

## **EUROCHAMBRES: new translation proposal must be last episode of the EU patent saga**

EUROCHAMBRES today expressed its strong hope that the Commission's new proposal for a Council regulation governing the EU patent translation requirements would prove to be the final breakthrough on this crucial issue.

Arnaldo Abruzzini, EUROCHAMBRES' Secretary General, commented: *"Heads of state can repeat their determination to create growth and jobs as often as they like, but it is specific measures like the EU patent that will really make a difference for our entrepreneurs and innovators. The vast costs and complexity of patenting in Europe are well-documented, which is why the continued absence of a single EU patent regime remains a significant constraint on businesses and thus on our economic recovery and growth."*

The idea of a 'Community Patent' has been under consideration since the 1960s, with the Commission finally adopting a proposal in 2003. Since then, language has proved to be the main sticking point in the negotiations and the arrival of the Lisbon Treaty further complicated the issue.

Mr Abruzzini continued: *"It would be naïve to ignore the fact that linguistic differences present obstacles. We feel that this proposal from the Commission presents a sensible compromise that tackles the language issue in a way that will significantly reduce the costs associated in filing a patent. We very much hope will prove to be the final episode of the EU patent saga."*

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Further information: Mr Vincent Tilman, Tel. +32 2 282 08 67, [tilman@eurochambres.eu](mailto:tilman@eurochambres.eu)  
Press contact: Ms Guendalina Cominotti, Tel. +32 2 282 08 66, [cominotti@eurochambres.eu](mailto:cominotti@eurochambres.eu)  
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