

**PREPARATORY SEMINAR FOR THE EUROPEAN QUALIFYING EXAMINATION 2027**

**VORBEREITUNGSSEMINAR FÜR DIE EUROPÄISCHE EIGNUNGSPRÜFUNG 2027**

**SEMINAIRE DE PRÉPARATION À L'EXAMEN DE QUALIFICATION 2027**

**Paper M 3 - Prüfungsaufgabe M3 - Epreuve M 3**

**PROGRAMME**

**26 – 29 October 2026 : Strasbourg/online**

**9 November 2026 (afternoon): online**

**10 November 2026 (afternoon): online**

**Monday, 26 October 2026**

09.00 – 13.00: **Welcome and overview of M3.1, M3.2, M3.3**

General knowledge: prior art, dependent/independent claims, plurality of independent claims, priority, novelty, ranges, selection inventions, i.s. with partial problems, clarity, sufficiency of disclosure, unity

14.00 – 17.00: **M3.1 – Methodology and exercises**

Detailed presentation of paper M3.1 and of basic approach for solving it

- Requirements by IPREE
- Steps for solving M3.1
- Time management

Guided Walkthrough Part 1: Identification of documents and preliminary analysis

- Getting an overview of provided documents
- Structuring of first reading of the documents (keywords, effects, problems, ...)
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on a paper to be prepared
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 2: In-depth analysis of the documents

- Defining and understanding technical problem
- Identifying essential features for invention
- Identifying options for dependent claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 3: Determination of subject-matter to be claimed

- Assessing technical problem
- Defining possible subject-matter for the independent claim
- Choosing the category of claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

**Tuesday, 27 October 2026**

09.00 – 13.00: **M3.1 – Methodology and exercises (continued)**

Guided Walkthrough Part 4: Drafting the independent claim(s)

- Formulating one or more independent claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 5: Drafting the dependent claims

- Formulating dependent claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 6: Checking the claims

- Verification of drafted claims

- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts (with example claims to be assessed)
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 7: Drafting the introductory part of the application

- Formulating an introductory part according to the expected structure
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

#### 14.00 – 17.00: **M3.2 – Methodology and exercises**

Detailed presentation of paper M3.2 and of basic approach for solving it

- Requirements by IPREE
- Steps for solving M3.2
- Time management

Guided Walkthrough Part 1: Identification of documents and preliminary analysis

- Getting an overview of provided documents
- Structuring of first reading of the documents (keywords, objections, effects, ...)
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on a paper to be prepared
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 2: In-depth analysis of the documents

- Defining and understanding the core of the invention
- Identifying arguments for novelty and inventive steps
- Identifying fall-back positions
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 3: Checking and amending the set of claims

- Assessing technical problem
- Respect of EPC requirements
- Scope of protection
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

**Wednesday, 28 October 2026**

#### 09.00 – 13.00: **M3.2 – Methodology and exercises (continued)**

Guided Walkthrough Part 4: Drafting the letter to the EPO

- Amendments
- Clarity
- Novelty
- Inventive step
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

14.00 – 17.00: **M3.3 – Methodology and exercises**

Detailed presentation of paper M3.3 and of basic approach for solving it

- Requirements by IPREE
- Steps for solving M3.3
- Time management

Guided Walkthrough Part 1: Procedural and formal knowledge:

- Procedures concerning third party observations, opposition, appeal: opponent, strawman, representation, timings, ...
- Formal knowledge: Opposition, TPO and Appeal: structures, eg. how to write the introduction/formality part of an opposition, TPO, Appeal.
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on a paper to be prepared
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 2: substantial knowledge:

- Inventive step: problem-solution-approach
- Prior art
- Extended subject matter
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on a paper to be prepared
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

**Thursday, 29 October 2026**

09.00 – 13.00: **M3.3 – Methodology and exercises (continued)**

Guided Walkthrough Part 3: Identification of documents and preliminary analysis

- Getting an overview of provided documents, claims to attack and prior art documents
- Define each subject matter to attack
- Evaluate priority issues
- Evaluate added subject matter issues
- Define usefulness of prior art documents for each subject matter
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on a paper to be prepared
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise
- Analysing prior art documents (keywords, objections, effects, ...)

Guided Walkthrough Part 4: Analysing the prior art document over each subject matter claims

- How to decide which prior art to analyse for which subject matter
- Carry out the analysis of the prior art over the subject matter
- Interpretation of subject matter and interpretation of prior art
- How to deal with difficulties during analysing?
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

14.00 – 17.00: **M3.3 – Methodology and exercises (continued)**

Guided Walkthrough Part 5: Defining attacks

- How many attacks to write per subject matter?
- Strategy to define and write attacks
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 6: Drafting attacks

- How to draft a novelty attack
- How to draft an inventive step attack – problem solution approach: closest prior art, additional motivation, could-would-approach.
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

**BEFORE Monday, 9 November 2026**

Participants write a full CEIPI Mock paper M3 in real time

**Monday, 9 November 2026 (online only)**

14.00 – 17.00: Online session: Correction of the CEIPI Mock paper M3 with a tutor

**Tuesday, 10 November 2026**

14.00 – 16.00: Online session: Correction of the CEIPI Mock paper M3 with a tutor (continued)