects included in the annual partnership programmes with these two organizations. In particular:

EUIPO:

- The e-services tool was put in operation in relation to the electronic submission of requests concerning the modification of Industrial Design.
- The instrument related to the internal governance of Industrial Designs (BackOffice) was improved with distinct technical modifications and inclusion of some of them in the corresponding trade – marks tool.
- OBI was supported in order to port the information systems of trademarks to G-Cloud, as well as to the continuous improvements of the tools and of the data concerning trademarks.
- It participated into the project of the Greek translation of the new SME webpage in collaboration with the Office of Cyprus.
- A video was created in relation to the modifications applicable to the trademarks' registration application.

- An event was organized in collaboration with the Boards of Appeals to inform and educate participants about the actions and developments in the sector of the "Authenticities" Project.

• "Authenticities" Project

- Thessaloniki (the first city of the network) was re-certified as "Authenticity". Dissemination of the Programme on City Games (ThessTruth), musical/culinary events in the center of Thessaloniki and educational activities in school premises.

- Several actions were implemented in Mykonos, the 2nd city of the network. Dissemination of the "Authenticities" Project where informative material and souvenir gifts were distributed, while the local law enforcement authorities were trained in respect of IP rights' infringement. The tools available and offered by the EUIPO and dissemination of the available tools which are offered by EUIPO under the aim of combatting counterfeiting and copying were also presented.

- Corfu joined the network by signing a relevant cooperation agreement.

- Participation in the "SME Fund" Project:

- EUIPO was supported in promoting its work in Greece and presenting it by the means of a tailor-made designed campaign via the social media administered by OBI.

- Constant updating of the regional office and of the One Stop Shop Service in order to support the interested mass media.

- A hybrid information event was organized that was dedicated to the work and the use of the online platform receiving applications.

• Hosting of EUIPO events in Thessaloniki:

- 1st Authenticity Network Meeting

- 3rd EUIPN Annual Cooperation Meeting

EPO:

- Visit of Mr. A. Campinos, President of the European Patent Office

- OBI operated as a pilot Office for the implementation of the tool of Online Submission of Patents. The project is expected to be completed in 2023.

Co-operation Agreements

OBI signed co-operation agreements with the following bodies and institutions:

1. **Inter-departmental Unit for Market Surveillance (DIMEA)**
2. **Thessaloniki Chamber of Commerce**

It renewed the co-operation agreement with the **Epirus Science and Technology Park S.A**, University of Thessaly

Legislative activity

- Elaboration of the new decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Union on Supplementary Protection Certificate for Medicinal Products

- Preparation of Comments on the Draft of the Joint Ministerial Decision entitled as "Provisions of the conditions, prerequisites and procedures

for the application of provisions of Article 71 A "Patents Incentives" of the Law 4172/2013, (A' 167), as it was amended by Article 89 of the Law 4864/2021 (A' 237)".

- Drawing – up of Instructions – Preventive Measures of the Hellenic Industrial Property

Organisation for the application of the Regulation (EU) No. 269/2014 of the Council of 17 March 2014 concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine.

International Relations

OBI participates and is represented in the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents, in the General Assembly and Working Groups of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), as well as in the Working Groups of the:

- European Patent Office (EPO)

- European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

- EU Observatory for the Enforcement of IP rights by preparing statements on current Industrial Property Issues, exchanging of views and discussing matters of converging of the practices of the Patents Offices.

National Strategic Reference Framework (ESPA)

On December 1st the ESPA Action under the title "Co-ordination of services to support start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises in investigating and registering patents" had started following an open electronic call for tender. The subject – matter of this project is to enhance the services provided by the State to enterprises by focusing on start – ups and medium – sized ones. More precisely, the

subject – matter consists of the provision of support by the Hellenic Industrial Property Organisation to start – ups and medium – sized enterprises, and in particular to those oriented to innovation, to patents' registration, which enshrines in legal terms their technical or other intellectual property.

Quality management systems

Aiming at its excellent operation and at the provision of high – quality services, OBI developed, had been respectively specified and implements since 2022 the following quality management systems:

1. ISO 22301:2019 Business Continuity Management Systems and
2. ISO 45001:2018 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems

Events

Athens

1. Modern Greek Inventors, Mind the Minds, Eugenides Foundation
2. Participation in Athens Science Festival
3. Event in collaboration with EUIPO's Boards of Appeals for the presentation of the operation of Boards of Appeals, but also generally the development of the case – law
4. Training of the local law enforcement authorities on IP rights' infringements, as well as on the tools available
5. Seminar on Trademarks (INTA – Non-traditional Trademarks and their protection)
6. Session «Industrial property rights and how do they enhance the development of technology and innovation», Permanent Committee of Research and Innovation – Greek Parliament

Thessaloniki

1. Participation in the 5th Development Conference of Thessaloniki
2. Robotics Programme for children, STEAM
3. Participation in Thessaloniki International Fair
4. Information event for the presentation of Trademarks' protection issues in collaboration with the Thessaloniki Bar Association and the

Hellenic Industrial Property Academy

5. Training Colloquium “New activities of engineers: The engineer – inventor and patent consultant” (OBI – HIPA, Technical Chamber of Greece), Thessaloniki
6. Event “PAN EUROPEAN SEAL”, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
7. Meeting of the “Working Group of Thessaloniki Chamber of Commerce & Industry for politics in the innovation systems”, Thessaloniki Chamber of Commerce & Industry
8. Seminar on the “Protection of trademarks, industrial designs and patents”, Thessaloniki Chamber of Commerce
9. Event under the title “Renewable Energy Sources and Electric Vehicles' Charging”, Center for Renewable Energy Sources
10. Seminar under the title “Learn what Business Idea is and how to protect it”, Career Office – Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
11. Seminar under the title “Protect your research with Industrial Property rights”, Envolv Entrepreneurship Greece

Heraklion, Crete

1. Participation in the Exhibition “InnoDays 2022”, Heraklion, Crete

2. Event under the title “Inventor's Night 2022”, Foundation for Research and Technology

3. Seminar under the title “Innovation – Protection of Intellectual Property”, Foundation for Research and Technology / Scientific and Technological Park of Crete

Patras

- Participation in the 10th Conference of Regional Development of Patras

Ioannina

- Event under the title “Twinning of Ioannina – Berlin and promotion of cultural identity”, Scientific & Technological Park of Epirus

Eastern Macedonia and Thrace

- Seminar under the title “Industrial Property Rights”, Regional Youth Entrepreneurship Support Structure KICK-IT of the Chamber of Commerce of Kavala

Volos

- Event under the title “Cross-sectoral Huddles & Innovation Vision Forum”, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Unit - University of Thessaly

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6 1:1 remote visits to SME's

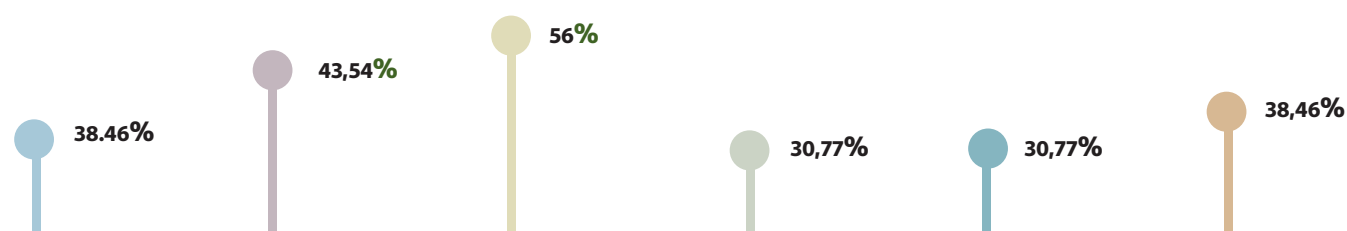
Education

In 2022 1.048 training hours were implemented as they had been dedicated to the following issues: examination of patents' applications (search & examination), technical (IT), Management and Leadership, Health and Safety, Violence and Harassment, following operational needs and legal requirements.



1.048h

OPINION OF THE PUBLIC



- **38.46%** - Excellent impression from their first contact with OBI
- **43.54%** - Very good impression from their first contact with OBI
- **56%** - Extremely satisfied with the quality/reliability of the services of the Organisation
- **30.77%** - Very satisfied with the quality/reliability of the services of the Organisation
- **30.77%** - Extremely satisfied with the time of implementation of its services
- **38.46%** - Very satisfied with the time of implementation of its services

One Stop Shop Service





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