FICPI 2022 World Congress & ExCo
CANNES, FRANCE
25 SEPTEMBER – 1 OCTOBER

MAKING INDEPENDENT IP ATTORNEYS BETTER AT WHAT THEY DO

The FICPI World Congress provides you with an opportunity to listen to and debate with the experts on recent international developments in intellectual property protection and their impact on day-to-day practice.

OPEN TO ALL FICPI MEMBERS

www.ficpi2022.org
CANNES
The city of film, beach and sumptuous food

For over 70 years the Cannes Film Festival has been the premiere film festival. Every May the city is besieged by stars, journalists, photographers and fans. Cannes is, however, more than just a paradise for cinema lovers and luxury tourism; with its privileged position, the city offers a wide variety of attractions.

With its charming perched villages, coastal cities and pristine islands, the Côte d’Azur offers magnificent hidden gems to explore while staying in Cannes. Guests in search of authentic experiences will fall in love with the rich history and gourmet culinary traditions of the area.

REGISTRATION FEES*

Please visit [www.ficpi.link/form](http://www.ficpi.link/form) to download the World Congress registration form

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<tr>
<th>FEES:</th>
<th>Delegate</th>
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*only one discount may be claimed per registration.
** daytime registration includes the working programme, lunches and refreshments breaks only.
### Registration Fees

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### Discounts

- Combined ExCo & Congress registration: £400 £250 £150
- Congress first-time attendee: £100
- 2nd/subsequent registrant from same firm: £100
- 2nd/subsequent Delegate’s Guest: £100

### Venue and Accommodation

**Hôtel Martinez by Hyatt**  
73, Boulevard de la Croisette, 06400 Cannes, France  
t. + 33 (0)4 93 90 12 34  
www.hotel-martinez.com

Opened in the 1920s, the Hôtel Martinez embodies the lightheartedness of the Côte d’Azur and the Mediterranean lifestyle. Known for its warm and friendly atmosphere, full of zest for life, this is the place to see and be seen on the Croisette. Inspired by its Art Deco style and the iconic colours of the French Riviera, the interior designer Pierre-Yves Rochon breathed new life into this historic luxury hotel with its recent renovation. In all its refined rooms, featuring city or sea views, white lacquer furnishings are perfectly highlighted by blue sky or light yellow colours; for the highest level of pampering, marble bathrooms offer a rain shower.

### Hotel Reservation and Payment

Hotel reservation must be made on-line **directly with the hotel** via the following link: [ficpi.link/hotel](ficpi.link/hotel)  
Or use this QR code:

All rooms will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We strongly recommend that you register for the Congress and book your accommodation as soon as possible to ensure availability.

Reservation requests received by the hotel after **17 June 2022** will be subject to availability and different rates and conditions might apply.

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<th>Room Type</th>
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<th>Double Occupancy – Per Night</th>
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<td>Deluxe Room City View</td>
<td>£240</td>
<td>£260</td>
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<tr>
<td>Premium Room City View</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Suite City View</td>
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<td>Premium Room Sea View</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Suite Sea View</td>
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The main differences between accommodation categories are size of the room and the view. Wi-Fi is included for all guests. Prices are per night and include breakfast, service and VAT. City tax is additional.

At the time of organising this event, the best possible rates were negotiated with the hotel for FICPI Delegates. It is possible that better rates for a limited number of rooms may be available through other channels closer to the event, but with no guarantee that rooms at those prices will be available for the entire duration of the FICPI event.

Please see the **HOTEL TERMS & CONDITIONS** section under **IMPORTANT INFORMATION** for more information.

### Programme at a Glance

**Saturday 24 September**

09:00 - 17:30 | Bureau Meeting *
19:30         | Bureau Dinner *

**Sunday 25 September**

09:00 - 12:30 & 14:00 - 18:00 | Registration desk open
09:00 - 12:30 | CET Meeting *
14:00 - 17:30 | Council Meeting *
19:00 - 22:00 | ExCo Cocktail Reception *

**Monday 26 September**

09:00 - 12:30 & 14:00 - 18:00 | Registration desk open
09:00 - 12:30 | ExCo Meeting *
09:30 - 16:00 | Optional Tour **
14:00 - 17:30 | ExCo Meeting *
19:00 - 20:00 | First-Time Attendees/New Members’ Reception ***
20:00 - 22:00 | Congress Opening Reception

**Tuesday 27 September**

09:00 - 12:30 | Registration desk open for Congress
09:00 - 12:30 | Congress Morning Sessions
09:00 - 16:30 | Delegates’ Guests’ Guided Tour
14:00 - 15:30 | Congress Afternoon Sessions
16:00 - 17:30 | Congress Workshops
17:30 - 18:30 | TEC Meeting - NEW!
19:00         | Formal Dinner

**Wednesday 28 September**

09:00 - 12:30 | Congress Morning Sessions
09:30 - 16:30 | Delegates’ Guests’ guided tour
14:00 - 17:30 | Congress Afternoon Sessions
19:00         | Informal Dinner

**Thursday 29 September**

09:00 - 10:30 | General Assembly
11:00 - 12:30 | Resolutions & Closing Remarks
13:30 - 17:00 | Optional Excursion **
14:00 - 15:30 | ExCo Meeting *
16:00 - 17:30 | CET Group & PMC Meetings*
19:00         | Gala Dinner

**Friday 30 September**

08:00 - 17:00 | Optional Excursion Golf
09:00 - 17:00 | Optional Excursions **

**Saturday 1 October**

09:00 - 12:30 | Bureau Meeting *

**by invitation only**

**separate registration and payment required**

**by prior registration – spaces are limited**
## Executive Working Programme

### BUREAU, CET, PMC & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td><strong>Saturday 24 September</strong></td>
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<td>09:00 - 17:30</td>
<td>BUREAU MEETING</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday 25 September</strong></td>
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<td>12:30 - 14:00</td>
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<td>14:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>COUNCIL MEETING</td>
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<td>16:00 - 17:30</td>
<td>PMC MEETING</td>
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<td>VARIOUS LOCATIONS</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday 1 October</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00 - 12:30</td>
<td>BUREAU MEETING</td>
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MANAGING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN AN IP FIRM IN 2022 AND BEYOND

Issues associated with personal health and wellness continue to rise, reaching critical levels, with mental health particularly impacted. The global pandemic and an increase in remote working are contributing to these challenges. Attorneys and staff in IP firms are not exempt.

In this session we will address how to recognise signs of depression, addiction, anxiety and other mental health issues. Speakers will discuss how firms can disseminate information so that staff can identify these issues in colleagues and how they can address a situation when it appears that a worker may be experiencing health issues. Tips for helping firms ensure partners and staff stay physically and mentally well will be covered.

The speakers will also discuss other important questions including:
• Does a firm need a formal policy on health and wellness issues or can it address them on a case-by-case basis?
• Should issues or policies around health and wellness be different for staff and professionals/attorneys?
• How can a firm balance issues around health and wellness with employees’ rights to privacy?

Panelists for this session will include a mental health professional as well as leading members of US and UK IP firms.

Why attend? At the end of this session delegates will have a better appreciation of the steps their firm could and should take to help partners and staff to improve their personal physical and mental wellness and build resilience for the future.

THE IP COURTS ONLINE

IP Offices and courts were already using remote communications technology for some procedures before the pandemic. Urgent applications to the court could be made by telephone, VICO was available for some hearings at the EPO and other Offices, and some national courts were piloting videoconferencing. But the global public health emergency made this a necessity, and, in many jurisdictions, videoconferencing became the default overnight.

As travel becomes possible again and people can congregate safely, should we revert to in-person hearings as standard? Online hearings have advantages in terms of convenience, cost, training and participation: they are also good for the planet if they mean less travel. But are they best for parties who want their “day in court” to ensure their case is presented in its best possible light?

This session will:
• Explore the pros and cons of online hearings for the parties, the Offices/courts and representatives.
• Consider how best practice differs between in-person and remote hearings.
• Highlight potential pitfalls for those attending online hearings.
• Discuss how best to present your client’s case through a webcam and headset.
• Consider what future opportunities technology offers to improve hearings and other procedures before Offices and courts.

Panelists for this session will include Wolfgang Sekretaruk, Deputy President of the EPO Boards of Appeal, plus UK and Dutch IP lawyers with experience of online and in-person hearings and a recent Administrative Patent Judge from the US.

Why attend? By attending this session, delegates will understand the pros and cons of online hearings for their clients and themselves, gain an appreciation of how their “performance” on camera comes across to the judge or Board and be better equipped to handle online hearings in the future.
FINANCING IP LITIGATION FOR SMEs

Your SME client has spent years developing their new product or technology. You have assisted them with the time-consuming, costly process of filing a provisional patent application and then a PCT application and later with national phase entry and parallel prosecution in the EPO, USPTO, JPO and CNIPA. They are pleased with your work but have exhausted their IP budget. The resulting patents must protect their inventions for them to generate the profits they deserve.

Then comes the unexpected: a challenge to the validity of the patents, or an infringer who hopes your client will be unable to afford the cost of infringement proceedings.

This session will explore:

- Options for financial assistance to help your client enforce or defend their rights
- The pros and cons of contingency fee arrangements and litigation funders, which might make an infringement action possible but will take a substantial share of the proceeds in return
- Litigation insurance, and FICPI’s role in possible new arrangements to help small and medium size clients enforce their IP

Speakers will include a contingency fee lawyer, representatives of a litigation funding firm and an IP insurance firm, as well as attorneys experienced in this area.

Why attend? At the end of this session you will have a more informed idea of which route might be right for your client to best defend or enforce their IP rights, plus greater knowledge to continue to work with your client proactively while these unexpected, but very real challenges are resolved.

MODERATOR:
DOUG DEETH, DW² (CA)

SPEAKER:
JAMES BLICK, DIRECTOR, THE JUDGE GLOBAL (US)

DAVID BLOOM, SAFEGUARD IP (UK)

C. GREGORY GRAMENOPoulos, FINNEGAN HENDERSON (US)

EMILY O’NEILL, GENERAL COUNSEL, DEMINOR (UK)

PUTTING THE IP IN M&A

In many countries, when the assets of a business are sold and the parties do not detail the intellectual property included in the transfer, the general rule is that the seller is presumed to have transferred the IP of the business to the buyer. However, it is not always clear which assets relate to the business being acquired and which do not.

An IP due diligence review typically involves reviewing all IP owned by a company, comparing pending applications and issued registrations to the intellectual property in use, assessing any gaps in protection, and evaluating current and future protection needs.

This session will cover:

- Identifying relevant IP assets
- Patent and trade mark due diligence
- Pre-closure review of agreements
- Practical case examples and recent acquisition activity
- IP due diligence best practices
- Comparison of IP due diligence practices across various jurisdictions

Panellists for this session include IP experts from the US, Germany, Canada and China.

Why attend? This session will better equip you to work with clients going through mergers and acquisitions and identify common pitfalls in the M&A space.

MODERATOR:
NARESH KILARU, FINNEGAN (US)

SPEAKERS:
PROF. DR. CHRISTIAN CZYCHOWSKI, NORDEMMANN (DE)
GARY T. DANIEL, DW² (CA)
JOHN MCKNIGHT, SPOOR & FISHER (ZA)

GETTING THINGS DONE - IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

We know what we need to do for an IP firm to be more successful; like win new clients and improve efficiency: but often these key objectives are not achieved. “Getting things done” means different things to different people; in this session we will focus on implementing your strategic goals.

This session will:

- Examine the psychological barriers that prevent us achieving our business objectives
- Explain different approaches to delivering objectives
- Provide examples of the successful implementation of these approaches in an IP environment

We will also be looking for volunteers for periodic meetings through the coming year where we will focus on the practical implementation of these theories on real life objectives, with the aim of reporting back to the 21st FICPI Open Forum in London next year on what worked, what did not work and why.

Panellists for this session include Chris Bull, a strategy, operations and change consultant who is a leading advisor to legal businesses in the dynamic and innovative UK market as well as in the US and internationally.

Why attend? This session will provide you with the ideas, impetus and concrete solutions to get your firm’s objectives back on track.

MODERATOR:
IAN GILL, AA THORNTON & CO. (UK)

SPEAKERS:
CHRIS BULL, PRINCIPAL, EDGE INTERNATIONAL (UK)
EKATERINA TSIMBERIS, SMART & BIGGAR (CA)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORKSHOP 1</th>
<th>WORKSHOP 2</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ART IN TRADE MARKS: BANKS(SY)</strong> ON IT!</td>
<td><strong>SCOPE OF REGISTERED DESIGNS AND THE 7-VIEW REQUIREMENT</strong></td>
<td><strong>FEE STRUCTURES FOR IP FIRMS</strong></td>
<td><strong>DIVERSITY, EQUALITY, INCLUSION &amp; ACCESSIBILITY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The use, protection, monetisation and enforcement of artworks through trade marks will be explored, along with other non-traditional modes, including NFTs.</td>
<td>Should the scope of protection of a registered design be tied to the design per se or to an article to which the design is applied (and if to the latter, to what extent?). This workshop will also look at the formalities of the 7-view requirement in some jurisdictions where “portion practice” is also permitted.</td>
<td>A discussion of pricing model innovation for IP law firms in a changing market environment offering new digital and technological possibilities.</td>
<td>What biases are inherent in society and the workplace? How can an IP firm develop a culture of inclusion and belonging, as well as institute programmes to implement inclusion practices in hiring, training and mentoring?</td>
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<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP LEADER: SANJUKTA TOLE, DICKINSON WRIGHT (CA)</td>
<td>WORKSHOP REPORTER: ELENI KOKKINI, PPT LEGAL (GR)</td>
<td>WORKSHOP LEADER: PROF. DR. SEVIM SÜZEROGLU-MELOCHIORS, OTH REGENSBURG (DE)</td>
<td>WORKSHOP REPORTER: DR. EMILY DODGSON, ABEL+IMRAY (UK)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP REPORTER: LOUIS LAGLER, RENTSCH PARTNER AG (CH)</td>
<td>WORKSHOP REPORTER: ROBERT S. KATZ, BANNER &amp; WITCOFF (US)</td>
<td>PROF. DR. NINA LEFFERS, OTH REGENSBURG (DE)</td>
<td>WORKSHOP REPORTER: DR. MARYANN ARMSTRONG, BSKB (US)</td>
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**Workshop 5**

**CAN AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) MACHINE BE NAMED AS AN INVENTOR ON A PATENT APPLICATION?**

Can an artificial intelligence (AI) machine be named as an inventor on a patent application? This question has been put on the agenda in many jurisdictions by two patent applications naming an AI system called “Dabus” as the inventor. This workshop will review the conclusions that various patent authorities have come to and invite participants to discuss a potential FICPI position on this issue.

| WORKSHOP LEADER: DR. ALEXANDER ESSLINGER, BETTEN & RESCH (DE) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: JOHAN ÖRTENBLAD, NORÉNS PATENTBYRÅ AB (SE) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: ANIL BHOLE, BHOLE IP LAW (CA) |
| WORKSHOP REPORTER: MARYANN ARMSTRONG, BSKB (US) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: MATTHEW FLETCHER, IMRAY (UK) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: DR. NEETI WILSON, ANAND & ANAND (IN) |

**Workshop 6**

**IMPROVING THE SEP FRAMEWORK FOR THE IP PROFESSION AND ITS CLIENTS**

As standards development continues to increase within emerging technologies, so too does the importance of standard-essential patents (SEPs). The SEP framework has been criticised for lacking transparency and consistency, especially concerning the licensing of SEPs, the determination of essentiality and the lack of oversight and management as standards change. This workshop will focus on these challenges and look at how FICPI and its members can contribute to improving the SEP framework for both the IP profession and its clients.

| WORKSHOP LEADER: PROF. DR. MATTHEW FLETCHER, ABEL+IMRAY (UK) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: BRET SLANEY, CPST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (CA) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: THOMAS WOLTER, MEWBURN ELLIS (DE) |
| WORKSHOP REPORTER: BRETT SLANEY, CPST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (CA) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: ESSENESE OBHAN, OBHAN & ASSOCIATES (IN) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: DR. NEETI WILSON, ANAND & ANAND (IN) |

**Workshop 7**

**PLAUSIBILITY: AN IMPORTANT GATEKEEPER OR AN UNREALISTIC BURDEN?**

The doctrine of “plausibility” limits when external evidence may be used to evaluate whether a claimed invention is associated with a desired technical effect. Is the plausibility of an invention an essential attribute to prevent persons monopolising technology that they have yet to invent, or an artificial burden on applicants that can deny protection for genuine inventions?

| WORKSHOP LEADER: DR. MELINDA DODGSON, ABEL+IMRAY (UK) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: DR. NEETI WILSON, ANAND & ANAND (IN) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: THOMAS WOLTER, MEWBURN ELLIS (DE) |
| WORKSHOP REPORTER: MATTHEW FLETCHER, IMRAY (UK) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: ESSENESE OBHAN, OBHAN & ASSOCIATES (IN) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: DR. NEETI WILSON, ANAND & ANAND (IN) |

**Workshop 8**

**KNOCK, KNOCK: WHO’S THERE? A DISCUSSION OF “STRAW PERSON” PROCEEDING**

Several jurisdictions permit inter partes proceedings like oppositions and invalidity or expungement suits to be brought by “any person”. This opens the possibility of initiating an action through a “straw person” entity, hiding the true identity of the opponent/challenger. Should such proceedings be permitted? This workshop will review recent developments in this area around the world, as well as the various advantages, disadvantages, limitations and risks that should be considered before initiating such proceedings. Attendees will participate in a discussion of strategic approaches to best represent a client’s short- and long-term interests when setting up such cover.

| WORKSHOP LEADER: DR. NEETI WILSON, ANAND & ANAND (IN) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: ESSENESE OBHAN, OBHAN & ASSOCIATES (IN) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: DR. NEETI WILSON, ANAND & ANAND (IN) | WORKSHOP REPORTER: THOMAS WOLTER, MEWBURN ELLIS (DE) |
**Wednesday 28 September**

**09:00 – 10:30  PLENARY 4**

**IP OFFICES AND THE PROFESSION**

Both the IP Offices and the IP profession perform important roles in facilitating the protection of IP rights. In this session, speakers from the profession and leading IP Offices will explore their respective roles in achieving the best outcomes for industry and society in general.

- What role do IP Offices see for the profession in the future?
- What role does the profession see for Offices in the future?

In particular, the speakers will address the question "Are there limits on what the IP Offices and IP profession can and should bring to the table?", including a summary of FICPI’s previous positions in this area. Panellists for this session will include IP attorneys from Australia, Spain, France and the UK, plus speakers from the EPO, USPTO and EUIPO (invited).

**Why attend?** This session will bring insights direct from key officials at IP Offices around the world in conversation with prominent independent IP attorneys who will ask the questions you want answered and explore how the Offices and the profession see their respective roles evolving in the future in cooperation with each other.

**ROOM: PALMIER 2+3**

**MODERATOR:** JULIAN CRUMP, PRESIDENT OF FICPI (UK)

**SPEAKERS**

STEVE ROWAN, VICE-PRESIDENT FOR PATENT GRANTING PROCESS, EPO (UK)

ANDREA DI CARLO, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EUIPO (ES)

PASCAL FAURE, DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL, INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INDUSTRIELLE (INPI) (FR)

MICHAEL CAINE, DAVIES COLLISON CAVE (AU)

ROBERT WATSON, MEWBURN ELLIS (UK)

USPTO (INVITED)

**11:00 – 12:30  PLENARY 5  PALMIER 2+3**

**TRAINING IP ATTORNEYS IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

Despite long-lasting efforts to simplify IP practice, such as global harmonisation, things are actually increasingly complex, from both a legal and practical perspective, and training of young professionals is key to quality of service.

This session will address the challenges of efficiently improving the skills of practitioners in the most sophisticated jurisdictions, while senior professionals in private practice are busier than ever, leaving less time for in-house training and professional development.

The session will also cover:

- The development of legal and practical knowledge of all stakeholders in countries with lower innovation index ratios and limited local training resources.
- Cooperation between the public and private spheres in this area.

Panellists for this session will include experienced IP attorneys from France, Canada, and the UK, who are heavily involved in their firms’ training efforts, and Marco Alemán, Assistant Director General of WIPO who has been working with FICPI to develop WIPO’s new international patent drafting course.

**Why attend?** This session will help attendees to identify key issues around training and will highlight best practice for IP firm training in an increasingly busy, virtual world.

**MODERATOR:** ERIC LE FORESTIER, LE FORESTIER CONSEIL (FR)

**SPEAKERS**

MARCO ALEMÁN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL, WIPO (CH)

GEOFFREY DE KLEINE, BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS (CA)

CHRIS MERCER, AUTHOR OF THE MERCER REVIEW (UK)
MARKETING MASTERCLASS FOR IP PROFESSIONALS - BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE STORY FOR YOUR FIRM

In a world full of mind clutter, where we are overwhelmed with noise from the media, the Internet and our own social circles, not to mention the stresses of the global pandemic, if your IP firm is to get the attention of key audiences for your marketing, then you need strong, relevant and credible messages – in other words, a great story.

This workshop will:
- Address the basics of building effective messaging for IP professionals.
- Share case studies from well-known IP firms and as well as FICPI’s own successful efforts to strengthen its communications.

Panellists for this session include IP attorneys from Brazil, Israel, a US strategic communications consultant and FICPI’s own webmaster.

Why attend? This session will give you inspiration and guidance to rejuvenate or kick start your own firm’s communications to enhance its marketing efforts. You will be given the tools and basic steps to build effective messaging for your firm, including the use of research, who should contribute to the process and how to apply the new messaging, as time allows, participants will get feedback on their initial suggestions on what their own firms’ three key messages might be.

MODERATOR:
MIKE HATCLIFFE, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT, THE HATCLIFFE GROUP (US)

SPEAKERS:
DIMA LITVAK, REINHOLD COHN GROUP (IL)
GUSTAVO PIVA DE ANDRADE, DANNEMANN SIEMEN (BR)
REBECCA SANDLAND, FICPI (UK)

BREAKOUT 6.2
ROOM: CITRUS 3

SOCIAL AWARENESS & BRANDS (BRAND ACTIVISM)

While the concept of quality underpins trade mark laws, today’s consumers look beyond the quality of the goods or services and question how a brand is associated with characteristics such as sustainability, equitability, racial justice and gender equality. Buyers, especially younger ones, increasingly expect companies to take a social, political, environmental, sustainable or economic stance that reflects their own values. Research also suggests the majority of people no longer believe it is acceptable for companies to stay silent on social justice issues.

Successful, purpose-driven brands achieve greater market share and profitability, enhance sales and increase referrals, while cementing brand loyalty from consumers. There is also a positive effect on employees of companies with strong purpose-driven brands.

Our speakers will consider:
- Brand activism success stories and some failures.
- The dangers of inauthenticity.
- Trade marks considered culturally (or otherwise) offensive and what to do about them.
- How a reputation associated with brand activism can impact a trade mark portfolio.
- Analysis of the traditional definition of trade mark use and how it fits with goodwill allied, not to quality, but to factors like support for social justice.

Panellists for this session will include experienced IP attorneys from Canada and Australia as well as in-house counsel with experience of brand activism.

Why attend? Social justice, equality and issues-based campaigning are intrinsic to the world’s most successful brands: this session examines the impact on IP rights and valuations.

MODERATOR:
TONI ASHTON, FICPI SPECIAL REPORTER - TRADE MARKS (CA)

SPEAKERS:
MARION HEATHCOTE, DAVIES COLLISON CAVE (AU)
RIIKKA JOUKIO, VICE PRESIDENT, CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, KESKO CORPORATION (FI)

BREAKOUT 6.3
ROOM: POMELO 1+2+3+4

THE UNIFIED PATENT COURT (UPC)


Early plans for a Unified Patent Court (UPC) were rejected by the CJEU, but a “unitary package” was eagerly pursued under “coopération renforcée”: the UPC Agreement and the EU Regulations on the European Patent with Unitary Effect (EPUP) were signed in 2012/2013.

Following entry into force of the Protocol on Provisional Application of the UPC Agreement on 18 January 2022, the road leading to the UPC and the EPUP seems finally clear. The UPC is expected to open in late 2022/early 2023: the European Patent Office (EPO) will then be entitled to grant European patents with “Unitary Effect.”

The panel will discuss:
- Will this be the dawn of a new and spectacular era in the European patent world?
- Will the system be popular?
- How should we advise our clients?

Panellists for this session are responsible for implementing the system, as administrators or sitting on the bench.

Why attend? This session will bring you up to speed on the latest developments towards a Unified Patent Court and its likely effect on the European patent landscape.

MODERATOR/SPEAKER:
DR. DANIEL ALGE, SONN & PARTNER (DE)

SPEAKERS:
SILVIA DONDJ, BUGNION S.p.A. (IT)
JUDGE KLAUS GRABINSKI, FEDERAL COURT OF JUSTICE - BUNDESGERICHTSHOF (DE)
KATALIN LUBÓCZKI, COORDINATOR OF THE HR AND TRAINING WORKING GROUP OF THE UPC ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
TOOLING UP
And suddenly we were a virtual law firm!

In this session, patent attorneys from different-sized firms and various countries will share their experiences of transitioning to a virtual law firm, driven by technological advances and hastened by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Discussions will include:

- How has collaboration within an IP firm changed?
- What tools should we use?
- How should internal processes be adapted to ensure safe and smooth workflows, even when people are no longer sitting together?
- What are the biggest obstacles?
- What is easier?

Panelists will include experienced IP attorneys from Austria, India, Poland, Canada, South Africa and the UAE.

Why attend? The session will offer a focused discussion of different approaches to the future of IP law firms and, in particular, the transition to this future.

MODERATOR:
GEORG PUCHBERGER, PUCHBERGER & PARTNER PATENTANWÄLTE (AT)

SPEAKERS:
BASTIAAN KOSTER, VON SEIDELS (ZA)
MAREK LAZEWSKI, LDS LAZEWSKI DEPO & PARTNERS (PL)
PHILIP C. MENDES DA COSTA, BERESKIN & PARR (CA)
AHMAN SALEH, AL TAMIMI & COMPANY (DUBAI, UAE)
SUNITA SREEEDHARAN, SKS LAW ASSOCIATES (IN)

OUT ON TECHNICALITY
IP Offices around the world were prompted to suspend or extend deadlines in the face of disruption during the Covid-19 pandemic. In some jurisdictions, this situation established a noticeable contrast with the usual policy of Offices to be strict with respect to granting extensions or restoring IP rights lost in view of a technicality or the missing of a deadline.

Let’s consider that the goal of the IP system to encourage innovation stems mainly from economic fundamentals: risk capital and effort put into innovation must be sufficiently rewarded or investment in innovation will decline.

Looking with renewed perspective on old paradigms, we should ask the following questions when an IP right is accidentally terminated prematurely:

- What is the economic rationale for prematurely terminating an IP right on a technicality or because a deadline was accidentally missed?
- Is premature termination of an IP right on a technicality conducive to the overall benefits sought by the IP system?
- Should an involuntary, often petty, mistake made by an IP owner or his/her representative cause an IP right to lapse?
- Does society benefit from such premature termination?
- What is the reason for sometimes draconian legal interpretations by IP Offices and courts to reject requests for reinstatement of terminated IP rights?
- Is the justification to penalise an IP owner in the harshest possible manner for accidental non-compliance with a legal requirement influenced by moral considerations? If so, isn’t perhaps a moral assessment of the matter misplaced and/or outdated?

Panelists for this session will include independent IP attorneys from the US and Brazil, and representatives from leading IP Offices.

Why attend? This session will equip delegates to anticipate situations where IP rights may be prematurely terminated.

MODERATOR/SPEAKER:
R. DANNY HUNTINGTON, ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK (US)

SPEAKERS:
EDUARDO C. S. DE MELLO E SOUZA, DANNEMANN SIEMSEN (BR)
HUGH O’NEILL, HEAD OF LEGAL PRACTICE SERVICE, EUIPO (ES)
SHIKATO SHUNSUKE, IP ATTACHÉ, JETRO DUSSELDORF (DE)

ELIGIBILITY: WHETHER THE PATENT SYSTEM?
The US Supreme Court opinions in Mayo, Myriad and Alice have caused “massive uncertainty and unpredictability” over what is an “abstract idea,” a law of nature or a natural phenomenon and thus not eligible for patenting. The lack of protection in key areas of technology has been said to have a “chilling effect” on investment and to discourage commercial development of potentially valuable inventions. The Federal Circuit has declined to use the USPTO’s guidelines which attempted to reduce the uncertainty, and asked Congress to deal legislatively with the unpredictability the Supreme Court cases have created.

Stakeholders are divided on whether legislative reform is appropriate: a “Pro-reform” group seeks change to provide clarity, while an opposing “Concerned” group of stakeholders are content with the status quo and resist the potential availability of broad exclusive rights. They say innovation in many areas can thrive without patents.

The panel, including former Chief Judge of the Federal Circuit, Paul Michel, one of the leaders of the “Pro-reform” group and an outspoken advocate of the need for legislation, will discuss:

- What should be the reach of patent rights?
- Are current laws are fit for purpose to ensure the patent system delivers on its economic and societal objectives?
- Does the current situation in the US really does result in excessive costs for patent owners, burdens on the courts and patent office, or deleterious impacts on investment decisions and innovation?

Speakers will highlight the respective positions of “Pro-reform” and “Concerned” groups who are negotiating possible legislative changes to 35 U.S.C. § 101; and will explore and compare the current US system with those of Europe and Asia.

Why attend? This session will help IP practitioners get up to speed on the complex area of patent subject-matter eligibility in the US.

MODERATOR:
DR. SHARON E. CRANE, ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK (US)

SPEAKERS:
DR. DANIELA KINKELDEY, BIRD & BIRD (DE)
COREY SALSENBERG, VICE PRESIDENT, GLOBAL HEAD IP AFFAIRS, NOVARTIS (US)
DEEPA TIKU, K&S PARTNERS (IN)

RECORDED INTRODUCTION FROM MON, PAUL R MICHEL, FORMER CHIEF JUDGE OF THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT (US)
RECORDED REMARKS FROM SENATOR THOM TILLIS (US)
Thursday 29 September

09:00 - 10:30 GENERAL ASSEMBLY & WORKSHOP REPORTS
ROOM: PALMIER 2+3

11:00 - 12:15 CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS
ROOM: PALMIER 2+3

12:15 - 12:30 CLOSING REMARKS
ROOM: PALMIER 2+3

Minesoft is the leading global patent solutions provider offering online products and services to many Fortune 500/FTSE 100 companies, IP specialists, patent attorneys and search firms around the world.

With the aim to help drive innovation worldwide, Minesoft is pleased to be a part of the ASPI program administered by WIPO.

Being a part of this program allows patent offices and academic and research institutions in developing countries to have access to our solutions.

We are committed to supporting our local community from our headquarters in Richmond-upon-Thames, by getting involved with the Business Improvement District projects to enhance Richmond’s commercial district.

The team is always on hand to volunteer for events to help keep our borough clean, such as local litter picks and the annual paddle boarding litter pick on the Thames, as well as supporting our local businesses.

In 2022, Minesoft closed on a substantial growth investment from MLM 2, an information services and software platform, and Warburg Pincus, a leading global growth investor. This significant growth investment is expected to accelerate the development of new products and enhance existing products with analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning.

“Vakhnina & Partners” are an intellectual property law firm, covering Armenia and Eurasian countries.


Being one of the leading and experienced Patent Firms of Eurasia in Life Science (Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, Medicine, Biotechnology etc.), our Patent team has been continuously voted as leading in these areas by numerous international ratings.

At “Vakhnina & Partners”, our Patent and Trademark Attorneys represent our clients’ interests in Armenia, at the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) and other Eurasian countries.

Overall, our Firm manages cases for clients in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and other countries of the region.

“Vakhnina & Partners” is also engaged in legal affairs of clients in the areas of IP, representing clients in the courts of various Eurasian jurisdictions.

Our team has been voted as recommended by our peers and clients in various directories and ratings including IP STARS, WWL: Patent, Best Lawyers, IAM Patent 1000 and others.
Social Programme

**SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER**

**EXCO COCKTAIL RECEPTION**
19:30 – 22:00 / Transfer by bus from hotel at 19:00

**White House Cannes**
123 – 129 Avenue Marechal Juin, Cannes
The FICPI ExCo Cocktail Reception will be hosted at the White House Cannes, a sophisticated sea-facing venue boasting the refined elegance and architectural features of a Belle-Epoque villa.

The terraced gardens with flowering plants and trees and the spectacular, sweeping Mediterranean Sea view to the Lérins Islands will provide a fairy-tale setting for the ExCo cocktails!

**MONDAY 26 SEPTEMBER**

**NEW MEMBERS & FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES’ RECEPTION**
19:00 – 20:00

**Hotel Martinez – Veranda Bar**
A special reception will be held immediately prior to the welcome cocktail to allow new FICPI members and first-time Congress attendees to meet with active FICPI Officers and learn more about the Federation’s activities and how to get involved.

Capacity in the Veranda Bar is limited; therefore, this reception is by prior registration.

* by invitation only

**CONGRESS OPENING RECEPTION**
20:00 – 22:00

**La Plage du Martinez**
73 Boulevard de la Croisette, Cannes
The Congress opening reception will take place at the private beach of the Hotel Martinez, with its privileged view over the entire bay of Cannes, right in front of the Hotel.

On the world-famous and glittering “Croisette,” guests will enjoy views of the translucent Mediterranean Sea, framed by soft, sandy beaches and a delicate sunset.

In case of bad weather, the reception will be held in a private banquet room inside the Hotel.

**TUESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER**

**MORNING JOGGING SESSION**
07:00 – 08:00
Meet in hotel lobby.

**FORMAL DINNER**
19:30 – 23:30 / Transfer by bus from hotel at 19:00

**Château de La Napoule**
Avenue Henry Clews, Mandelieu-La Napoule
The location of the Congress formal dinner will be the Château de La Napoule, a restored castle classified as an historical landmark since 1993, and whose gardens are listed among the Notable Gardens of France.
The Château offers the magic of a timeless setting: its medieval and dreamlike décor, unique in the region, is combined with an exceptional location on the beach of Mandelieu, in the heart of the Bay of Cannes.

We do not recommend wearing high-heeled shoes at this venue.

Event co-hosted by the Association des Conseils en Propriété Industrielle (ACPI), the French national association of FICPI.

**WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER**

**INFORMAL DINNER**

19:30 – 22:30 / Transfer by bus from hotel at 19:00

**Dine-around in Mougins**

The informal dinner will take place all around the charming medieval village of Mougins, where the International Gastronomy Festival takes place every year to celebrate the great food and wine tradition of the Provençal region. This small city has a strong culinary tradition and, through the years, many great chefs have managed the numerous restaurants still present in the old city centre.

The dinner will take place in a number of different restaurants located around the main square of the village, which were visited by many artists and celebrities, such as Pablo Picasso, Winston Churchill, Catherine Deneuve, Édith Piaf and Christian Dior, who spent some time and lived in Mougins during their stay in the French Riviera.

We do not recommend wearing high-heeled shoes.

**THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER**

**MORNING JOGGING SESSION**

07:00 – 08:00

Meet in hotel lobby.

**GALA DINNER**

19:30 – 01:00 / Transfer by bus from hotel at 19:00

La Bastide du Roy

3055 Avenue Michard Péllissier, Antibes

The final evening of the FICPI World Congress will be hosted at La Bastide du Roy, a prestigious venue, dating back to the early 17th century, which stands in the northern outskirts of Antibes, overlooking the sea, the mountains and the hilltop village of Biot. Originally owned by the kings of France, subsequently by the city of Antibes and various landlords; the property was bought in 1924 by the French fashion designer Jeanne Lanvin. In 1971, after their marriage, Mick and Bianca Jagger spent the summer at La Bastide du Roy and the ROLLING STONES recorded “Exile on Main Street” both here and at the Villa Nellcôte à Villefranche. The “King’s country house” is surrounded by a beautiful, 7-hectare private park, designed in 1927 by the landscape architect of the Château of Versailles.

Cocktails will be served in the courtyard just in front of the Bastide, then guests will move to the Olive Trees Pavilion, a lovely, sheltered area, for the seated dinner.

Please note that there will be a short but pleasant walk from the bus to the Bastide. Suitable footwear should be worn. A cloakroom will be available should guests wish to change shoes. A shuttle service will be available for delegates and guests who are less able to walk.
Excursions

**MONDAY 26 SEPTEMBER**

**OPTIONAL EXCURSION**
09:30 – 16:00 (meet in hotel lobby 09:30)

**The Maeght Foundation and Saint-Paul de Vence**
The Maeght Foundation is France’s most important private foundation dedicated to modern and contemporary art. This unique architectural complex houses one of Europe’s largest collections of paintings and sculptures by artists such as Joan Miró, Alexander Calder, Fernand Léger, Georges Braque, Alberto Giacometti and Marc Chagall.

The Foundation is located only a few minutes away from one of the pearls of the French Riviera: Saint-Paul de Vence. This small, typically medieval, village is one of the most appreciated tourist destinations in France. Villagers, poets, sculptors and painters gathered throughout the ages in this magical place, strolling on the still-intact fortified walls or sitting in the shade of century old plane trees. Lunch is included.

**TUESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER**

**INCLUDED EXCURSION FOR CONGRESS DELEGATES’ GUESTS**
09:00 – 15:30 (meet in hotel lobby 09:00)

**The Marineland experience and Antibes**
Marineland is a one-of-a-kind marine zoological park with some of the world’s most emblematic sea species and is one of just two dolphinariums in Europe showing killer whales and dolphins.

From hunting and playing to expressing signs of affection, orcas, dolphins and sea lions will perform with their trainers in a spectacular show. After the show, Delegates’ Guests will visit the picturesque nearby town of Antibes and have lunch there in a typical bistro in the main square.

**WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER**

**INCLUDED EXCURSION FOR CONGRESS DELEGATES’ GUESTS**
09:30 – 16:30 (meet in hotel lobby 09:30)

**Grasse and the ancient art of perfume**
Delegates’ Guests will visit Fragonard, one of the oldest perfumeries of the Côte d’Azur, founded in the city of Grasse at the beginning of the 20th century. Right after a visit to the ancient factory, Guests will enjoy a private workshop: “How to create a perfume”. They will discover 9 fragrances, learn about olfactory recognition and create their own customised 100 ml bottle of a genuine Fragonard eau de Cologne.

After lunch, the excursion will end with a scenic walk in the centre of Grasse, the world’s perfume capital.

**THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER**

**OPTIONAL EXCURSION**
13:30 – 17:00 (meet in hotel lobby 13:30)

**St Honorat island tour with wine tasting**
The Île de Saint-Honorat is a small island of 40 hectares located in the Bay of Cannes. It bears the name of Saint Honoratus, who founded the monastery of Lérins here in the year 410; since then, the island has been inhabited by the Abbey’s monks.

Guests will follow the paths under the pines and explore the island, whose centre is occupied by the monastery’s vineyards, from which the monks draw wines and liqueurs, and where a wine tasting will take place during our tour.

*St Honorat Island*
FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

OPTIONAL EXCURSION #1
09:30 – 16:00 (meet in hotel lobby 09:30)

Nice and the Provençal Touch
Discover the Provençal colours and flavours among the narrow streets of old Nice, with its famous flower and food market. The tour also includes a stop to taste some of the local specialities such as socca (a chickpea flour pancake cooked with olive oil) and to enjoy Nice through the eyes of its vibrant inhabitants.

After lunch, those who are departing for home today from Nice Airport may leave directly without going back to Cannes.

OPTIONAL EXCURSION #2
08:00 – 17:00 (meet in hotel lobby 08:00)

Sporting activity – Golf
The Saint Donat Golf Club is located in a privileged geographical area between sea and mountains, on the wonderful hills of Grasse. This magnificent Par 71 course of 6,031 metres is characterised by the diversity of its layout and its raised landscapes born from the imagination of the world-famous golf course architect, Robert Trent Jones II.

If you need to rent clubs, please contact ENIC Meetings & Events: ficpi@enic.it.

OPTIONAL EXCURSION #3
08:00 – 16:00 (meet in hotel lobby 08:00)

Sporting activity – Soft canyoning at the Gorges du Loup
Enjoy a real adventure fully surrounded by nature! This activity combines hiking and swimming in a pleasant, small river in the stunning countryside of the Gorges du Loup. The paths are accessible without too much difficulty and include descent on foot in pure mountain water without ropes, wearing technical equipment, assisted by professional canyoning guides.

This activity is accessible to anyone in good physical condition who is able to swim (medium difficulty).

EXCURSION NOTES

Excursions that are marked as Delegates’ Guests’ Tours are included in the Delegate’s Guest registration fee. Excursions that are marked as Optional are not included in the registration fees of either Delegates or Delegates’ Guests; these optional excursions must be booked and paid for at time of registration.

For all optional tours, a minimum number of participants is required. The final itineraries of the tours may vary slightly for logistical reasons.
**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Dress Recommendations**

**Working Sessions:** Business attire

**Delegates’ Guests’ and Optional Tours:** Casual clothing, comfortable walking shoes are recommended

**ExCo Welcome Cocktail & Congress Welcome Reception** (Monday 26 September): Cocktail attire

**Formal Dinner** (Tuesday 27 September): Business casual

**Informal Dinner** (Wednesday 28 September): Casual

**Gala Dinner** (Thursday 29 September): Formal attire or national dress

**Language**

All of the Congress working sessions and all of the guided tours will be held in English.

**Continuing Education**

CLE/CPD CREDIT — Continuing education credits may be available for practitioners from the United Kingdom, the USA, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, and other countries.

**Dietary Requirements**

Special dietary requests (e.g. vegetarian, gluten-free, vegan) can be accommodated. Please indicate clearly any special requests when completing your registration. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate dietary requirements which have NOT been indicated in advance.

**Climate**

The average temperature in September is 25°C (77°F) during the day and 16°C (60°F) at night. On average, there are 4 days of rainfall during the month of September. The Mediterranean reaches 22°C and there are 8 hours of sunshine per day, making for perfectly suitable swimming conditions.

**Currency — Euro (€)**

Please check the current exchange rate with your currency.

**Power Connection**

230V 50Hz. Regular continental European plugs and sockets.

**Registration/Information Desk**

The Registration/Information Desk will be open on Sunday 25 September from 09:00 to 12:30 and from 14:00 to 18:00, on Monday 26 September from 09:00 to 12:30 and from 14:00 to 18:00, and on Tuesday 27 September from 09:00 to 12:30.

**On-site Organisers**

**FICPI & Enic Office - CORCIER 2**

**Private Functions**

We kindly remind you of the Rule 11 of the FICPI Code of Conduct, which states that organising business-related receptions or private functions during official meetings of FICPI is contrary to the tradition and spirit of the Federation and is not permitted by FICPI.

**Transportation**

Located in the heart of the Côte d’Azur, Cannes is easily accessible by most means of transport.

**FROM NICE AIRPORT**

The Nice Côte d’Azur International Airport (NCE), located 27 km or 30-40 minutes by car from Cannes, is a major gateway to Southern Europe. It serves 90 destinations with direct flights and welcomes almost 50 airlines. The airport has excellent facilities and services, with two passenger terminals, allowing for swift passage.

- **Shuttle Bus:** Cannes Xpress Line No. 210. Nice airport to the centre of Cannes. Departures commence at 08:00 and run hourly until 20:00. Journey time is just under an hour. [https://zou.maregionsud.fr](https://zou.maregionsud.fr)
- **Private Transfer:** ENIC Meetings & Events can arrange for private transfers. Please contact: ficpi@enic.it
- **Taxi:** Flat rate for Nice airport to Cannes transfer: €80 + €2 booking fee. Extra charges for baggage might apply. Tel. +33 (0)4 93 99 27 27 - [www.taxi-cannes.net](http://www.taxi-cannes.net)

*It is highly recommended to book taxis in advance, as waiting times may be quite long.*

**FOR EXCURSIONS & EVENTS**

Transportation to the social events, Delegates’ Guests tours and the optional excursions will depart from and return to the Hôtel Martinez. The meeting point will be in the lobby of the hotel.

**Terms of Registration**

**DELEGATES**

The registration fee for ExCo and/or Congress Delegates covers admission to the respective working sessions, working lunches and coffee breaks, plus participation in the respective evening social programmes. The Delegate registration fee does not cover the optional excursions on Monday 26 or Thursday 29 September. Each Delegate seeking admission to the ExCo Meeting and/or World Congress must pay his or her own registration fee(s), and this includes professional assistants or associates of Delegates who wish to participate in the working sessions. Persons registered as Delegates cannot take part in the Delegates’ Guests programme.

**DELEGATES’ GUESTS**

The registration fee for ExCo and/or Congress Delegates’ Guests covers participation in the respective Delegates’ Guests programme and the respective evening programme. The fee does not cover participation in any working sessions, working lunches or coffee breaks (which are restricted to registered Delegates), or in any of the optional excursions.

**Insurance**

FICPI shall not be held responsible for cancellation of your attendance at the ExCo Meeting and/or World Congress for any personal reason; including without limitation health or Covid-related reasons. No exceptions to the refund policies set forth herein will be made. You are advised to obtain suitable personal travel insurance, including Covid cover, in case you need to cancel your attendance at the meeting(s) for any reason.
Hotel Terms and Conditions

CHECK IN/OUT

Check-in is from 15:00; check-out is before 12:00.

Should the check-out time not be respected, the hotel reserves the right to charge for an additional half of the applicable night-rate. To guarantee early check-in or late check-out, an additional night must be reserved and paid for. Pre- and post-ExCo & Congress nights will be offered on request at the rates given on page 3, and based upon hotel availability.

BUFFET BREAKFAST

A breakfast buffet is included in the room rate and will be served for the FICPI delegates from 07:00 to 10:00, as follows:

24-25 September and 2 October:
Served in the restaurant “Le Jardin”

26 September to 1 October:
Served in the private banquet room “Citrus 1”

Should some guests decide to have a continental breakfast served in their bedroom, or an American buffet breakfast served in the restaurant “Le Jardin” on these dates, it will be charged at extra cost based on the Room Service or Restaurant rates.

HOTEL RESERVATION AND PAYMENT

Hotel reservation for the FICPI ExCo meeting & World Congress must be made on-line by each guest directly with the hotel via the following link: ficpi.link/hotel

A credit card will be required from each guest at time of reservation in order to guarantee their stay. If any credit card details are not valid, the reservation will be refused by the hotel.

After 26 August 2022 (cut-off date), the hotel will accept reservations based on availability, and different rates and conditions may apply.

Any amendment or cancellation of the booking must also be made on-line, through the same link; please note you will need to enter the confirmation number received by email, together with your first and last name.

If you wish to add extra nights before or after the dates of the FICPI event or encounter problems with your booking, please contact: anna.tomarovskaia@hotel-martinez.com or sandrine.daneluzzo@hotel-martinez.com +33 4 93 90 12 34.

Cancellation Policies

EVENT REGISTRATIONS

All requests for cancellation of registration must be submitted to the conference organiser, ENIC Meetings & Events, by email to: ficpi@enic.it.

• For cancellations received by 30 June 2022, your registration fees will be refunded in full, subject to a €100 handling charge.

• For cancellations received between 30 June and 19 August 2022, 50% of your registration fees will be refunded.

• For cancellations received from 20 August 2022, there will be no refund of the registration fees.

Substitutions may be made at any time before the ExCo Meeting and/or Congress (as appropriate) begins, against a handling charge of €100. All refunds will be made less a handling charge, and will be paid back AFTER the ExCo Meeting and Congress.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

All requests for cancellation of accommodation must be submitted directly to the hotel through the online booking portal mentioned under Hotel Reservation and Payment to the left with the following refund conditions:

• For cancellations received up to 8 days prior to the arrival date, there is no cancellation fee.

• For cancellations received from 7 days prior up until the arrival date, the reservation is 100% non-refundable; total or partial cancellation will be charged in full.

• Subject to the above, in case of no-show on the scheduled arrival date or a shortened stay, guests will be charged for the entire cost of the accommodation booked.

COVID-RELATED CANCELLATION POLICY

If the organisers decide to cancel or postpone the entire Executive Committee Meeting and/or World Congress in the event of a new wave of the Covid-19 pandemic or any other similar event or circumstance, your registration fees will be refunded in full: your credit card will not be charged by the hotel for accommodation. Cancellation or postponement of the ExCo Meeting and/or Congress will be exclusively at the discretion of the organisers. No compensation will be paid in respect of travel or other expenses or losses that you might incur: you should obtain suitable travel insurance with Covid cover.

All refunds will be made less a €100 handling charge and will be paid back AFTER the ExCo and Congress.

COVID-Related Regulations

Regarding the wearing of face masks, Covid tests, vaccination passes and other possible requirements or restrictions related to the Covid-19 pandemic, all Delegates and Delegates’ Guests will be obliged to comply with the rules in place in France at the time of the event. Updates will be provided through FICPI’s communication channels closer to the event date and during the ExCo Meeting and Congress.

Disclaimer

All reasonable endeavours will be made to hold the FICPI 2022 World Congress & Executive Committee Meeting and to present the programme as set forth in the brochure in a manner to assure the comfort and safety of the attendees. However, neither FICPI, nor the organisers, nor any of FICPI’s or the organisers’ representatives or agents shall have any liability to any person as a result of cancellation or change of all or part of the meeting or any of the arrangements, programmes or plans connected therewith or any loss, injury, damage or inconvenience which may be suffered by any person while travelling to or from the meeting, or during such person’s presence in France in connection with the meeting. Participants are advised to procure their own insurance against any such occurrences.
FICPI World Congress & ExCo Organisers

ENIC MEETINGS & EVENTS SRL
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