

Portrait:



The CEIPI, created as an institute, is a constituent part of the University of Strasbourg, exclusively devoted to research and training in the domain of intellectual property law. It is managed by a Director General, Prof. Dr Christophe Geiger.



The CEIPI is unique in the French university system insofar as it comprises an Administrative Board whose present President is António Campinos, Executive Director of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), and whose members represent all professional circles in intellectual property in Europe, academics and officials of the national, European and international offices and organizations.

CEIPI faculty is composed of almost 400 academics and practicing attorneys in 22 countries and 41 cities in Europe. During its 50 years of its existence, the Centre has trained more than 42.000 professionals and students.

CEIPI offers various diplomas awarded by the University of Strasbourg, in initial or continuing education, with the overall objective of preparing engineers, scientists or legal practitioners for a professional career in the field of intellectual property, in particular preparing for professional examinations in industrial property as well as students for the professionally oriented Master of Laws (equivalent LLM) in the field of IP (6 Masters within CEIPI).

Since 1977, CEIPI has been providing vocational training to more than 36.500 professionals by offering basic training courses in European Patent Law in 21 European countries and specific courses preparing candidates for the European qualifying examination (EQE). Each year, CEIPI trains more than 2.500 specialists and professionals in the intellectual property field. The preparation for the EQE is organized with the participation of established European patent attorneys and members of the European Patent Office (EPO). They are given in the three official languages of the EPO (German, English and French).

CEIPI also offers established professionals the opportunity to acquire specialised knowledge through its unique programs on "Patent Litigation in Europe" specifically addressed to European legal representatives and the Master of Laws (equivalent LLM) "Intellectual Property Law and Management" entirely taught in English.

The CEIPI Research Department also plays an essential role in understanding and analysing the intellectual property landscape. Its international partnerships enable it to develop common teaching and research programs, student and academic staff exchanges throughout the world, and to guarantee an excellent academic training based on a teaching staff composed of academics and recognized legal professionals of all backgrounds.

The Research Department develops also interdisciplinary research, namely in the field of economics of Intellectual Property. For that purpose, in January 2013, CEIPI and the Bureau of Theoretical and Applied Economics (BETA) have jointly launched a research initiative in law and economics of intellectual property. The project intends to mobilize research teams in both centers in order to develop joint research on the topic "The strategic role of IP and the necessary (re)construction of intellectual property law in a new economic, technological and social environment."

As a European center of excellence, CEIPI is a member of the European Intellectual Property Institutes Network (EIPIN - <http://www.eipin.org/>) aiming at facilitating and increasing cooperation among IP institutions in Europe. With the members of the network, the CEIPI aims of establishing the first Pan-European Joint Doctorate in Intellectual Property, project funded in the framework of Horizon 2020 programme, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. Moreover, two congresses are organized every year to one of the partner, which consist of one doctoral meeting and two, three-day scientific conferences, who offers the students of the individual programs the opportunity to convene and to discuss current intellectual property issues with international experts and one another.

Beyond a close cooperation with various departments of the University of Strasbourg, with the main professional bodies, and with national institutional partners in the intellectual property field such as the INPI (Institut national de la propriété industrielle), CEIPI is committed to an international approach through cooperation agreements with the principal European and international organizations in the intellectual property field.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the European Patent Office (EPO) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), are among the international



partners of the CEIPI - partners with which the Centre has developed privileged relations. CEIPI, as a non-governmental organization, has also a permanent observer status within WIPO. CEIPI also acts as a counselling body to the main European institutions: the European Commission, the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), European Parliament and the Council of Europe. Moreover, CEIPI has, on various occasions in the past, proposed its expertise to international organizations and European institutions, including as external expert of the European Parliament in the field of intellectual property rights and has authored research for the EP such as a synthetic study recalling the role of the Parliament in developing intellectual property EU legislation. CEIPI regularly submits observations whenever the EU Commission

launches consultation processes relating to intellectual property initiatives.

CEIPI has also established numerous partnerships with various institutions of higher education and research throughout the world: all the way from Europe to Asia and on the North and South American continent, making the Centre a unique environment for intellectual property teaching and research.

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History

1963 Foundation of the Center for International Industrial Property Studies (CEIPI) as part of the University of Strasbourg by professors Daniel Bastian (Law) and Hubert Forestier (Chemistry).

1973 Signature of the European Patent Convention. France and the other signatories to the Convention, especially Germany, conclude a "gentlemen agreement" agreement by which the French government would support the candidacy of the city of Munich to become the seat of the European Patent Office whereas the CEIPI in Strasbourg would prepare candidates for the European qualifying examination (EQE).

2006 Creation of the Research Department of CEIPI, directed by Professor Joanna Schmidt- Szalewski.

2008 Election of the current Director General of the CEIPI: Christophe Geiger, Professor at the University of Strasbourg succeeds Professor Yves Reboul. He also succeeds Professor Joanna Schmidt-Szalewski as Director of the Research Department in September 2009.

2008 Change of name for CEIPI. The term "industrial" is replaced with the term "intellectual". The change of name to "Center for International Intellectual Property Studies" reflects the evolution of the intellectual property field and corresponds to the expanded activities of the CEIPI.

2009 To increase visibility and reinforce inter-disciplinary collaboration, the three universities of Strasbourg merge to re-establish the University of Strasbourg. The CEIPI is one of the 37 constituent parts of this new university.

2013 Election of the President of the CEIPI Administrative Board: on June 7, 2013 António Campinos, Executive Director of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) took office. He succeeded to Francis Gurry, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

2014 CEIPI celebrates 50 years since its creation by organizing a major international conference on the topic "Perspectives for the Intellectual Property System in a Globalized World".