



Institut der beim Europäischen Patentamt zugelassenen Vertreter  
Institute of Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office  
Institut des mandataires agréés près l'Office européen des brevets

**Ausschuss für Europäische Patentpraxis**  
**European Patent Practice Committee**  
**Commission pour la Pratique du Brevet Européen**

02 March 2021

## **Minutes of EPPC Mechanics & Mechatronics Group Virtual Meeting (Zoom), 2 March 2021**

The e-meeting started at 15:00 CET and ended at 16:20. The e-meeting at the side of the epi secretariat was organized and supported by Ms Susanne Ullmann and Ms Sadia Liebig, to whom we thank you very much.

In the e-meeting participated the following members of the group:

the Full Members (9 of 10)

Ms Eva Carlsson (DK)\_ the Chair  
Mr Roman Bucek (CZ)  
Ms Raluca Vasilescu (RO) *absent*  
Ms Elizabetta Papa (IT)  
Mr Paul Dunn (GB)  
Ms Katarzyna Lewicka (PL)\_ secretary  
Ms Martina Stork (DE)  
Mr Pekka Heino (FI)  
Mr Arndt Dürr (DE)  
Mr Marcus Coolen (NL)

the Associate Members (7 of 9)

Ms Annette Hegner (DK) *absent*  
Mr Michael Hartig (DE)  
Mr Julien Thon (FR) *absent*  
Mr Pedro Saturio Carrasco (ES)  
Mr Josef Mikota (AT)  
Mr Manuel Soria Parra (DE)  
Mr Anthony Berton (FR)  
Mr Ewan Van Minnebruggen (BE)  
Ms Veronique Kremer (DE)

Ms Eva Carlsson, the Chair of the Group, welcomed all participants and especially associate members who are particularly warmly welcome in the Group as though the number of full members is limited to 10 but every person eager to contribute to the work of the Group is valuable.

Ms Eva Carlsson asked for adoption of the agenda and for approval to record the meeting for the purposes of preparing the minutes. Participants were informed that the recording will be cancelled after the minutes are approved by the participants. The agenda was adopted and the recording was approved.

Ms Eva Carlsson informed about organization and goals of the Group, thanked all today presenters and speakers for their contribution to the e-meeting, and invited all participants to introduce herself/himself to the remaining ones.

In the part of the agenda devoted to presentations of the topics taken under discussion during Technical meeting epi – DG1 on 12 February 2021, all eleven topics from the agenda were reported shortly albeit comprehensively. Emphasis was put on interesting or crucial information delivered by DG1 directors as well as on these observations and conclusions inferred by the epi participants, which are vital for the practice of the representative before the EPO.



At topic 4.11. presented by Ms Martina Stork, Mr Manuel Soria Parra (DE) confirmed the topic as the essential one and stressed that as such shall be constantly raised before the EPO to guarantee improvement in this respect. The preliminary opinion can have a very high impact, e.g. in parallel infringement proceedings. Therefore, the quality of the preliminary opinion is very important. The member of the opposition divisions should be (made) aware of the impact.

Ms Martina Stork asked whether the Group received any feedback from PEC (Professional Education Committee) after delivery the list of topics proposed for epi webinars. Ms Eva Carlsson informed that the list was passed along to PEC and EPPC Chair, and acknowledged with thanks.

Mr Michael Hartig (DE) asked whether there is any follow up to the questions and issues raised by epi participants and discussed during the meeting with DG1. Ms Eva Carlsson informed that the minutes of the epi – DG1 meeting are still under preparation and as in the usual course of actions all open issues will be watched by the chairs of all sub-committees or thematic groups of EPPC (European Patent Practice Committee), and supervised by Mr Chris Mercer, the Chair of EPPC.

Ms Katarzyna Lewicka added that in any time each member of the Group may pose her/his questions or topics which appear as essential or worth discussing within the Group or within EPPC and then in front of the EPO directors. She requested to send her such questions or topics via email or via Thread of M&M Group in the Forum at the epi web site. The same concerns any proposals of topics for epi webinars. All proposals will be gathered and then transferred to the Chair of the Group and the Chair of EPPC and to PEC, respectively. She also encouraged to use the Thread of M&M Group as the useful means for communication with the Group, and every member to subscribe to the Thread of M&M Group.

Link to the main Thread of M&M Group in the epi Forum is <https://patentepi.org/en/epi/forum/84> (after an individual log into).

Ms Eva Carlsson thanked for participation and contribution to the meeting and closed it.