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1. Italy formally joins countries behind unitary patent regime

ITALY JOINS UNITARY PATENT REGIME

The European Commission confirmed the move in a statement on Wednesday.

"Today, Italy has joined the unitary patent and become the 26th member of the enhanced cooperation on the unitary patent protection," the Commission said. "This is a major breakthrough as Italy is the fourth biggest market in Europe in terms of patent validation."

The enhanced co-operation mechanism is a legal tool under the Lisbon Treaty that permits nine or more EU countries to use the EU's processes and structures to make agreements that bind only those countries. [Read more](#)

2. Argentina proposes a 100-Year-Plus copyright extension on photography

100-YEAR-PLUS COPYRIGHT TERM PROPOSED FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

A new front has opened in publishers' global war on the public domain. Lawmakers of Argentina's ruling party are proposing a vast extension of copyright terms on photography—from 20 years after publication to 70 years after the photographer's death. That means that the term of restriction of photographic works would be extended by an average 120 years.

The law would extend copyrights on works retroactively, so a lifetime of photos that are already in the public domain would be e-captured by copyright. That would bring about a huge amount of legal uncertainty over works that have already been shared, remixed, sold, and modified in innumerable ways. [Read more](#)

3. India, US take stock of work on IP; to boost copyright, trade secrets

US AND INDIAN TRADE MINISTERS REVIEW IP ISSUES

The trade ministers of the United States and India yesterday reviewed work from the past year on a full range of intellectual property issues and made new commitments, as part of their larger bilateral trade policy forum. Among the issues was a commitment to work for access to medicines, increase work on trade secrets, and deepen copyright cooperation in acknowledgement of the two biggest entertainment industries in the world.

The 9th ministerial-level India-US Trade Policy Forum took place in Washington, DC on 29 October. [Read more](#)

4. Thomson Reuters CompuMark announces fastest ever turn-around times with new online trademark clearance technology.

NEW ONLINE TRADEMARK CLEARANCE TECHNOLOGY

BOSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The process of clearing new brands for registration as trademarks is set to be revolutionized across the globe with the launch of an online trademark clearance solution from Thomson Reuters CompuMark, the world leading experts in trademark research and brand protection solutions.

Trademark Clearance is an easy-to-use online tool that enables trademark professionals to meet the demands of the digital economy for speed, quality and collaboration, delivering search results within minutes. [Read more](#)

5. Government to unveil IPR policy in 2 months: Amitabh Kant

**NEW
IPR POLICY
TO BE UNVEILED IN
NEXT 2 MONTHS**

NEW DELHI: Government will come out with a national Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policy in the next couple of months, which will be one of the "finest" in the world, DIPP Secretary Amitabh Kant said today.

"India in the next two months will be coming out with a completely new and one of the finest IPR policies in the world," Kant said at an Indo-German Business Roundtable here.

He was responding to a comment by a German company's representative that India's intellectual property rights (IPR) regime "hampers growth" of their firms in the country. [Read more](#)

6. New IPOS appointments clear path for access to international patent systems

**IPOS
APPOINTED AS
COMPETENT
ISA AND IPEA**

SINGAPORE: In a move that could make the process of searching and applying for patents easier and possibly cheaper for innovators in the Republic, the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) has been appointed as a competent International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA).

The appointments took place on the sidelines of the 55th World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland. In a media release on Friday (Oct 9), IPOS said the appointment would benefit enterprises and innovators, as they could see a rebate of up to 75 per cent on Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) filing fees when making a PCT application through IPOS. [Read More](#)

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7. Geographical Indication granted for Kashmir carpets

SRINAGAR, Oct 3: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) today said the 'Geographical Indication' (GI) for Kashmir carpets has been granted by concerned authorities after 'vigorous efforts'.

**KASHMIR CARPETS
SECURE
GI TAG**

"In 2013, the KCCI created a society under the name and style 'Meeras' in order to be able to seek Geographical Indication (GI) registration for carpets manufactured in the State so as to establish its status and ensure its acceptance in the domestic and international market as a genuine quality Kashmir handmade product made of purest of the materials," KCCI said in a statement issued here. [Read more](#)

8. Govt proposes patent rule changes to boost ease of doing business

The government on Thursday proposed amendments to the rules under the Patents Act to streamline the application process, as part of its efforts to improve the ease of doing business in India. The rules also seek to encourage the manufacturing sector by offering expeditious processing of patent applications in cases where an investor has committed to use that innovation for its manufacturing activity in India.

**ROBUST
IPR REGIME
IS ONE OF THE
PRIORITIES OF PM
NARENDRA MODI**

Having a robust intellectual property rights (IPR) regime is one of the priorities of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who recently agreed with his US counterpart Barack Obama to conduct annual technical dialogue between the nations in this area and take steps that would foster innovation and job creation. [Read more](#)