

WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

ANNUAL REPORT

20
22



INDUSTRIAL
PROPERTY OFFICE
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

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ANNUAL 2022 REPORT

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of invention*



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INDUSTRIAL
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Foreword



Ladies and Gentlemen,

2022 was the year of a return to “normal” life. After difficult, pandemic years, we were finally able to fully return to reality, which includes human contact without the barrier of respirators, masks or monitors of our computers. I took up my post with a clear goal – to make the central government body an open place that serves citizens in a transparent, professional, modern and, above all, human way. In this regard, I have found

great support in my colleagues, for which I thank them all and I greatly appreciate that they do a good name for the state and clerical work as such.

The topic of science, research and innovation is often difficult for ordinary people. Our help is sought by experts from the academic or private sector, but if we want to develop the potential of our country to the maximum, it is our duty to approach the wider masses in order to avoid separation in our bubble, which creates a gap and eliminates the possibility of development in full. Simply put, if people do not know about us, they cannot see the possibility of registering their ideas, business plans, designs, etc. That is why we were actively working this year to raise awareness among the general public. We organised several major events that resonated not only at the national level, but also abroad.

In March, we participated in the EXPO Dubai 2021 Mission, where we came to show the visitors of the World Exhibition products with protected designations of origin and geographical indications. We brought the feeling and taste of Slovakia to Dubai through our cheeses, honey, mineral waters, ceramics and folklore embroidery. A hydrogen car was placed in the main pavilion of the Slovak Republic and a Slovak hydrogen bus was placed at the entrance to the exhibition itself. Both of the above-mentioned exhibits are a direct proof of the amazing work of Slovak experts, which has a worldwide resonance.

I did not mention these two exhibits by chance, the topic of hydrogen in the context of our Office resonated intensively in 2022 thanks to the Conference organised by us – Hydrogen technologies in transport – Ready for the future! The world’s leading experts in the hydrogen technologies development met in Bratislava and on this occasion, Mr. Daren Tang, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization, visited Slovakia and our Office.

In addition, we spread the topic of intellectual property also thanks to the international Project Authenticity, of which Banská Bystrica was a part and a pilot city in Slovakia. Within the Project, we organised several events, from which I would especially highlight the competition for students – Do not be a faker! – which, given the interest of students and their grasp and elaboration of the demanding topic of intellectual property, surprised us very positively. Therefore, we decided to organise a competition every year to promote the interest of young people in a topic that is more and important from year to year. We also organised an event called – Just a logo is not enough! Thanks to which we have opened the topic of trademarks and their importance in the beginning of business to the general public.

I could go on for a long time. In addition to events organised by us, we participated in conferences, lectures and various events, thanks to which the topic of intellectual property received great attention in 2022. Once again, I thank all my colleagues who are not only actively working on their daily official agenda, but also are active in raising awareness and educating society. We are a state authority, but we must not forget that we work for people and I am extremely happy that people at the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic do their work not only well, but also with their hearts and smiles on their faces, thanks to which our clients leave satisfied.



Mgr. Matúš Medvec, MBA
The IPO SR President



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THE YEAR 2022 THROUGH THE EYES OF THE OFFICE MANAGEMENT...

20
22



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The year 2022 through the eyes of the office management...



2022 was the year when we could breathe and continue to work to meet specific challenges. For the first time ever, we prepared a National Intellectual Property Strategy document. Through meetings with colleagues from the EU, we managed to prepare new services for small and medium-sized enterprises to help them to protect their intellectual property. Last but not least, we were able to constantly improve, maintain quality and reduce the average duration of proceedings before the Office. We granted the first Fast Track patent and achieved historically the shortest time limits for trademark granting. In addition, we launched a notification service that informs clients of the Office in real time about what and when is happening to their proceedings before the Office. On the international field, we organised the Expo Dubai mission with representatives of designations of origin for products and geographical indications for products, we hosted the bilateral visit of the WIPO Director General Daren Tang, we organised the programme at the Radvaň Fair and made Banská Bystrica the first Slovak authentic city. Thanks to our colleagues and, of course, our clients, who regularly give us feedback and requests for improvement..

Mgr. Matúš Medvec, MBA
President



The past year 2022 was full of challenges, as we can traditionally state when looking at almost every previous year. However, there were also unprecedented challenges. When the transition to a new information system seemed to be complete, it was overshadowed by the challenge of dealing with the military conflict in a neighbouring country and related economic effects. Not only materially (the arrival of refugees, the increase in energy prices), but also mentally (thinking about the proximity of the conflict). The past year was tough to every department or section of the Office. It is a pleasure to read in the summaries how well each department dealt with these challenges. It is an even greater pleasure to see that we are also ambitious with goals for the future. We are thankful to individual employees for their achievements and we want to encourage them in coping with other challenges.

JUDr. Marek Samoř
Vice-President



Despite the fact that even 2022, especially its beginning, was marked by the Covid-19 pandemic, from the point of view of the Patent Department, the year can be described as successful. We have successfully managed the transition to the new information system and we have managed to shorten the time of proceedings on applications requesting protection of technical solutions. In 2022, the average length of proceedings for patent applications was 3.2 years (compared to 2021, this is a 4-month reduction) and the average length of proceedings for utility model applications was 8.75 months (compared to 2021, the length of proceedings was reduced by almost 1.5 months). It is also worth noting that in May 2022 a decision on granting the first fast-track patent was issued; the decision was issued less than 20 months after the filing of the relevant patent application.

Ing. Lukrécia Marčoková
Director of the Patent Department



In 2022, the not very optimistic assumption of a reduced number of applications for registration of trademarks as well as applications for registration of designs was fulfilled. On the one hand, thanks to this and on the other hand thanks to the electronic processes set up, e.g. quick delivery of the applicants' response, we were able to act on applications in a relatively short time, thus contributing to the fulfilment of one of the visions of the Office, namely to shorten the length of proceedings, of course with emphasis on their quality.

Ing. Zdena Hajnalová

Director of Trademarks and Designs Department



The performance of the employees of the Dispute Proceedings Department, as well as other departments of the Office, was influenced in 2022 by the deployment of a new information system for the processing of applications and filings. This brought a number of challenges and questions also in dispute proceedings consisting in more time-consuming and administratively demanding tasks, especially in the preparation and issuing decisions in the field. In the case of the result – the number of decisions issued, which is lower in absolute numbers, it can be stated that we managed the obstacles with honor, as the number of factual decisions was comparable or better than in the past.

Ing. Ingrid Brezňanová

Director of Dispute Proceedings Department



Regarding the length of appeal proceedings, it can be noted that in 2022 the length of non-contentious trademark proceedings was significantly reduced. The length of non-contentious proceedings in trademark cases at the Appeals Department is currently comparable to the length of proceedings in the same cases at first instance. At the same time, it can be stated that the work of the Department, in terms of the number of completed proceedings, was not negatively affected by the deployment of the new information system, as a result of which, and at the same time taking into account the number of initiated appeals procedures, the scope

of the pending department agenda was again reduced. In preparing decisions on appeals, as in previous periods, great emphasis was placed on their quality, also taking into account the fact that the decisions of the President of the Office are directly reviewable by the court. Emphasis on the quality of second instance decisions, in addition to efforts to reduce the length of appeals proceedings, will be the goal of the department for the next period.

JUDr. Lucia Kováčiková

Director of Appeals Department



The past year was filled with various legislative activities in various fora in addition to ordinary activities – we devoted ourselves to the preparation of national legislation, discussed proposals for EU legal instruments in the field of industrial property at the level of the Council of the EU working group and worked on the approach of the Slovak Republic to the international convention. Our work also includes regular official ex-post evaluation of regulations in the area of competence of the Office.

Mgr. Jitka Mikuličová

Director of Legal and Legislative Services Department



The year 2022 was an important year for the Department of Finance. We made a significant progress in the financial management of EU-funded projects, which was an unexplored area for most of us at the beginning of the year. In addition, we participated in the preparation of new projects in which the Office was involved. Our task was mainly a detailed analysis of wage expenditures, contributions of employees and contractors involved in projects, as well as cooperation with the implementation of public procurement for these projects, preparation of applications for payment in ITMS systems, as well as settlement of received approved payments.

In addition, the Department of Finance performs its normal daily role, mainly in the areas of accounting, payroll, control of economy and use of expenditure, budgetary management, preparation and processing of the final chapter account and public procurement for the chapter.

Ing. Ľubica Gajdošová

Director of Department of Finance



At the Receiving and Changes Department, in 2022, we registered and processed 3,171 new applications and 2,124 translations of the European patent file into the Slovak language registered a total of 20,489 filings and ensured the dispatch of 33,328 shipments. We have completed 6,970 proceedings regarding changes in ownership of disposition rights and validity extensions of designs, utility models and renewals of trademark registration. We completed the EUIPO project for the digitisation of designs and trademarks files, which consisted in scanning a total of 42,453 files, which is about 2.2 million pages. In cooperation with the Department

of Informatics, we have completed the project Data Management of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, which provides data management, the principle of openness and data sharing, OpenAPI interface for automated data sharing from the Office's register.

Mgr. Peter Jasenák

Director of Receiving and Changes Department



In the context of the transition to the official new single information system, 2022 brought quite extensive changes to the Department of Fees and Documents regarding the reorganisation of the performed activities. Thanks to the increased efforts of the whole team, they were successfully managed. The year 2022 also brought a change in the design of protective documents issued, which was adapted to a uniform design throughout the state administration.

Ing. Ivana Bieliková

Director of Fees and Documents Department



In 2022, the IT Operations Department implemented projects Data Management of IPO SR; Migration of ISVS Web Registers of the IPO SR and ISVS Portal of Electronic Services of the IPO SR to the government cloud and Large Development of the Information System for the Management of Industrial Property Rights. At the same time, preparations for the Project Development of Governance and the Level of Information Security and Cybersecurity in the sub-sector VS – Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic were underway.

Mgr. Miroslav Blaško

Director of IT Operations Department



After the complete reconstruction of the administrative building of the IPO SR, in 2022 we continued to modernise the interiors of the Registrar's Office, the entrance hall with the Client Centre and the Reception. We have introduced a new system of protection of the administrative building, which significantly saves state funds. We were involved in humanitarian aid to refugees from war-affected Ukraine. Due to the high price increase in the energy markets, we are trying to implement measures that bring immediate results in reducing energy consumption in the Office.

Ing. Iveta Zvaríková

Director of Administration and Maintenance Office



After the pandemic, international cooperation and related events gradually shifted from online to hybrid or in the second half of the year to attendance format. After two years, it is even possible to observe the boom of events at which the Industrial Property Office had its physical representation. One of the first successful activities was the participation of a business mission under the auspices of the Office at Expo Dubai, followed by the organisation of an international conference on the topic of hydrogen technologies, a visit of the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization Daren Tang or several activities in the Project Banská

Bystrica – an Authentic City. Traditional negotiations with regional, European or international partners cannot be overlooked. These partnerships result in many positives for Slovakia, which are felt primarily by the public through reduced administrative fees or versatile popularisation and education activities.

Ing. Emil Žatkuliak

Head of International Affairs Unit



The year 2022 in the Communication Unit was carried out in the spirit of adaptation to the end of the pandemic period and transformation to provide new services of the office. The information centre of the communication department provided clients with more than 4,800 requests for information, carried out 430 searches, organized more than 650 collaborations and, in cooperation with other departments, provided a pre-diagnosis information service to 35 Slovak companies. Clients to whom the service was provided submitted up to 119 applications for new industrial rights. In 2022, there was also a renewal of face-to-face educational activities of the department

and cooperation with the office's external partners. On the basis of this cooperation, more than 700 participants from the ranks of pupils and students of primary, secondary and higher schools, entrepreneurs and employees of institutions from the field of science and research completed the educational and consulting activities of the office. We would not have been able to achieve the above results without the personal and committed approach of the female employees of our department to their work and also without mutual cooperation with other departments of our office. I firmly believe that this positive approach will help us together overcome other challenges that the office will face in the coming period in fulfilling its vision and mission.

Mgr. Martin Macko

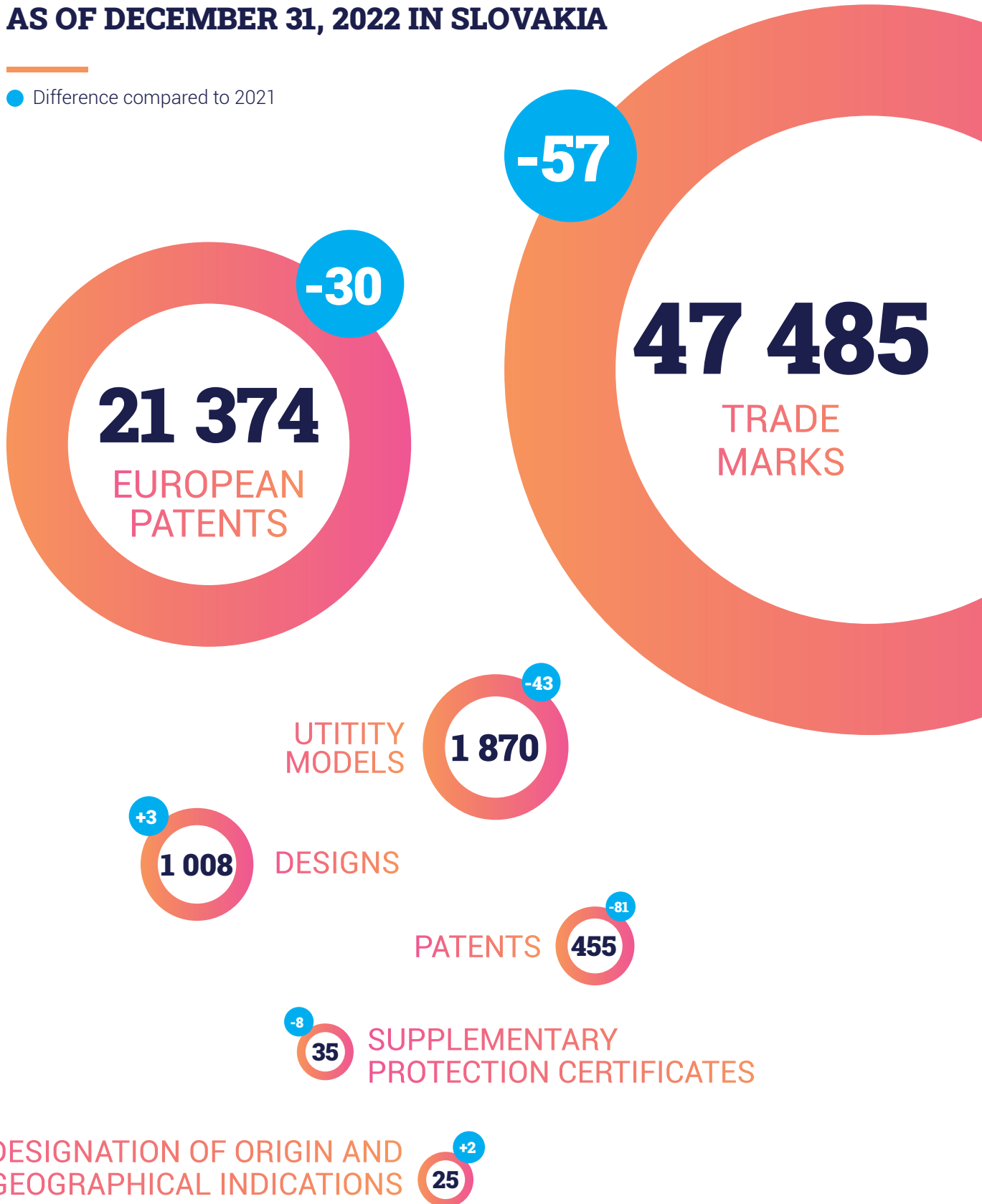
Head of the Communication Unit



Industrial Property Rights in Numbers

VALID SUBJECT-MATTERS OF THE INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 IN SLOVAKIA

 Difference compared to 2021



VALID SUBJECT-MATTERS OF THE INDUSTRIAL property rights as of december 31, 2022 in Slovakia

TRADE marks



DESIGN applications

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



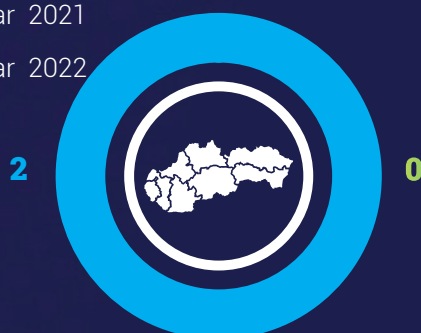
REGISTERED designs

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



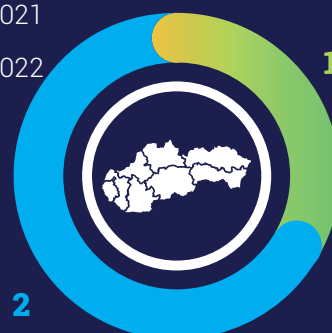
DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN and geographical indications applications

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN and geographical indications registrations

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



PATENT applications

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



GRANTED patents

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



PCT APPLICATIONS from SR

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



SUPPLEMENTARY protection certificates

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



UTILITY models applications

- Year 2021
- Year 2022



REGISTERED utility models

- Year 2021
- Year 2022





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EVENT CALENDAR

20 22

Our goal is to establish more intensive cooperation with key partners, increase the protection of industrial rights in Slovakia and highlight important Slovak innovators.



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Events calendar

January

THE YEAR 2023

shall be dedicated to designs

The year 2023 shall be dedicated to designs. Our goal is to establish more intensive cooperation with key partners, to increase the protection of designs in Slovakia and to highlight important Slovak designers or design companies.

SME FUND

Opens Support for 2022

The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic (IPO SR) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) continue to provide financial support to entrepreneurs. From Monday 10/ 1/2022 launched a more robust fund to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The aim of the Fund is to help SMEs recover from the challenging period caused by the global pandemic and, through intellectual property rights, to ensure the growth of SMEs and their anchoring in the domestic or global market.

February

THE FIRST ROUND TABLE

The first round table of universities and the Industrial Property Office of SR

On Tuesday, February 8, 2022, the Office invited to its premises the Rectors of eight Slovak universities that have applied for the protection of patents or utility models over the last five years. The aim of the meeting was to establish more intensive cooperation in the field of protection of inventions, to offer professional assistance from the Office, to identify opportunities to support the growth of the number of inventions and to jointly improve the position of Slovakia in international rankings. We need to move Slovakia even further forward in the protection of inventions and intellectual property.

March

MISSION EXPO

Dubai 2020

The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic presented the best we have at home in Dubai from March 9 to 13. We introduced Slovakia to foreign visitors through cheeses, wines, mineral waters, ceramics, embroidery, honey, trdelník and other beautiful, tasty and specific products from our homeland, which are protected by designations of origin or geographical indications. The main event of the whole mission was a presentation connected with a tasting called Experience and taste Slovakia!, which was extremely successful and thanks to it many producers were approached by foreign business entities at the so-called B2B meetings. Some of the exhibitors have gained new clients and others rare contacts that can help their business expand into the foreign market in the future.

WE STAND

by Ukraine!

The Slovak Republic, represented by the Permanent Mission of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations in Geneva, as the coordinator of the CEBS Group for 2022, initiated a meeting at the level of ambassadors of the CEBS countries on Friday, March 11, 2022. At the meeting, strong support for Ukraine's accession to the CEBS group was expressed. After a short, silent procedure, which was not broken, a full consensus was reached among the CEBS Group countries on Ukraine's accession to the CEBS. Ukraine is the 19th member of the CEBS group at the WIPO..

THE OFFICE ANNOUNCES

a student competition: Don't be a Faker!

Intellectual property is one of the themes of the 21st century. Therefore, within the Authenticities Project, we decided to reach out to young people and in cooperation with the City of Banská Bystrica we prepared a competition - ORIGINAL vs. FAKE - DON'T BE A FAKER!

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUIPO BOARD OF APPEAL visited Slovakia

The meeting was intended for the professional public and the EUIPO representatives presented us with an action plan for the development of the Boards of Appeal, alternative solutions to disputes in the field of intellectual property, or recent changes in case law.

April

BANSKÁ BYSTRICA has officially become an authentic city

Banská Bystrica is one of six cities in Europe that can boast the title – an authentic city. On April 4, 2022, we presented the project activities together with other authentic cities on the territory of the host Greek city of Thessaloniki. We compared the results and set new goals. The stimulating meeting culminated in the presentation of awards for developed activities and one of the awards we brought to Banská Bystrica.

DESIGNS ARE the core theme for 2022

In 2022, the Office pays more attention to the importance of design protection and registration at national and transnational levels (Community design). The aim is to establish more intensive cooperation with key partners and help to increase the protection of designs in Slovakia, to highlight important Slovak designers, design companies and to develop cooperation with individual partners and institutions focused on the given area.

THE SECOND ROUND TABLE of universities and the Industrial Property Office of SR

On Monday, April 25, the Office organised the second round table with the rectors of technical universities. This time, the meeting was held in a wider circle with representatives of all state institutions responsible for innovations in Slovakia. The aim of the meeting was to improve the position of Slovakia in the innovation rankings and to increase the number of innovations in the country. In addition, barriers to patent activity were identified and the most appropriate ways to assist universities with technology transfer were sought.

22nd World Intellectual Property Day

World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated on April 26 for 22nd year. Also in 2022, the Office in Banská Bystrica organised a Conference with the subtitle – Youth and Innovation for a Better Future. The Conference programme was divided into two parts. In the first one, representatives of the state, professional and academic community, who deal directly with youth and intellectual property protection, presented their presentations. In the second part, the attention was drawn to young innovators and entrepreneurs who presented their successful projects to the audience and shared their experience with intellectual property protection.

CONTEST The Don't Be Faker contest knows its winners

Out of more than 40 competitive works, we have awarded the best students. The winners deliberately shaped a critical and active attitude towards the intellectual property protection, awareness-raising or counterfeiting and its financial, health and social consequences. Among the prizes, students found a scooter, a smartphone, a tablet, headphones or virtual reality.

May

NOTIFICATIONS

for trademark applications have been triggered!

When filing applications, the Office actively communicates with applicants through notifications, which they can have sent to their e-mail address and telephone number. Thanks to this service, clients will know what is happening with their applications.

THE FIRST EVER

meeting of patent offices

The meeting took place between the President of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic and the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Kathi Vidal. During the meeting, an inspiring exchange of views, which raised several points of future cooperation, took place.

DAREN TANG

visited Slovakia

The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization visited Bratislava. During a multi-day visit to Slovakia, Daren Tang met the Prime Minister Eduard Heger, met the employees of the Office, as well as Slovak innovative enterprises.

INTERNATIONAL

Conference – Hydrogen Technologies in Transport

Bratislava became the venue of the International Conference focused on hydrogen technologies in transport with the subtitle – Ready for Future. The organisers of this event were the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic and the World Intellectual Property Organization. Representatives of the academic, public and private sectors met with presentations on the stage. These three sectors will be key to the development of hydrogen technologies.

June

THE OFFICE WAS VISITED

by representatives of the Ukrainian Institute of Intellectual Property

On June 20, at the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic in Banská Bystrica, we welcomed a delegation from the Ukrainian Institute of Intellectual Property. The subject of the informal meeting was not only the expression of solidarity in the current situation, but also the setting the further cooperation and assistance in anchoring Ukraine in European structures.

INNOVATION CENTRE

of Industrial Property at Comenius University

Comenius University in Bratislava, the Faculty of Law (PraF UK) together with the Centre for Scientific and Technical Information of the Slovak Republic (CVTI SR) have established a joint workplace - the Innovation Centre of Industrial Property, in the preparation of which the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic is also involved.

July

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

as a credit product

In Geneva, representatives of the national intellectual property offices met with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Daren Tang. The subject of the meeting was the commercialisation of intellectual property and the possibilities of specific implementation within the V4 countries.

63rd GENERAL Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization

Over 900 delegates from 193 Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization participated in the 63rd General Assembly. Slovakia presented a national statement in which it appreciated both the quality of services provided by the WIPO to the Member States and thanked for the excellent cooperation, which was evidenced by the visit of the Director General of the WIPO - Daren Tango - in Slovakia and his participation in the Conference on hydrogen technologies in transport.

HRUŠOVSKÝ LEPNÍK is protected at European level

On July 25, 2022, the European Commission approved the new protected geographical indication (PGI) from Slovakia. Hrušovský lepeník is a round or half-folded cake with a diameter of 20 to 35 cm from yeast bread-potato dough. It is produced in a salty and sweet versions, whilst the salty cake is being coated with garlic with butter or lard, and in the sweet version it is filled with jam.

August

THE OFFICE JOINS the responsibility of society as a whole

The Office has decided to reflect the energy crisis and shall save on gas. "We have to prepare for winter while the temperature is still high outside, and we have to start with ourselves. We will limit the air conditioning of the premises to an energy acceptable level, reduce the heating temperature to a maximum of 20 degrees Celsius and limit the heating to the necessary minimum. At the same time, we will reduce the heating temperature of domestic hot water," said the President of the IPO SR.

September

THE OFFICE BECAME part of the Radvaň Fair

The 364th Radvaň Fair also included stalls with traditional Slovak products with protected geographical indications and a designation of origins. The first part took place at the Office and then the delegation together with guests moved to the Radvaň Fair, where they could talk directly with producers of traditional Slovak products that already have such a labelling. At the same time, we handed over the diploma to the manufacturers for their dedication to maintaining the tradition and doing their work honestly and with love.

WE HAVE COMPLETED the digitisation of trademark and design files

On August 25, 2022, the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic successfully completed the digitisation of its paper files related to trademarks and designs as part of the ECP5 Project: Capture and storage of historical files. In total, 42,453 files were scanned and digitised.

FORMER PRESIDENTS of the Office recalled together

The Office was established in 1993 and has so far been chaired by five Presidents and one female President. Former presidents met in Banská Bystrica in an almost complete line-up. At the informal working meeting there was a great atmosphere, experiences were exchanged, old times were remembered and new visions were presented. Meeting of generations has always been enriching.

Oktober

WORKSHOP

„Just a logo is not enough“

The Office in cooperation with the City of Banská Bystrica and the Financial Administration of the Slovak Republic organised a one-day free workshop for small and medium-sized entrepreneurs under the title – „Just a logo is not enough“ with the subtitle - Why protect the intellectual property of your company? During these hours, all participants were acquainted with the basic parameters and benefits of intellectual property rights protection, the effects of counterfeiting of goods and experienced entrepreneurs from the region and patent attorneys told their stories from practice.

THE OFFICE OPENED the door to students

The internship programme already has its fixed place with us. We are pleased that the interest of students in working in the state administration is still high, as evidenced by dozens of CVs. After three weeks spent with these young and ambitious people, we can confidently assess that we do not have to worry about the future of our authorities.

WE WERE ACCEPTED to the French Patent Office

We have been inspired by the French to do even more to help small and medium-sized enterprises with intellectual property. We took home practical suggestions that we will use in meetings with entrepreneurs.

PRODUCTS WITH designations of origin or geographical indications may use a new symbol

On October 5, 2022, the National Council of the Slovak Republic approved changes to the Act on Designations of Origin of Products and Geographical Indications of Products. Thanks to these changes, also producers of so-called

non-agricultural products can use symbols that until now could only be used for products protected in the EU. According to the approved law, the manufacturer will be able to place a label with a symbol showing the fact that a particular product has a clear origin and was actually produced in a specific geographical area on such a product.

November

HACKATHON

in Banská Bystrica

The Office became part of a two-day innovators' meeting, BBthon. The teams worked 24 hours on assignments that could help improve tourism in the region. Graphic designers, web designers, marketers chose from several assignments. One of them was also proposed by the Office, namely the processing of a digital interactive map of geographical indications and designations of origin.

ONLINE SEMINÁR

Searching for patent information in practice

The Office organised an online seminar on the use of search tools for employees of PATLIB centres, technology transfer centres, science and research workers, as well as for the wider public.

December

THE OFFICE

defended the CAF title again

Katarína Surmíková Tatranská, the President of the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing, personally handed over to the Office the title of Effective User of the CAF model, valid for two years. By obtaining the title, the Office proved once again that it cares about quality. We are happy to have received the title and we will continue to improve the services of the Office for citizens, partners and employees.



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TRADEMARKS

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Trademarks are now an indispensable need to ensure the right to use distinctive signs for goods and services.



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® Trademarks

Trademarks are now an indispensable need to ensure the right to use distinctive signs for goods and services. Trademark means a word, pictorial, spatial, auditory, motion, multimedia, holographic or positional sign or pattern designation, or a sign consisting of one colour or combination of colours, which is capable of distinguishing the goods or services of one person from those of another person. By registering a sign as a trademark, the owner acquires the exclusive right to mark the goods or services for which it is registered with a trademark. In the case of an unlawful infringement of the rights conferred by a trademark, the owner may also seek a judicial remedy to prohibit the infringement or threat to the right and to remedy the consequences of the infringement. Where the infringement has caused damage, an owner of a trademark shall be entitled to compensation. In the case of non-pecuniary loss, the owner has the right to reasonable satisfaction.

In 2022, 2,494 national trademark applications were filed, representing a decrease of 24 % from the previous year.

Domestic applicants filed 2,022 applications and 472 foreign applications, with the largest numbers coming from the Czech Republic (290), the United States (25), France (32) and Switzerland (22).

As of December 31, 2022, 47,485 trademarks were registered in the Office's register in the Slovak Republic.

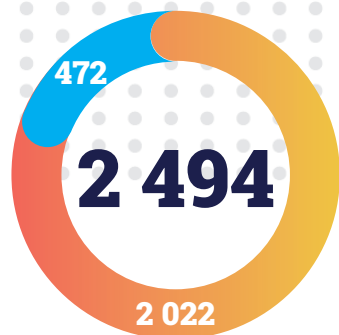
The number of internationally registered trademarks (ITM) with designation for the Slovak Republic in 2022 was almost identical compared to 2021, when 977 ITM were filed, and in 2022 this number was 964, i.e. only 13 less. In 2022, 57 applications for international registration of a trademark were sent to the WIPO, representing a decrease compared to the previous year, by 17 applications (i.e. by 23 %), which corresponds to an overall decrease in national trademark applications. The provisional refusal of protection as well as the granting of ITM protection was carried out by the Office in the same way as in previous years, i.e. within a period of up to five months.

24 %  **DECLINE OF TRADEMARK APPLICATIONS**

Trade marks	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Nationally filed trade marks	2 737	2 878	2 987	3 287	2 494
domestic	2 233	2 314	2 429	2 623	2 022
foreign	504	564	558	664	472
Internationally registered trade marks within SR	1 571	1 357	1 116	977	952
International trade mark applications from SR	83	78	72	74	57
Nationally registered trade marks	2 489	2 614	2 497	2 741	2 351
domestic	1 962	2 106	1 947	2 183	452
foreign	527	508	550	558	1 899

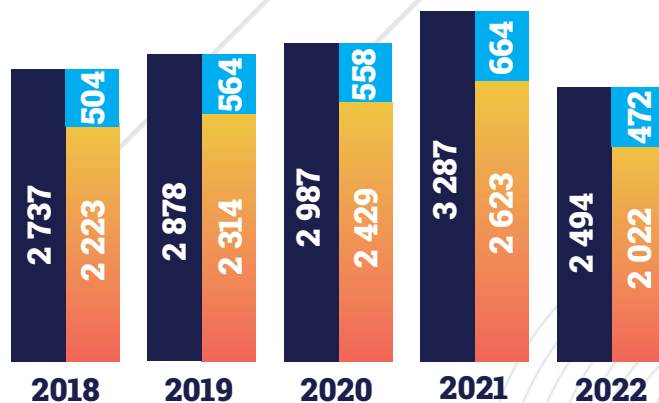
NATIONAL trademarks applications 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Trademarks in total



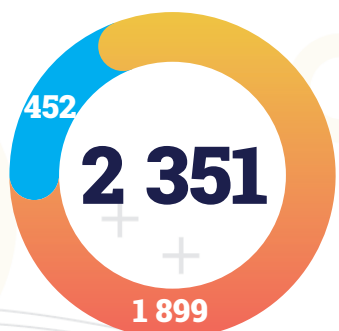
NATIONAL trademarks applications 2018 – 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Trademarks in total



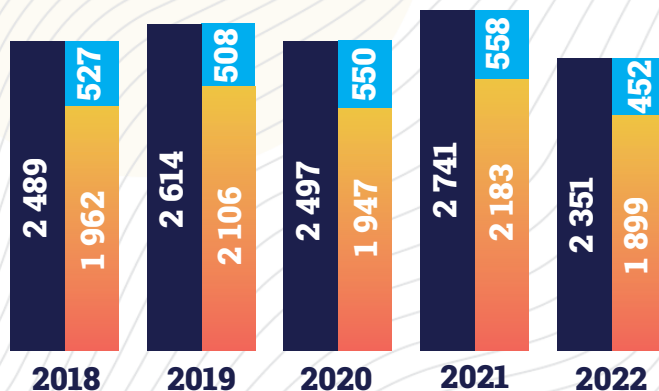
NATIONAL registered trademarks 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Trademarks in total



NATIONAL registered trademarks 2018 – 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Trademarks in total



Fast Track a trademarks



30 working days →

ELECTRONIC

application filing on the IPO SR
electronic services portal
[https://mef.indprop.gov.sk/ipointupv/
pages/Default.aspx](https://mef.indprop.gov.sk/ipointupv/pages/Default.aspx)

LIST OF GOODS

List of goods and services created by
the tool
<https://www.ezts.sk>

THE FEE PAID

The fee paid within 3 working days
from sending the confirmation of filing

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

ELECTRONIC MAILBOX

Electronic mailbox
slovensko.sk
activated for delivery

PRIORITY

Priority right document included i
n the filed application
(in case of priority right
claimed in the application)

Fast Track a trademarks in numbers

648

Fast Track
TM applications

26 %

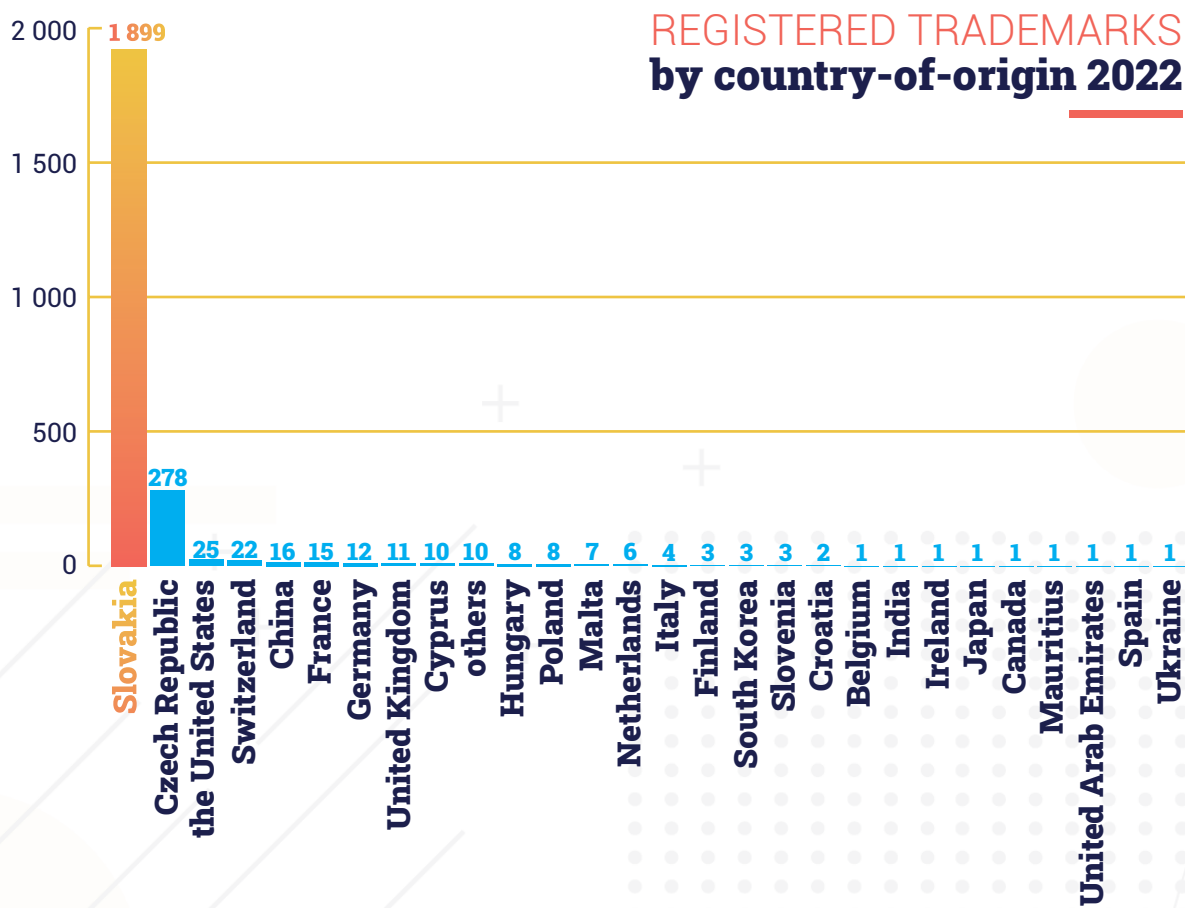
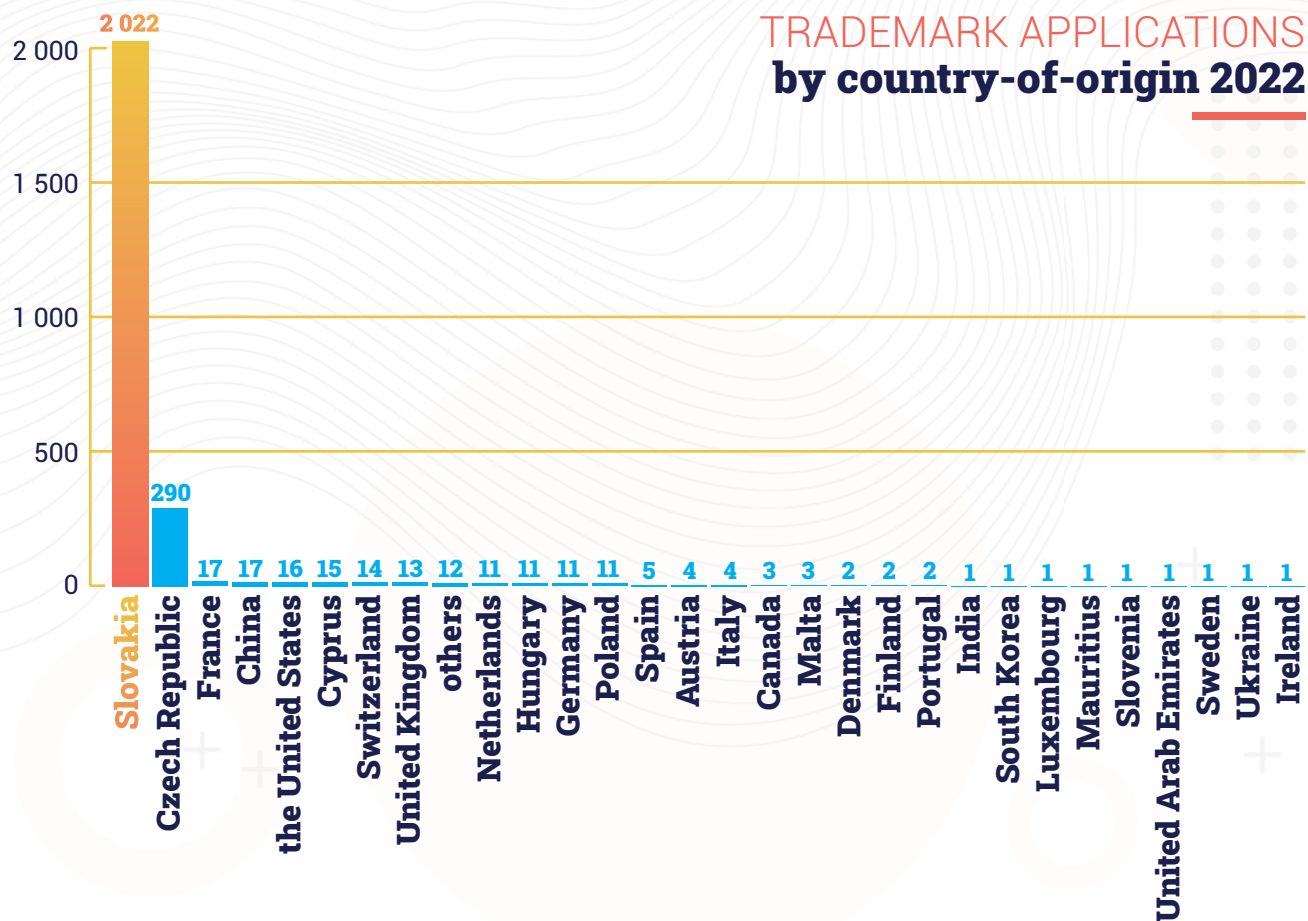
out of the total number
of TM applications

14

working days
shortest time of proceedings

52

working days
average time of proceedings

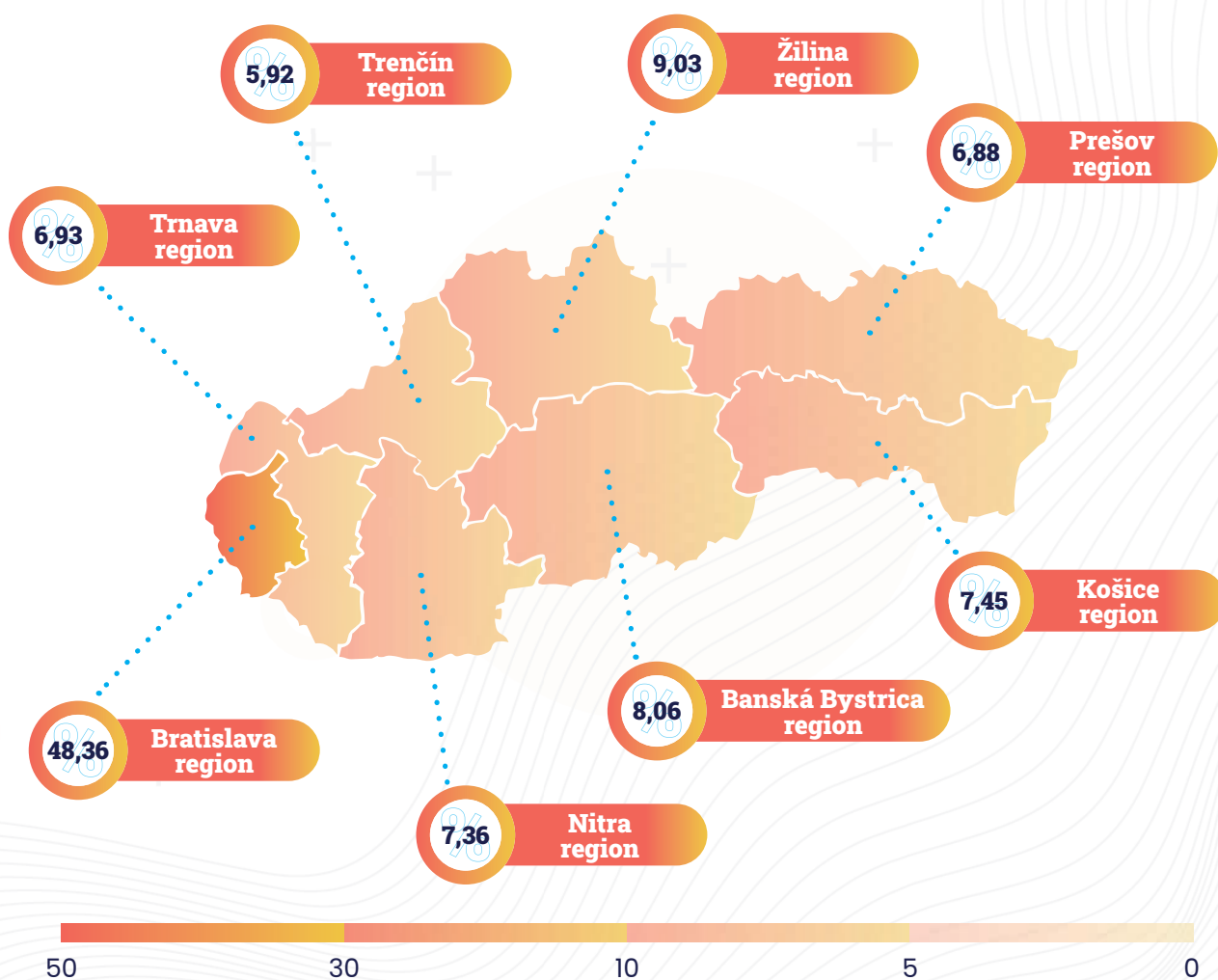


SLOVAK APPLICANTS by subject-matter 2022 (number of applications)

- Universities and state institutions
- Legal Entities
- Natural persons
- Total



APPLICANTS by the region 2017 – 2022





WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

DESIGNS

20
22

The design is the protection of the appearance of new products or parts thereof, their characteristics such as lines, contours, colours, shape, structure and decoration.



INDUSTRIAL
PROPERTY OFFICE
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

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Designs

Complete protection of new products also includes the protection of their physical appearance (aesthetic aspect). The design is the protection of the appearance of new products or parts thereof, their characteristics such as lines, contours, colours, shape, structure and decoration. Design can be protected if it is new and has a distinctive character. A design shall be deemed new if the identical design was not made available to the public before the date of filing of the application or the priority date. The owner of the registered design is protected against all persons, legal or natural, who would like to violate his/her legal right.

As of December 31, 2022, the Office registered a total of 1,008 **valid designs** in the Slovak Republic. The number of filed **design applications**

in 2022 decreased from 113 to 102, which is **11 fewer design applications** than in 2021, i.e. by 10 %. In the year under review, the largest share of applicants were Slovak entities that filed 77 design applications, while only 5 foreign entities applied for registration of the design in the register of the IPO SR. Most of these applications come from car manufacturers (SCANIA CV AB, ŠKODA AUTO, a. s., Renault S. A. S), whilst the total number of applications from these entities is 25.

There were **13 negatively completed filings** in the year under review, which is less than 13 % compared to 98 completed design registration procedures, which is at a comparable level over the long term

10 %



DECLINE OF DESIGN APPLICATIONS



Designs	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Design applications	119	109	145	113	102
Domestic	111	90	119	103	77
Foreign	8	19	26	10	25
Registered Designs	131	100	126	121	85
Domestic	107	89	95	110	65
Foreign	24	11	31	11	20

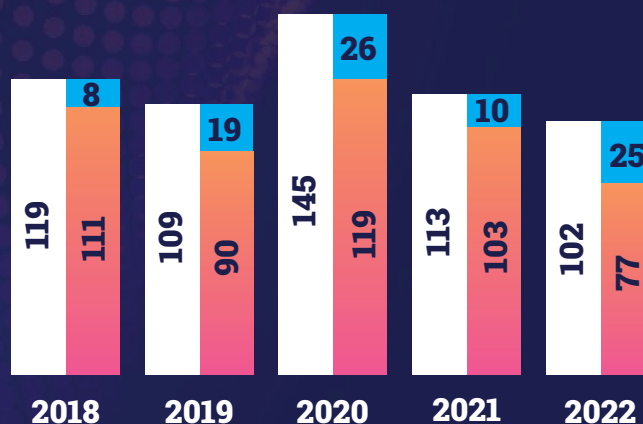
DESIGN applications 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Designs in total



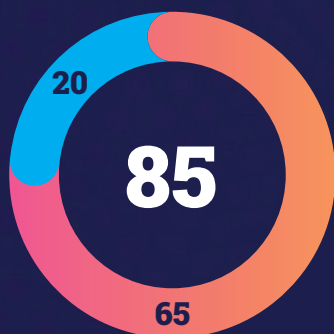
DESIGN applications 2018 – 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Designs in total



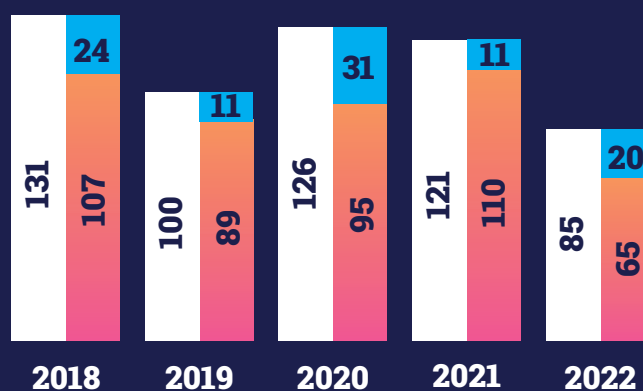
REGISTERED Designs 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Designs in total



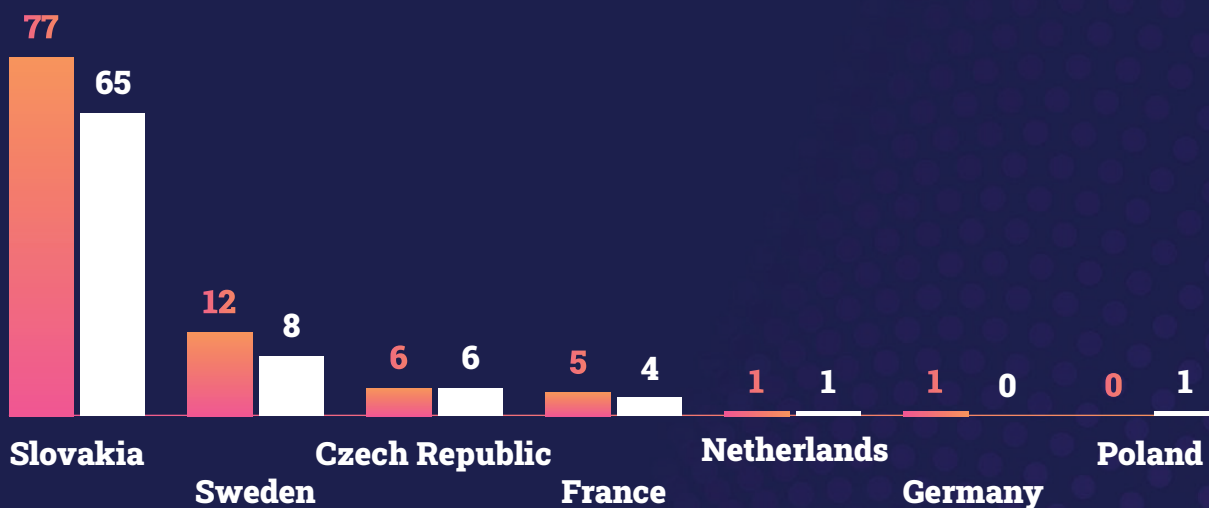
REGISTERED Designs 2018 – 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Designs in total



DESIGN APPLICATIONS AND REGISTERED designs by country-of-origin 2022

- Applications
- Registered



5 MOST APPLIED CLASSES (Locarno classification)

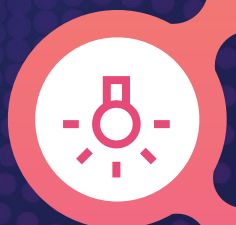
20
Furniture



20
Means of transport and lifting



11
Lighting equipment and bodies



8
Packaging and containers for the transport or handling of goods

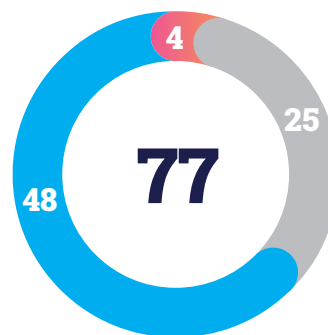


7
Games, toys, tents and sporting goods

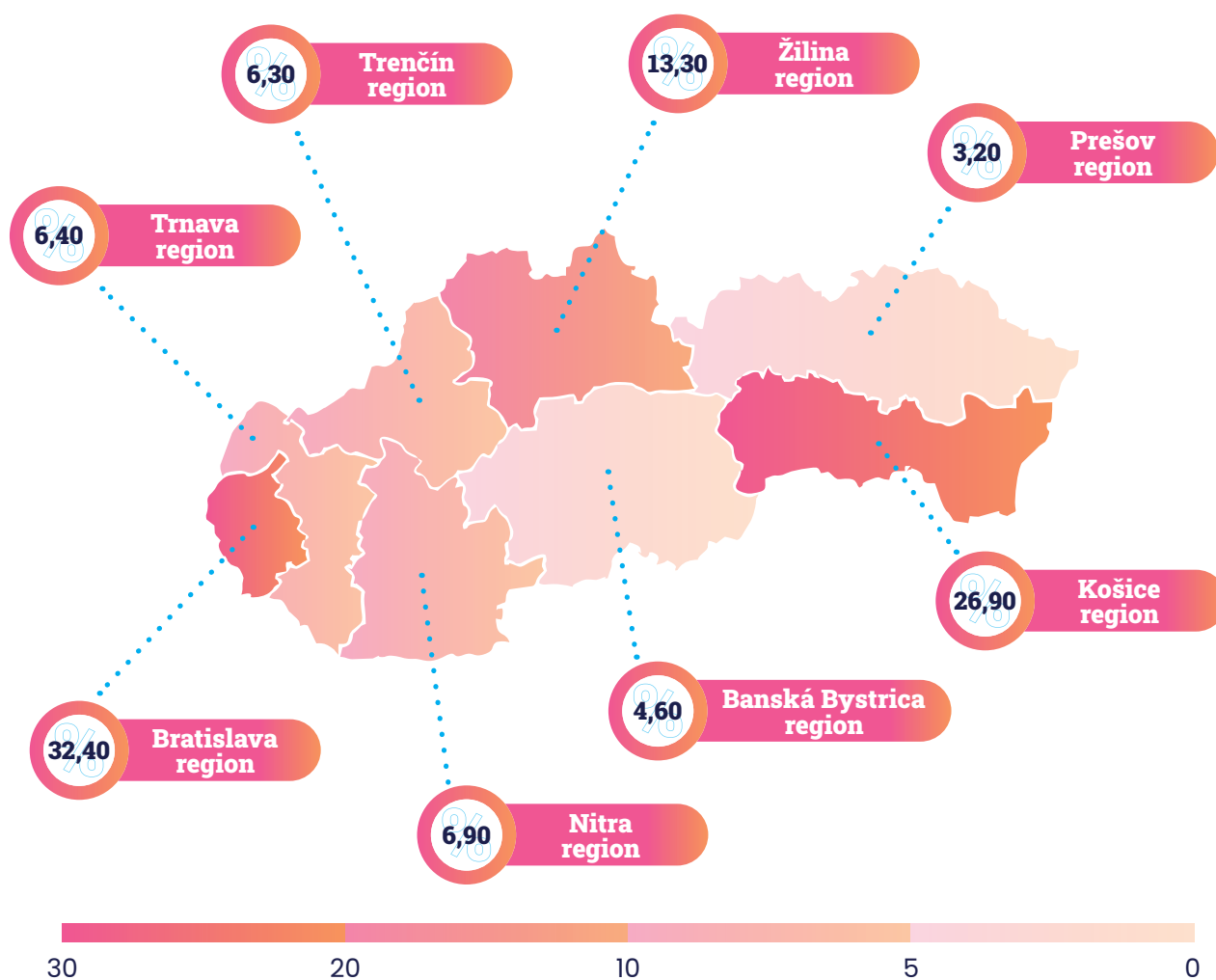


SLOVAK APPLICANTS by subject 2022 (number of applications)

- Universities and state institutions
- Legal Entities
- Natural persons
- Total



APPLICANTS by the region 2017 – 2022



WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS OF PRODUCTS

20
22

They represent effective protection on preservation of cultural, social and social values on a global scale.





Designations of origin and geographical indications of products

A system of protection for products which are unique by virtue of their geographical place of origin or, where appropriate, skills of inhabitants of a particular region handed down over generations, guarantees the consumers that the product is not an imitation of the original. Their effective protection on a global scale means preserving cultural, social and societal values.

A designation of origin for a product is the name of a certain place, region or, exceptionally, a country used to designate a product originating in that place, region or country where the quality or characteristics of that product are exclusively or substantially due to a geographical environment with its

characteristic natural and human factors and the production, processing and preparation of that product takes place exclusively in a defined place, region or country.

A geographical indication for a product is the name of a certain place, region or, exceptionally, a country used to designate a product originating in that place, region or country, where that product possesses a specific quality, reputation or characteristics attributable to that place, region or country and the manufacture, processing or preparation of that product takes place in a defined geographical location, region or country.



On October 5, 2022, the National Council of the Slovak Republic approved changes to the Act on product designations of origin and geographical product designations. Geographical indication or designation of origin is authorized to be used by anyone who markets a product that meets the product specification and manufactures it in a specific location. Thanks to these changes, producers of the so-called of non-agricultural products (for example, ceramics or traditional embroidery) to use symbols that until now could only be used for products protected in the EU (i.e. so-called agricultural products that are marked with symbols adapted to EU law). According to the approved law, the manufacturer will also be able to place a mark displaying a symbol on such a product, which will alert the consumer to the fact that the specific product has a clear origin and was actually produced in a specific geographical area.



In the case of designations of origin and geographical indications, these are rights that do not belong to an individual or a single entrepreneur, nor to a single entity (such as an association, association of producers, or association of processors, as the case may be). These rights belong to all those who, in the defined geographical area, produce or prepare the product in accordance with the conditions laid down in the product specification.

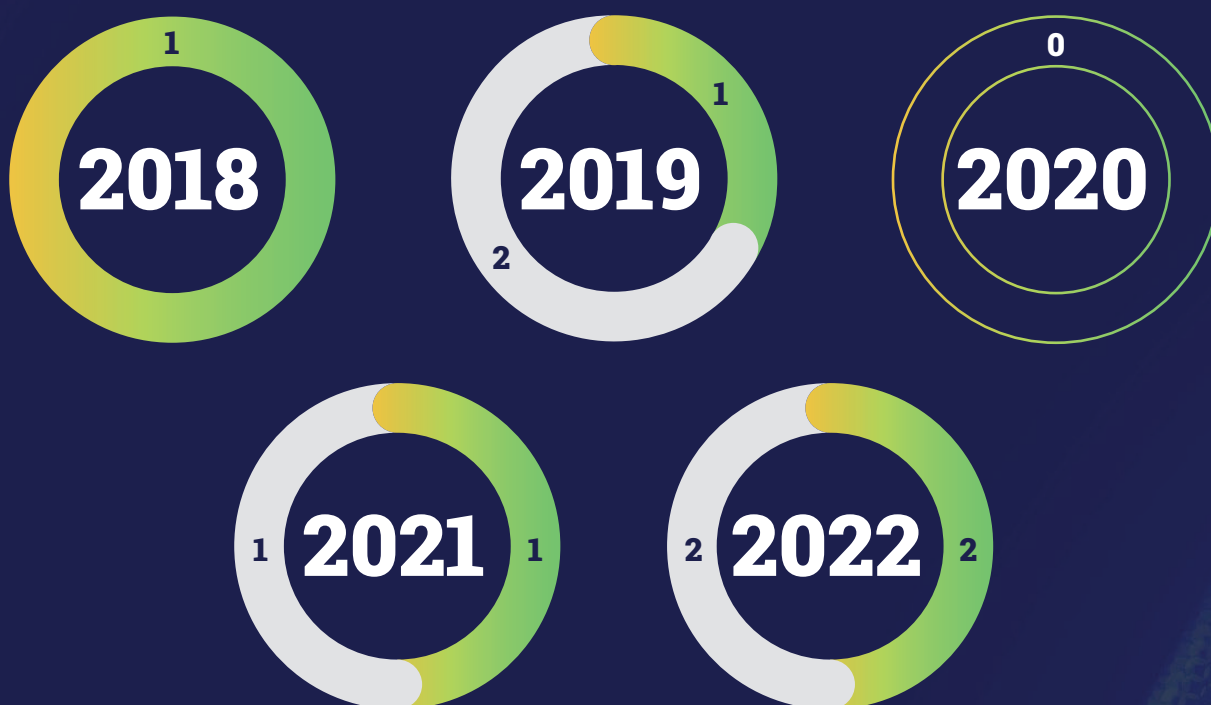
As of December 31, 2022, 19 designations of origin for products and 6 geographical indications for products were valid in the register of the IPO of the Slovak Republic, and 8 from the Slovak

Republic are registered in the international register of designations of origin for products. In total, 25 designations of origin and geographical indications are registered in the EC register, and in the proceedings before the EC there are three other designations – **Trnavský malt**, **Tokaj wine from the Slovak region** and **Trenčín borovička (juniper flavoured spirit drink) “JUNIPERIES” – Trenčín DESTILLERY/Trenčín borovička “JUNIPERUS”**.

During 2022, the Office carried out 28 pre-diagnostics for the potential protection of geographical indications for products and designations of origin for products.

DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN FOR PRODUCTS and geographical indications for products in 2022

- Applications
- Registered



IN 2022, 1 DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN AND 1 GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION WERE ADDED TO THE REGISTER of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic

Fabric from Kostolany nad Hornádom/Hornád fabric (GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION FOR THE PRODUCT)

Fabric from Kostolany nad Hornádom/Hornád fabric is a fabric made of cotton or flax yarn, or of cotton and flax, woven on traditional wooden looms characteristic for this geographical area. The fabric is produced with a width of 30 cm, 40 cm or 60 cm and with any length. The Hornádska valley is characterised by cotton fabric with overlaid and printed patterns of red colour or with woven colour patterns of flowers and birds from the surrounding nature. Flax or flax-cotton fabric is produced in natural shades of flax. For the preparation of the fabric, plain weave is most often used with woven patterns of flowers, leaves and geometric shapes. In the case of other colours, rather broken tones are chosen.

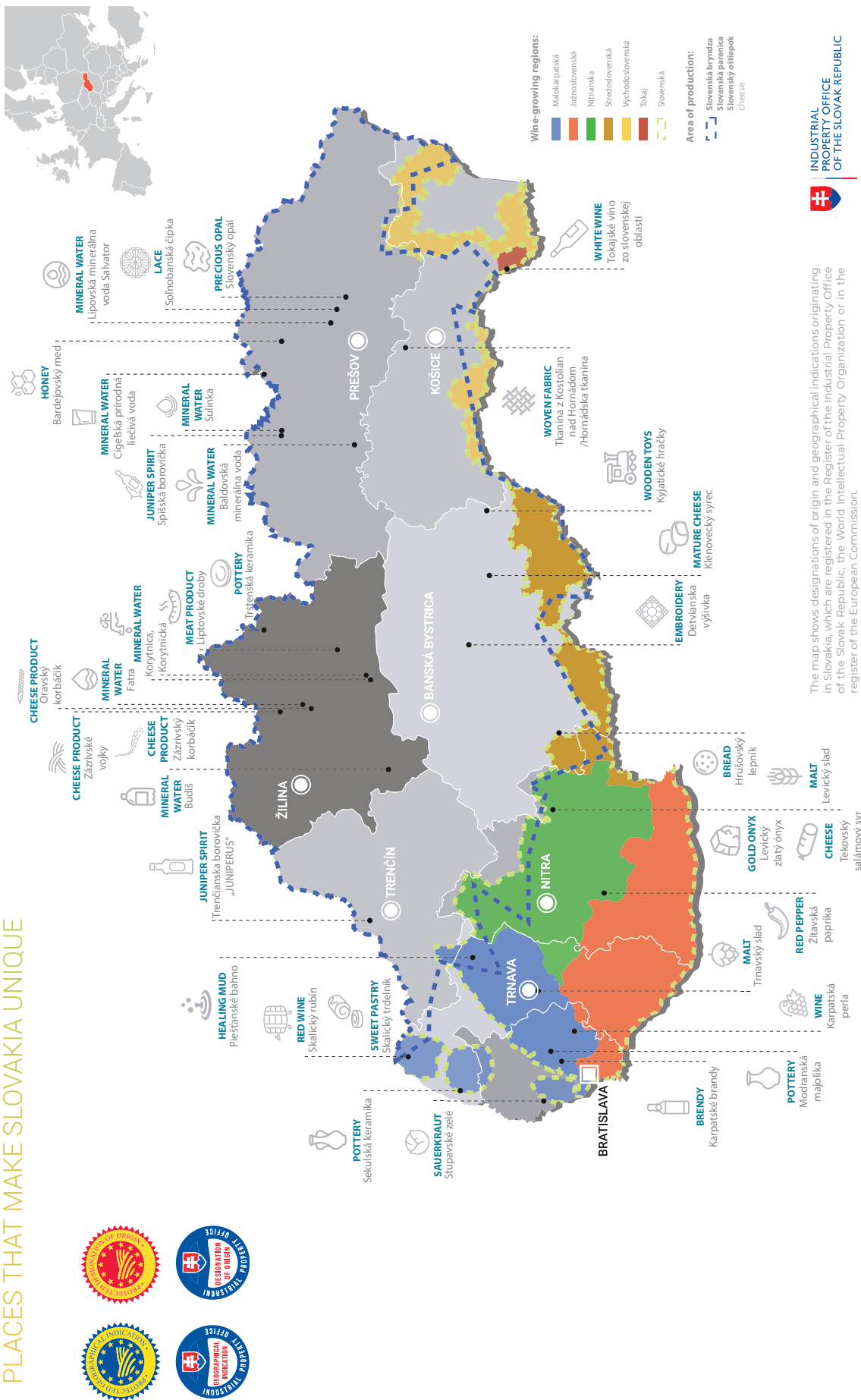
Trstená ceramics (DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN FOR THE PRODUCT)

Trstená ceramics is a decorative utility ceramics produced by hand-turning on a potter's wheel, using locally present sources of clay. Trstená pottery products are characterised by their brick-red colour and distinctive decorativeness, which is achieved by watering and hand-decorating the shard with coloured clay and subsequent treatment with transparent glaze. The production of Trstená ceramics is concentrated in the town of Trstená. The deposits of clay used in pottery production are located in the cadastral area of Trstená and in the cadastral areas of Ústie nad Priehradou, Liesek, Brezovica, Zábiedovo and Tvrdošín.



DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS OF PRODUCTS

PLACES THAT MAKE SLOVAKIA UNIQUE



The map shows designations of origin and geographical indications originating in Slovakia, which are registered in the Register of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, the World Intellectual Property Organization or in the register of the European Commission.

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC





WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

PATENTS

20
22

One the forms of protection for inventions
(such as products, technologies and
devices)



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Patents

Patents are an important form of protection for inventions (such as products, technologies and devices). The IPO SR grants patents for inventions from all fields of technology, which are new, involve inventive activities and are industrially usable. Not only new products, equipment and technologies, but also chemically produced substances, pharmaceuticals, industrial production micro-organisms, as well as biotechnological processes and products obtained through them can be patented.

A patent is a protective document granting its owner a time- and territorial-limited exclusive right to commercially exploit the protected invention. By publishing the invention described in the patent application, the public obtains valuable technical information that can form the basis for further development in a particular field of technology.

As of December 31, 2022, **21,829 patents** were valid in the territory of the Slovak Republic, of which **455** were granted **by national way**. As of that date, **21,374 European patents** were valid in the territory of the Slovak Republic.

During **2022**, the Office received **203 patent applications**, of which **184** were filed by domestic applicants and **19** by foreign applicants. Compared to 2021, this is an **increase** of 28 % in the number of applications filed. The number of patent applications filed by domestic applicants was 27 % higher than in 2021, and there was a **46 % increase** in the number of applications filed **by foreign applicants**. Most foreign applicants traditionally came from the Czech Republic (7). Most patent applications filed in 2022 concerned transport, machinery and engineering (29.56 %) and process engineering (22.17 %). Most patent applications were filed by the Technical University of Košice (30) and the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (22).

Under the **Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)**, **22 international applications** were filed last year with the IPO SR as the receiving office, which represents a decrease of 8 % compared to 2021.

On behalf of the **Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI)** as the International Searching Authority, international searches and written opinions on 6 international applications were drawn up, representing a decrease of 14 % compared to 2021.

28 %



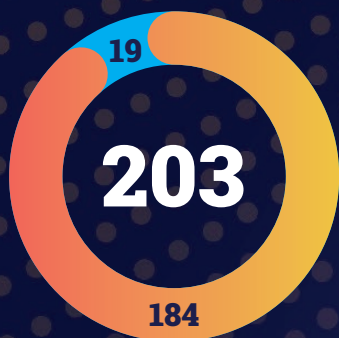
increase in filed patent applications

Patents	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patent applications	231	234	221	159	203
Domestic	216	206	206	146	184
– of which PCT SK	1	1	1	1	0
Foreign	14	28	15	13	19
– of which PCT SK	2	5	4	8	6
Patents granted	109	91	89	106	95
– of which PCT SK	13	10	6	2	4
Domestic	86	68	79	92	75
Foreign	23	23	10	14	20
PCT applications from Slovak Republic SR¹	28	22	30	24	22

¹ Applications filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) with the IPO SR as the receiving Office

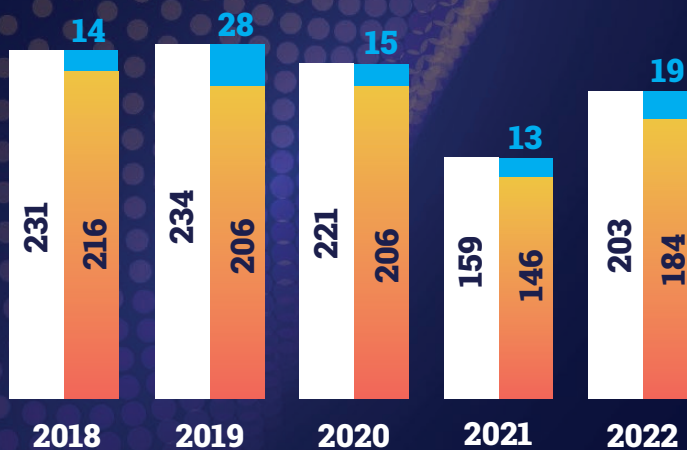
PATENT applications 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Patent applications in total



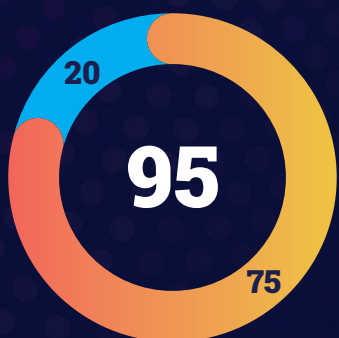
PATENT applications 2018 – 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Patent applications in total



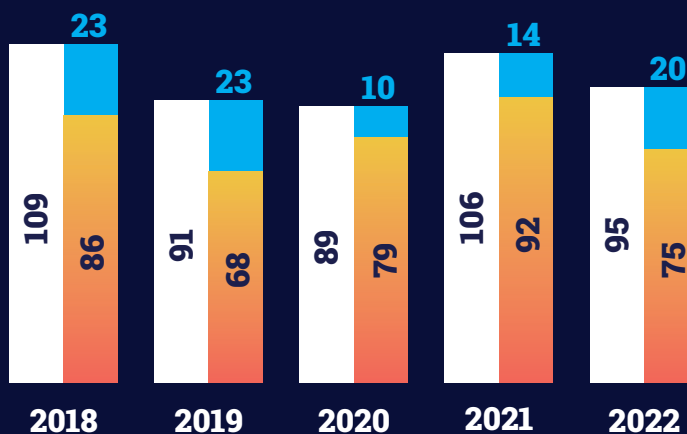
PATENTS granted 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Patents granted in total

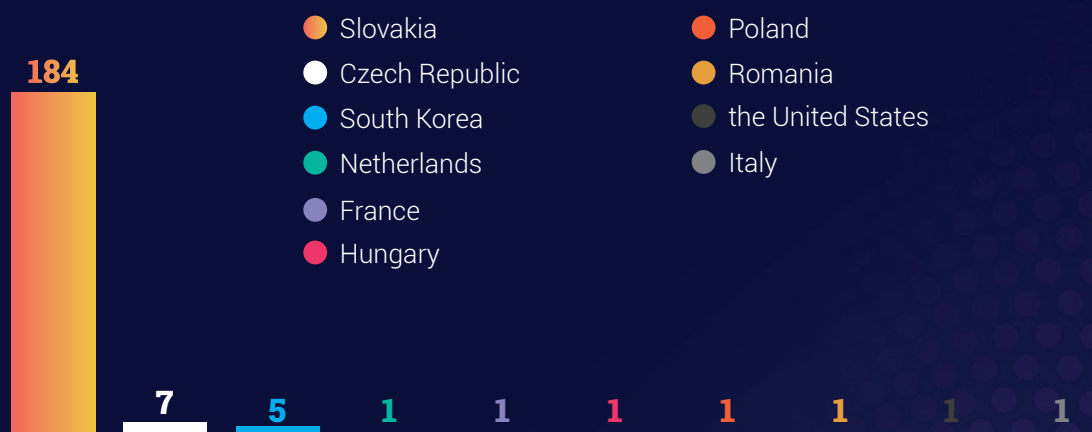


PATENTS granted 2018 – 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Patents granted



PATENT APPLICATIONS by country of origin 2022



5 MOST APPLIED CLASSES 2022 (International Patent Classification)

23
Transportation



21
Analytical, measurement and control technologies



16
Manipulation, printing



15
Analytical, measurement and control technologies

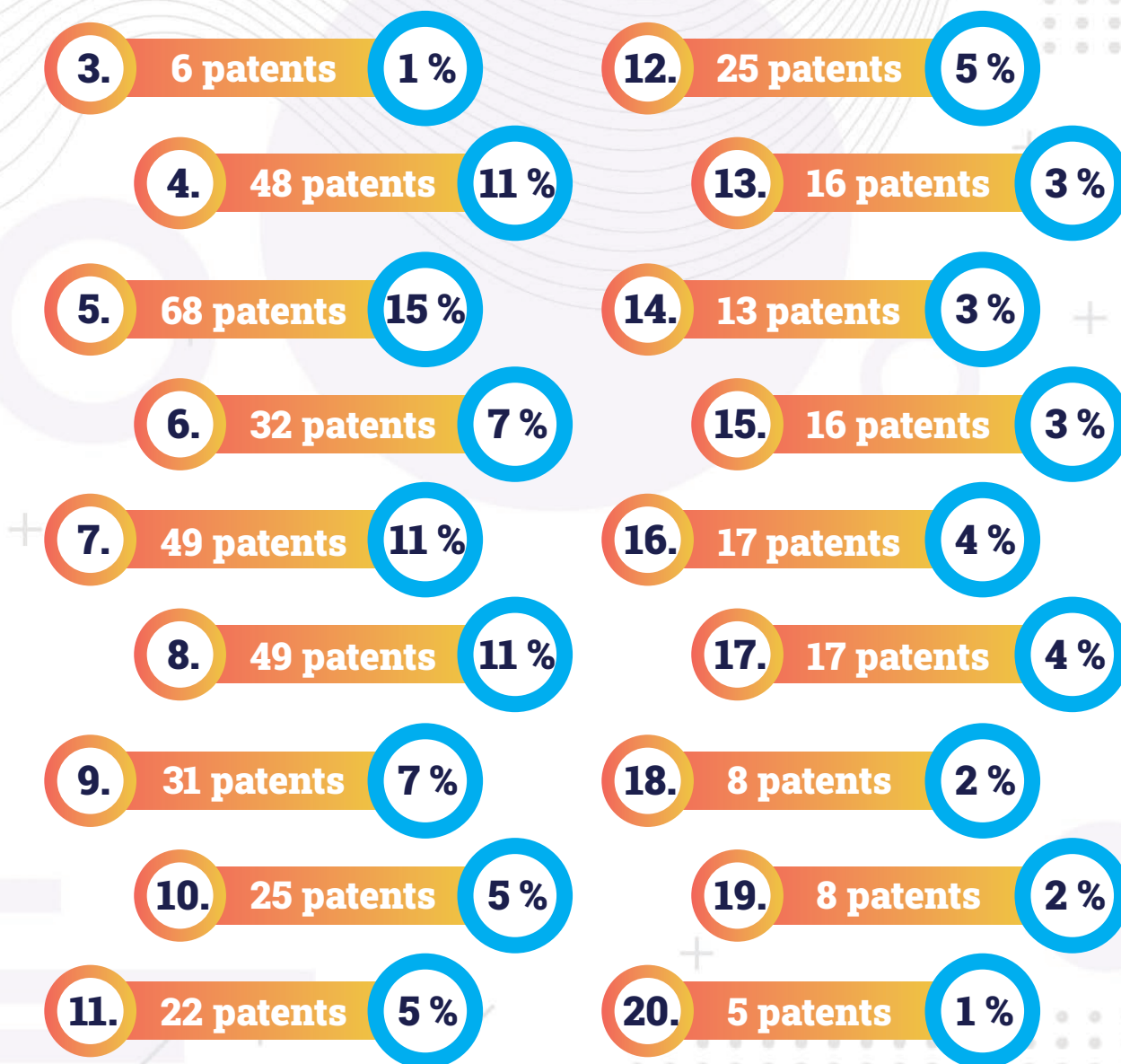


14
Machine tools



STRUCTURE OF PATENTS by year of validity²

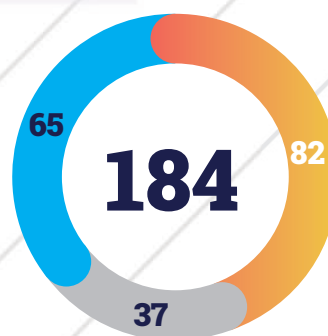
- Year of validity
- Representation (%)



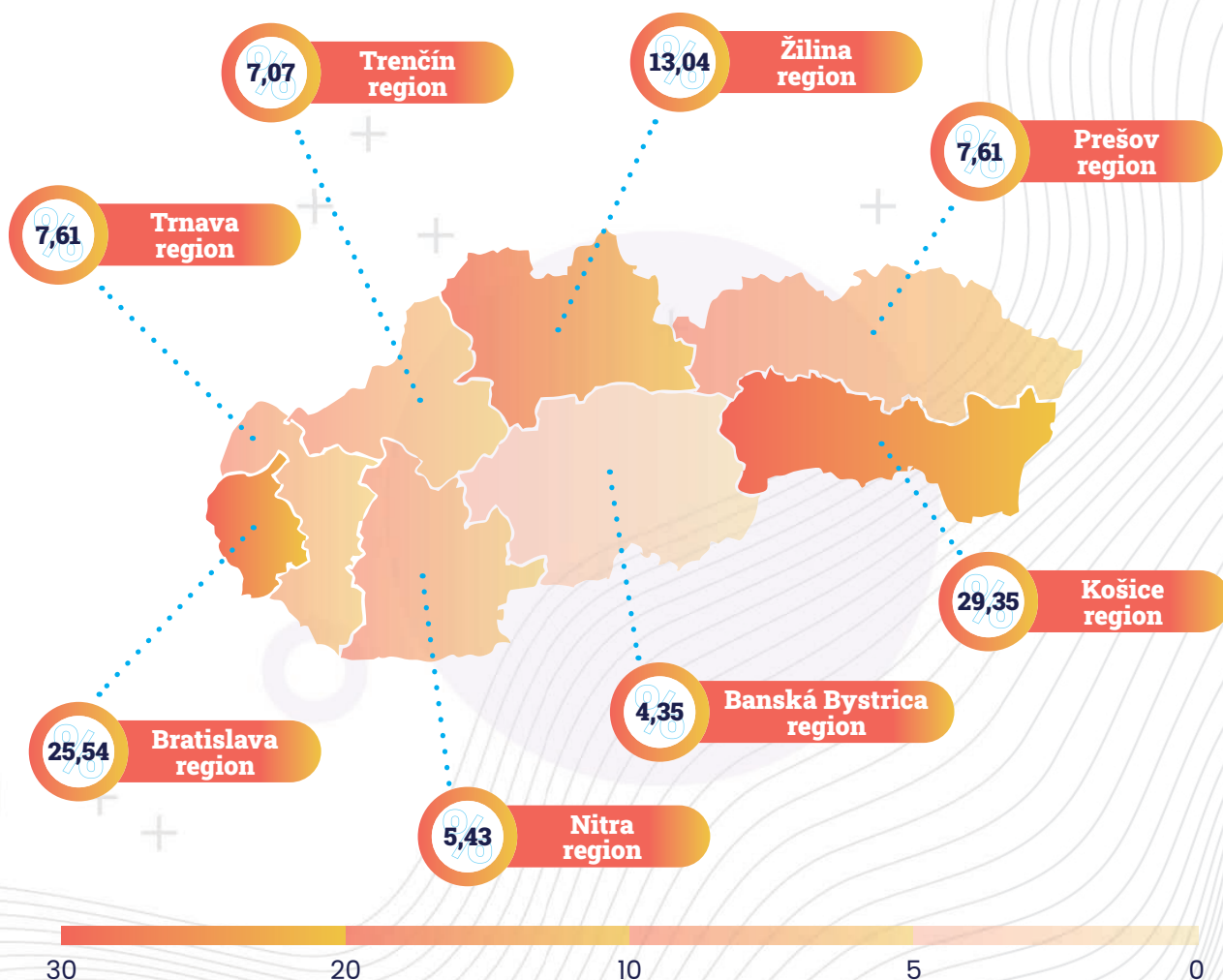
² Distribution of SK patents valid as at 31/12/2022 according to the length of validity years

SK APPLICANTS by subject 2022 (Number of applications)

-  Universities and state institutions
-  Legal entities
-  Natural persons
-  Total



APPLICANTS by the region 2017 – 2022



Fast Track Patents

Innovations need **speed!**

Granting the patent within 24 months of filing the patent application

Conditions for granting the patent within 24 months of filing the application

Patents may be granted for inventions which meet the conditions of patent protection (they are new, involve inventive activity and are industrially usable) and applicants of which, when filing a patent application, request a search within a priority period of 24 months after filing the patent application.

The Office shall grant the patent on the invention within that period, provided that the following conditions are met:

APPLICATION FILED ON 1 JULY 2020

The patent application was filed on or after July 1, 2020

1.

DRAWN UP SEARCH

The search on the subject-matter of the patent application was drawn up within the priority period

2.

EARLY PUBLICATION

The applicant files the request for early publication of the application within 10 months from filing the application and pays the relevant administrative fee

3.

SUBSTANTIVE EXAMINATION

The applicant files a request for a substantive examination on the application within 10 months from filing the application and pays the relevant administrative fee

4.

MEET THE REQUIREMENTS

By a search carried out within the priority period or by a supplementary search carried out in the framework of a substantive examination on the application, the state of the art shall not be such as to indicate that the subject-matter of the application does not meet the requirements for granting the patent

5.

The possibility of obtaining a patent for an invention in an accelerated (fast-track) proceedings is available to applicants from 1/ 3/2021, with all applications filed after 1/ 7/2020, which meet the specified requirements. As 31/ 12/2022, a total of **110 patent applications**, were provisionally included in the fast-track proceedings, 14 of them were filed in 2020, 38 in 2021 and 58 in 2022.

Fast Track 2022 in numbers

58

applications included
in the fast-track
proceedings

29 %

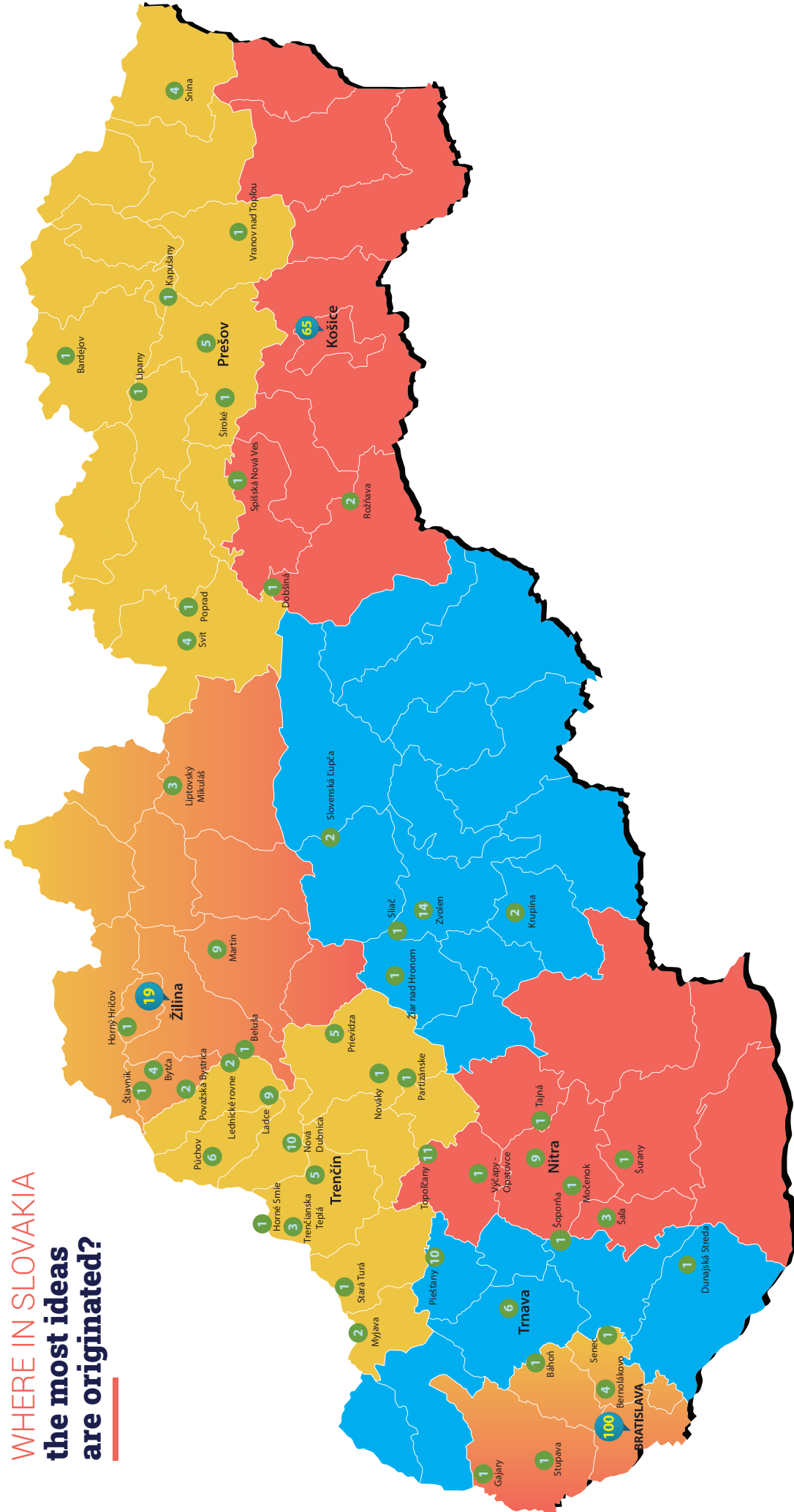
total
applications

38 months (after filing the
application)
average duration of
proceedings
non included
in Fast Track

22 months (after filing the
application)
Average duration
of proceedings for a fast-
-track patent application



WHERE IN SLOVAKIA the most ideas are originated?



The graphic representation contains patent applications (pending and published) filed as of December 31, 2022. Patent applications were assigned to individual cities based on permanent residence, r seat of the first applicant. The graphic representation is for illustrative purposes only.



WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

SUPPLEMENTARY PROTECTION CERTIFICATES

20
22

FOR MEDICINAL
PRODUCTS AND PLANT
PROTECTION PRODUCTS



INDUSTRIAL
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Supplementary protection certificates

for medicinal products and plant protection products

The placing a new medicinal product or a plant protection product on the market requires demanding and costly research and, last but not least, several years of testing and approval by the competent authority. Where such a medicinal product or a plant protection product is protected by a patent, the authorisation proceedings shall shorten the period of effective patent protection of the medicinal product or the plant protection product, i.e. the period during which the patent-protected new medicinal product or plant protection product may be used commercially. However, the sufficiently long term protection of new medicinal products and plant protection products is crucial for the return on investment invested in research and, ultimately, for supporting further pharmaceutical and plant protection product research. Supplementary protection certificates are intended to compensate for the reduced period of effective protection by a basic patent to a certain extent.

The supplementary protection certificate shall protect medicinal products and plant protection products (products) which may be placed

on the market only on the basis of an authorisation issued by a competent authority. The certificate shall be granted to the proprietor of the basic patent or to his legal successor. The term of protection of a supplementary protection certificate shall depend on the time elapsed between the filing the basic patent application and the authorisation to place the product on the market, but shall not exceed five years. In the case of medicinal products for which studies have been carried out in accordance with a paediatric investigation plan approved by the European Medicines Agency, an extension of the period of validity of the certificate for a further six months may be requested under specified conditions.

Over the past year, the Office received **50 applications** for supplementary protection certificates and granted **38 supplementary protection certificates**. In 2022, 14 applications for an extension of the validity of the certificate by six months were submitted to the Office, and the Office decided to extend the validity of eight certificates.

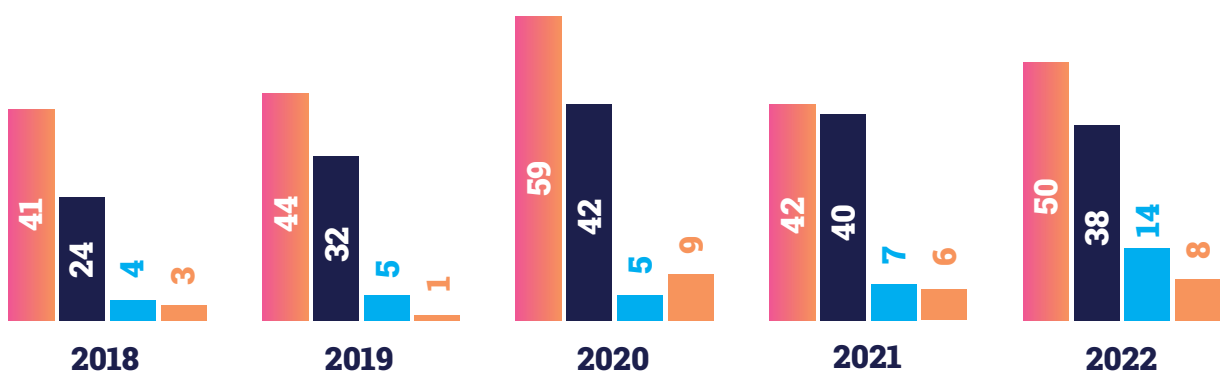
50



FILED REQUESTS
FOR GRANTING TO

SUPPLEMENTARY protection certificates 2018 - 2022

- Applications filed
- Requests for validity extension filed
- Granted
- Extended validity





WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

UTILITY MODELS

20
22

A utility model represents the most popular form of protection of technical solutions



ÚRAD
PRIEMYSELNÉHO VLASTNÍCTVA
SLOVENSKEJ REPUBLIKY

WWW.INDPROP.GOV.SK



Utility models

Based on the number of applications filed, it can be concluded that the utility model is the most popular form of protection of technical solutions in Slovakia. It can protect technical solutions that are new, involve inventive activities and are industrially usable.

Owners of registered utility models have the exclusive right to use protected technical solutions. The rights of utility models owners are essentially identical to those conferred by patents. However, unlike patents, the maximum validity of which is 20 years from the filing the application, the utility model may be valid for a maximum of 10 years from the filing the application. Obtaining utility model protection is easier than obtaining patent protection for an invention, because utility models are entered in the register without examining the fulfilment of the condition of novelty and inventive activity, as long as they are the subject of technical solutions belonging to the range of subjects that can be protected by utility models. The disadvantage of the protection of technical solutions by the utility model is the higher risk of deletion of a registered utility model from the utility model register on the basis of a proposal by a third party, if the Office finds out

on the basis of this proposal that the subject of the registered utility model does not meet the protection conditions laid down in the Act No. 517/2007 Coll. on utility models and on amendments to certain acts, as amended.

As of December 31, 2022, **1,870 utility models** were valid in the territory of the Slovak Republic, while in 2022, **262 utility models** were entered in the register, which represents a decrease of 36 % compared to 2021.

During **2022**, the Office received **288 new utility model applications**, representing a decrease of 3 % compared to 2021. In **2022**, domestic applicants submitted **236** applications and foreign applicants submitted **52** applications. The largest share of registered utility models from abroad was held by applicants from the Czech Republic. Most utility model applications filed in 2022 concerned **transport, machinery and engineering (28 %) and tools (19%)**.

Most utility models' applications were submitted by the **Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (33)** and the **Technical University in Košice (30)**.

3 %



DECREASE OF REGISTERED UTILITY MODELS

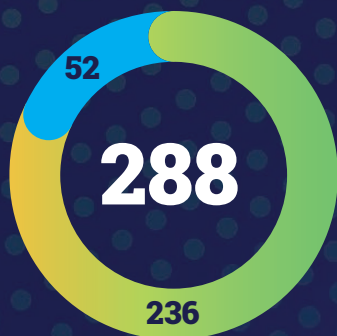


UTILITY model applications 2018 – 2022

Utility models	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Utility model applications in total	388	325	390	297	288
Domestic	320	281	342	253	236
Foreign	68	44	48	44	52

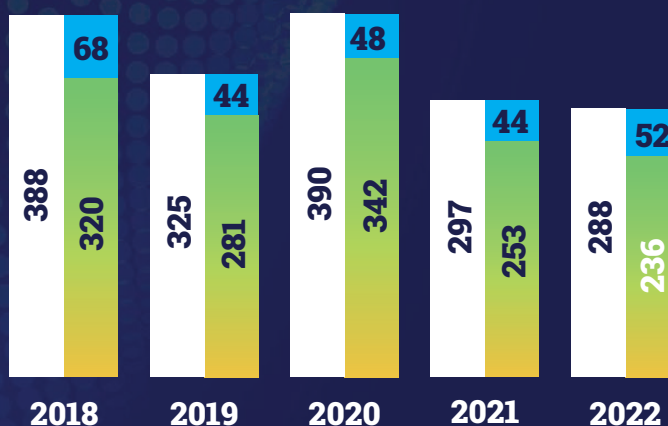
APPLICATIONS for utility models 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Utility model applications in total



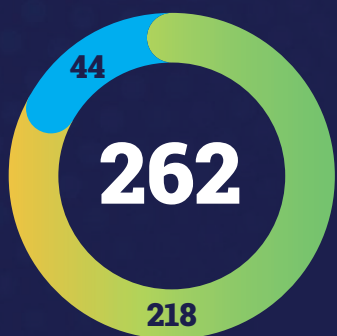
UTILITY model applications 2018 – 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Utility model applications in total



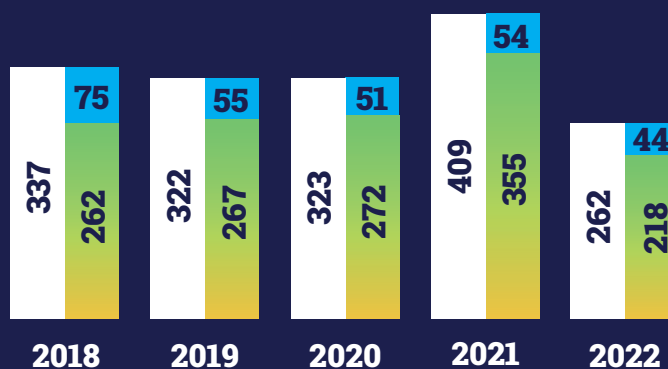
REGISTERED utility models 2022

- Domestic
- Foreign
- Registered utility models in total

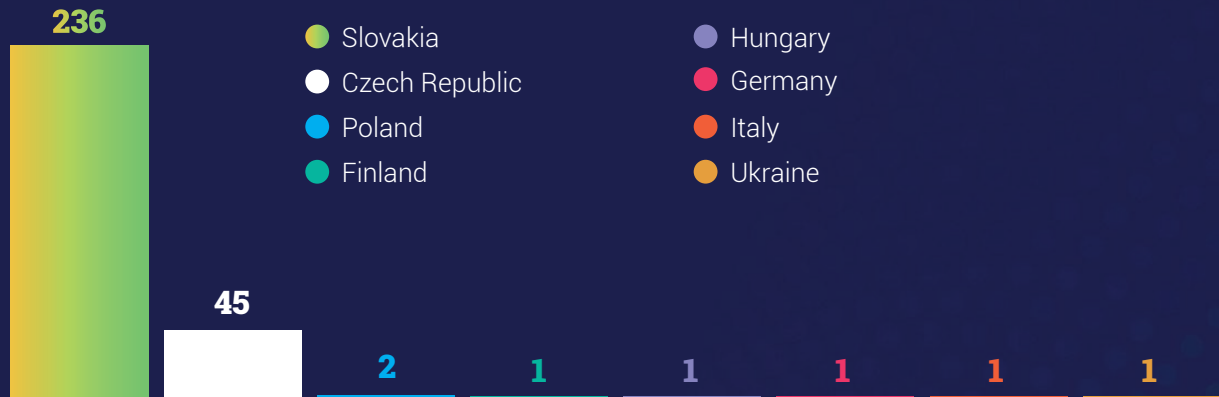


REGISTERED utility models 2018 – 2022

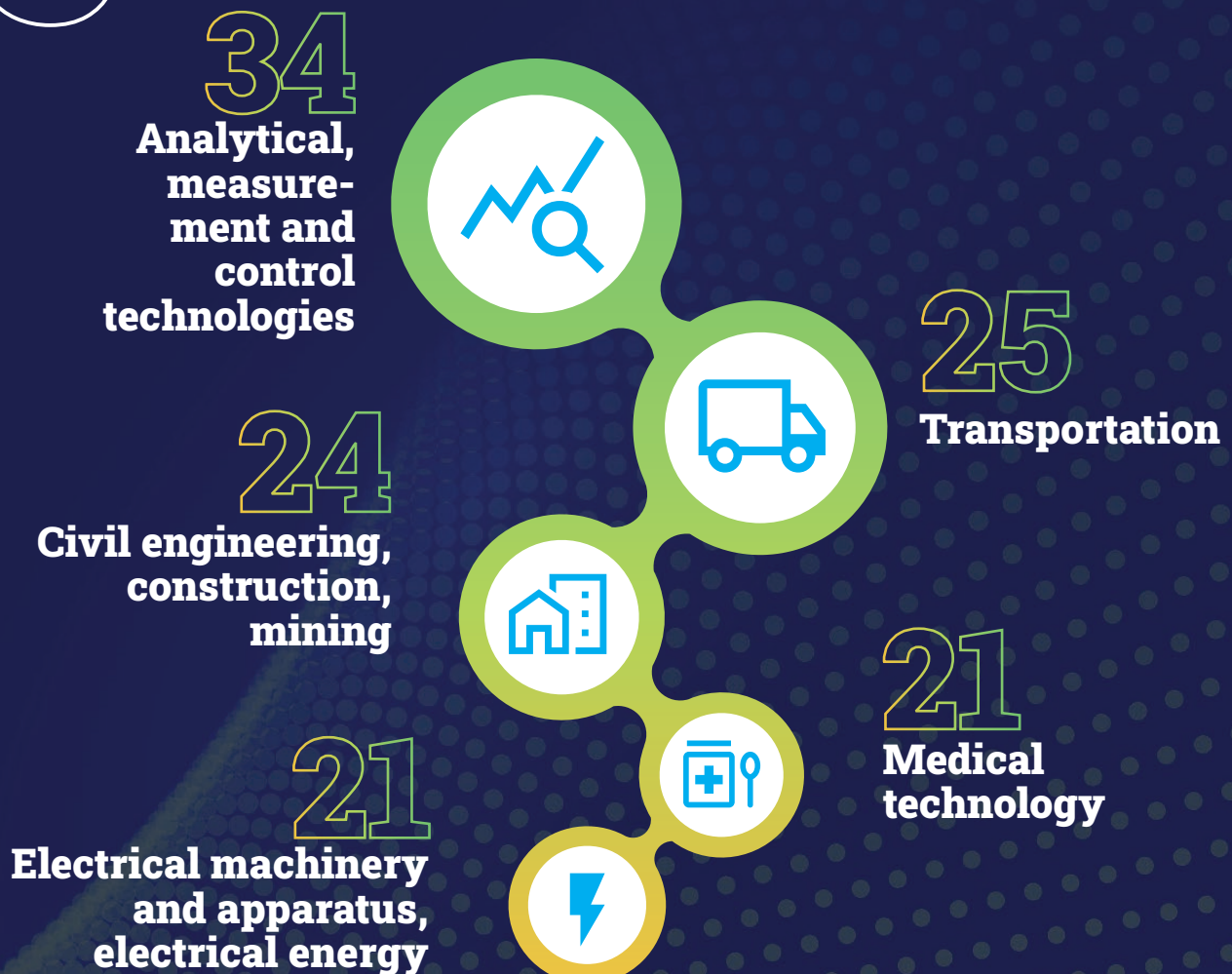
- Domestic
- Foreign
- Registered utility models in total



REGISTERED UTILITY MODELS by country-of-origin 2022

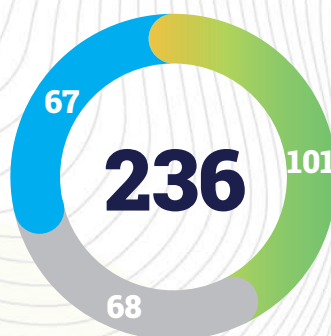


5 OF THE MOST APPLIED CLASSES 2022 (International Patent Classification)

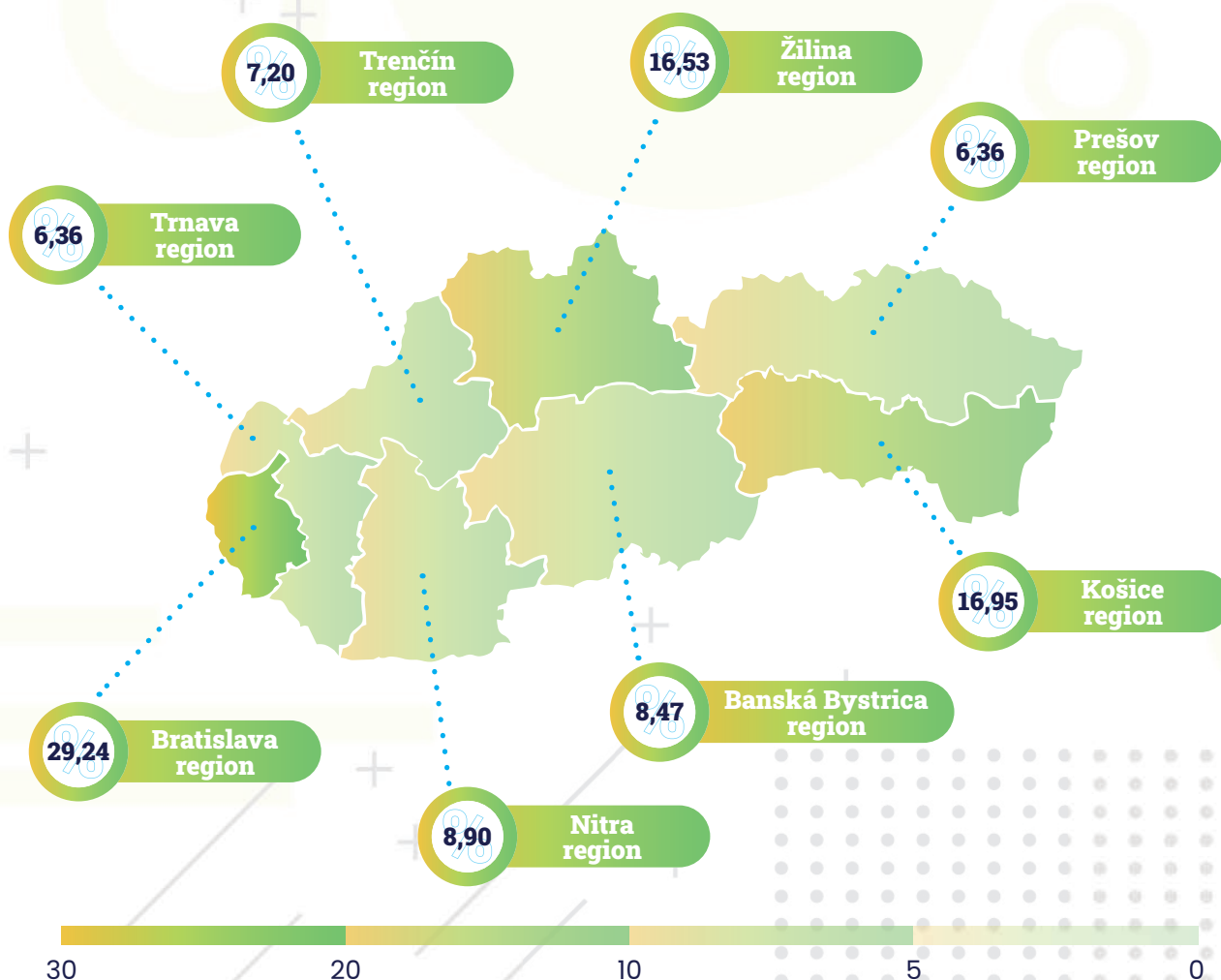


GRAPH SLOVAK APPLICANTS by subject-matter 2022 (number of applications)

- Universities and state institutions
- Legal entities
- Natural persons



APPLICANTS by the region 2017 – 2022




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DISPUTE PROCEEDINGS

**20
22**

Dispute proceedings within the IPO SR are resolutions of disputes between several parties to the proceedings.





Dispute proceedings

Dispute proceedings within the IPO SR are resolutions of disputes between several parties to the proceedings, the aim of which is to prevent the granting of protection to industrial property subject-matters that do not meet the legal requirements, or violate the older rights of other entities, or to remove the illegal state if it already occurred.

Objections to the registration of a designation as a trademark in the register of the Office, or objections on the basis of which protection of an international trademark in the territory of the Slovak Republic is refused, may be filed by the person concerned within the statutory period from the notification of the publication of the trademark application or international trademark in the relevant journal.

Subsequently, even after granting protection that may prove to be unjustified, an application for revocation or for a declaration of invalidity may be filed for the restoration of the legal status of an already registered trademark. In the case of a registered utility model and design, it is an application for their deletion from the register and the patent granted may be revoked if it is found in the proposed litigation that it did not meet the statutory conditions at the time of granting the protection.

113



OPPOSITIONS filed



Overall, the number of new submissions was significantly lower in all subjects dealt with by the Dispute Proceedings Department than in the previous year.

For 2022, the number of new **opposition submissions was 113**, which is **36 % less than** last year when 176 oppositions were submitted. However, this is not a situation that would no longer occur, as, for example, in 2017 and 2018, equally few oppositions were raised, namely 107 in 2017 and 118 in 2018.

In the case of **applications for invalidity and revocation of a trademark or an international trademark**, it can be stated that **historically the fewest applications were filed, i.e. only 23**, i.e. **more than 40 % less** than in previous years when the situation was stable. 39 proposals were filed in 2021, 41 in 2020.

There were **6 applications in 2022 for technical subjects-matters of industrial property protection** (patents, supplementary protection certificates and utility models), which is even less than in 2021 (10 applications). In this area, **there is a continuous decline**, in particular in proceedings relating to **applications for revocation of patents**.

In the case of **design deletion proceedings**, the number of submissions is minimal in the long term. In 2022, the situation was similar to previous years, as **2 proposals** were submitted.

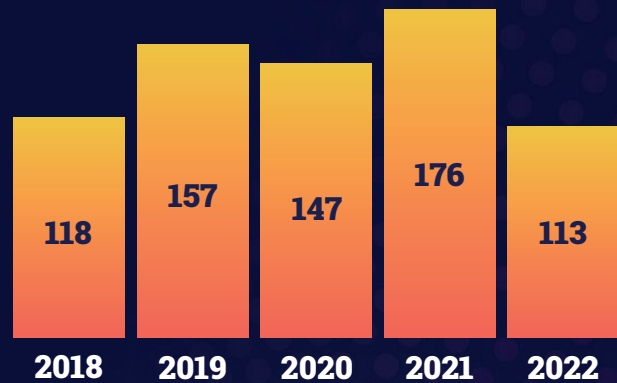
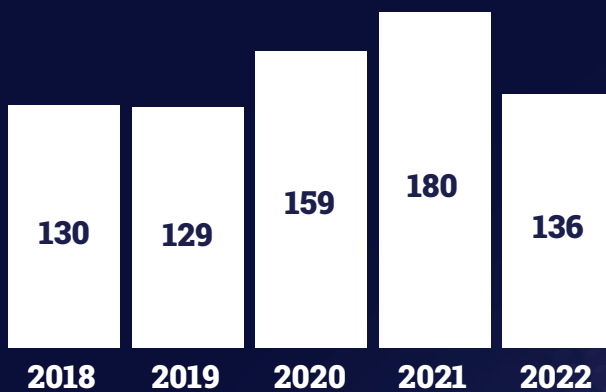
In 2022, the Office issued **136 decisions in proceedings on oppositions to the registration of a designation** that is the subject of a trademark application in the register of the Office, or refusal of protection in the territory of the Slovak Republic in the case of international trademarks, which is due to complications caused by a change in the information system less than last year (180 decisions), but this represents an average compared to previous years and, together with a low number of opposition submissions this year, the balance of unresolved submissions decreased.

In the case of applications for **invalidity and revocation of a trademark** or an international trademark, it also issued fewer, namely **32 decisions** (in 2021 it was 44 decisions), but due to the low number of new submissions, the number of pending submissions decreased.

In proceedings for revocation of a patent, deletion of a utility model and design, in designating proceedings and in proceedings for supplementary protection certificates, 5 decisions were issued in 2022, which corresponds to the

previous year when 6 decisions were issued. This is a significantly smaller number than in previous years, but it is mainly due to the long-term decline in the number of technical litigation proposals.

Oppositions filed against the registration of a designation



Decisions on objections filed

Applications for revocation/invalidity of a trademark



Decisions on applications – trademarks

Proposals – patents, SPCs, utility models, designs



Decisions on filed applications – patents, SPCs, utility models, designs



We Selected from the IPO SR Decisions

DECISION

NO 2674-2016/N-79-2022 OF 8/8/2022

The opponent lodged objections to the registration of the figurative published sign in the Register of Trademarks on the basis of an earlier trademark pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Act No. 506/2009 Coll. on Trademarks, as amended. The Office ruled out the existence of a likelihood of confusion on the part of the public and rejected the objections.

Trademark No. 236597

sajder

Published designation
(POZ 2674-2016)



Objections to the registration of the published figurative designation in the Register of Trademarks have been lodged.

The opponent substantiated the objections by stating that she/he is the proprietor of the word mark ‚sajder‘ No. 236597, which the applicant included in the designation published without any modification.

The opponent stressed that the word ‚sajder‘ is an element which, from the point of view of the consumer public, does not constitute a type of goods because the type of goods is cider. He considered the word ‚sajder‘ to be a creative variant of the word cider, which is a distinguishing (distinctive) designation belonging exclusively to her/his products. The opponent noted that she/he was the first entity to use the designation ‚sajder‘ on the territory of Slovakia, in connection with its product – apple cider sold under the brand name ‚Jablčnô‘.

At the time of the opposition proceedings, the applicant initiated proceedings for the revocation of the earlier trademark ‚sajder‘ No. 236597, which resulted in its revocation for part of the goods in Classes 32 and 33 of the International Classification of Goods and Services.

The comparison of the goods and services registered in Classes 32, 33 and 35 of the International Classification of Goods and Services with the goods and services registered for the earlier trademark in Classes 32, 35 and 43 of the International Classification of Goods and Services shows that the goods registered in Class 32 are identical and to a large extent similar to goods registered in the same class, the goods registered in Class 33 are similar to goods registered in Class 32 and the services registered in Class 35 are similar to services registered for the earlier trademark in the same class.

When comparing collisional markings, a minimum degree of their visual similarity and a low degree of similarity from a phonetic point of view were found (even only in the case of pronouncing all the word elements of the published designation, which, however, is very unlikely due to the design of individual elements) and also a low degree of similarity from the semantic point of view. The similarity found was due to the presence of the word element ‚sajder‘ in the published designation which constitutes the earlier trademark. When assessing the likelihood of confusion, it was necessary to take into account the overall impression produced by the compared designations, taking into ac-

count the dominant and distinctive elements contained therein. In the published designation, the element „sajder“ is suppressed backwards by the size of its other elements, in particular the word ELEMENT „LIŠIAK“ (fox), but also the word phrase „ZO SADU“ (from the orchard) and also the figurative element. Moreover, the word element ‚sajder‘ in the sign published is an element without distinctive character, since it denotes the type of drink included in the list of goods declared and the services declared are directly related to it. The other elements of the designation published are, in relation to the goods and services claimed, fantasy elements capable of distinguishing those goods and services from the goods and services of other persons operating in the same market segment. It follows from the mentioned recital that the consumer’s attention is focused on the other elements of the designation published (the figurative element representing the fox and the phrase ‚fox from the orchard‘), which are not an expression of the type or other characteristics of the goods and services declared, but serve to identify their origin and also attract the consumer’s attention by their design.

Despite the opponent’s claims about the ignorance of the ordinary Slovak consumer about the type of cider goods, the decision referred to the normal use of foreign language terms, in particular from the English language, in their original form and also in a variant representing the domesticated form of a foreign word (e.g. mail/mejl, chat/čet), while in some cases the domestic form pushes out or has already completely pushed out the original foreign language form of words (e.g. džin, vikend, softvér). As a result, it was concluded that it is reasonable to assume that the Slovak consumer public perceives the word sajder as a common domesticated form of the originally foreign word cider.

The opponent also invoked the need to assess the distinctive character of her/his trademark.

In relation to the demonstration of the acquired degree of distinctive character of the earlier trademark, the opponent submitted several documents, which were described and analysed in detail in the decision. The evidence provided clearly shows that the opponent uses the word ‚sajder‘ in its known sense and as a ‚slovakised‘ form of the cider drink. The evidence submitted did not contain any mention of the ‚sajder‘ trademark. The occurrence of the word ‚sajder‘ in the evidence submitted by the opponent indicates the type of drink and cannot be identified with the proof of use of the trademark. The photographs of the products show the dominant designation ‚Jablčnô‘ supplemented by the small inscription ‚Sajder‘. Such a form cannot be accepted as corresponding to the form of the registered trademark, which consists solely of the word ‚sajder‘. However, when examining the likelihood of confusion, designations or trademarks shall always be compared in the form in which they are applied for or registered. The opponent’s trademark ‚sajder‘ has a reduced internal distinctiveness and the opponent has not demonstrated, by her/his claims or by the evidence provided, any increased distinctive character which might affect the assessment of the existence of a likelihood of confusion on the part of the public or the likelihood of association of the published designation with an earlier trademark.

At the end of the decision, it was stated that the published designation contained other elements that suppressed the perception of the common element ‚sajder‘. The figurative element in the form of a fox and the word elements ‚LIŠIAK ZO SADU‘ are not found in the earlier trademark and ensure that the overall impression produced by the compared designations is different. The likelihood of confusion, as well as the likelihood of association, given the nature of the designations compared and their elements, was excluded and the objection was considered unfounded.

Pursuant to section 31(5) of the act no. 506/2009 coll. on trademarks, as amended, rejected the objections.

The full decision can be found at <https://www.indprop.gov.sk/rozhodnutia/rozhodnutia.html>



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APPEAL PROCEEDINGS

20 22

A party to the proceedings may challenge an invalid first instance decision of the Office by an ordinary legal remedy, which is an appeal in proceedings before the Office.



INDUSTRIAL
PROPERTY OFFICE
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

WWW.INDPROP.GOV.SK



Appeal proceedings

A party to the proceedings may challenge an invalid first instance decision of the Office by an ordinary legal remedy, which is an appeal in proceedings before the Office. The institute to review the decision apart from the appeal and retrial are the extraordinary ways to review final decisions of the Office. The review of a decision apart from appeal proceedings serves to review final decisions by the second instance authority on its own initiative or other initiative. The most common remedy in proceedings before the Office is appeal

In 2022, **85 appeals procedures** were initiated. In one case, it was an examination of the decision apart from the appeal proceedings initiated ex officio, in other cases there were appeals filed against the first instance decisions of the Office. Compared to 2021, this is almost the same number of initiated appeals procedures (86 in 2021 vs. 85 in 2022).

The largest number of filings, as in previous years, are filings related to **trademark remedies**. In 2022, these accounted for up to **95 %**

of all appeals at the Appeals Department. The number of remedies against decisions concerning patents, European patents, utility models and supplementary protection certificates in 2022 was 4 filings, which is 6 less compared to 2021. No remedy was filed against first instance decisions related to designs in 2022.

98 appeals proceedings were terminated within the Department in 2022. In one case, the proceedings were terminated by an informal letter, in other cases the proceedings were terminated by issuing a decision. In addition, the Department issued **4 decisions suspending the appeal proceedings**.

Considering that the Department managed to complete more appeals proceedings in 2022 than it started this year (98 vs. 85), also this year the Department reduced the number of pending proceedings. In the Department's agenda as of December 31, 2022, there were total **139 pending proceedings**. Compared to 2021, the number of pending cases represents a **decrease by 13 cases**.

98



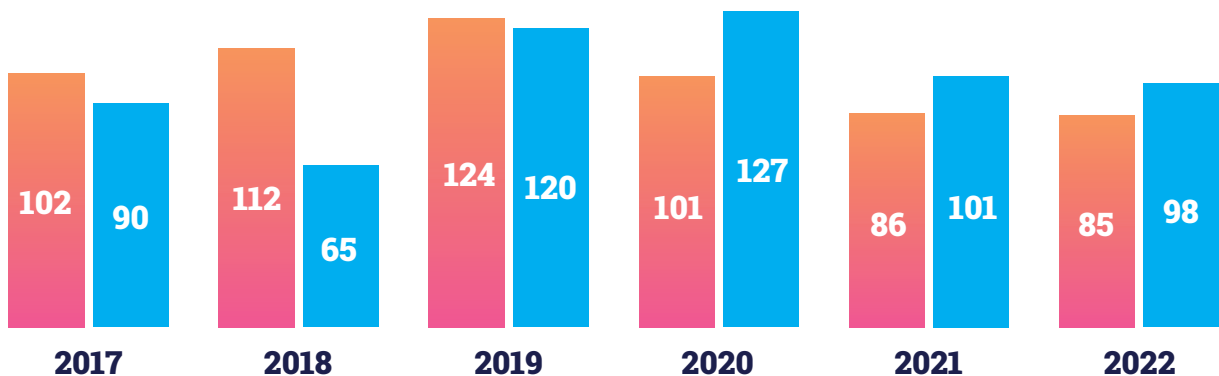
TERMINATED proceedings



LEGAL remedies

● Proceedings opened (appeals, review of the decision apart from the appeal proceedings, re-opening of the proceedings)

● Terminated proceedings (appeals, review of the decision apart from the appeal proceedings, re-opening of the proceedings)





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LEGISLATION

20
22

Legislative work in the field of industrial law after a calmer previous period got into full swing in 2022.



ÚRAD
PRIEMYSELNÉHO VLASTNÍCTVA
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Legislation

Legislative work in the field of industrial law after a calmer previous period got into full swing in 2022.

Legislative work on amendments to the Implementing Regulations of the Patent Act and the Utility Designs Act were completed. The changes responded to developments in specific areas of patent law at the international level resulting from the cooperation of the parties to the European Patent Organisation (EPO), respectively World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The aim of the changes was to implement the new WIPO Standard ST.26 regarding the format of the annex with a list of nucleotide and amino acid sequences in patent applications and utility model applications and the limitation of the scope of published identification data of the inventor or originator of the technical solution in the registers kept by the IPO SR and in the IPO SR Official Gazette.

Work on draft amendments to the Patent Attorneys Act and the Utility Models Act were ongoing. The content of the brief amendments to these two pieces of legislation adapts the industrial law regulation to modern trends in administrative proceedings and responds to the experience of the pandemic period. The amendment to the Patent Attorneys Act introduces the possibility of conducting professional examinations of patent attorneys in a distance online form, if the examinations cannot be carried out in person at the IPO SR. The amendment to the

Utility Models Act introduces the possibility of waiving the right of the utility model applicant to request the postponement of the publication of the utility model application, which may result in the earlier publication of this application and thus the earlier registration of the utility model in the register. Early publication and early registration will create prerequisites for the so-called FAST-TRACK proceedings on utility model registration.

In 2022, as the administrator of an international treaty, the IPO SR launched a national legislative process leading to the accession of the Slovak Republic to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Designations of Origin and Geographical Indications.

The involvement of the IPO SR in discussions on proposals for EU legal instruments should also not be neglected. In April 2022, the European Commission presented a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Protection of Geographical Indications of Craft and Industrial Products published by the European Commission in April 2022, the main objective of which is to create a European legal title to ensure uniform protection of intellectual property rights - a geographical indication for craft and industrial products that will provide equal protection throughout the EU. At the end of 2022, the European Commission presented proposals for regulations and directives on the reform of EU Design Law.



COURT proceedings



8 actions for review THE LEGALITY OF DECISIONS OF THE OFFICE



In 2022, eight actions were brought before the Regional Court in Banská Bystrica to review the legality of the Office's decisions, six of which concerned trademarks, one design and one utility model. Compared to the previous year, this is a slight increase in the number of lawsuits, but it still does not reach the level from before the pandemic.

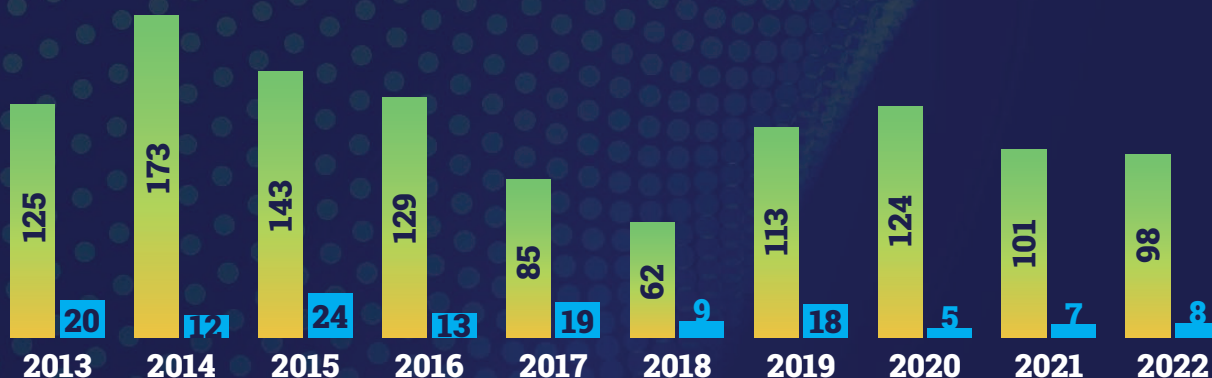
As of 31/ 12/2022, twelve pending proceedings for reviewing the legality of decisions of the Office remain at the Regional Court in Banská Bystrica, and eight pending proceedings remain

at the Supreme Administrative Court of the Slovak Republic as the Court of Cassation.

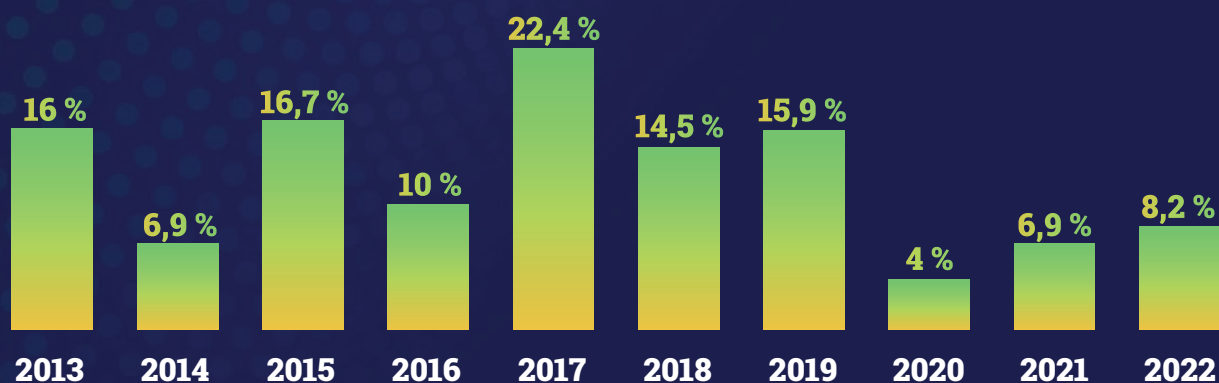
The following graph illustrates the number of administrative actions brought against the Office's second instance decisions between 2013 and 2022. In 2022, 8 % of the Office's second instance decisions were challenged by an administrative action, while the average for the period 2013 to 2022 represents 12 % of the second instance decisions of the Office challenged by an administrative action.

NUMBER OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION BROUGHT against the office's second – instance decisions

- second - instance decisions
- second - instance decisions challenged in the action



% OF SECOND INSTANCE DECISIONS CHALLENGED by an administrative action



ACTIONS FOR REVIEW THE LEGALITY of decisions of the Office

- Trademarks
- Utility Models
- Designs



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INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND BILATERAL COOPERATION

20
22

The office represents Slovakia in several important institutions, which brings many positives to the public.





International, regional and bilateral cooperation

The employees of the Office participated in the meetings of management and expert bodies in international organisations in order to actively form and defend the positions of Slovakia in the field of intellectual property protection. In addition, the Management of the Office represented Slovakia in the Administrative Board of the European Patent Organisation, in the Administrative Board of the European Union Intellectual Property Office, in the Budget Committee of the European Union Intellectual Property Office, in the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization, as well as in the Administrative Board of the Visegrad Patent Institute.

European Union Intellectual Property (EUIPO)



During 2022, the Office implemented 18 projects under the Cooperation Agreement with the EUIPO, which are aimed at improving information provision, raising awareness on intellectual property protection, convergence activities and selected activities of the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights. The Office was involved in three working groups: support for SMEs, an information centre and alternative dispute resolution.

In May 2022, representatives of the Boards of Appeal of the EUIPO presented to the Office at the joint meeting in Banská Bystrica their new visions, changes in the case law of decision-making practice, alternative dispute resolution in the field of intellectual property and the possibility of involvement in international projects for Slovak experts operating in the field.

The city of Banská Bystrica officially became the fifth European authentic city when in April representatives of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, the Financial Administration and the City of Banská Bystrica took over this title in the Greek Thessaloniki.

In August, the Office completed the implementation of the project Digitisation of Trademark and Design Files, which aims to allow easy and quick access to documentation and data related to trademark and design files.

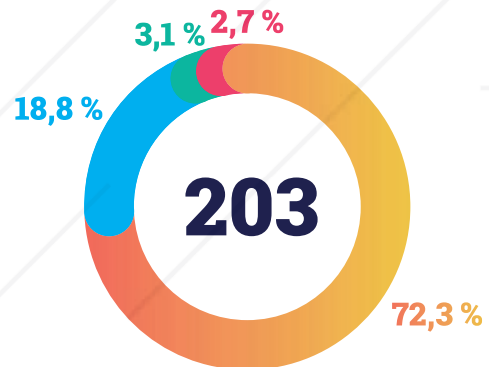
As part of the joint activities with the EUIPO, two online seminars were organised in September for Slovak intellectual property experts and for small and medium-sized enterprises.

The Department of the International Affairs participated in the negotiations on technical cooperation with the EUIPO in February and September 2022 and in the meetings of the EUIPO Administrative Board and the EUIPO Budget Committee in June and November 2022.

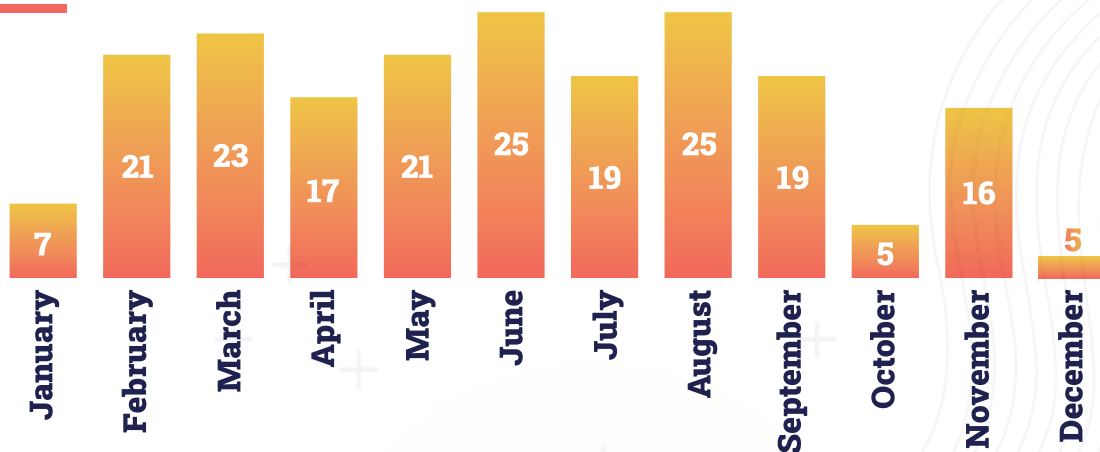
One of the most important events of the year in cooperation with the EUIPO was the continuation of the support from the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Fund (**SMEs Fund**). In 2022, 200 small and medium-sized enterprises from Slovakia applied for financial support when filing trademark, design and patent applications, which is less than **15 % less than** in 2021. The biggest interest was in the reduction in the EU trademark application (72.3 %), followed by national trademark applications (18.8 %), international trademark applications (3.1 %) and national patent applications (2.7 %).

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SUBMISSION trademark and design applications (SMEs Fund)

- EU trademark applications
- National trademark applications
- Community design applications
- National design applications
- Slovak SMEs asking for help



SLOVAK SMES participating in the Fund (SMEs Fund)



European Patent Organisation (EPO)



In 2022, the Office continued its cooperation with the European Patent Organisation within the framework of the bilateral agreement.

The PATLIB 2.0 Project continued to implement new training courses aimed at strengthening the expertise of individual PATLIB centres.

The project provides opportunities to connect with centres across the partner network, discuss problems, answer current questions or share progressive thoughts or ideas. At the same time, it provides information tailored to the needs of a specific centre.

In 2022, the Office, as a coordinator within the PATLIB network, organised an online seminar

„Search for patent information in practice“, intended for employees of PATLIB centres, technology transfer centres, scientists and researchers, as well as for the wider public

The Department of International Affairs prepared the agenda for the meetings of the EPO Administrative Council, the EPO Budget Committee and the EPO Financial Committee. It played the role of coordinator of the training events of the European Patent Academy, ensuring the participation of the Office's staff in virtual seminars. Representatives of the Office participated in the proceedings of the EPO Patent Law Committee and the EPO Technical and Operational Support Committee.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)



In cooperation with the WIPO Secretariat, an international conference Hydrogen Technologies! Prepared for the future was organised, on the occasion of which Daren Tang, the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization, visited Slovakia. In Košice and Bratislava, DG WIPO Daren Tang visited the Technical University of Košice, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice and the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, where he met not only their representatives, but also students who already work on their innovations in their own start-ups.

A joint Memorandum of Understanding was signed to raise the awareness of alternative dispute resolution, to identify and train specialised mediators for the field of intellectual property and arbitrators based in the Slovak Republic, or to provide mediation and arbitration seminars and support educational programs for those interested from Slovakia.

The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Arbitration and Mediation Centre of the World Intellectual Property Organization organised a **webinar on the topic of mediation of disputes in the field of intellectual property**. The webinar is the first of the activities that resulted from the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the IPO SR and WIPO ADR in May 2022, which aims to raise awareness of the procedures of alternative dispute resolution in the field of intellectual property, to identify and train specialised mediators and arbitrators based in the Slovak Re-

public or to provide mediation and arbitration seminars and educational programmes.

As part of building awareness of intellectual property and developing educational activities of the Office, the Office coordinated the implementation of the Project Translation and Adaptation of the Online Course **WIPO Distance Learning Course on IP (DL-101)**. The Project will provide basic information to the general public on the functioning of intellectual property protection principles. In the autumn, the Office launched the adapted and translated online educational programme DL-101, which was successfully completed by 23 students in the pilot phase.

In 2022, the Slovak Republic was the coordinator of the Regional Group of Central European and Baltic States (CEBS) at the WIPO. The role of the coordinator is to represent the countries of the regional group as well as to present their attitudes and opinions at various types of international negotiations at the WIPO. A major political event was the General Assembly of the WIPO member states, the course of which was significantly influenced by the topic of Russia's military aggression in Ukraine. After complicated negotiations, technical assistance was approved to Ukraine, of which not only IP infrastructure was and continues to be destroyed as a result of unprecedented Russian aggression. During the meetings of the General Assembly, the President of the IPO SR also actively participated in the WIPO conference „Unlocking Intangible Asset Finance“.

European Union



In 2022, the Council of the EU was chaired by France and the Czech Republic. The year 2022 was marked by the continuation of the implementation of the Commission's Intellectual Property Action Plan to strengthen and restore the EU economy. Key negotiations concerned the creation of a European legal title to ensure uniform protection of geographical indications for craft and industrial products on the EU territory.

At the Competitiveness Council meeting in December 2022, the text of the legislative proposal was approved.

At the end of November, the Commission published a legislative package on the revision of design protection to modernise the EU design protection system and make it more attractive for designers and businesses, especially SMEs, to protect them.

Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI)



As part of the rotation of the chairmanship of the Administrative Board of the Visegrad Patent Institute in 2022, the Hungarian Republic took over the chairmanship. During the year, two meetings of the VPI Working Group on IT/Quality Management and the Technical Expert Group took place. The meetings of the Administrative Board took place in June and Decem-

ber. The VPI became an observer within the EPO Administrative Board. The first meeting was attended by the VPI Director in June 2022.

In the summer of 2022, a new VPI website was launched, providing visitors with interesting case studies in addition to basic information about VPI services.

Bilateral Cooperation

In May 2022, the first ever meeting between the President of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic and the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Kathi Vidal took place. During the meeting, an inspiring exchange of views took place, which raised several points of future cooperation. Among them, for example, there is a webinar for Slovak companies that plan to protect their innovations in the territory of the USA.

A delegation from the Ukrainian Institute of Intellectual Property was welcomed at the Office. The subject of the informal meeting was not only the expression of solidarity in the current

situation, but also the setting the further cooperation and assistance in anchoring Ukraine in European structures. It is in Slovakia's interest to support Ukraine's accession to the European Patent Convention (membership in the European Patent Organisation), to establish cooperation with the Visegrad Patent Institute and to develop technical assistance and cooperation on infrastructure renewal.

In October, a bilateral meeting with representatives of the French National Institute of the Industrial Property to exchange experiences in support of SMEs was held in Paris.

OTHER Activities

Mission EXPO DUBAI 2020

The business mission, under the auspices of the Industrial Property Office, aimed to point out the value of Slovak products with a protected designation of origin and a geographical indication. In Dubai, 17 exceptional craftsmen, winemakers, cheesemakers and others presented cheeses, wines, mineral waters, ceramics, embroidery, honey, trdelník (kind of pastry) and other specific products from our homeland. Several of the exhibitors managed to establish contacts with potential purchasers.

International Conference – Hydrogen Technologies in Transport

Bratislava became the venue of the International Conference focused on hydrogen technologies in transport with the subtitle – Ready for the Future. The organisers of this event were the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic and the World Intellectual Property Organization, the Director General of which Darren Tang personally came to Slovakia for the first time and opened the event.

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Designation of Origin and Geographical
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9 - 13 March
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HYDROGEN TECHNOLOGIES IN TRANSPORT

17 - 18 MAY 2022
BRATISLAVA

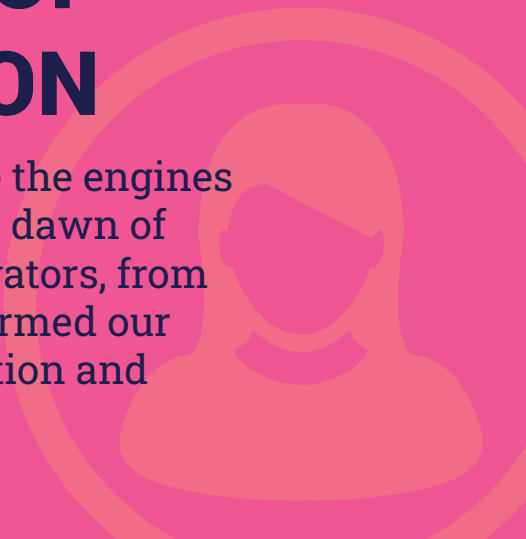
READY FOR THE FUTURE

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WOMEN AND THEIR PLACE IN THE WORLD OF INNOVATION

**20
22**

Innovation and creativity are the engines of human progress. Since the dawn of time, women and men, innovators, from all walks of life, have transformed our world through their imagination and ingenuity.





Women and Their Place in the World of Innovation

Innovation and creativity are the engines of human progress. Since the dawn of time, women and men, innovators, from all walks of life, have transformed our world through their imagination and ingenuity. However, some groups of people remain under-represented in many areas of intellectual property exploitation. Their innovative potential is not fully exploited at a time when society needs the widest possible range of talents in order to solve the pressing problems that humanity faces today.

Gender-based stereotypes continue to prevail in research and innovation. While the proportion of women in science and research has been increasing in recent decades, their equal status has not yet been achieved. Did you know that if women became inventors at the same rate as men, patent activity would quadruple? At the same time, this imbalance causes a lack of variability in technology.

Assessing women's participation in the world of intellectual property is useful not only to take into account this gender gap, but also to understand its causes and consequences. Unlike other studies, patents, utility models or designs provide relatively accurate identifiers of inventive activity at the individual level. The quantity and depth of the information available from these data enable an accurate analysis of women inventor's activities.

14 %



AUTHORS IN INDUSTRIAL RIGHTS applications are women³



PROPORTION OF WOMEN AND MEN in industrial rights applications, 2022⁴

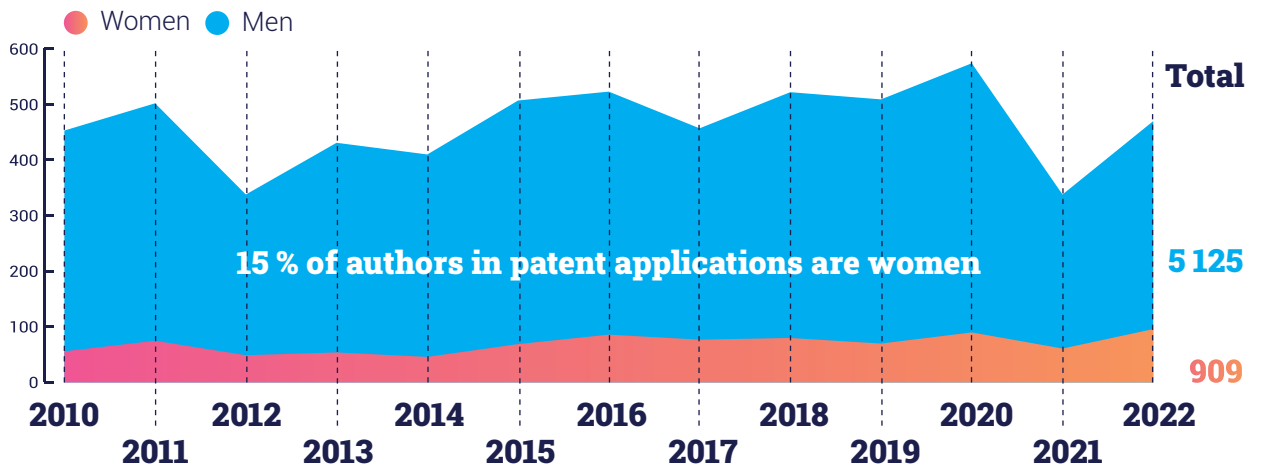
- Women
- Men



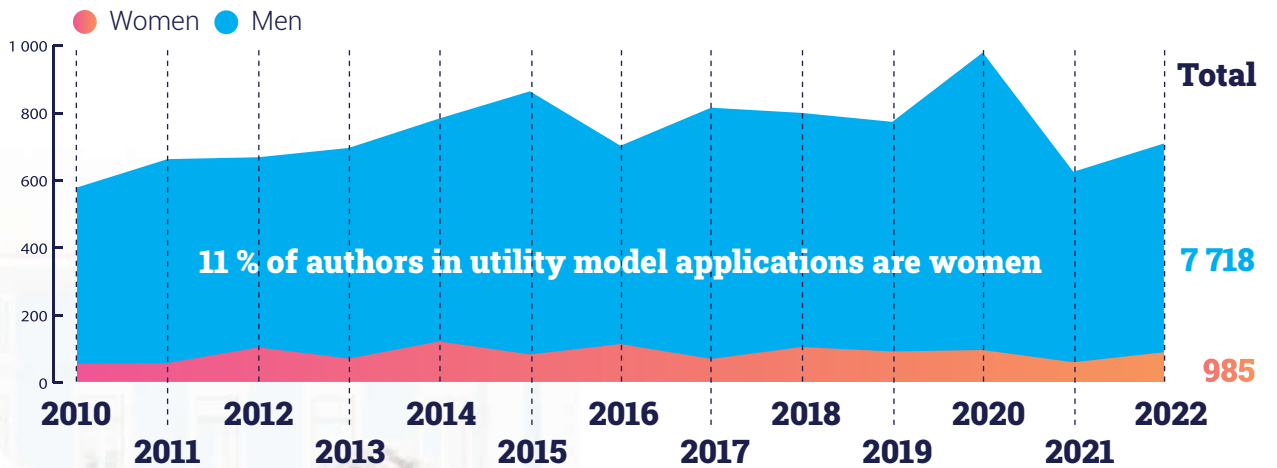
³ These figures are based on patent applications, utility model applications and design applications, from 2010 to 2022

⁴ The above figures are based on the number of authors in industrial rights applications filed by Slovak applicants.

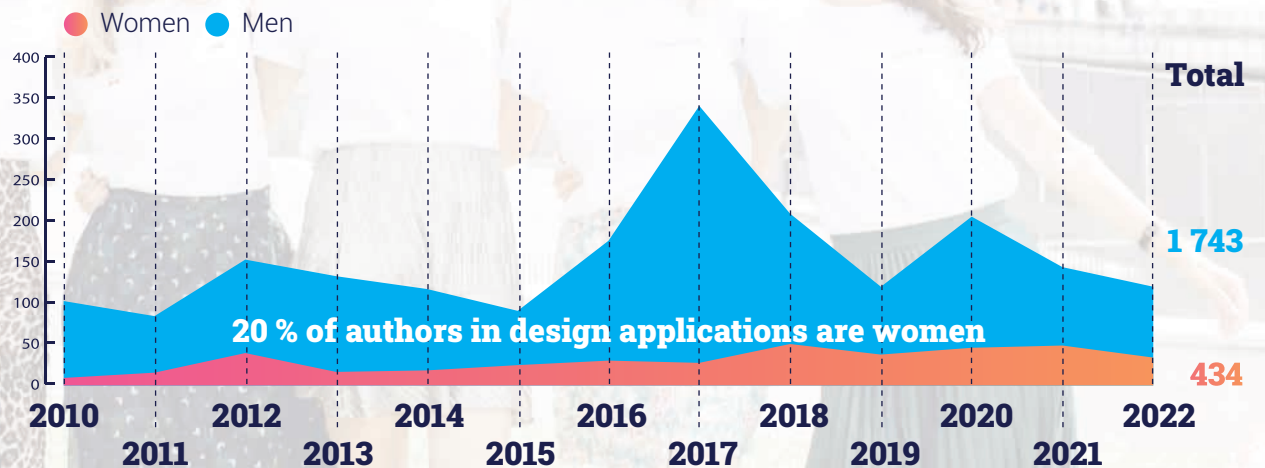
Patents



Utility models



Designs





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MODERNISATION AND DIGITISATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE IPO SR

20
22

Modernization and digitization belong among the office's priority areas of development.



INDUSTRIAL
PROPERTY OFFICE
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

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Modernisation and digitisation of the activities of the IPO SR

1. DIGITISATION of the Archive

We completed the EUIPO project for the digitisation of archive, design and trademarks files, which consisted in scanning a total of 42,453 files, which is about 2.2 million pages. Digitisation will also allow the Office's employees to work more efficiently also in older paper files and make use of new features such as text search and others. It will not be necessary to wait for taking the file from the archive, i.e. the entire proceedings will be immediately available to the employee.

2. DATA Management

We have completed the Data Management Project of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, which ensures systematic data management, the principle of openness, data sharing and personal data protection, creating higher quality datasets that allow computer processing. The project created an OpenAPI interface for automated data sharing from the Office's registry. This project was co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

3. DATA MIGRATION to the Government Cloud

The aim of the project was to respond to the current capacity constraints and to optimise operations in the coming years.

As a part of the project, the IS Webregister systems, which make data from registers maintained and managed by the Office, and the IS Portal of Electronic Services of the IPO SR, which provides electronic services and electronic forms for users of the Office, will be transferred to the government cloud. This project was co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNANCE AND LEVEL of Information and Cybersecurity in Sub-sector VS

The project is implemented in order to expand the capabilities in the field of information and cybersecurity and to ensure compliance with the Act No. 69/2018 Coll. on cybersecurity and the Act No. 95/2019 Coll. on information technologies of public administration. As a part of the project, the Office plans to implement cybersecurity governance processes, carry out risk and impact analysis, prepare an information and cybersecurity strategy, including a timetable for the implementation of the proposed measures, ensure the formal risk management decision process and implement a tool for recording information assets, categorising IS and networks, and managing identified risks and incidents.

5 CHANGE OF THE INFORMATION SYSTEM for the Industrial Property Rights Management

In 2022, a large-scale project, which affected the change of the carrier information system for the industrial property rights management, was completed. The main objective of the project was to harmonise the procedures under the newly adopted legislation within the Slovak e-government and gradually transform the Office into a “paperless” one. The following changes are most evident.

a) Processing and Conducting Follow-up Proceedings to the Application Files

All subsequent proceedings relating to the files of applications shall be kept in the Office's information system in separate files belonging to the file of the application and linked to it, the so-called sub-files (e.g. application for renewal of the trademark registration, oppositions to the registration of a sign in the Register of Trademarks, etc.). Each signature will have its own file number under which the application/application proceedings will be conducted..

b) Payment of Administrative Fees

For the payment of administrative fees, the Office shall always create a payment order, either with a confirmation of filing or a request for payment/additional payment of an administrative fee, which shall be sent upon receipt of the request. For each payment order, a unique variable symbol along with a QR code for faster payment are generated.

c) Notification of Impending Expiry

Ak sa blíži koniec platnosti zápisu ochrannej známky, platnosti dizajnu alebo úžitkového vzoru, je zaslaná informácia o tejto skutočnosti.

d) Official Journal

The Official Journal shall also be available in XML format, which shall allow automated processing.

e) Notifications of the Applications Status


Optional e-mail and SMS notifications about the course of proceedings for a particular trademark, design, patent and utility model application are available. Notifications shall be ‘tailor-made’ for each proceeding and shall be aimed at informing the party of the latest developments in his or her file transparently.

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SERVICES OF THE OFFICE

20 22

The Information Centre of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic provides information on the methods of industrial property protection and filing applications, information on the amount of administrative fees and also conducts searches for the Office's clients.





SERVICES OF THE OFFICE

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4 800

REQUESTS
for information

PUPILS,
STUDENTS

and
entrepreneurs
attended
educational
activities

700

657

COOPERATION
TO STATE
and public
administration bodies
was provided

REQUESTS FOR ACCESS
to files were processed

63

35

PROVIDED
pre-diagnostics to clients

EDUCATIONAL
and consulting activities






32

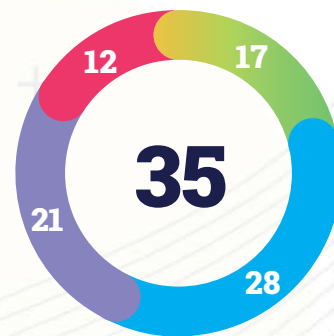
The Information Centre provides various types of **searches** for clients on request. The searches help to provide specific information on industrial rights to the client. They can lead to savings in research, development, investments and potential litigation. During the previous year, **301 EUTM searches**, **115 searches** (patent searches, design searches, trademark searches and bibliographic searches) and **15 patent searches with commentary** were carried out.



Industrial rights pre-diagnostics is another service of the Office. It is a consultancy service for small and medium-sized enterprises and for scientific research institutions. The aim of the pre-diagnostics is to provide clients with information so that they can develop an appropriate strategy for the industrial rights protection. In 2022, the Office provided **35 pre-diagnostics to clients**.

PERFORMED pre-diagnostics 2022

-  Patents and utility models
-  Trademarks
-  Designs
-  Geographical indications
-  Pre-diagnostics total



80 % of the total number of pre-diagnostics concerned trademarks. Developing a design protection strategy was recommended in **21 companies (60 %)**. For almost **half of the enterprises**, pre-diagnostics was aimed at innovative technical solutions protection.

The successful activity of the Office aimed at supporting the protection of traditional Slovak products resulted in the fact that **34 % of enterprises** during this year's pre-diagnostics were craft producers and producers of agricultural products.

REGISTRATION OF OBJECTS OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS after the pre-diagnosis was hold 2007-2022

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	SPOLU
PA		1	2	2	6	7	6	2	2	13	3	7	10	5	24	47	137
PCT				1											3	1	5
UMA			3	12	9	10	16	9	20	16	15	11	11	7	49	62	250
DA	3	1	1	2	1		3	2	4	1	4	3	11	3	8	2	49
RCD				1								1	1		2		5
TMA			15	19	18	7	5	12	12	14	14	8	12	40	24	5	205
ITMA			2	1							2						5
EU TM			1	7	1		1				5				9		24
PDO										3	3		1	1		2	10
	3	2	24	45	35	24	31	25	38	47	46	30	46	56	119	119	690

PA - Patent Application, PCT - Patent Application based on PCT, UMA - Utility Model Application, DA - Design Application, RCD - Community Design Application, TMA - Trade Mark Application, ITMA - International Trade Mark Application, EU TM - European Union Trade Mark, PDO - Protected Designation of Origin

The Office also provides the public with the services of a study room containing patent and non-patent literature. The Office's patent fund contains more than 20.5 million files in the paper form. The documents are accessible in electronic form in PDF format through the Webregisters information system, which can be found on the Office's website.

The overview of the contents of the patent fund is regularly updated quarterly and available on the Office's website.

**The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic is the holder
of the title Effective User of the CAF Model**

Effective  User

Since January 1, 2019, the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic has been participating in a national project of introducing and supporting quality management in public administration organisations, specifically implementing the **CAF model**. (**Common Assessment Framework** – Common Quality Assessment System).

The aim of the model as a European model of complex quality management, used in the public sector, is the self-assessment of the organisation and its continuous improvement in every area of its activity.

The year 2022 was in the spirit of the implementation **of the approved Action Plan for Improvement**, containing detailed implementation programs focused on various areas – personnel area, technical equipment of the Office, improvement in the quality of services, active identification of feedback from interested parties and social responsibility.

In November 2022, the Office successfully completed the project by re-defending the title of **Effective User of the CAF model**, under which it undertook to continuously improve and improve services and access to internal and external interested parties.

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POPULARISATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

20
22

The IPO SR strives to communicate the knowledge concerning industrial property to the general public in an accessible and understandable way.





Popularisation of the industrial property

The IPO SR strives to communicate the knowledge concerning industrial property to the general public in an accessible and understandable way. It uses **electronic media**, various **publications**, **promotions** and **educational** events. The network of partner **centres for patent information** and **contact points** also serves to raise public awareness in the field of intellectual property.



The office's websites and social networks

The Office's website www.indprop.gov.sk is the most complete source of information for the public. In addition, it has gradually been becoming an effective means of communication. It allows the public quick access to information and databases relating to the field of industrial property. In the Slovak and English versions, information about upcoming conferences, seminars and other events is also published on the website.

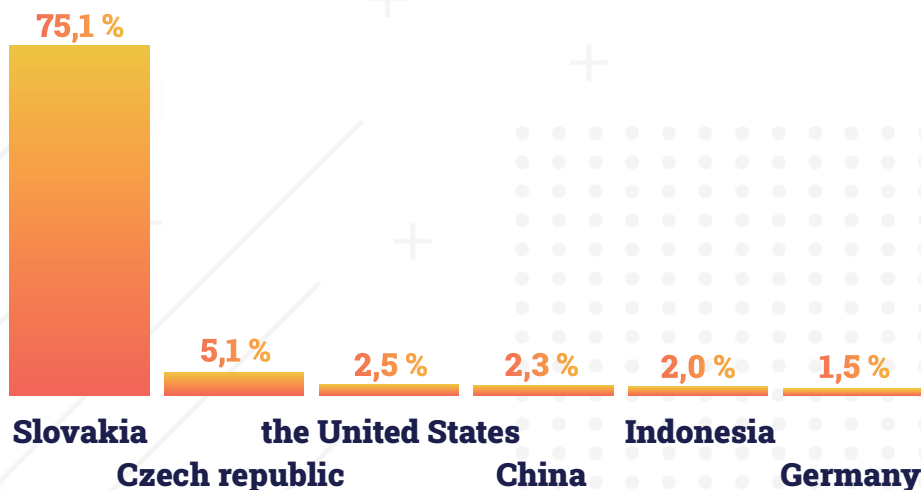
In 2022, the number of visits to the Office's website was more than 179 thousand. Recurring portal users are **23 %**.

179
thousand








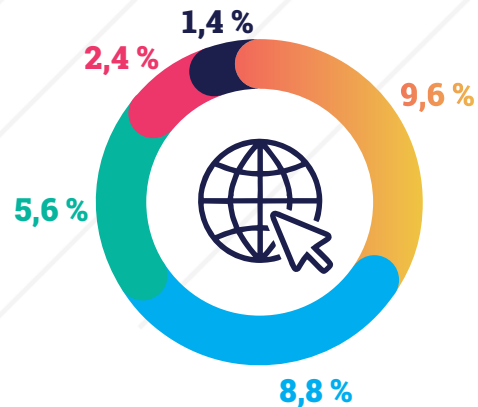
VISITS
to the Office's website

WEBSITE USERS by country



THE MOST VISITED SUBPAGES of the website

-  Databases and registers
-  Trademarks
-  Patents
-  Contacts
-  Utility models



The public can access the **webregisters of the IPO SR**, which are one of the most visited subpages of the Office's website. The databases contain selected data from the registers of industrial property held by the Office and are updated online after the changes have been made. The details of individual records include bibliographic data, data on the status of applications and legal status, full texts of published patent documents in PDF format, displays of

trademarks and designs, protocol items and full-text searches in industrial property subject-matters.

In an effort to raise public awareness about the importance of the intellectual property and its protection, the IPO SR uses pages on social networks **Facebook**, **Instagram** and **LinkedIn**.



Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic



upv_sr



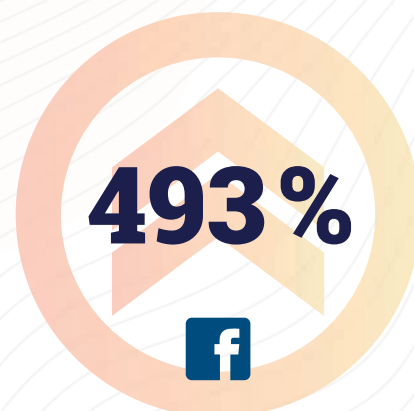
Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic

The main social network for raising awareness of intellectual property rights and the activities of the Office is **Facebook**. Here, we recorded the largest increase of followers, from 1,121 (1/ 12/2021) to 6,652 (1/ 12/2022), which represents an increase of **5,531** followers. At the end of the year, we had **635** followers on Instagram and **460** followers on LinkedIn. We see social networks only as complementary and each of them is suitable for a certain type of contributions, which we properly adapt.

unfair competition, and also includes information on legal regulation of trade names, trade secrets and know-how.

The IPO SR participates together with the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic in the operation of the www.dusevnevlastnictvo.gov.sk.

The information portal is a digital platform for obtaining a basic overview, orientation and information source in the whole range of intellectual property subject-matters. It contains information on copyright and related rights, on industrial property rights, on the right against



INCREASE OF FOLLOWERS on social network Facebook



PRESS RELEASES

During 2022, the IPO SR continued to issue press releases on its activities, through which it informed the public about activities, legislative changes or planned events.

January

1. **SMEs will receive € 47 million to support intellectual property**

February

2. **The first round table of universities and the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic**

March

3. **Ukraine became a member of the CEBS regional group within the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**

4. **Mission Expo Dubai 2020**

5. **Statement on the situation in Ukraine**

6. **World Intellectual Property Day – April 26, 2022**

7. **Hydrogen technologies are becoming a reality**

April

8. **The authenticity of Banská Bystrica was also appreciated in Greece**

9. **II Round table with representatives of universities, state institutions and ministries**

10. **We celebrated the 22nd World Intellectual Property Day with a conference dedicated to youth and innovations**

May

11. **International Conference – Hydrogen technologies in transport**

June

12. **The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization recognised Slovakia and its innovative potential**

13. **The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic was visited by representatives of the Ukrainian Institute of Intellectual Property**

14. **Faculty of Law, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information and the IPO SR have joined forces to help Slovak inventors**

July

- 15. 63rd General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization
- 16. Intellectual property can also be a loan product, it has more value than anything else...
- 17. Hrušovský lepeník is a Slovak product protected at European level

August

- 18. The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic will significantly save energy

September

- 19. Slovakia completes digitisation of trademark and design files
- 20. Slovakia has fallen by 9 places in terms of innovation potential in the last year

October

- 21. Bardejov honey is one of the tastiest in the world
- 22. Products with the designation of origin or a geographical indication may, from today, use the new symbol

November

- 23. Slovak innovation saves energy and the planet
- 24. Industries using intellectual property rights intensively and their economic performance in the European Union

December

- 25. Design protection awaits changes
- 26. Counterfeit goods worth 1.9 billion euros were seized in the European Union



PUBLISHING ACTIVITY

The most important publication concerning the area of industrial and legal protection is the **Official Gazette of the IPO SR**, which is published regularly **twice a month**. Since 1/2016, the Office makes the official electronic version available free of charge only on its website. Older official versions of the Official Gazette, published between 1993 and 2007, are published in printed form, and between 2008 and 2015 the Official Gazette was published on CD-ROM in PDF format. Official Gazettes issued in paper

form and on CD-ROM are available in the [study room of the Office](#)

The Magazine Duševné Vlastníctvo (Intellectual Property) is currently the only Slovak periodical focused on the issues of industrial rights and copyright.

The Magazine is open to the general public and is freely available on the Office's website.



PROMOTIONAL events

The IPO SR also tries to bring the public closer to several popularisation activities. The most important are the events organised on the occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day, the Researchers' Night, various exhibitions organised at the premises of the IPO SR or events within the educational program. The year 2022 was still affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, so many events took place online or were rescheduled.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has designated **April 26** as the World Intellectual Property Day. The 22nd year of

WIPD in Slovakia was devoted to the topic of youth with the motto – Youth and Innovations for a Better Future! On the World Intellectual Property Day, the Office recalled the enormous value of creativity, the importance and protection of intellectual property and the contribution of youth, students and inventors in the field. World Intellectual Property Day has created an opportunity **to show young people the importance of intellectual property rights in order to support their goals and help turn their ideas into reality.** With intellectual property rights, young people have access to the key tools they need to pursue their professional ambitions.



Education

Based on the decision of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic of 30 April 2019 and the certificate of reaccreditation No. 1308/2019/54/1, the IPO SR provides the **Intellectual Property Education programme**. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, education was conducted online through ZOOM throughout the calendar year 2022.

In the first half of 2022, the Intellectual Property course continued **with Module D – Industrial Property Law**. The final exams in this module were taken by 12 students. After the summer break, the education continued **with Module A – Intellectual Property Law and Copyright Law**. The number of new applicants has increased and 28 graduates have completed this module. It was immediately followed by **Module B – Creativity – Its Management, Marketing and Economics**, which continued in 2023.

In 2022, the Office also successfully continued in **education on the importance of intellectual property protection** for primary and secondary school students, but also for the academic community and entrepreneurs. There were **3 lectures for primary schools, 7 lectures for secondary schools and 7 lectures for universities**. There were also 8 educational events realised with our partners, which were aimed at small and medium-sized entrepreneurs.

Representatives of the Office participated in the 30th International **Furniture and Housing Fair**

in Nitra, CONECO 2022 in Bratislava, 47th International Engineering Fair and Agrokomplex in Nitra, where they promoted the activities and services of the Office and provided consulting services to visitors and exhibitors. Employees of the department also presented the activities of the Office during **the European Researchers' Night 2022** at stands in Banská Bystrica and Košice. Representatives of the Office also took part in **BBThon 2022**, which aimed to improve tourism in the Banská Bystrica Region, and the Festival of Science and Technology AMAVET, a unique showcase of the results of scientific and technical activities of pupils, especially high school students.

The internship programme took place in the autumn of 2022. It was attended by 9 selected students in the field of international relations and in the field of law. The trainees underwent a week of joint trainings and were subsequently divided into the respective departments.

The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, in cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Patent Attorneys, regularly organises **exams for the performance of the activity of a patent attorney**. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and measures taken, the tests of patent attorneys have been postponed from 2021 to March 3 and 4, 2022. There were three successful applicants at that time. The examinations were also carried out on the planned date, November 3 and 4, 2022, with one applicant successfully completing them.



PARTNERS OF IPO SR

In the course of 2022, cooperation with Patent Information Centres (**PATLIB**) and the Office's contact and information points continued to be carried out on the basis of mutual cooperation agreements.

The partnership is based on the exchange and provision of information, information materials and the organisation and provision of events aimed at expanding and supplementing professional knowledge in the field industrial property. In the Slovak Republic, the PATLIB Centres currently operate in the Slovak National Library in Martin, in the Centre of Scientific and Technical Information of the Slovak Republic in Bratislava, in the State Scientific Library in Košice, in the State Scientific Library in Banská Bystrica and the Centre operating within the University of Žilina in the Centre for Technology Transfer. **In 2022, a new centre operating in the Technicom University Science Park in Košice was added to PATLIB.**

The contact and information points of the Office (**CIM**) inform interested parties about the possibilities of protecting their creative activities and try to make the existence of a state institution that ensures the protection of their intangible assets, intellectual property, known to the general public.

These include the State Scientific Library in Prešov, the Juraj Fándly Library in Trnava, the

Michal Rešetka Public Library in Trenčín, the Karol Kmeľko Regional Library in Nitra, the Ľudovít Štúr Regional Library in Zvolen and the Regional Library in Žilina.

The mission of the information and advisory points of the Office for Innovation (**INNOINFO**), operating directly in the regions of Slovakia, is to inform the managements, especially of small and medium-sized enterprises, about the possibilities of industrial and legal protection of innovations.

In the premises of the **Košice** Regional Chamber of SCCI, **the Bratislava** Regional Chamber of SCCI and the Banská Bystrica Regional Chamber of SCCI, a consultation day was traditionally held, where the Office employee discussed with representatives of companies that showed interest in consulting about the problems they encounter in practice in their research and innovative activities. The interest was surprisingly great. Therefore, in 2022, we also offered this type of consultation to other organisations – the **UNIZA Research Centre, Žilina, SAS Bratislava.**

At the **Technicom TUKE University Science Park** in Košice, start-ups in particular expressed interest in the consultations. Their new solutions were at a fairly good technical level.



WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

HUMAN RESOURCES

20 22

The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic is, pursuant to the Section 32 of the Act No. 575/2001 Coll. on the Organisation of Government Activities and the Organisation of Central State Administration, as amended, the only central state administration body for the field of industrial property.

INDUSTRIAL
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Human resources

The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic is, pursuant to the Section 32 of the Act No. 575/2001 Coll. on the Organisation of Government Activities and the Organisation of Central State Administration, as amended, the only central state administration body for the field of industrial property. It performs central government administration in the field of protection of invention, utility model, design, semiconductor product topography, trademark, designation of origin of products and geographical indication of the product. It manages the central fund of patent literature and ensures the exchange and disclosure of information in the field of industrial rights.

The work of the Office is being carried out by two groups of employee relations:

- Civil service relations relating to the performance of the civil service by civil servants; and
- Employment relationships of employees in the performance of work in the public interest in relation with the performance of dependent work in an employment relationship.

The number of employees as at December 31, 2022 was 119. The state employment or employment relationship was established with five employees. At the same time, two state employments were terminated this year. Maternity and parental leave as at December 31, 2022 was drawn by four female employees.

The collective agreement concluded brings benefits to employees that go beyond the scope provided for by laws and higher collective agreements, such as

1. increase of leaving and retirement bonuses,
2. paid time off work,
3. increased compensation income during a sick leave,
4. supplementary pension savings contribution,
5. rewards and gifts for life jubilees (50 years and 60 years).

The Management of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic continuously takes the necessary measures to improve all activities and outputs of the Office not only at national but also at international level.

119

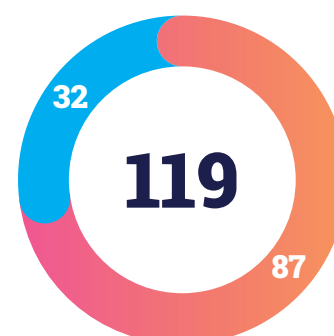


NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICE



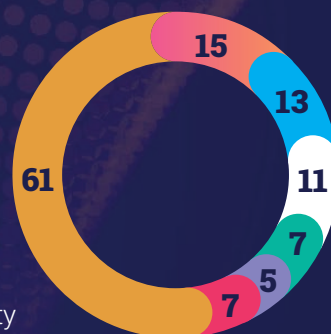
REGISTERED NUMBER OF THE OFFICE'S EMPLOYEES as at December 31, 2022 in terms of representation of women and men

- Women
- Men
- zamestnanci spolu



REGISTERED NUMBER OF THE OFFICE'S EMPLOYEES as at December 31, 2022 by the area of activity

- Patents, supplementary protection certificates, utility models
- Designs, trademarks, designations of origin and geographical indications of products
- Dispute proceedings
- Appeal proceedings
- Legislation
- Services of the Office, popularisation of the industrial property
- Other activities



REGISTERED NUMBER OF THE OFFICE'S EMPLOYEES as at December 31, 2017 to 2022

- Number of employees



AGE STRUCTURE OF THE OFFICE'S EMPLOYEES as at December 31, 2022



EMPLOYEES

Training

The training of the Office's employees was carried out in accordance with the training plan for 2022 and in accordance with the current requirements of the organisational units resulting mainly from legislative changes.

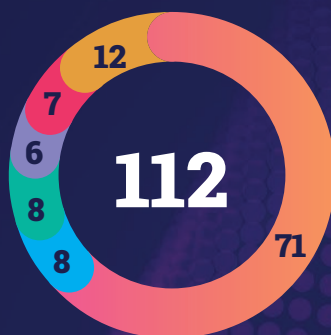
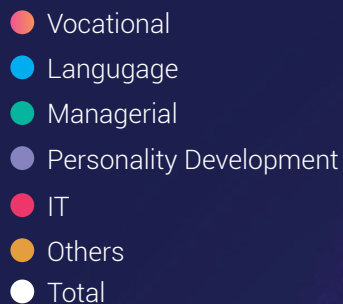
Seminars, courses, workshops and conferences were mainly held online in the case of foreign education provided by the EPO, EUIPO or WIPO. In domestic educational activities, the share of the online and on-site method has been gradually equalised. Educational institutions often offer both forms of education.

Vocational training was the most important part of educational activities on a regular basis, especially in the field of industrial-legal protection. Employees also participated in language courses, education focused on personal development and on the field of information technologies. Executive employees took courses in management education.

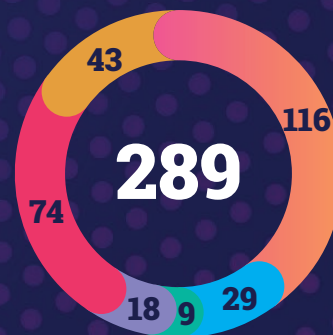
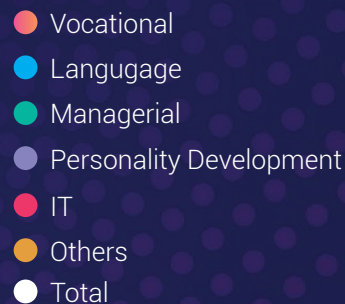
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

of Employees 2022

NUMBER of Activities



NUMBER of Participants

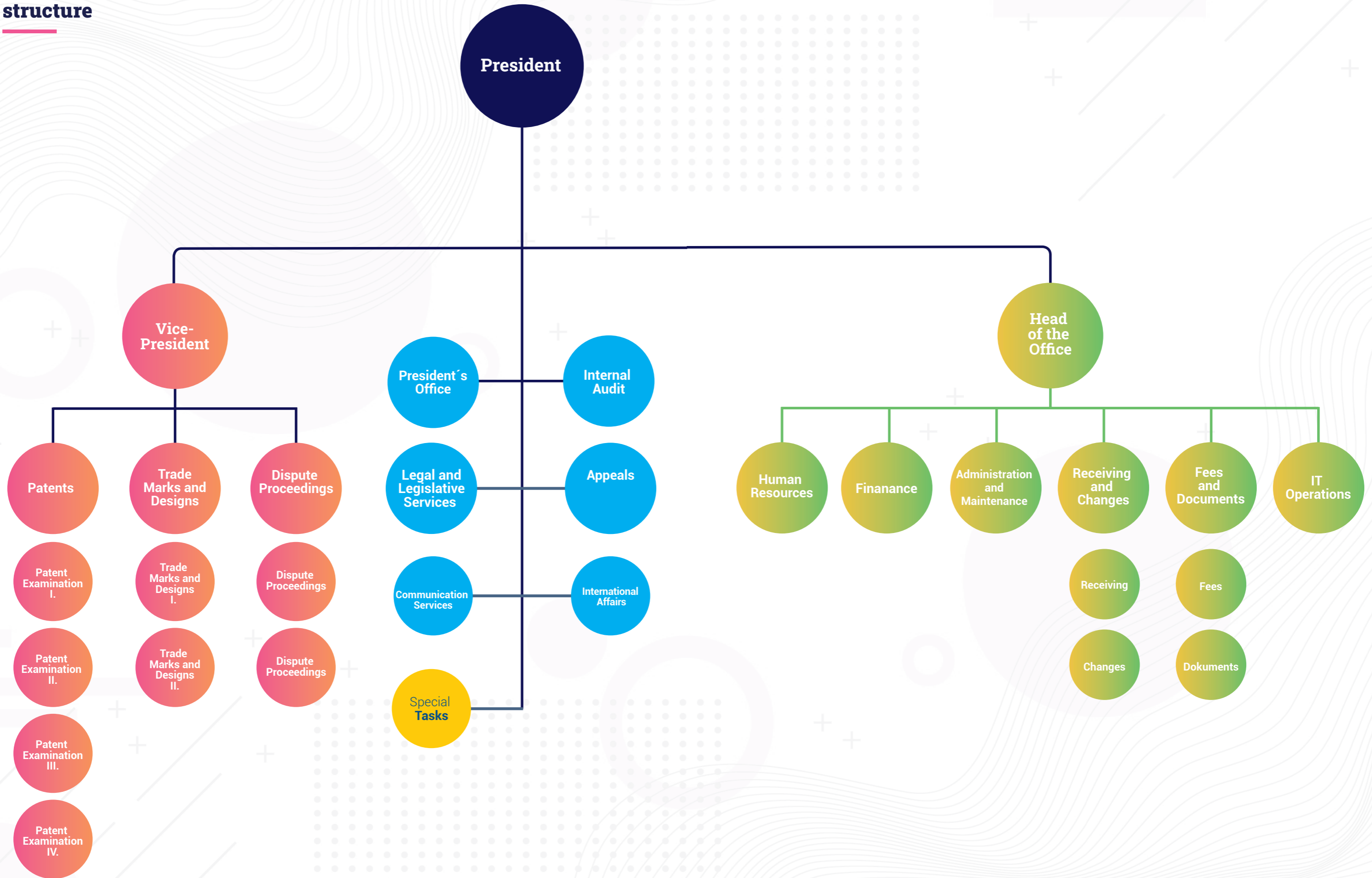


SELECTION

procedures

In connection with the filling of civil servant positions in the temporary and permanent civil service, two external selection procedures were announced during 2022. The selection procedure for the position of head of the communication department was successfully completed. Through personal interviews, two positions were filled in the performance of work in the public interest.

ORGANISATIONAL structure





ECONOMY

20 22

The IPO SR is a budget organisation. It receives its revenue from its activities (revenue from maintenance fees for industrial property, revenue from the rental of premises, revenue from the performance of search and other services provided by the Office and revenue from refunds) and from administrative fees.





Economy

The IPO SR is a budget organisation. It receives its revenue from its activities (revenue from maintenance fees for industrial property, revenue from the rental of premises, revenue from the performance of search and other services provided by the Office and revenue from refunds) and from administrative fees. Fees are collected in accordance with the Act No. 495/2008 Coll. on the fee for maintaining the validity of a patent, on the fee for maintaining the validity of a European patent with effects for the Slovak Republic and on the fee for maintaining the validity of a supplementary protection certificate for medicinal products and plant protection products and on amendments to certain acts, as amended.

In 2022, the Office generated total revenues consisting of **non-tax revenues of the chapter and administrative fees of € 4,816,501.24 (in 2021, this amounted to € 4,791,708.70)**. The total non-tax revenue of the chapter was **€ 3,980,579.20 and the administrative fees were € 835,922.04**. The highest share of the Office's total revenue was revenue from maintenance fees of **€2,953,354.86** (in the previous year 2021, revenues from maintenance fees amounted to **€ 2,918,275.52**). Compared to the previous year, revenues from maintenance fees increased by **€ 35,079.34**.

In the area of administrative fees, there was a **decrease of € 79,765.4 to € 835,922.04** compared to 2021, when administrative fees amounted to **€ 915,687.44**. This phenomenon has already been announced several times and the reason is increased computerisation and reduced fees for electronic filings.

The Office's total expenditure was budgeted for 2022 at **€ 6,095,951.24** and spent at **€ 6,049,680.21**, representing an implementation rate of 99.24

%. Of this, current expenditure was spent at **€ 5,360,537.83**, representing 100.00 % draw-down, and capital expenditure at **€ 689,142.38**, representing 93.74 % drawdown compared to the adjusted budget.

Within its activities in 2022, the Office drew not only funds from the state budget, but also from funds from the European Union. It was involved in a number of projects funded by the European Union. In terms of impact on spending in 2022, there were two important projects, namely the Project Data Management of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic and Migration of IS Webregisters of the IPO SR and IS Portal of Electronic Services of the IPO SR to the government cloud, financed from the EU funds, which represented spending in 2022 in the total amount of € 1,134,888.38. In addition, the Office was involved in new challenges and new projects, namely the Development of Governance and the Level of Information and Cybersecurity in the Subsector of the VS – Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, Improvement of eGov Services of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic, as well as Increasing the Share of Renewable Energy Sources in the Operation of the IPO SR Building. Completion of these projects is planned in 2023.

From the budget of the European Union, in the implementation of national and international projects in 2022, there was a drawdown of € 1,134,888.38, of which € 551,700.29 was the drawdown of the Project Migration IS Webregisters of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic and the IS Portal of Electronic Services of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic to the government cloud and € 583,188.09 was the drawdown of the Project Data Management of the Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic.

99,24 %



SPENT OF THE TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURE



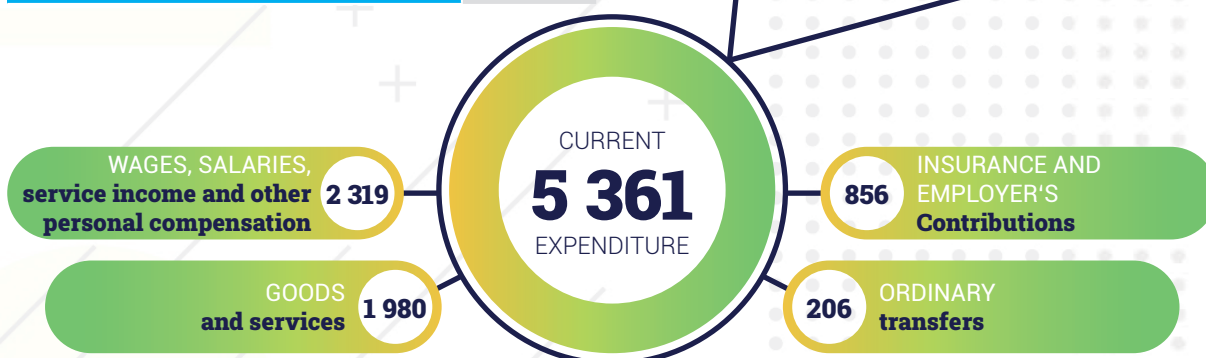
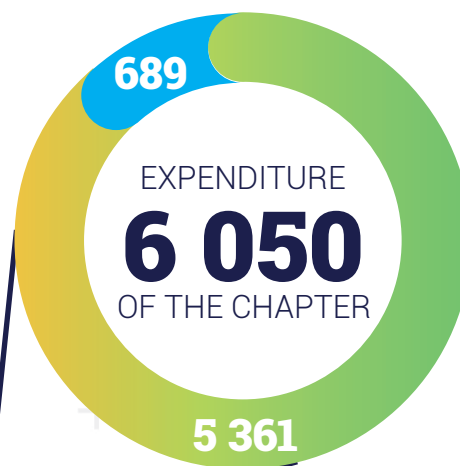
ECONOMIC results for 2022



Indicator	thousand EUR
Revenue of the chapter:	3 981
• Revenue from maintenance fees	2 953
• Income for ITM from WIPO	589
• Income from services provided by the Office	129
• Extraordinary income of EUIPO	310
Administrative fees	835
TOTAL REVENUE	4 816



Indicator	thousand EUR
Expenditure of the chapter:	6 050
of which current expenditure:	5 361
• Wages, salaries, service income and other personal compensation	2 319
• Insurance and Employer's Contributions	856
• Goods and services	1 980
• Ordinary transfers	206
Capital expenditure	689



WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

PHOTO GALLERY

20
22





Photo gallery



Banská Bystrica has officially become an authentic city



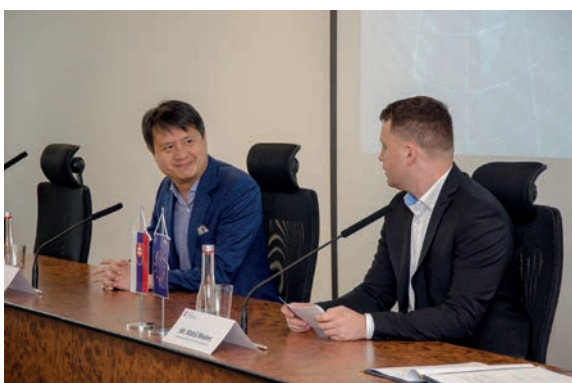
Bardejovský med (Bardejov honey) received protected indication of origin



Daren Tang visited Pavol Josef Šafarik University



Daren Tang visited research centre TECHNICOM



Daren Tang during his visit to Slovakia also visited the IP Office



Discussion of the status and roles of the intellectual property at WIPO



The second-round table of the universities and the Office



Hackathon in Banská Bystrica also with the participation of the Office



Conference on the occasion of World Intellectual Property Day



Consultation point of the Office at the COINTT 2022



Mission Expo Dubai 2020 also with the participation of the Office



Presentation of the Authentic City certificate to the mayor of Banská Bystrica



Opening of the conference Hydrogen technologies in transport



Plaques for service to former employees



**President of the Office in WIPO
General Assemblies**



**The President of the Office reminisced
together**



**Presentation point during
the Night of Researchers**



**Presentation of products with protected
designation for partners of the Office**



**Reception of representatives
of the French Patent and Trademark Office**



**Meeting of the president with the director
of American Patent and Trademark Office**



Meeting with former employees



Meeting with former employees



The Office was visited by representatives of the Ukrainian Institute of Intellectual Property



The Office again defended the CAF title



The Office opened the door to students



The Office became part of the Radvaň Fair



VPI became an observer within the EPO



Announcement of the results of the contest Don't be a faker!



Workshop "A logo is not enough"



Representatives of the Boards of Appeals EUIPO visited Slovakia



WE PROTECT THE VALUE OF IDEAS!

ANNEXES

20
22



INDUSTRIAL
PROPERTY OFFICE
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

WWW.INDPROP.GOV.SK



Annexes

- 1 PATENT APPLICATIONS**
BY THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
- 2 PATENT APPLICATIONS**
2022 ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION
- 3 PATENTS**
BY THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
- 4 GRANTED PATENTS**
2022 ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION
- 5 FILED AND REGISTRED UTILITY MODELS**
BY THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
- 6 FILED AND REGISTRED UTILITY MODELS**
2022 ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION
- 7 FILED AND REGISTRED DESIGNS**
BY THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
- 8 FILED AND REGISTRED TRADE MARKS**
BY THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
- 9 INTERNATIONAL TRADE MARKS**
BY THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

PATENT APPLICATIONS
according to country of origin

Country	National					PCT					Total				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	Austria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
China	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Czech republic	8	17	6	2	5	2	2	1	5	2	10	19	7	7	7
France	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Germany	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
United Kingdom	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
Republic of Korea	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	5
Luxembourg	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hungary	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
Poland	0	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	1
Romania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Slovakia	216	205	205	145	184	1	1	1	1	0	217	206	206	146	184
Turkey	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
United States of America	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
Foreign	12	24	11	5	13	2	4	4	8	6	14	28	15	13	19
TOTAL	228	229	216	150	197	3	5	5	9	6	231	234	221	159	203

PATENT APPLICATIONS 2022

according to the international patent classification

	Subject	Patent applications				IPC
		Domestic	Foreign	PCT	Total	
I. Electrical engineering						
1	Electrical machinery and apparatus, electrical energy	14	1	0	15	7,39
2	Audio-visual technology	0	1	0	1	0,49
3	Telecommunications	1	0	0	1	0,49
4	Information technology	6	0	0	6	2,96
5	Semiconductors	1	0	0	1	0,49
II. Instruments						
6	Optics	0	0	0	0	0,00
7	Analysis, measurement, control technology	21	0	0	21	10,34
8	Medical technology	9	0	0	9	4,43
9	Nuclear engineering	1	0	1	2	0,99
III. Chemistry, pharmaceuticals						
10	Organic fine chemistry	2	0	0	2	0,99
11	Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	2	0	1	3	1,48
12	Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics	7	0	1	8	3,94
13	Biotechnology	7	0	0	7	3,45
14	Agriculture, food chemistry	0	0	0	0	0,00
15	Chemical and petrol industry, basic materials chemistry	1	0	0	1	0,49
16	Surface technology, coating	0	0	0	0	0,00
17	Materials, metallurgy	5	0	1	6	2,96
IV. Process engineering, special equipment						
18	Chemical engineering	11	1	1	13	6,40
19	Materials processing, textiles, paper	8	0	0	8	3,94
20	Handling, printing	15	1	0	16	7,88
21	Agricultural and food processing, machinery and apparatus	3	0	0	3	1,48
22	Environmental technology	3	1	1	5	2,46
V. Mechanical engineering, machinery						
23	Machine tools	13	1	0	14	6,90
24	Engines, pumps, turbines	9	0	0	9	4,43
25	Thermal processes and apparatus	3	1	0	4	1,97
26	Mechanical elements	6	1	0	7	3,45
27	Transport	20	3	0	23	11,33
28	Space technology, weapons	3	0	0	3	1,48
VI. Consumption						
29	Consumer goods and equipment	7	1	0	8	3,94
30	Civil engineering, building, mining	6	1	0	7	3,45
Total		184	13	6	203	100,0

PATENTS according to country of origin

Country	National					PCT					Total				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Austria	0	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	3	0
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Czechia	7	7	2	7	15	3	1	4	0	4	10	8	6	7	19
Germany	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0
France	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hungary	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	4	2	0	1	0
Japan	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Republic of Korea	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Poland	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
Russian Federation	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sweden	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Slovakia	86	67	77	92	75	0	1	2	0	0	86	68	79	92	75
United States of America	1	0	0	0	0	4	5	0	1	0	5	5	0	1	0
Foreign	10	14	6	12	16	13	9	4	2	4	23	23	10	14	20
TOTAL	96	81	83	104	91	13	10	6	2	4	109	91	89	106	95

according to the international patent classification

Subject	Granted Patents				IPC
	Domestic	Foreign	PCT	Total	
I. Electrical engineering					
1 Electrical machinery and apparatus, electrical energy	4	0	0	4	4,21
2 Audio-visual technology	0	0	0	0	0,00
3 Telecommunications	4	0	0	4	4,21
4 Information technology	4	0	0	4	4,21
5 Semiconductors	1	0	0	1	1,05
II. Instruments					
6 Optics	5	0	0	5	5,26
7 Analysis, measurement, control technology	7	1	0	8	8,42
8 Medical technology	0	0	0	0	0,00
9 Nuclear engineering	0	0	0	0	0,00
III. Chemistry, pharmaceuticals					
10 Organic fine chemistry	1	0	0	1	1,05
11 Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	0	0	0	0	0,00
12 Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics	0	0	0	0	0,00
13 Biotechnology	1	0	0	1	1,05
14 Agriculture, food chemistry	0	0	0	0	0,00
15 Chemical and petrol industry, basic materials chemistry	2	2	0	4	4,21
16 Surface technology, coating	2	0	0	2	2,11
17 Materials, metallurgy	4	5	1	10	10,53
IV. Process engineering, special equipment					
18 Chemical engineering	1	1	0	2	2,11
19 Materials processing, textiles, paper	2	0	0	2	2,11
20 Handling, printing	8	0	1	9	9,47
21 Agricultural and food processing, machinery and apparatus	1	1	0	2	2,11
22 Environmental technology	1	1	0	2	2,11
V. Mechanical engineering, machinery					
23 Machine tools	2	1	0	3	3,16
24 Engines, pumps, turbines	8	2	0	10	10,53
25 Thermal processes and apparatus	4	0	0	4	4,21
26 Mechanical elements	1	0	0	1	1,05
27 Transport	3	2	0	5	5,26
28 Space technology, weapons	3	0	0	3	3,16
VI. Consumption					
29 Consumer goods and equipment	2	0	2	4	4,21
30 Civil engineering, building, mining	4	0	0	4	4,21
Total	75	16	4	95	100,0

FILED AND REGISTERED UTILITY MODELS
according to country of origin

Country	Applications					Registered				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Austria	1	1	2	1	0	2	0	2	1	1
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Brazil	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Czechia	53	34	36	30	45	60	45	38	41	32
Germany	3	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	1
Spain	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Finland	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1
France	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
United Kingdom	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Hungary	1	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	1
Switzerland	1	5	2	1	0	0	0	5	3	0
Italy	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Japon	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Republic of Korea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Latvia	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Poland	3	1	0	3	2	3	1	1	1	1
Russian Federation	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Seychely	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Slovakia	320	281	342	253	236	262	267	272	355	218
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Ukraine	1	0	3	2	1	2	1	0	3	3
Foreign	68	44	48	44	52	75	55	51	54	44
TOTAL	388	325	390	297	288	337	322	323	409	262

APPLICATIONS AND REGISTERED UTILITY MODELS 2022 according to the international patent classification

	Subject	Applications				Registered				MPT
		Domestic		Foreign		Domestic		Foreign		
		Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	
I. Electrical engineering										
1	Electrical machinery and apparatus, electrical energy	19	2	21	7,29	7	1	8	3,05	F21; G05F; H01B,C,F,G,H,I,K,M,R,T; H02; H05B,C,F,K
2	Audio-visual technology	0	1	1	0,35	0	0	0	0,00	G09F,G; G11B; H03F,G; H04N 3-5-9-13-17-19-21; H04R,S
3	Telecommunications	3	0	3	1,04	1	1	2	0,76	G08C; H01P,Q; H03B,C,D,H,K,L,M; H04B,H,J,K,L,M,N-1-7-11,O,W
4	Information technology	5	2	7	2,43	9	1	10	3,82	G06; G10I; G11C; G16H; G16Y; G16Z
II. Instruments										
6	Optics	1	0	1	0,35	1	0	1	0,38	G02; G03B,C,D,F,G,H; H01S
7	Analysis, measurement, control technology	33	1	34	11,81	25	1	26	9,92	G01B,C,D,F,G,H,I,K,L,M,N,P,Q,R,S,V,W; G04; G05B,D; G07; G08B,G; G09B,C,D; G1Z
8	Medical technology	20	1	21	7,29	11	2	13	4,96	A61B,C,D,F,G,H,I,J,L,M,N
III. Chemistry, pharmaceuticals										
10	Organic fine chemistry	0	0	0	0,00	1	0	1	0,38	C07C,D,F,H,J,K
11	Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	2	2	4	1,39	3	1	4	1,53	C08B,F,G,H,K,L; C09D,J
12	Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics	11	1	12	4,17	4	2	6	2,29	A61K; A61P; A61Q
13	Biotechnology	1	0	1	0,35	1	0	1	0,38	C07G; C12M,N,P,Q,R,S
14	Agriculture, food chemistry	6	1	7	2,43	3	0	3	1,15	A01H; A21D; A23B,C,D,F,G,H,I; C12C,F,G,H,J; C13B,K
15	Chemical and petro industry, basic materials chemistry	3	1	4	1,39	3	0	3	1,15	A01N; C05; C07B; C08C; C09B,C,F,G,H,K; C10B,C,F,G,H,I,K,L,M,N; C11B,C,D
16	Surface technology, coating	1	1	2	0,69	3	0	3	1,15	B05C,D; B3Z; C23; C25; C30
Materials, metallurgy										
IV. Process engineering, special equipment										
18	Chemical engineering	12	3	15	5,21	10	1	11	4,20	B01B,D,without-046 to -053;F;J,L; B02; C; B03; B04; B05B; B06; B07; B08; F25; F26
19	Materials processing, textiles, paper	2	2	4	1,39	15	1	16	6,11	A41H; A43D; A46D; B28; B31; C03B; C08J; C14; D01; D02; D03; D04B,C,G,H; D05; D06B,C,G,H,I,J,L,M,P,Q; D21
20	Handling, printing	10	0	10	3,47	10	2	12	4,58	B25; B41; B65B,C,D,F,G,H; B66; B67; B33Y
21	Agricultural and food processing, machinery and apparatus	4	1	5	1,74	3	0	3	1,15	A01B,C,D,F,G,H,I,K,L,M; A21B,C; A22; A23N,P; B02B; C12L
22	Environmental technology									
V. Mechanical engineering, machinery										
23	Machine tools	17	1	18	6,25	8	1	9	3,44	B21; B23; B24; B26D;F; B27; B30
24	Engines, pumps, turbines	11	1	12	4,17	6	0	6	2,29	F01B,C,D,K,L,M,P; F02; F03; F04; F23R
25	Thermal processes and apparatus	7	2	9	3,13	9	2	11	4,20	F22; F23B,C,D,H,K,L,M,N,O; F24; F25B,C; F27; F28
26	Mechanical elements	7	5	12	4,17	11	5	16	6,11	F15; F16; F17; G05G
27	Transport	24	1	25	8,66	28	3	31	11,83	B60; B61; B62; B63B,C,H,J; B64B,C,D,F
28	Space technology, weapons	4	1	5	1,74	3	0	3	1,15	B63G; B64G; C06; F41; F42
VI. Consumption										
29	Consumer goods and equipment	15	5	20	6,94	20	7	27	10,31	A24; A41B,C,D,F,G; A42; A43B,C; A44; A45; A46B; A47; A62B,C; A63; A99Z; B25B,C,D,F,G,H; B26B; B42; B43; B44; B68; D04D; D06E,N; D07; F25D; G10B,C,D,F,G,H,K
30	Civil engineering, building, mining	11	13	24	8,33	17	12	29	11,07	E01; E02; E03; E04; E05; E06; E21
Total		236	52	288	100	218	44	262	100	

FILED AND REGISTERED DESIGNS
according to country of origin

Country	Applications					Registered				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Czechia	2	9	4	2	6	7	3	9	3	6
Germany	1	8	0	0	1	1	8	1	0	0
France	3	2	1	1	5	3	0	3	1	4
Switzerland	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Italy	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Republic of Korea	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Netherlands	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	3	1
Poland	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sweden	0	0	19	3	12	11	0	17	3	8
Slovakia	111	90	119	103	77	107	89	95	110	65
Foreign	8	19	26	10	25	24	11	31	11	20
TOTAL	119	109	145	113	102	131	100	126	121	85

**FILED AND REGISTERED TRADEMARKS
according to country of origin**

Krajina	Applications					Registered				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United arab emirates	4	3	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	1
Austria	3	4	9	2	4	4	6	7	2	0
Australia	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
Belgium	2	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	1
Canada	6	3	7	0	3	1	8	7	2	1
China	5	9	8	5	17	4	7	6	7	16
Cyprus	31	6	31	9	15	21	16	25	7	10
Czechia	282	327	302	363	290	331	280	307	306	278
Germany	17	25	28	14	11	25	21	22	14	12
Denmark	3	2	0	0	2	0	3	2	0	0
Spain	2	3	2	0	5	3	2	4	0	1
Finland	1	0	0	3	2	2	0	0	0	3
France	13	19	12	32	17	17	17	14	25	15
United Kingdom	11	12	17	14	13	6	13	11	16	11
Croatia	3	1	0	3	0	6	0	1	0	2
Hungary	0	8	9	9	11	1	0	13	2	8
Switzerland	12	20	32	28	14	17	17	15	39	22
Ireland	0	0	3	2	1	3	0	1	2	1
Israel	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
India	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	1
Italy	3	2	3	3	4	4	0	2	0	4

FILED AND REGISTERED TRADEMARKS
according to country of origin (continue)

Japan	3	3	2	1	0	3	5	2	1	1
Republic of Korea	4	18	24	21	1	8	6	35	21	3
Luxembourg	8	3	2	0	1	1	9	4	1	0
North Macedonia	2	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	0
Malta	1	11	0	56	3	3	7	4	29	7
Mauritius	0	0	6	2	1	0	0	0	8	1
Mexico	0	0	3	9	0	1	0	1	11	0
Netherlands	8	4	3	5	11	9	10	2	3	6
Poland	18	14	8	11	11	17	20	6	9	8
Portugal	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	0
Romania	2	2	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0
Russian Federation	2	0	3	2	0	2	1	2	2	0
Sweden	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Slovenia	2	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	3
Slovakia	2 233	2 314	2 429	2 623	2 022	1 962	2 106	1 947	2 183	1 899
Turkey	0	8	2	0	0	3	1	8	1	0
Ukraine	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
United States of America	46	46	30	49	16	21	51	38	35	25
Virgin Islands (British)	3	3	1	1	0	2	0	3	2	0
other	2	4	4	11	12	2	2	4	5	10
Foreign	504	564	558	664	472	527	508	550	558	452
TOTAL	2 737	2 878	2 987	3 287	2 494	2 489	2 614	2 497	2 741	2 351

INTERNATIONAL TRADEMARKS according to country of origin

Country	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Austria	30	37	51	33	39
Australia	2	3	1	0	12
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	5	1	1	1
Belgium	0	0	0	0	10
Bulgaria	40	75	12	40	17
Benelux	43	36	42	26	0
Belarus	8	5	14	5	7
Canada	0	0	6	17	13
China	443	269	176	156	114
Cyprus	2	3	1	0	15
Czech Republic	57	81	53	44	43
Germany	120	127	78	76	72
Denmark	1	3	0	1	3
Estonia	1	0	2	0	6
European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)	4	2	5	3	0
Spain	7	5	12	8	6
France	78	89	57	42	49
United Kingdom	10	11	14	11	13
Croatia	9	9	10	10	8
Hungary	82	55	73	63	70
Switzerland	70	45	40	58	50
Israel	1	2	1	5	1
India	0	4	4	1	7
Italy	42	34	28	30	32
Japan	2	17	10	9	3
Republic of Korea	13	9	25	15	21
Kazakhstan	5	6	7	2	3
Latvia	1	15	4	4	3
Republic of Moldova	6	7	10	11	10
Montenegro	7	1	0	0	0
Malta	0	0	0	0	8
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	13
Norway	0	3	0	5	1
Poland	35	74	29	28	20
Portugal	2	6	3	4	1
Romania	8	2	3	2	5
Serbia	27	17	28	23	18
Russian Federation	163	104	118	89	69
Singapore	8	4	5	3	4
Slovenia	15	21	22	9	31
Tunisia	8	0	1	1	0
Turkey	71	45	50	43	67
Ukraine	59	44	36	34	23
United States of America	45	47	43	36	34
Viet Nam	2	3	5	5	1
Other	44	32	36	24	29
TOTAL	1 571	1 357	1 116	977	952



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