

PRESS RELEASE March 2025

# EUIPO and UANIPIO Welcome Participation of Three Ukrainian Universities in Pan-European Seal Programme

The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with three leading Ukrainian universities, officially integrating them into the Pan-European Seal (PES) programme. This joint milestone was possible thanks to support from the Ukrainian National Office for Intellectual Property and Innovations (UANIPIO), which actively promotes international opportunities for Ukrainian students and professionals, ensuring that future intellectual property (IP) experts benefit from EU and global best practices and advanced training.

This initiative strengthens IP education and career opportunities for Ukrainian students and recent graduates through cooperation between the EUIPO and the participating universities. The PES programme is an EUIPO-led initiative that connects universities with professional IP training and career pathways at the EUIPO, fostering a new generation of IP experts across Europe and beyond.

By joining the PES programme, which has been running for 11 years, the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, National Technical University of Ukraine 'Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute' and Ukrainian Catholic University are now part of the Network of IP Academies. This is a network of over 160 universities across Europe and beyond that work with the EUIPO to promote IP excellence and professional development.

One of the main pillars of the PES programme is a one-year paid traineeship that provides recent graduates from partner universities with an opportunity to work at the EUIPO in Alicante, Spain, across different departments of the EUIPO, depending on their educational background. All trainees receive structured training in different areas to be fully integrated into the EUIPO and gain first-hand experience in the global IP system.

From now on, graduate students from these Ukrainian universities will have the opportunity to enhance their professional skills while contributing to Ukraine's IP landscape as the country continues to align its IP framework with EU standards.

'We are pleased to welcome these prestigious Ukrainian universities to the Pan-European Seal programme. This initiative exemplifies our commitment to enhancing access to IP education and fostering innovation across Europe. This collaboration not only provides valuable opportunities for Ukrainian students, but also strengthens the inclusivity and sustainability of the European IP landscape, in line with EUIPO's Strategic Plan 2030 objectives,' said João Negrão, Executive Director of the EUIPO.

'Expanding international educational opportunities for Ukrainian students and young professionals is one of the UANIPIO's strategic priorities. The integration of Ukrainian universities in the Pan-European Seal programme grants them access to the best European practices in









intellectual property, fostering the development of a new generation of highly skilled specialists. We are grateful to the EUIPO for supporting Ukrainian talent and confident that this collaboration will be an important step toward Ukraine's integration into the European intellectual property space', emphasised Olena Orliuk, Director of the UANIPIO.

"International cooperation and implementation of joint projects is an important area of modern intellectual property education development. The University's joining to the Pan-European Seal Program is a unique opportunity for our students to gain invaluable international experience in the protection of intellectual property. Participation in this program creates opportunities for professional development, allows us to adopt the best European practices and promotes Ukraine's integration into the global innovation community. We express our sincere gratitude to EUIPO and UANIPIO for the opportunity to join the Pan-European Seal Program and are proud that our students will be able to undertake an internship at EUIPO and apply their knowledge in practice, strengthening the intellectual potential of the country", - noted Anatolii Kodynets, Head of Intellectual Property and Information Law Department, Doctor of Law, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv.

"For us, as a leading technical university of the country, which generates a significant number of innovative developments, the issue of intellectual property rights obtaining and their further commercialization is of great importance. Therefore, cooperation with EUIPO is an important step towards both our integration into the European Community and the adoption of the best European practices in developing our innovation ecosystem", - emphasized Anatolii Melnychenko, Rector of the National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute".

"The start of the cooperation between the Ukrainian Catholic University and EUIPO in the framework of the Pan-European Seal program opens up opportunities for our graduates to access international internships, dialogue platforms, and educational materials. These opportunities will contribute to the formation of the lawyers generation who are focused on respect and deeper understanding of intellectual property institutes based on the best European practices. We express our deep gratitude to EUIPO for the support and sincere aspirations for fruitful cooperation within this project", - noted Khrystyna Tarasenko, Senior Lecturer at the UCU School of Law, Doctor of Philosophy in Law.

The EUIPO, which has managed the PES programme together with the European Patent Office for over a decade, plays a pivotal role in promoting IP awareness and education among students, universities and trainees, while fostering a deeper understanding of the IP system among the next generation of professionals. Through its diverse academic initiatives, the Academy facilitates knowledge-sharing, skills development and capacity-building among students, universities and trainees.

This collaboration underscores the shared commitment of the EUIPO and UANIPIO to developing a strong IP culture in the EU and Ukraine, supporting the next generation of IP professionals.

For more information on the PES programme, visit: https://euipo.europa.eu/knowledge/course/view.php?id=1851









## ABOUT THE EUIPO

The <u>European Union Intellectual Property Office</u> (EUIPO) is one of the largest decentralised agencies of the European Union, based in Alicante, Spain. The EUIPO manages the registration of EU trade marks since 1994 and designs since 2003, both of which are IP rights that cover the 27 EU Member States. The agency added another IP right – craft and industrial geographical indications – to its portfolio in 2023. It also carries out cooperation activities at the EU and international level to create a level playing field in the world of IP, and hosts the <u>European</u> <u>Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights</u>. In 2024, it was ranked as the <u>most innovative IP office</u> in the world for the fifth time.

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# ABOUT THE UANIPIO

In 2022, Ukraine completed the institutional reform of the IP sphere and the implementation of the relevant legislation. The result of the reform was the establishment of the Ukrainian National Office for Intellectual Property and Innovations (UANIPIO). The UANIPIO functions as client-oriented state services, grounded on the principles of transparency, professionalism, decency and support. It serves as a system for registering and protecting IP rights and innovations, supporting the innovation and creative sectors, which, in turn, act as an investment magnet. Several key projects function within the UANIPIO, including the National IP & Innovations Hub, TISC, the Mediation Center, the National IP Training Center, the IPR Infringement Monitoring Center and a number of collegial bodies, such as the Appeal Chamber, the Attestation Commission, which examines candidates for patent attorneys, and the Commission for Granting Permission to Use National Symbols in Trademarks.

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