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EPO and UPC sign data exchange agreement

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The European Patent Office and the Unified Patent Court (UPC) have signed an agreement on the exchange of data between the two institutions.

The agreement, which was signed by EPO President António Campinos and President of the UPC's Court of Appeal Klaus Grabinski on the fringes of a high-level conference last week in Brussels, provides the legal basis for facilitating the exchange of data between the EPO's European Patent Register and the UPC's Register, as well as for possible operational support from the EPO for the UPC's training framework.

The agreement will be an important element in establishing the UPC's case management system. According to António Campinos, 'The EPO is proud to support the UPC in establishing a truly IT-driven, unified patent judiciary.' Mr Grabinski stated: 'The UPC is pleased to cooperate with the EPO in the necessary exchange of register data and in the training for UPC judges.'

The agreement will take effect with the entry into operation of the Unified Patent Court Agreement, which is expected as of 1 April 2023.

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