

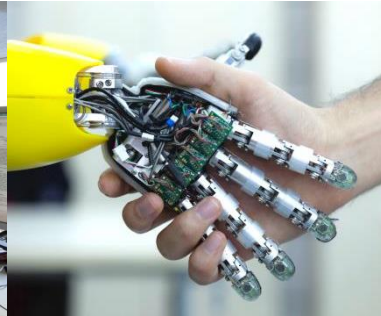


Europäisches
Patentamt

European
Patent Office

Office européen
des brevets

EPO and universities/TTOs: Some facts, figures and a brief look at projects and activities of the European Patent Academy



OVERVIEW

- The EPO
- Some figures
- European Patent Academy: activities and projects relevant for TTOs/Universities

Our mission



As the patent office for Europe, we support innovation, competitiveness and economic growth across Europe through a commitment to high quality and efficient services delivered under the European Patent Convention.

Today ... an area with some 700m inhabitants

38 European member states

Belgium • Germany • France • Luxembourg
Netherlands • Switzerland • United Kingdom
Sweden • Italy • Austria • Liechtenstein • Greece
Spain • Denmark • Monaco • Portugal • Ireland
Finland • Cyprus • Turkey • Bulgaria • Czech Rep.
Estonia • Slovakia • Slovenia • Hungary • Romania
Poland • Iceland • Lithuania • Latvia • Malta
Croatia • Norway • Former Yugoslav Rep.
Macedonia • San Marino • Albania • Serbia

Two European extension states

Bosnia-Herzegovina • Montenegro

Four validation states

Republic of Moldova • Morocco
Tunisia • Cambodia



Our status



- **Second-largest intergovernmental institution** in Europe
- Not an EU institution
- **Self-financing**, i.e. revenue from fees covers operating and capital expenditure

Objectives of the European Patent Academy

(...)

Foster the development and harmonisation of education and training in the field of European and international patent-related intellectual property law and practice in the present and future member states of the European Patent Organisation for the benefit of the European patent system

(...)

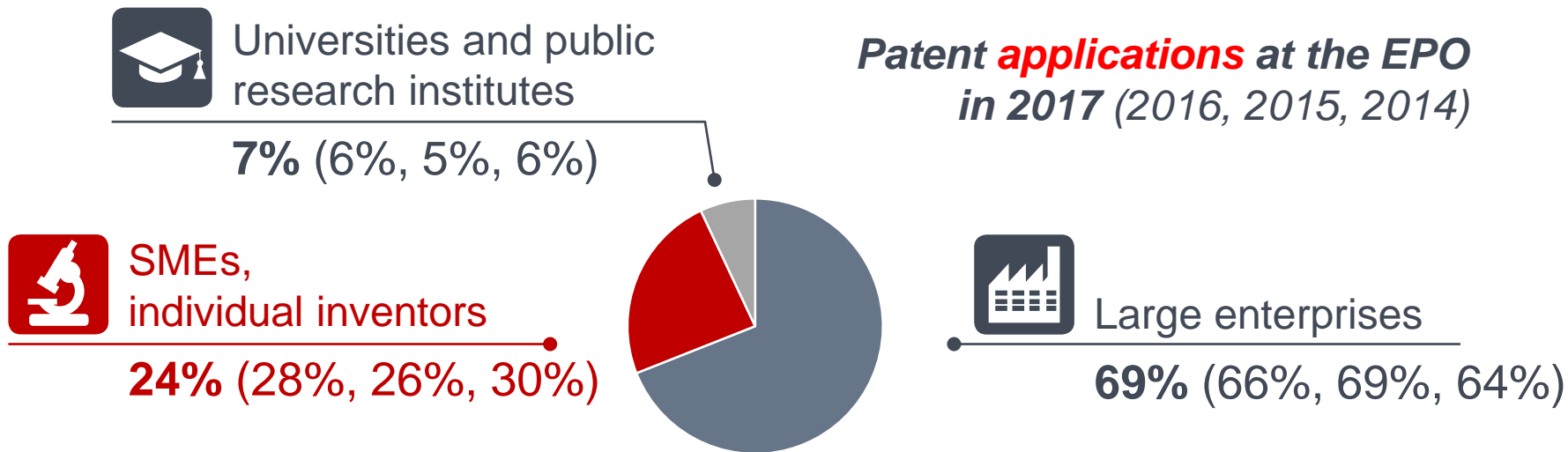
Tasks of the European Patent Academy

(...)

Increase awareness of the European patent system by supporting European patent-related intellectual property lectures at universities and encourage patent-related research activities;

(...)

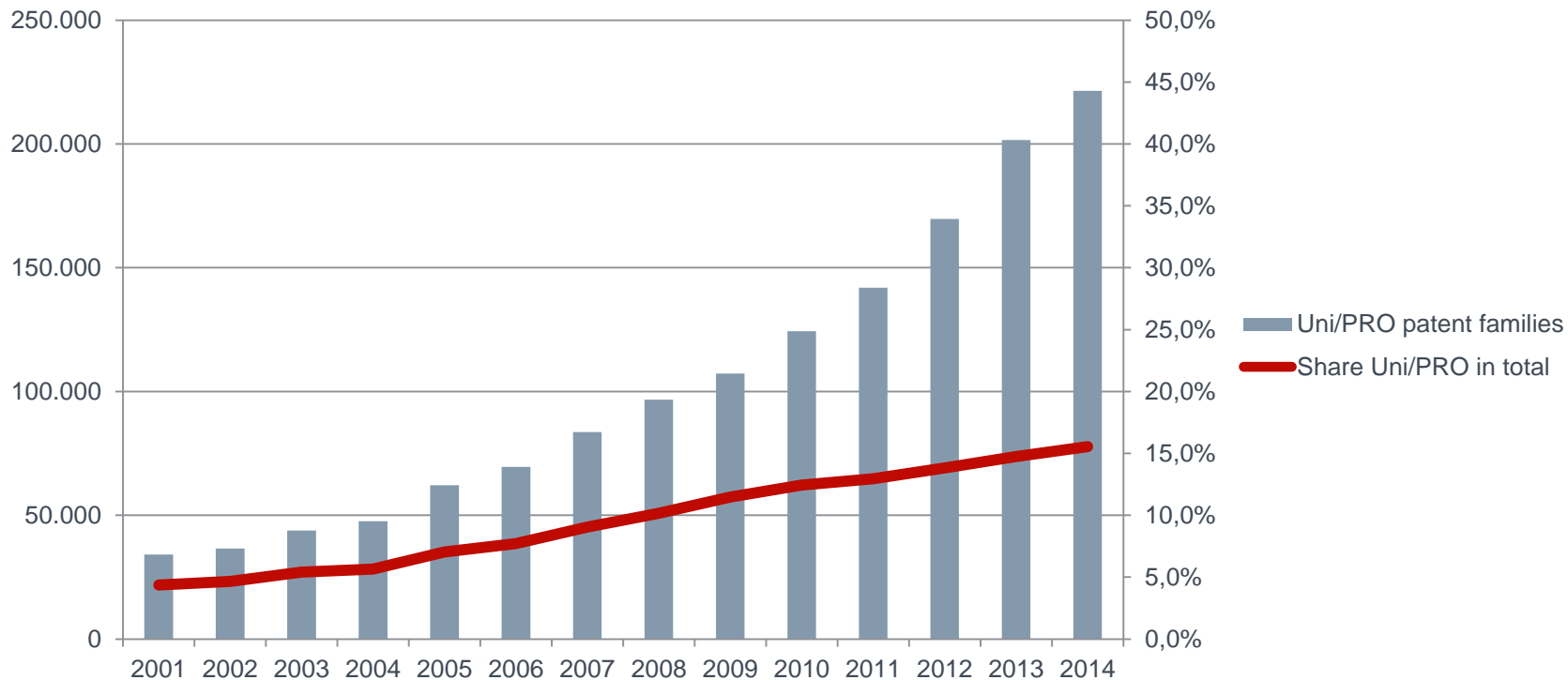
Universities and PROs are important actors for innovation in Europe/1



The evaluation is based on a representative sample of patent applications treated by the EPO in 2016.

It refers to the European Commission definition of SMEs (2003/361/EC). Data available in government and commercial databases as well as on company internet sites are analysed to allocate the applicant to one of the four categories. Depending on the company policy, the cross-ownership criteria can be difficult to evaluate. To ensure that the results remain statistically significant, no analysis per country or industrial sector is provided.

Uni/PRO patent families worldwide are growing



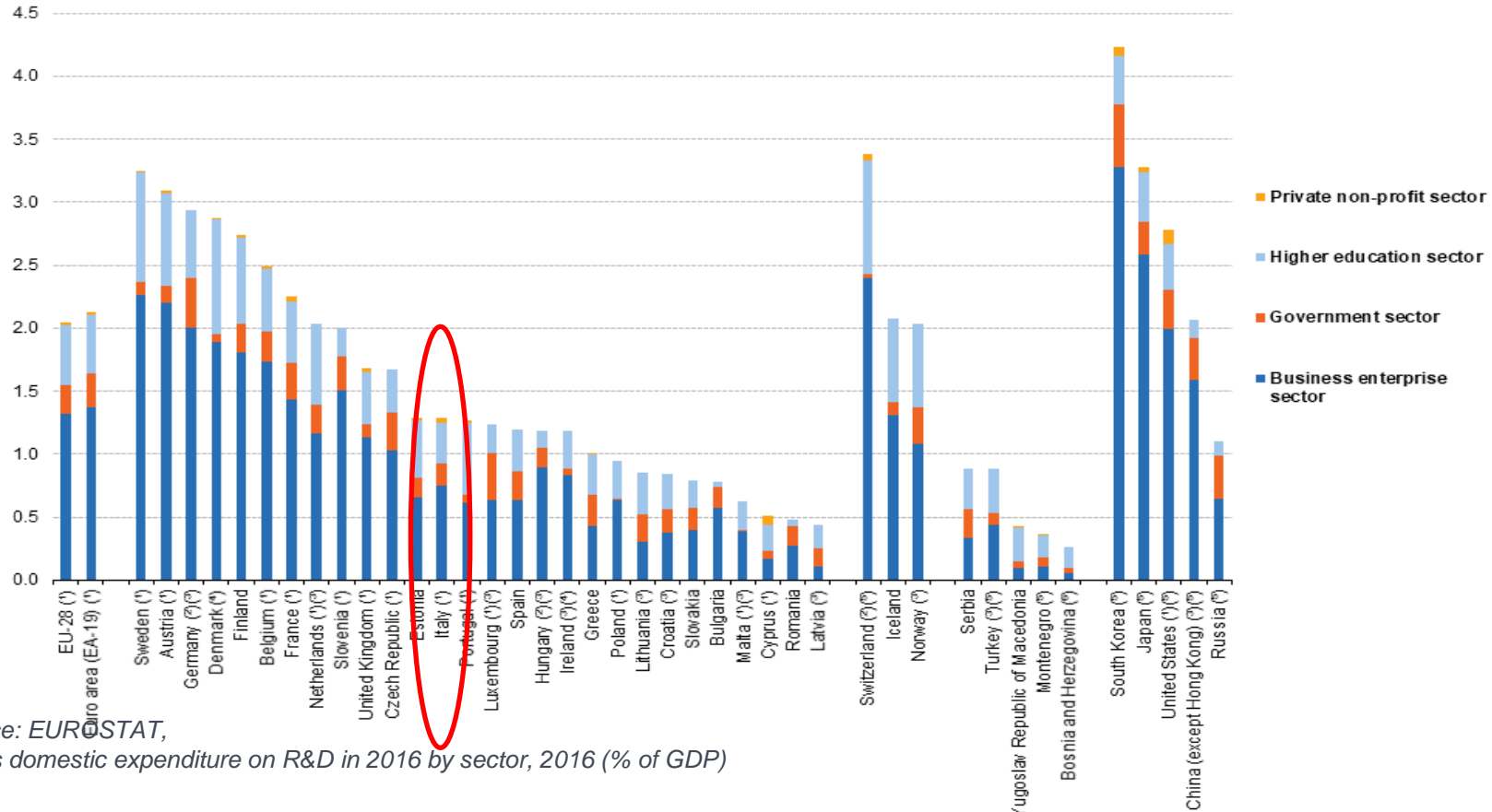
Source: World Intellectual Property Indicators - 2017

QUOTE FROM...

“The average number of priority applications continues to increase, and has gone from 10.6 to 11.7 in one year; **in the recent past we thought this number could not grow**”

...Netval Report 2017

R&D expenditure is diverse



Source: EUROSTAT,
Gross domestic expenditure on R&D in 2016 by sector, 2016 (% of GDP)

“Patents and the university, once operating at each other’s peripheries, have moved into each other’s cores”

(P. Lee, “Patents and the University, Duke Law Journal, 2013, p. 88)

Thoughts on the TTOs role (J. Allen , IPWatchdog, 27/1/2014)

TTO's are actually service centers, that serve the public.

Sales of products based on licensed academic research in 2012 totalled \$80 billion dollars – that's double the entire federal investment in university research.

University patent licensing supported 3 million jobs between 1996-2010 (,,,) University patent licensing seems like a solid national investment.

Universities also created 10,000 companies since Bayh-Dole was enacted. In 2012, there were 705 new academic start-ups launched in an otherwise lackluster economy– up 5% from the previous year.

EPA projects and activities: Overview

■ Activities

- Support to universities, NPOs, TTOs and research institutions
- Training packages on offer
- Major conferences
- EPO Academic Research Programme

■ Products

- IP teaching material
- Awareness material
- e-learning

■ Future projects

Activities – Support to universities, research institutions, TTOs and NPOs

- IP lectures, workshops, conferences
- Training and lecturing on demand
- Individual NPO awareness and training activities
- Pan-European Seal programme
- Associations and networks
 - *providing experts*
 - *IP session or workshops*
 - *financial contribution*

Activities - Training packages on offer

- IPR workshop for researchers: “From research to business”
- IP management workshop based on CMR case studies
- Study visit scheme
- Online IPR course for researchers

Activities – Example: From research to business

- Format: one or two day workshop
- In cooperation with universities, TTOs, Research institutes or NPO
- The European patent system: facts and figures
- Introduction to intellectual property rights + exercises
- Steps towards a granted patent
- Idea? Think patents (respecting timeline is crucial/coverage of patent) + exercises
- Searching for patents: introduction to Espacenet + exercises
- From inventions to successful spin-off: case studies
- Ways of IP exploitation

Activities – Major conferences

- **Creating markets from research results**
 - 2013, 300 participants, 70 experts
- **European Progress Conference: IP exploitation**
 - **Target audience:** universities (Professors/university management dealing with IP or tech transfer), Ministry, NPOs, TTOs and research institutes representatives
 - **Goal:** promote IP education and awareness in universities and better IP exploitation
 - best practice exchange and discussions within 38 MS
 - **Date and Location 2018: 18-19 October in Athens**

Activities - EPO Research programme

- Financial support to high quality research projects (100.000€)
- Encourages more academic research on the role of patents in the European economy
- Yearly selection of new projects
- Selection process involves review process by external academic scholars
- Open to scholars from various disciplines: economics, law, management, and data sciences
- Launched: 1 March 2017

Products – IP teaching material



- **IP Teaching kit**
 - IP Basics
 - IP Advanced Part I
 - IP Advanced Part II
 - IP Search tools
 - IP Management
- **Course Design Manual**
- **CMR case studies**

Products – IP teaching kit

- Cooperation EPO/EUIPO
- May be used with the IP Course Design Manual
- Exercises/case studies
- For university teachers and other lecturers
- Only available online:

<http://www.epo.org/learning-events/materials/kit.html>

Products – Course Design Manual

- For planning and design university courses
- Useful reference for presenters of IP Basics and Advanced
 - suggestions for further reading
 - references to legal texts

Products – CMR Case Studies

- Academic analysis of 8 different cases of IP exploitation in industry and academia
- University of Berkeley and its California Management Review in co-operation with the EPO
- Published Summer 2013



Products – Awareness material



- **Brochure: Research? Think patents**
 - a summary of why IP matters to researchers
 - targeting mainly researchers

Research? Think patents



Products – e-learning offer

- Obtaining a patent
- Guide for Applicants
- Patent documentation
- Patent information search tools
- Benefits of availability of technical information
- Patents in business
- Commercialisation
- Legal aspects: e.g. Litigation

Products - e-learning offer for researchers

- **Online IPR course** to offer to researchers in cooperation with EPO in three sessions: “From research to business possible”
- **A four-hours self-paced training course:**
 - “Think patents: the value of patent documentation for innovation and research”
 - Includes three case studies from research results: use patents!
- **e-learning centre at the EPO: <https://e-courses.epo.org>**

Future projects

Consolidating an EPO university/TTO network

- Work plans: With whom?
 - i. Active universities participating in PanSeal programme
 - ii. Existing cooperation with European Patent Academy
 - iii. Established European, national, regional networks

Future projects

- **Promoting the possible creation of IP excellence hubs in universities within the 38 member states**
 - full support to implement an IP roadmap including activities to
 - i. raise IP awareness,*
 - ii. promote IP education*
 - iii. support IP exploitation*
 - iv. support of TTO needed*
 - national multiplier for other universities
 - supporting the creation of European IP excellence hubs network

Future projects

- **Developing successful technology transfer cases studies**
 - *illustrating IP strategy*
 - *explaining role of TTO*
 - *training material*
- **Publication of a European guide on commercialising research results** in cooperation with TTOs and EC if possible

Future projects

- **How?**

- On-site workshops?
- On-site IP courses?
- On-line dedicated workshops?
- Dedicated study visits?
- Dedicated support (IP masters, summer schools...)?
- Scholarships?
- ...



Thank you!

The presentation is largely based on material prepared together with Giovanna Oddo, Programme Area Manager “Academia”

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Many thanks also to my colleague Ilija Rudyk,
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