

Report of the Professional Education Committee (PEC)

P. Rambelli (IT), Chair

Summary of educational activities in 2014

Annex 1 summarises statistical data on participation to the 2014 **epi** and **epi**/EPO training events, splitted according to the education targets, namely:

- training of the EQE candidates:
 - summer and autumn tutorial
 - Mock EQE;
- Training of **epi** members:
 - specific CPE and basic seminars
 - CPE webinars recording.

In total, about 681 **epi** members and 149 **epi** students benefited from our training events. The number (123) of non-**epi** members and non-**epi** students who participated in our events relatively high. This is mainly due registrations for the webinar/recording series and specific seminars in Turkey and Spain, where a number of attendees appears were EQE candidates who are not **epi** students.

Looking at the data for the seminars, it appears that a relatively high number of EQE candidates or potential EQE candidates do not register as **epi** students, particularly in countries where the EQE pass rate is low. This confirms that there is still a high need and demand for training in such countries.

UP and UPC education

We released two video presentations, “**epi** video update on the Unitary Patent” and “**epi** video update on the Unified Patent Court”, in the middle of November 2014. The Working Group UP/UPC education, set up by PEC, EPPC and LitCom, organised and supervised the presentations.

These presentations are available free of charge in the **epi** members section of the **epi** website. They complement the information in the EPO webinars on the same subject, available free of charge on the EPO website.

Education activities under the EPO/epi MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) and related working plan, in 2015

The MoU and relating working plan has not yet been signed for administrative reasons. However, the agreed 2015 activities are proceeding as planned.

Opposition and Appeal seminars

About 350 persons have already registered for the Opposition and Appeal seminars, organised by **epi** with the EPO support.

The seminars will be held in London, Munich, Stockholm and Helsinki, from 24 February to 19 May 2015.

GL2DAY and Art. 123 (2) EPC seminar roadshow

On 27 January 2015 EP Academy representatives, PEC representatives and EPO/**epi** appointed speakers attended a kick-off meeting in Munich. The meeting defined the agenda for the seminars. The speakers are developing their relevant presentations for the first seminar, in The Hague on 15 April 2015.

Examination matters workshop

The workshop, organised by the EPO with **epi** support, will be held on 16 and 17 April 2015. It is already fully booked.

In view of the overwhelming demand, the EPO is considering repeating it in 2015.

epi cooperation with CEIPI

On 27 January 2015, **epi** and CEIPI held a meeting at CEIPI in Strasbourg. The President, the Vice-president Mihaela Teodorescu, the Treasurer and the PEC Chair attended on behalf of **epi**. Prof Christophe Geiger and Mr. Thierry Debled attended on behalf of CEIPI.

The purpose of the meeting was to review current joint activities, to confirm the need for an agreement, defining respective roles and duties, and to explore the possibility of further co-operation.

At present **epi** and CEIPI co-operate on the Litigation Course, which is expected to lead to the establishment of the litigation certificate, and the **epi**/CEIPI basic training course, which has been running since 1986.

The parties agreed they wished to continue these courses, and that an agreement (a bilateral MoU) is necessary for that end. The parties also agreed on the need for a revision of the organisational and to financial responsibilities. **epi** and CEIPI will continue to work on this in 2015.

Statistical data on participation to recent **epi** training events

Training for EQE candidates

Training	No. of Candidates	No. of Papers	Involved epi Tutors
Summer tutorial	14	47	11
Autumn tutorial	41	123	38
Mock EQE in Stockholm and Helsinki	14	23	4
	69	193	53

Training for **epi** member and interested public

Seminars

Country	City	Date	Topic	Total no. part.	epi member	epi students	other
GB	London	11.02.2014	Opposition & Appeals	72	62	10	–
RO	Bucharest	3./4.03.2014	Prosecution	21	7	6	8
NO	Oslo	10.04.2014	Mock Oral Proceedings	37	28	–	9
TR	Istanbul	12./13.05.2014	Pre-drafting + Drafting	53	–	26	27
NO	Oslo	17.06.2014	Opposition & Appeals	22	15	1	6
ES	Barcelona	09.09.2014	Opposition & Appeals	59	29	1	29
NL	Eindhoven	21.11.2014	Opposition & Appeals	163	148	8	7
RO	Bucharest	21.11.2014	Opposition	8	3	3	2
				435	282	55	88

Webinar/Recording

Topic	Total no. part.	epi member	epi students	other
Guidelines2DAY – Virtual classroom	198	189	9	–
Guidelines2DAY – Recorded session	251	200	16	35
	449	389	25	35