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OCVV

Office Communautaire des Variétés Végétales



# THE COMMUNITY PLANT VARIETY SYSTEM : CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Roundtable organized in the context of the CEIPI series of lectures,  
CEIPI, University of Strasbourg,  
in cooperation with the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO)

Strasbourg, CEIPI, October 1st, 2014, 5.00 pm  
L'Escarpe, Amphithéâtre 29



## **ABSTRACT:**

*This roundtable, organized by the CEIPI and the CPVO in context of the CEIPI Series of lectures, aims to gather institutional and academic specialists in plant variety rights in order to discuss the current state and perspectives of the system of community protection provided to this peculiar form of intellectual property protection (Community plant variety (CPV)). Established following the UPOV 1991 Act as a unified community title within the European common market in 1995 (Council Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 of 27 July 1994 on Community plant variety rights (OJ L 227 of 01.09.94 p.1)), it is managed by the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO), located in Angers. The latter's mission statement is as follows: "To foster innovation in plant varieties by high quality processing of applications for Community plant variety rights at affordable costs while providing policy guidance and assistance in the exercise of these rights for the benefit of stakeholders" (Strategic Plan 2010-2015). During the roundtable, speakers will touch upon such crucial issues as the role of CPV to foster innovation, the purpose and mission of CPVO within the community IP system, its Board of Appeal current case law, the ethical ques involved with plant variety rights (especially in the context of food security), as well as the interface between CPV and patents.*

## **PROGRAM:**

**Introduction and Chair: Christophe GEIGER**, Associate Professor, Director General and Director of the Research Department, CEIPI

### **Panel Presentations:**

**Topic 1:** The Community Plant Variety Protection System: An Overview of the Past and Future Perspectives

Speaker: **Martin EKVAD**, President of the Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO)

**Topic 2:** The European Case Law on Community Plant Variety Protection (Board of Appeal of the CPVO, Board of Appeal of the EPO, General Court, Court of Justice of the EU...)

Speakers:

**Paul VAN DER KOOIJ**, Senior Lecturer at the University of Leiden (Netherlands), Chairman of the Board of Appeal of the CPVO

**Théo HASSLER**, Professor at the CEIPI, University of Strasbourg

**Topic 3:** Community Plant Variety Protection and European Patent Law: The Overlaps

Speaker: **Francesco MATTINA**, Head of the Legal Unit at the CPVO

**Topic 4:** Plant Variety Protection, Ethical Questions, and Food Security

Speaker: **Geertrui VAN OVERWALLE**, Professor of IP Law at the K.U.Leuven (Belgium) and Professor of Patent Law and New Technologies at the Tilburg Institute for Law, Technology, and Society (TILT) at the University of Tilburg (Netherlands)

**Panel Discussion and Q&A:** Moderated by **Christophe GEIGER**, Associate Professor, Director General and Director of the Research Department, CEIPI

