

Title of the training Preparatory seminar for paper M4 of the European Qualifying Examination (EQE) 2027
Public The training is intended for people taking Paper M4 of the EQE. To register for this paper with the EPO, candidates must meet the EPO's requirements (see the new EEQ regulations, Supplementary publication 3 – OJ EPO 2024).
Prerequisites Participation in this non-degree training course does not require any specific prerequisites with regard to the target audience.
Entrance requirements This is a non-degree training course. Candidates should preferably have attended the CEIPI methodology course for paper M4 of the EQE or a similar training. Admission upon validation of the application file. Participants are expected to have a sufficient knowledge of European and basic international patent law (as they should have in light of paper M2). Participants should preferably have attended the methodology course for paper M4.
Objectives Help candidates prepare for paper M4 of the EQE.
Program and schedule (for information purposes) Content: The 3-day seminar comprises an early online introductory session in September, presenting the gist of paper M4 and possible methods to address this paper. This basic introduction may be deepened by attending the M4 methodology course, where the basic introduction is in more depth using simplified educational M4 papers. This offer is given to enable participants to prepare paper M4 on their own in a more efficient way. The main part of the seminar aims to present candidates typical case constellations under the time constraints of the EQE. The seminar involves independent work under the tutors' supervision, plus discussion of the answers. Candidates thus learn and practise the difficulties involved with paper M4. It is to be noted that candidates should have prepared some M4 papers on their own before the main seminar using the knowledge given in the early introductory session. Duration: 3 days Dates: <u>The following two parts are fully included in the course:</u> *Wednesday 30 September 2026 morning (exclusively online) AND *Thursday 14 to Saturday 16 January 2027 Tutors : The tutors for these courses are either professional representatives (from private practice and industry) or staff of the departments of first instance of the EPO and of the Boards of Appeal. All have extensive knowledge and practical experience in the procedures before the EPO, be it in examination and opposition, or in appeal before the Boards of Appeal. A detailed list of course tutors and their references will be made available to participants before the start of the course.
Teaching methods: - Practical exercises (legal questions prepared by CEIPI according to the format of paper M4) under the guidance of a tutor ; discussion of the answers in the light of the model solutions suggested by CEIPI - Work is done in small groups in order to ensure proper dialogue between participants and tutors The seminar is proposed in the three EPO official languages (English, German, French).
Technical and pedagogical frame - Access to the online session will take place via the connection to a distance-learning platform. The ID and password for the connection will be made available to the participant in advance. - The participant must have appropriate technical equipment to participate in the online session, in particular a laptop or similar device and high speed WIFI.

Training material

- Audiovisual support and handouts made available online

Validation

- The training aims at the adaptation and development of skills. Participants can receive an attendance certificate.
An evaluation questionnaire will be sent at the end of the course in order to measure client satisfaction.

Location

Online

Fee

1 250 €

Contact for information, enrolment and technical support*

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Training assistant

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*Ms Kra is the CEIPI referent for the technical support of the participants during the distance training, insofar as she will ensure the follow-up of the online sessions and that she can be contacted in case of questions related to the connection of participants and tutors. However, the CEIPI does not assume any legal responsibility in the event of a malfunction of the platform used during the online sessions or a lack of speed/network quality among participants and tutors.