

CarIPI

CARIFORUM Intellectual Property
Rights and Innovation

Regional IP Systems

EUIPO's example



Funded by
the European Union

- **THE EUIPO** is the **EU agency** offering intellectual property rights (**IPRs**) protection to businesses and innovators across the EU and beyond
- Based in Alicante, Spain, since 1994, our core business is registration of **EU trade marks** and **EU designs**. **Since 2025, also craft GIs**
- EUIPO also manages the **EU Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights**, fosters international **cooperation**, and supports **EU SMEs**
- Ranked the **most innovative IP office in the world** in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2024 and 2026 by World Trademark Review.
- **Mr. João Negrão**, Executive Director since October 2023



- The EUIPO is a **financially autonomous EU** agency
- Budget: : + **480 million euros** revenue most of it from IPRs registrations
- **Employees:** +1150 internal staff +40 SNE + 100 trainees
- Around **196,886 EU trade marks** and **130,849 EU designs** registered **annually** at the EUIPO, in a market of over **450 million consumers**.



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EU TRADE MARKS

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EU DESIGNS

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EU

TRADE

MARKS

3

OPTIONS

EU Trademark via **EUIPO**

International Registration via
WIPO (Madrid System)

National Trademark Filings



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Option 1 - EUIPO (Direct EU Application)

One application covers all 27 EU countries

Managed by the EUIPO (in Spain)

Cost-effective and efficient for broad EU coverage

Unitary System. Single fee.

10 years of protection. Renewals



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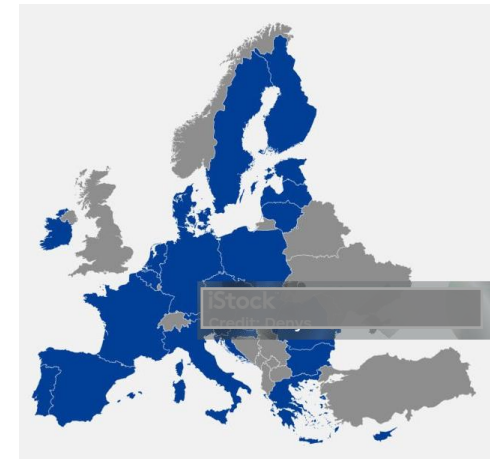
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Option 2 - WIPO Madrid System

File **through WIPO** using your trademark as the **base**

Choose to protect in a) the **EU** or b) specific **countries**

Good for **multi-country/global protection**



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Option 3 - National Trademark Filings

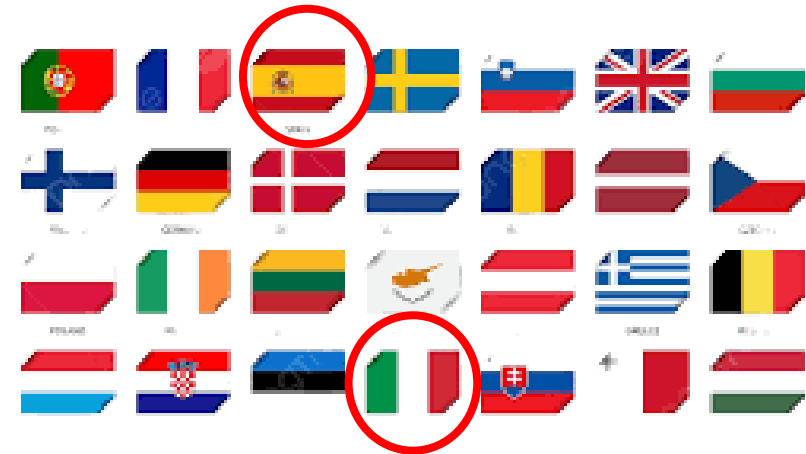
File **separately** in **each country** (e.g. Germany, France, Spain)

Targeted protection

Each registration is independent

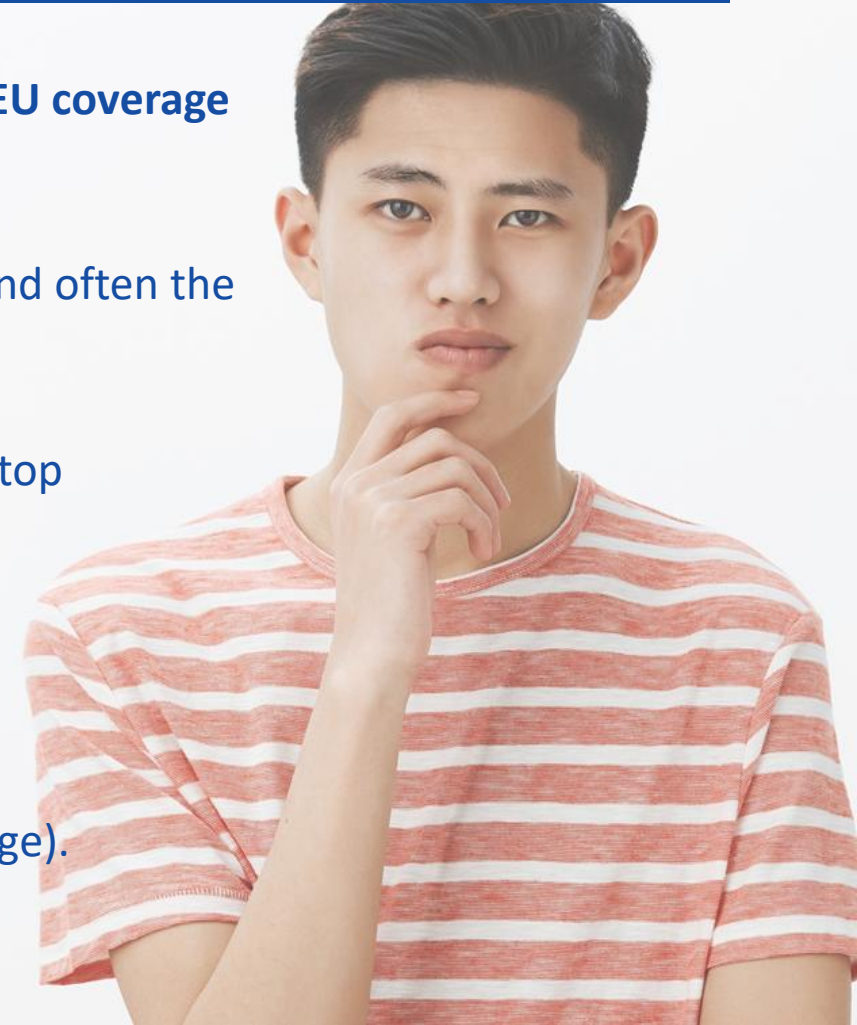
Local language, procedures, and costs apply

National IP Offices



Directly to **EUIPO** So, which route suits me better?

- **Broad Protection:** If you need protection in **several EU countries** or want **EU coverage as a whole**.
- **Cost-Effective (multi-country):** It is the **simplest** for broad protection and often the **cheapest** (beyond 2–3 countries).
- **Enforcement:** An EU trademark gives **rights in all member states**; you can stop infringers across the EU with one action
- **Cost:** Approx. **€850 official fee** for one class (electronic filing). This includes the entire EU. (Add **€50 for 2nd class**, **€150 per class 2**).
- **Procedure:** File online in **English** (or any EU language, with a second language). EUIPO examines and publishes the application.



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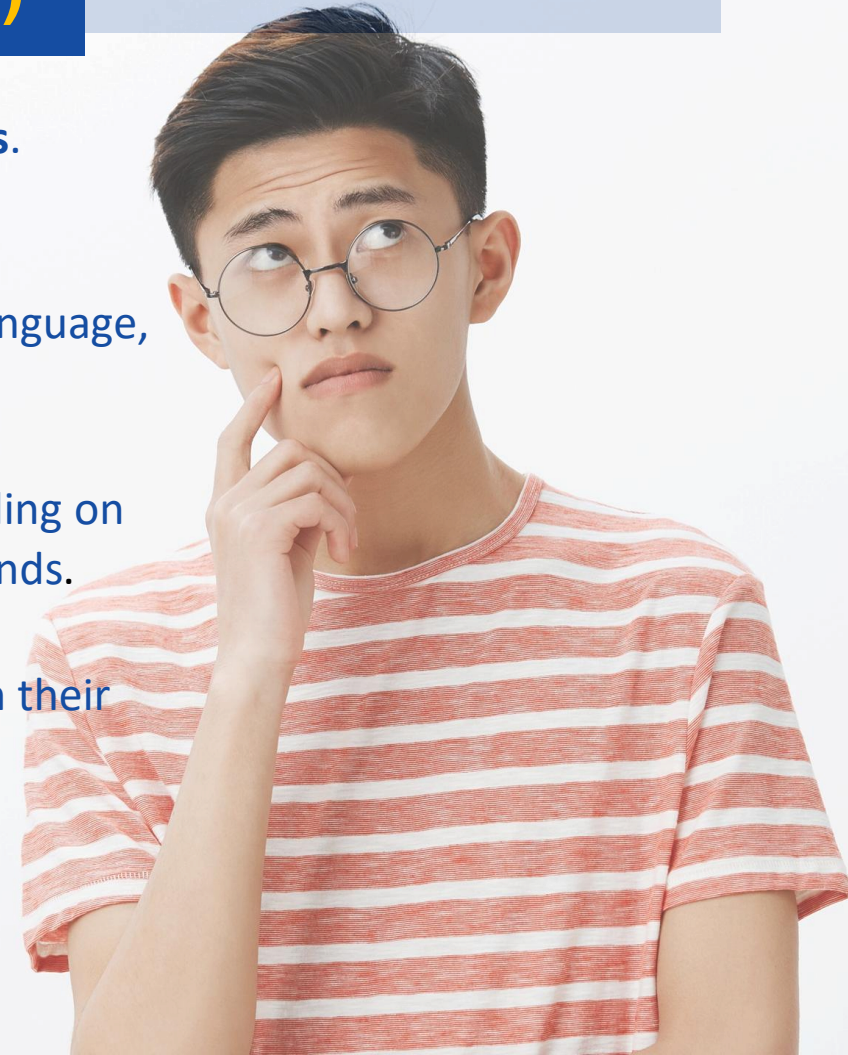
International Registration via **WIPO (Madrid System)**

Cost-Effective for Global: if you plan to protect your mark in **multiple regions**.
For example: **EU** + other countries (USA, UK, China etc.).

One Application, Many Targets: **Centralized filing** – one application, one language, one payment covers multiple countries.

Flexible Coverage: Choose: **EU as a whole** or only **specific countries**, depending on needs. Can later **add more countries** by subsequent designations as business expands.

Independent Outcomes: Each office (EUIPO or national) decides protection in their jurisdiction. A refusal in one country *does not* cancel the others.




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Directly to **National** offices So, which route suits me better?

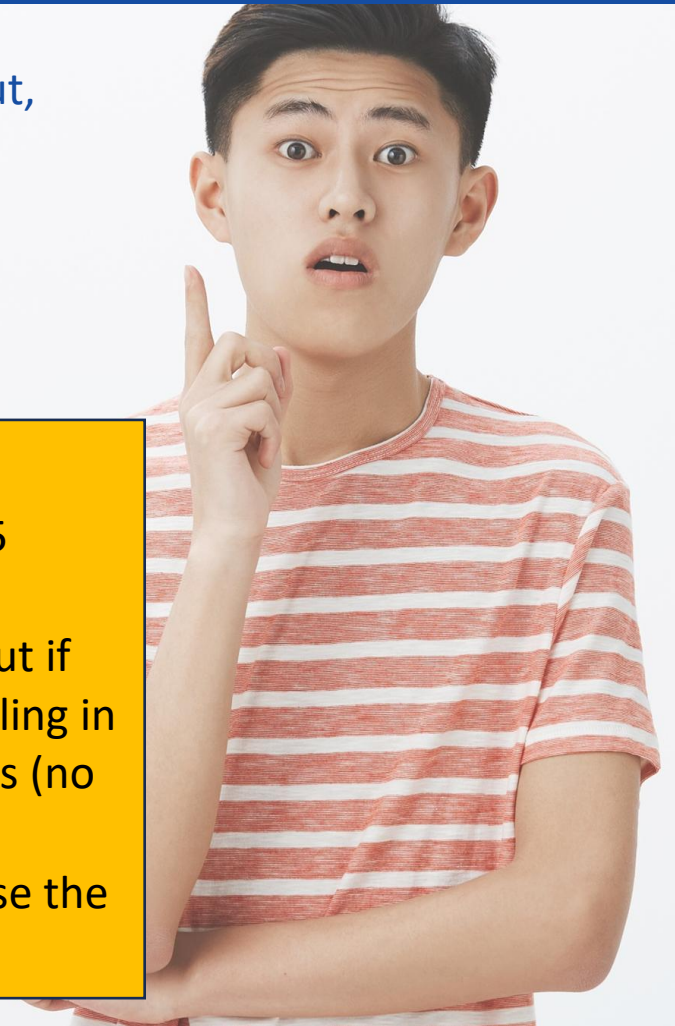
Targeted Protection: You pay only for countries you need. If you only care about, say, **Germany and France**, you don't spend on a full EU coverage.

Fast in Some Cases: Some national offices are very quick if no opposition (for example, Germany can register in a few months).

 **Multiple Filings = More Work:** Each country is a separate procedure – more paperwork and deadlines to track. If you filed in 5 countries, that's 5 renewal dates, 5 possible opposition proceedings, etc.

Higher Cumulative Cost: Two countries might be *comparable to an EUIPO filing*, but if you need **3 or more**, the total cost will likely exceed the single EU fee. For example, filing in **DE, FR, ES** could run close to EUIPO's €850, and that covers only those three countries (no others).

Maintenance: You'll have to renew each registration individually, and ensure you use the mark in each country to keep it valid (use requirements are usually country-specific).



Financial Aspects: EUTM vs. National Filings

Application Fees (1 class)

Route	Basic Fee	Scope
EUTM (online)	€850	27 EU Member States
EUTM (paper)	€1,000	27 EU Member States
avg. national app (×5 countries)	~€3,000–4,500	5 countries only
avg. national app (×10 countries)	~€6,000–9,000	10 countries only

Class fees: 2nd class +€50 | 3rd class +€150 (online). Significant savings vs. paying per-class in each national system.

Source: EUIPO official fee schedule 2024

One renewal fee

Single 10-year renewal covers all 27 states. Estimated saving: 80–90% vs. renewing nationally in all Member States.

Service Charter

Published processing time targets for all procedures. EUIPO commits to quality, transparency, and user satisfaction standards. Examples : 3.8 months for opposition decisions, 5.7 months, 14 working days for inter partes replies for cancellations

Offsetting mechanism

Fees paid to EUIPO are partly redistributed to national offices via the Cooperation Fund to support IP infrastructure.

SME Fund

EU scheme reimburses up to 75% of EUTM/RCD application fees for eligible SMEs — dramatically reducing cost barriers.

EUTM APPLICATIONS – EUTM APPLICATIONS FILED 2025

Total files

196 918

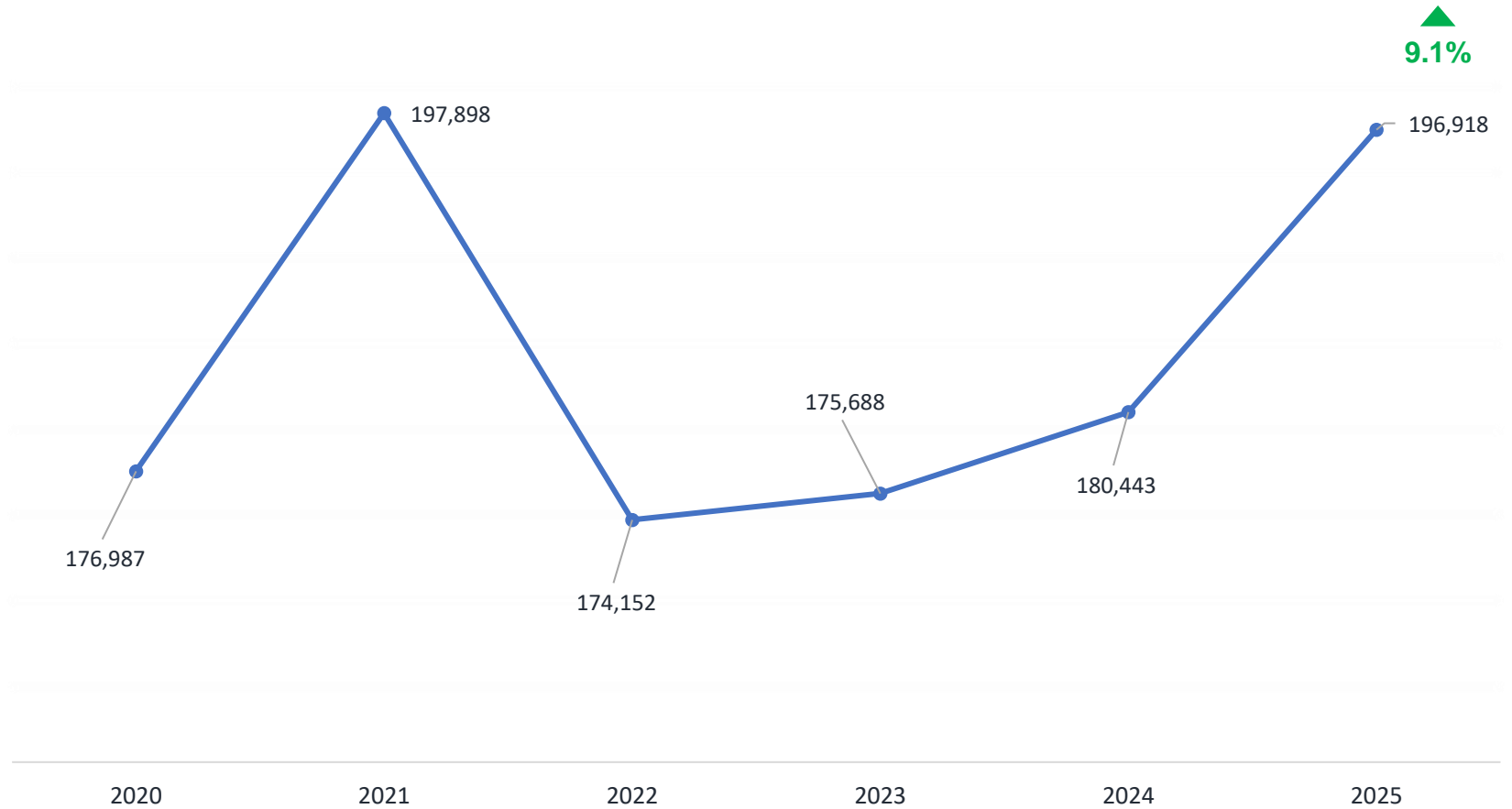
+ 9.1%

Direct

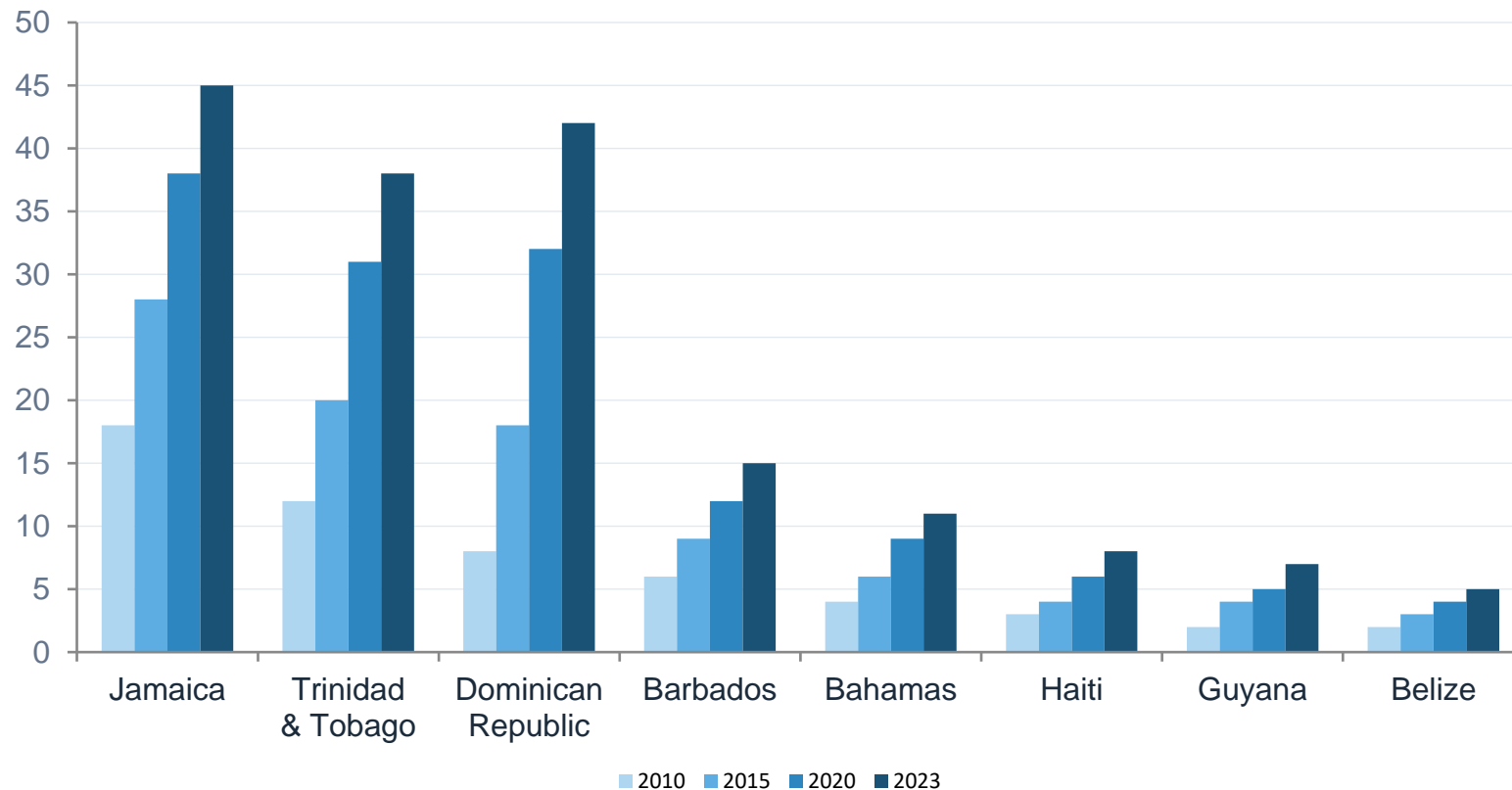
167 561


IR

29 357




EUIPO TM Applications from Caribbean Countries: A Snapshot




 Steady upward trend across all CARIFORUM countries since 1996

 Jamaica, Dominican Republic & Trinidad & Tobago are the top 3 filers

 Growth linked to EU-CARIFORUM EPA (2008) promoting IP cooperation

 Majority of filings in Classes 25 (clothing), 35 (retail) & 33 (spirits)

 CariPI project supports capacity building to increase IP utilisation

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Budget 2025
480 M EUR

Revenue from fees
329 M EUR

Offsetting to MS
15,5 M

Surplus 2025
179,3 M



IP Applications 2025
+8% (327,833)



EUTM
+9,1% (196,918)

EUD
+6,2% (130,915)

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EU

DESIGNS

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**EU & NATIONAL
SYSTEMS**



**COEXIST SINCE
2002**

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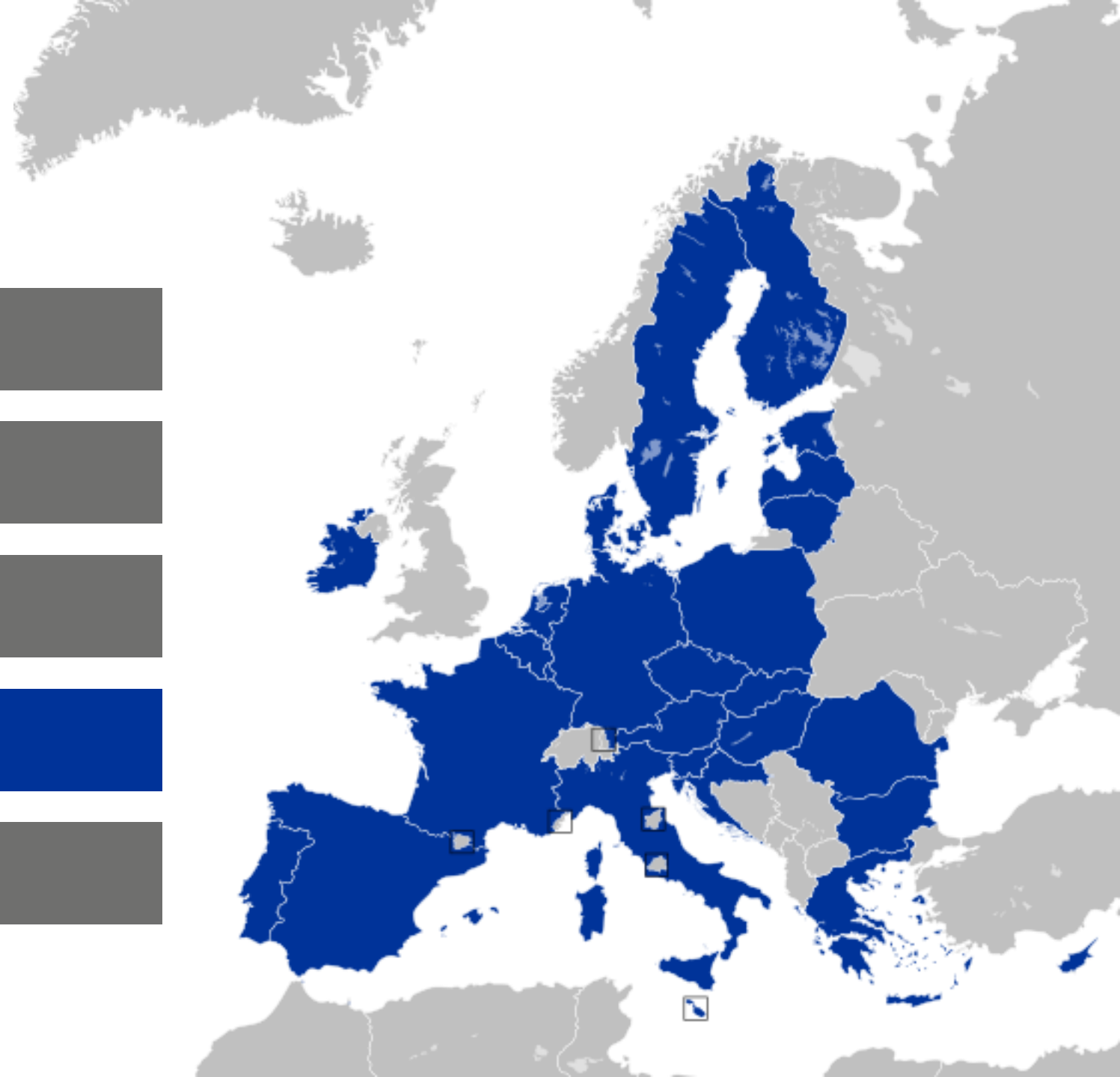
UNIFIED IP REGIME

PROTECTS APPEARANCE

PRODUCTS / PART OF -

ACROSS THE EU

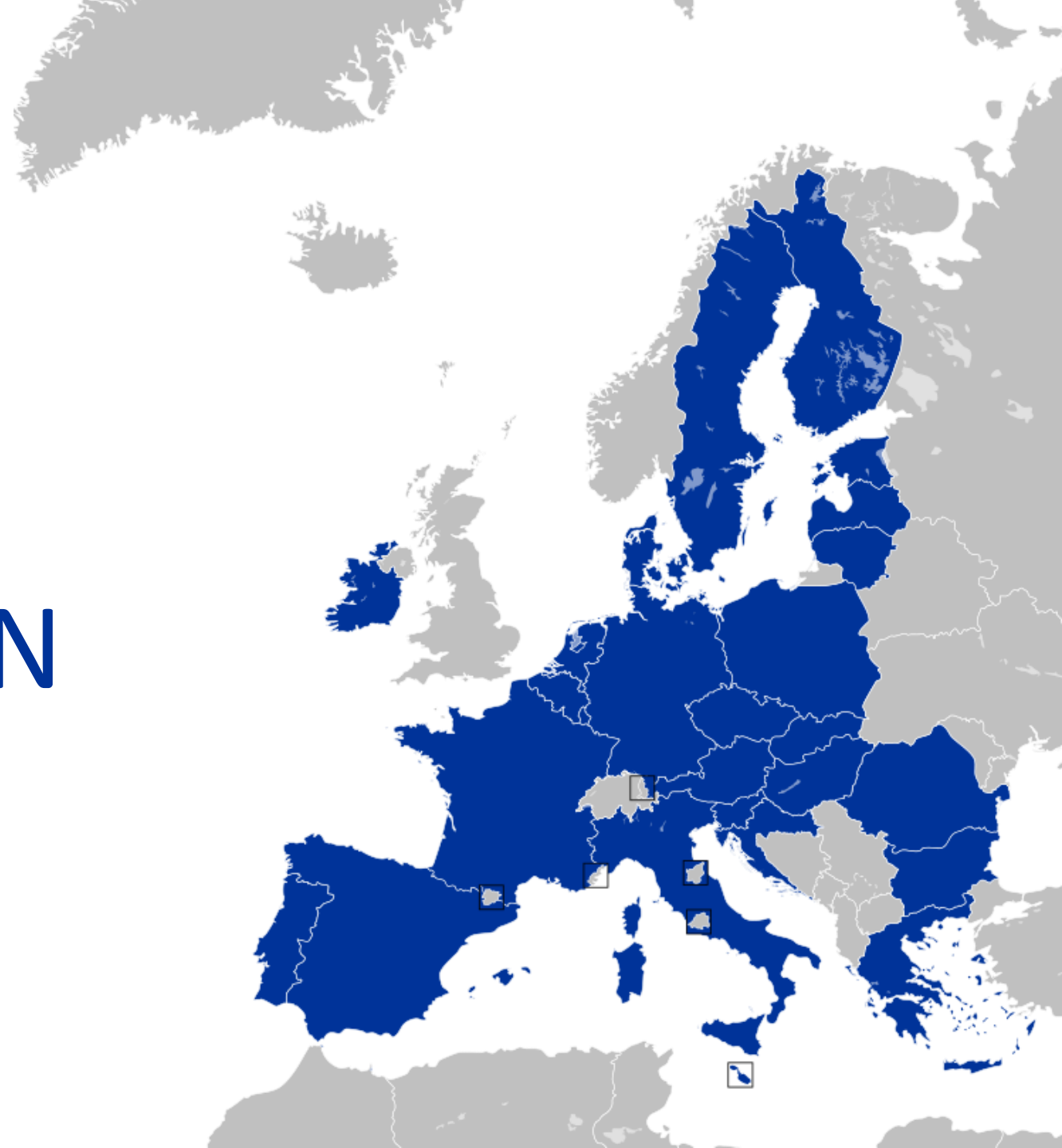
SINGLE FILING/RIGHT



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NATIONAL
REGIONAL
EUROPEAN UNION
INTERNATIONAL



DEPENDS ON YOUR STRATEGY

- **NATIONAL** – e.g. Sweden
- **REGIONAL** – e.g. BOIP
- **EUROPAN UNION** – EUIPO
- **INTERNATIONAL** – WIPO



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EUD OPTIONS

TWO OPTIONS:

REGISTERED EUD

UNREGISTERED EUD

DIFFERENT:

SCOPE

DURATION

COSTS

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25 Years

PROTECTION

Registered
Unregistered
Grace Period

3 Years

DESIGN

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REGISTERED

COPIES

USE

INDEPENDENT

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UNREGISTERED

EXACT COPIES

EU designs from CARIPi (2019-2025)

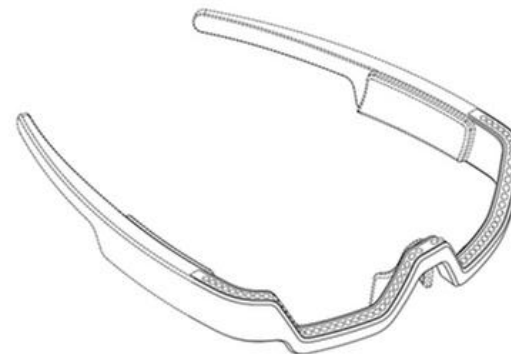
Country	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
BARBADOS	4	14		5	4			27
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC				3		1		4
BAHAMAS					1	1		2
BELIZE			2					2
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO							1	1
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA								
CUBA								
DOMINICA								
GRENADA								
GUYANA								
HAITI								
JAMAICA								
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS								
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES								
SAINT-LUCIA								
SURINAME								
Total	4	14	2	8	5	2	1	36

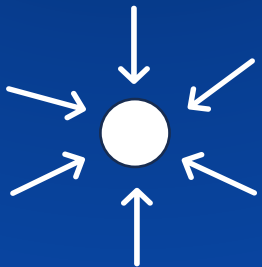
Companies from CARIPi (2019-2025)

owner_name	EU designs
APTIV TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED	13
HELEN OF TROY LIMITED	10
EVOLUTION OPTIKS LIMITED	4
GOMIS RABASSA	2
MISTY MORNING HOLDINGS LTD.	2
TECHFRIST (HONGKONG) LIMITED	2
BRUGAL & CO., S.A.	1
GIRO TEIXIDO	1
PATTERSON	1
Total	36

Locarno Classes (2019-2025)

Title	EU designs
02. Clothing	2
04. Brushware	1
07. Household goods, not elsewhere specified	1
08. Tools and hardware	4
09. Packages and containers for the transport or handling of goods	9
13. Equipment for production, distribution or transformation of electricity	5
14. Recording, communication or information retrieval equipment	4
16. Photographic, cinematographic and optical apparatus	4
17. Musical instruments	1
23. Fluid distribution equipment, sanitary, heating, ventilation and air-conditioning equipment, solid fuel	2
24. Medical and laboratory equipment	1
25. Building units and construction elements	2
Total	36





PART 2

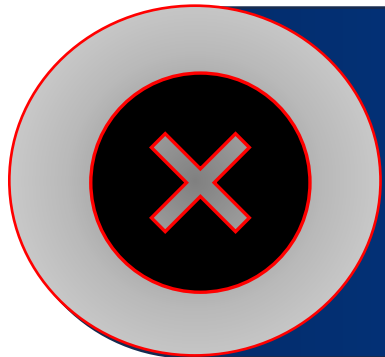
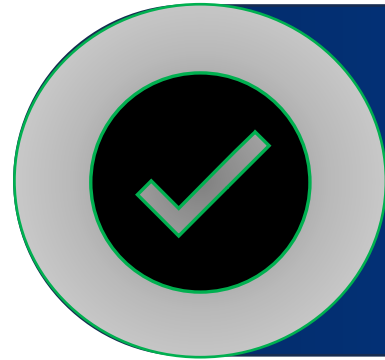
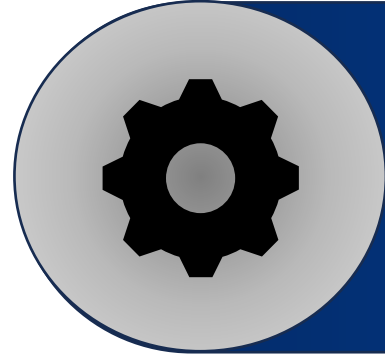
Other IP Regional Systems

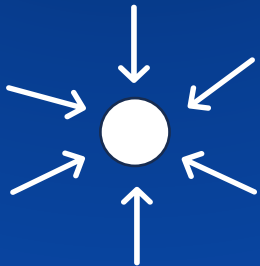
A. Unitary System

B. Designation System

C. Supranational Law

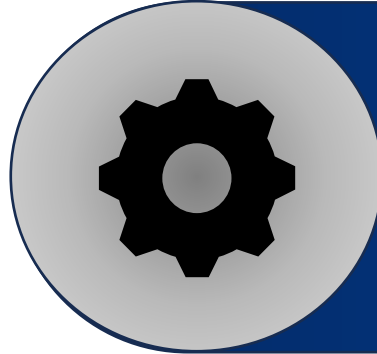
D. Convergence Model





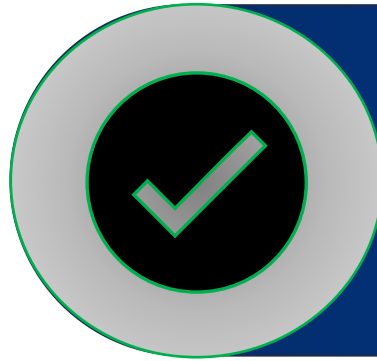
A. Unitary System

BOIP — Benelux Office for Intellectual Property



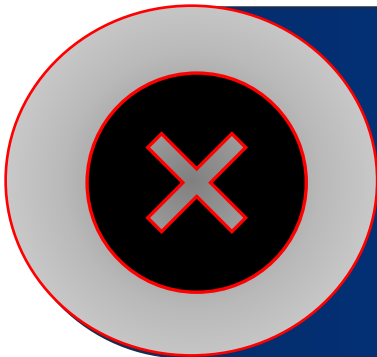
BOIP administers trademark and design registrations for Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg (the Benelux territory) through a **single unitary application** — one filing grants protection across all three countries simultaneously. BOIP covers trademarks and designs only — patents remain under national jurisdiction or via the EPO. Anyone worldwide can file with BOIP, not just Benelux residents.

Established under the Benelux Convention on Intellectual Property (BCIP, 2005). No national IP offices remain for trademarks/designs — BOIP replaced them entirely.



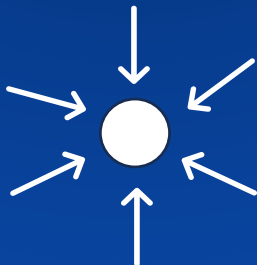
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- Single filing, one fee, one registration
- Legal certainty — uniform protection in all 3 states
- Streamlined enforcement across borders



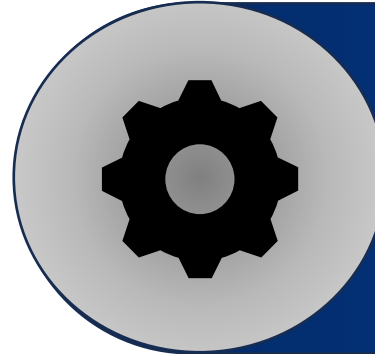
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- All-or-nothing: cannot limit protection to one country only
- Refusal in one state can block the whole Benelux application
- Less flexibility vs. national systems



B. Designation System

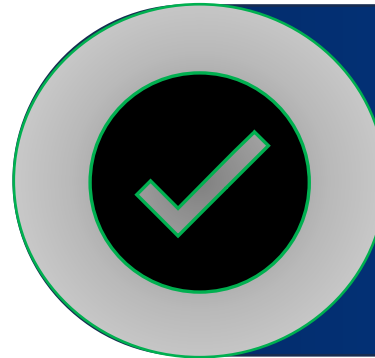
ARIPO — African Regional Intellectual Property Organization



ARIPO operates under the **Harare Protocol (patents, 1984)** and the **Banjul Protocol (marks, 1993)**. It is a **designation system**: one regional application designates selected member states.

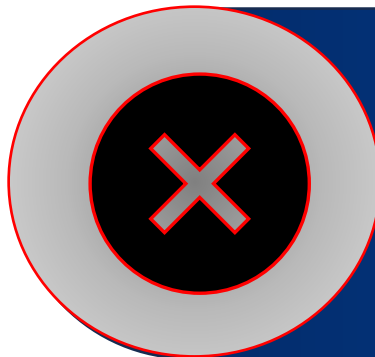
Each designated country retains the right to **grant or refuse** the IP right under its own national law. ARIPO does NOT replace national offices — it acts as a *gateway and processing hub*.

ARIPO covers Anglophone Africa; OAPI covers Francophone Africa.



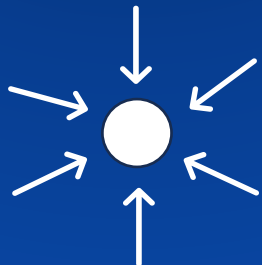
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- One filing to reach 22 African states
- Countries retain sovereignty: can refuse domestically
- Reduces cost vs. separate national filings



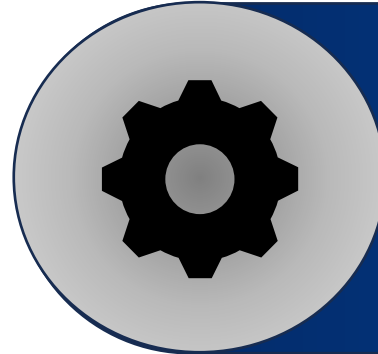
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- Not a unitary right — separate national grants, so no uniformity
- National refusal possible in each designated state
- Limited trademark coverage (not all members joined Banjul)
- Enforcement is purely national — ARIPO has no mechanism to enforce rights, you litigate country by country
- Slow — grants typically takes 3-5 years



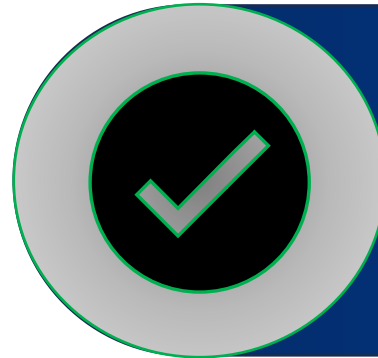
C. Supranational Law

Andean Community



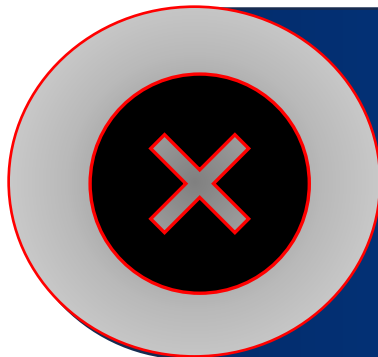
The Andean Community (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru) issues **directly applicable Decisions** (supranational regulations) in IP.

Decision 486 (2000) on industrial property and *Decision 351 (1993)* on copyright constitute a **common IP regime** which applies in all member states and overrides national law — granting **extraterritorial reach** to nationally-registered IP rights.



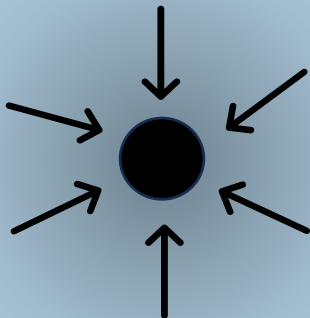
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- Uniform IP standards — legal certainty across all 4 states
- National registration gains extraterritorial normative protection
- Strong common rules on TMs, patents, trade secrets & copyright



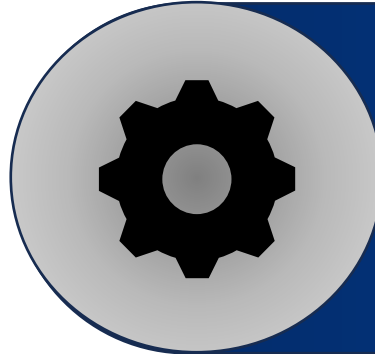
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- Still requires national registration — no single regional title
- Political tensions can stall reform of Decisions (e.g. Venezuela exit)
- Enforcement quality varies significantly by country despite uniform rules — the law on paper vs. in practice gap is real



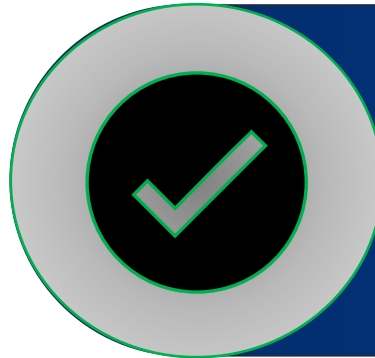
D. Convergence Model

ASEAN — Association of Southeast Asian Nations



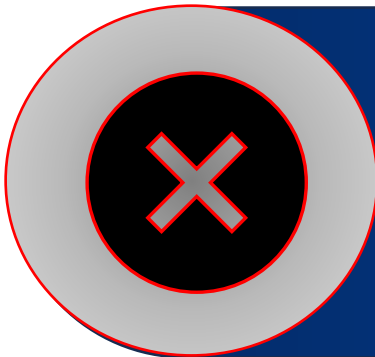
ASEAN (10 members) does not operate a regional IP office or supranational law. Instead it pursues **legislative harmonization** through political commitments.

The *ASEAN IPR Action Plan 2016–2025* and the *ASEAN Framework Agreement on IP Cooperation (1995)* encourage members to align national laws, share best practices, and build capacity — but **each state retains full sovereignty** over its own IP system (filing procedures, examination standards, language, fees and representation requirements)



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- Full national sovereignty maintained
- Flexible: no obligation to adopt supranational rules
- Promotes cooperation, training & best-practice exchange
- Allows adaptation of IP systems to national economic development levels



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- No unified regional title — must file separately in each country
- Harmonization is slow and non-binding
- Significant disparities in IP law quality across members persist
- Different filing languages, fees, procedures and examination standards across states increase complexity and costs

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