AGENDA

EU4Digital ICT Innovation fourth networking event:
«Strengthening the capacity of national patent offices, IPR consultants and other innovation ecosystem actors to provide IPR-related services for start-ups and SMEs in EaP region»

2 March 2021 – Tuesday		
Time (CET)	**Topic**	**Participants / Speakers**
8:15 - 8:30	*Time for connection – the session will start at 8:30 sharp*	*EU4Digital Facility ICT Innovation Team*
Introduction and Keynote speech		
8:30 - 8:45	Opening notes. Networking event – goals and objectives. Brief introduction of participants.	*EU4Digital Facility ICT Innovation Team*
8:45 – 9:00	Keynote speech, the European Commission (DG GROW)	*Wawrzyniec Perschke, Policy Officer at European Commission – DG GROW*
Session 1 – Trainings and capacity building for NPOs, universities and research centres, SMEs and other ecosystem actors		
9:00 – 9:15	European IP Office (EUIPO), *TBC*	*TBC*
9:15 - 9:30	Q&A	*All participants*
9:30 – 10:00	European IP Helpdesk value proposition and sharing of experience of European IP Helpdesk Ambassadors	• *Claire Fritz, Senior Project Manager at European IP Helpdesk* • *Dr. Alexander Uspenskiy, Director at Republican Centre for Technology Transfer (Belarus), IP Ambassador for Belarus* • *Vadim Iatchevici, Head of Innovative Projects Directorate at National Agency for Research and Development (Moldova), IP Ambassador for the Republic of Moldova*
10:00 - 10:15	Q&A	*All participants*
10:15 – 10:20	*Short break – Session 2 will start at 10:20 sharp*	*EU4Digital Facility ICT Innovation Team*
Session 2 – Special training session for R&D organisations, SMEs and business support organisations		
10:20 – 11:05	European IP Helpdesk: Webinar on IP management protection and exploitation in the ICT sector	*Dr. Eugene Sweeney, Expert in Practical Innovation and IP Management at European IP Helpdesk*
11:05 - 11:20	Q&A	*All participants*
11:20 - 11:30	Wrap up and closure of event	*EU4Digital Facility ICT Innovation Team*

EU4Digital ICT Innovation networking event
CONCEPT OUTLINE

When and where: 2 March 2021, 8:30 - 11:30 (CET), online.

Concept: The EU4Digital Initiative will hold ICT Innovation networking event remotely in form of virtual session. The concept of the event is provided in this document.

Language: The event will be held in English.

Topic: Strengthening the capacity of national patent offices, IPR consultants and other innovation ecosystem actors to provide IPR-related services for start-ups and SMEs in EaP region.

Goals:
1. Provide better knowledge on tools and possibilities offered by European IP Office (EUIPO) including those that can be made available to the EaP region, including:
   a. Innovative tools and services for EUIPO customers (members) using next-generation technologies, including blockchain and artificial intelligence (e.g. IP Innovation databases);
   b. Professional traineeship programme for IP professionals (Pan-European Seal) and trainings delivered via EUIPO Academy for SMEs;
   c. Projects organised to support SMEs (e.g. Ideas Powered for Business SME Fund);
2. Promote among the EaP participants tools and services of European IP Helpdesk supporting SMEs on IPR protection and management issues (Helpline, Signposting Directory, Online Library, Training & Events).
3. Promote the European IP Helpdesk Ambassadors (available in Belarus and the Republic of Moldova).
4. Discuss the opportunities of capacity building of national patent offices (NPO), technology transfer centres and other innovation ecosystem actors in EaP countries to provide services for start-ups and SMEs on IPR-related issues.

Target audience in EaP countries:
- Ministerial level representatives and agencies coordinating the development of innovation ecosystem;
- National patent offices;
- Business incubators, accelerators, other innovation support and consultancy organisations;
- Technology transfer offices, including those at universities and R&D organisations.

Number of participants: around 40 – 60.

Key EU participants:

- The European Commission (DG GROW);
- European IP Office (EUIPO);
- European IP Helpdesk.

Potential cooperation areas:

- Registration of additional EaP organisations to the European IP Helpdesk's Signposting Directory database that is providing access to key institutions and services active in the fields of intellectual property, research and/or business support[1];
- Collaboration on capacity building of NPOs, IPR consultancy organisations, technology transfer centres and other innovation ecosystem actors in EaP countries to provide services for start-ups and SMEs on IPR-related issues.
- Elaboration of joint projects/programmes with European IP Office enabling the EaP stakeholders to access the selected EUIPO tools and possibilities (e.g. via international cooperation framework, the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), similar to EUGIPP project for Georgia).

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[1] The database is open to COSME countries (Armenia, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine). Currently the database includes only a organisation from the Republic of Moldova - National Agency for Research and Development.