

Went in to effect: 1 April 2023

 3 geographical zones

The **EPO zone**

39

Member States of the European Patent Convention (as of 1 October 2022)

The **EU zone**

27

Member States of EU

The **UP/UPC zone**

24

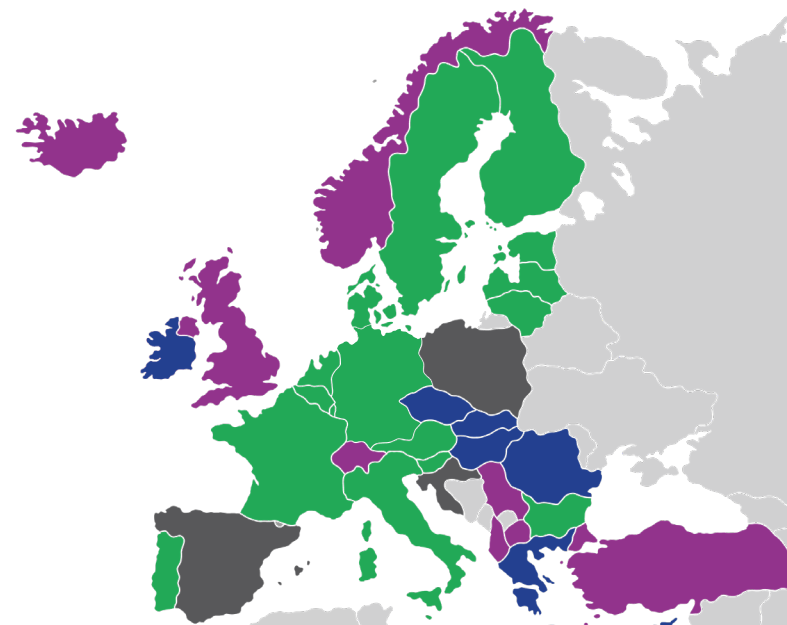
- The UP/UPC applies only in Member States of EU that have signed and ratified the UPCA.
- All Member States of EU have signed the UPCA except Spain, Poland and Croatia.

• Of the 24 Member State signatories to the UPCA:

- 17 have already ratified/deposited the ratification instrument for the UPCA (including France, Italy, the Netherlands, etc.).
- The UP/UPC went into force in the seven other Member States from the date they have ratified/deposited the ratification instrument for the UPCA.

Key: EPO: European Patent Office | UP: Unitary Patent | UPC: Unified Patent Court | UPCA: Unified Patent Court Agreement

Countries	39 EPO countries	27 EU countries	24 UP/UPC countries	
			Signed the UPCA	Deposited the ratification instrument
Austria	X	X	X	X
Belgium	X	X	X	X
Bulgaria	X	X	X	X
Denmark	X	X	X	X
Estonia	X	X	X	X
Finland	X	X	X	X
France	X	X	X	X
Italy	X	X	X	X
Latvia	X	X	X	X
Lithuania	X	X	X	X
Luxembourg	X	X	X	X
Malta	X	X	X	X
Netherlands	X	X	X	X
Portugal	X	X	X	X
Slovenia	X	X	X	X
Sweden	X	X	X	X
Germany	X	X	X	X
Cyprus	X	X	X	
Czech Republic	X	X	X	
Greece	X	X	X	
Hungary	X	X	X	
Ireland	X	X	X	
Romania	X	X	X	
Slovakia	X	X	X	
Croatia	X	X		
Poland	X	X		
Spain	X	X		
Albania	X			
Switzerland	X			
United Kingdom	X			
Iceland	X			
Liechtenstein	X			
Monaco	X			
North Macedonia	X			
Norway	X			
Serbia	X			
San Marino	X			
Turkey	X			
Montenegro	X			



- Member States of EU which have signed the UPCA but have not yet ratified/deposited the ratification instrument: **they will participate as soon as they ratify/deposit.**
- Member States of EU which **participate.**
- Member States of EU which have not signed the UPCA (Spain, Poland, Croatia): **they don't participate.**
- EPC non-Member States of EU (e.g., the UK, Turkey, Switzerland): **they cannot participate.**

Want to know more?



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