

## **Embargoed until 12 March 2019, 11.00 CET**

		Applications		
		2017	2018	Change
AL	<b>Albania</b>	0	0	–
AT	<b>Austria</b>	2 209	2 292	3.8%
BE	<b>Belgium</b>	2 152	2 360	9.7%
BG	<b>Bulgaria</b>	32	32	0.0%
CH	<b>Switzerland</b>	7 354	7 927	7.8%
CY	<b>Cyprus</b>	49	51	4.1%
CZ	<b>Czech Republic</b>	206	242	17.5%
DE	<b>Germany</b>	25 539	26 734	4.7%
DK	<b>Denmark</b>	2 089	2 390	14.4%
EE	<b>Estonia</b>	54	46	-14.8%
ES	<b>Spain</b>	1 671	1 776	6.3%
FI	<b>Finland</b>	1 797	1 728	-3.8%
FR	<b>France</b>	10 619	10 317	-2.8%
GB	<b>United Kingdom</b>	5 321	5 736	7.8%
GR	<b>Greece</b>	102	120	17.6%
HR	<b>Croatia</b>	10	14	40.0%
HU	<b>Hungary</b>	95	120	26.3%
IE	<b>Ireland</b>	660	801	21.4%
IS	<b>Iceland</b>	56	33	-41.1%

		Applications		
		2017	2018	Change
IT	<b>Italy</b>	4 360	4 399	0.9%
LI	<b>Liechtenstein</b>	380	429	12.9%
LT	<b>Lithuania</b>	24	37	54.2%
LU	<b>Luxembourg</b>	533	455	-14.6%
LV	<b>Latvia</b>	14	12	-14.3%
MC	<b>Monaco</b>	31	24	-22.6%
MK	<b>North Macedonia</b>	0	0	–
MT	<b>Malta</b>	69	51	-26.1%
NL	<b>Netherlands</b>	7 043	7 140	1.4%
NO	<b>Norway</b>	531	610	14.9%
PL	<b>Poland</b>	446	534	19.7%
PT	<b>Portugal</b>	150	220	46.7%
RO	<b>Romania</b>	52	47	-9.6%
RS	<b>Serbia</b>	10	9	-10.0%
SE	<b>Sweden</b>	3 783	4 050	7.1%
SI	<b>Slovenia</b>	98	99	1.0%
SK	<b>Slovakia</b>	41	50	22.0%
SM	<b>San Marino</b>	2	11	450.0%
TR	<b>Turkey</b>	911	572	-37.2%

Source: EPO. Status: 21.1.2019.

European patent applications include direct European applications and international (PCT) applications that entered the European phase during the reporting period.

To accurately account for the growing propensity from applicants to request early processing of their PCT applications in the regional phase at the EPO (Art 23(2) PCT), the date of request for early processing rather than the 31-month time limit (Art 22 PCT) is now considered as the date of entry in the regional phase.

This adjustment concerns annual statistics on applications filed as from 2016 and may lead to minor variations compared to figures published in the precedent Annual Reports.