

Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO

Sixty-Fifth Series of Meetings
Geneva, July 9 to 17, 2024

**REPORT ON THE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE'S INNOVATION
AND CREATIVITY SECTOR AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SYSTEM**

prepared by the Secretariat

REPORT ON THE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE'S INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY SECTOR AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SYSTEM

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1. INTRODUCTION

1. During the Sixty-Fourth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (July 6 to 14, 2023), the Member States took note of the Report on the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System (contained in the document [A/64/8](#)), and requested the International Bureau:

“to continue to provide concrete assistance and support as indicated in the conclusions of the report, pursuant to the decision of the 2022 WIPO Assemblies (see document A/63/10, paragraph 312)¹,” and

“to provide an updated report at the 2024 WIPO Assemblies².”

2. Accordingly, the current document provides an updated report to the Assemblies on the assistance and support measures carried out by the International Bureau during the period from July 2023 to May 2024, as requested by the Member States.

1.2. SUMMARY

3. Further to the request by the Member States, the International Bureau continued to provide assistance and support to Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and Intellectual Property System. This was driven by the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between WIPO and the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine on Cooperation in the Sphere of Intellectual Property signed in July 2023. The assistance was also provided based on the findings of the 2023 Assemblies Report as well as the identified needs and priorities of the country.

4. Since the last Assemblies, the International Bureau maintained regular consultations with Ukraine. It held over 30 online and in-person meetings, which involved relevant governmental and other stakeholders from Ukraine, including the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, the Ukrainian National Office for Intellectual Property and Innovations (UANIPIO), and the Supreme Court of Ukraine. These continuous consultations allowed the International Bureau to adapt its support and assistance to the evolving needs of the country and the circumstances on the ground.

5. The ongoing support to the development of the new National Intellectual Property (IP) Strategy of Ukraine provided for an in-depth assessment of the status of the innovation and IP system and sets the direction for targeted assistance in all relevant fields.

6. The increasing negative impact of the war on the innovation and creativity sector and IP system was highlighted in the diagnostic review conducted with the International Bureau's support in the framework of the development of the National IP Strategy.

7. The review revealed further damage of infrastructure, loss or damage of research equipment, brain drain, as well as decrease in research and development funding due to reallocation of financial resources to national security and defense priorities. It also showed limited operation of Collective Management Organizations (CMOs), and a significant decrease in income of creative industries.

¹ https://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=580211

² See document A/64/14, paragraph 263

8. In line with the MoU and the evolving needs of the country, the International Bureau focused its work in Ukraine on strengthening the innovation, creativity and IP ecosystem through policy and legislative advice, capacity building of various stakeholders, including the judiciary and patent and trademark examiners, as well as by providing support to eligible institutions for access to information and technology. Moreover, the International Bureau continued enhancing the IP awareness and education of those stakeholders and developing new business tools for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and startups. The International Bureau also concentrated on implementing projects with concrete impact for women entrepreneurs and technoparks.

9. Appropriate measures were continued to be taken to ensure that IP applicants from Ukraine, as well as UANIPIO, continued to have access to the full range of WIPO IP services, including those provided by the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center. They were granted appropriate extensions, exemptions and other remedies as provided for in relevant WIPO treaties, rules and regulations, in connection with the current circumstances.

10. At the same time, the resilience of the IP system in Ukraine was demonstrated by the slight increase in national IP filings in 2023 as compared to the 2022 figures, but still below the pre-war level of 2021. During the reporting period, with the support and assistance of the International Bureau, UANIPIO extended the Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) network, established a new IP&Innovations Hub, completed the implementation of WIPO's Intellectual Property Training Institution (IPTI) project, and increased the level of activity and trainings provided by the Ukrainian IP Academy (IPA).

11. The International Bureau remains committed to continuing its close cooperation with Ukraine to ensure that its ongoing support and assistance provide concrete benefits and impact to the creators, innovators, and members of the IP community, while focusing on mitigating the adverse effects of the war and on rebuilding an innovative and creative ecosystem in Ukraine that benefits all stakeholders and strengthens the country's economy.

2. GENERAL REMARKS

12. Since the last Assemblies, the war continued to significantly impact the innovation and creativity sector and IP system of Ukraine.

13. According to the latest updates provided by the World Bank's "[Ukraine, Third Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment](#)", as of December 31, 2023, the direct damage in Ukraine has reached almost 152 billion United States dollars with housing, transport, commerce and industry, energy, and agriculture as the most affected sectors.

14. The "[Analysis of war damage to the Ukrainian science sector and its consequences](#)" published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) reported that by January 2024, 12 per cent of Ukrainian scientists and university teachers had been forced to emigrate or relocate internally, and about 30 per cent of all Ukrainian scientists forced to work remotely. The cost of restoring Ukraine's public research infrastructure has been estimated at 1.26 billion United States dollars. Since February 2022, some 1,443 buildings belonging to 177 public scientific institutions have been damaged or destroyed. As of June 5, 2024, UNESCO has verified damage to 400 sites³ since February 24, 2022: 137 religious sites, 191 buildings of historical and/or artistic interest, 31 museums, 25 monuments, 15 libraries, and one archive.

³ <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/damaged-cultural-sites-ukraine-verified-unesco> (accessed June 7, 2024)

15. The widespread displacement also continued to be a significant issue. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as of May 16, 2024, a total of 6,483,500 Ukrainian refugees have been recorded globally⁴. In addition, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as of December 2023, an estimated 3.7 million persons have been internally displaced within Ukraine⁵.

16. During the reporting period, the International Bureau has maintained intensive consultations with Ukraine to continuously adjust its support to the evolving needs of the innovation and creativity sector and IP ecosystem. Since the last Assemblies, over 30 online and in-person consultations took place, which involved relevant governmental and other stakeholders from Ukraine, including the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, UANIPIO, and the Supreme Court of Ukraine. The International Bureau also continued its close contact with the TISCs network of Ukraine.

17. In April 2024, high level meetings were held, with the participation of Mr. Vitaliy Kindrativ, Deputy Minister of Economy (Ukraine), to discuss ongoing projects and future cooperation activities. During his visit at WIPO, Mr. Kindrativ met with Mr. Daren Tang, Director General.

18. Additionally, the International Bureau organized regular meetings with the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations (UN) Office and other international organizations in Geneva to ensure ongoing communication and collaboration.

19. In the framework of the development of the new National IP Strategy of Ukraine, a diagnostic review was conducted with the support of the International Bureau. It also highlighted the continued negative impact of the war on the innovation and creativity sector and IP system.

20. In particular, the diagnostic phase of the National IP Strategy development revealed the outflow of intellectual capital; the decrease of state funding for research and development; the decline, as compared to pre-war levels, of the innovation and inventive activity; and of the use of IP by universities and research institutions as well as by the national businesses, in particular SMEs.

21. In addition, the diagnostic phase highlighted the difficulties of collaboration between scientists and businesses due to poor communication networks and insufficient knowledge of market prospects, leaving scientists unaware of market trends and business needs, and businesses unable to effectively identify new technological solutions. The diagnosis also highlighted the lack of access to vital market information and advisory support which is preventing ideas from reaching the commercialization phase.

22. The creative sector also faces major challenges due to the ongoing war. CMOs, which play a crucial role in safeguarding the rights of creators, have been unable to fulfill their extended and mandatory management due to limited operations. The suspension of the accreditation of CMOs left rights holders without reliable mechanisms to protect their interests. Based on the available information, the analysis during that phase indicated a significant decline in income of creative industries compared to pre-war 2021 levels. Cross-border currency transfer restrictions have limited the possibility of CMOs to pay remuneration to foreign right holders as well as the ability of creative industries to import essential equipment, significantly complicating the functioning of creative businesses.

23. Despite all these issues, it is worth noting the resilience shown by Ukrainian entrepreneurs. This was demonstrated by the increasing number of IP applications in 2023 filed

⁴ <https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine> (accessed June 7, 2024)

⁵ <https://www.migrationdataportal.org/ukraine/crisis-movements>

with UANIPIO as well as of international applications of Ukrainian origin, filed through the WIPO Global Systems.

24. In 2023, UANIPIO reported a 47.6 per cent increase in the total number of applications for industrial property rights (32,759) compared to 2022, with significant increases across all categories of IP. This amount exceeded the figures for 2022 by more than 10,500 applications, but it remained inferior to the volume of applications recorded in 2021 (41,003 applications).

25. More specifically, in 2023, patent applications including PCT applications increased by 5.5 per cent compared to 2022, utility models applications including PCT applications increased by 47.7 per cent, industrial design applications by 34.8 per cent, and trademark applications increased by 55.4 per cent⁶.

26. International filings under the PCT, Madrid, and Hague Systems related to Ukraine have also shown a slight increasing trend as compared to 2022 (detailed information in Section 4).

27. Ukraine's resilience was also highlighted by the number of new services launched by UANIPIO with the support and assistance of the International Bureau. In particular, the growth of the TISCs network, the activity of the IPA, the launch of the National IP&Innovations Hub and the Mediation Center, as well as their extended international cooperation.

28. The International Bureau continued to ensure adequate financial and human resources within the approved Program of Work and Budget for the implementation of technical and legal assistance, capacity building, and other projects and activities for Ukraine, as appropriate and required, for the restoration and rebuilding of Ukraine's IP sector and ecosystem.

29. Financial and/or human resources continued to be made available in all relevant areas of work of the International Bureau, including the Regional and National Development Sector, the Patents and Technology Sector, Infrastructure and Platforms Sector, IP and Innovation Ecosystems Sector, Global Challenges and Partnerships Sector, Brands and Designs Sector and the Copyright and Creative Industries Sector.

3. ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE'S INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY SECTOR AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SYSTEM

30. The next part of the Report provides a comprehensive overview of the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and IP System, undertaken by the International Bureau from July 2023 to May 2024.

3.1. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN WIPO AND THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY OF UKRAINE ON COOPERATION IN THE SPHERE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

31. The MoU between WIPO and the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine on Cooperation in the Sphere of Intellectual Property entered into force on July 24, 2023. The MoU is an important milestone in the ongoing and future cooperation between WIPO and Ukraine and plays a key role in the efficient implementation of the Assemblies decision and support for the IP, innovation, and creative ecosystem of Ukraine.

32. The objective of the MoU is to enhance cooperation aimed at rebuilding Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and ecosystem that was significantly impacted by the war.

⁶ [IP in Figures for 2023 \(nipo.gov.ua\)](https://nipo.gov.ua)

3.2. SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL IP STRATEGY

33. Since February 2024, the International Bureau has been actively supporting the development of a National IP Strategy for Ukraine.

34. A National Expert Group coordinated by UANIPIO and constituted of relevant stakeholders was established. It provides direction for the overall process. Three national consultants, one focusing on the innovation economy, one focusing on copyright and the creative industries, and one focusing on the industrial property framework, have been engaged by WIPO to support the process under the guidance of the International Bureau and the National Expert Group. In addition, the International Bureau engaged two international consultants with experience in the international IP framework as well as the IP law in Ukraine, to support the process in a review and advisory capacity, under the guidance of the International Bureau.

35. The ongoing development process includes a diagnostic phase and report, which are expected to be completed in June 2024. The process is guided by the findings of the 2023 Assemblies Report on the Assistance and Support for Ukraine's Innovation and Creativity Sector and IP System.

36. The preparation of the Draft National IP Strategy is anticipated for 2024 summer. The Strategy is expected to be finalized in October 2024.

37. The scope of the National IP Strategy includes industrial property, copyright and related matters. It is foreseen that the National IP Strategy will address key IP, innovation, and creative industry considerations in Ukraine, and will be aligned with other national goals or priorities. The National IP Strategy is expected to cover a timeframe of five years, that is from 2025 to 2030.

38. The International Bureau has been coordinating and engaging in regular meetings with the National Expert Group, as well as with the national and international consultants to facilitate progress according to the development timeline of the National IP Strategy, and to ensure that strategic and substantive advice is provided at critical points throughout the progress. Discussions have focused on various substantive issues, including with the relevant Sectors of the International Bureau, in the area of patents, utility models and trade secrets, as well as on aspects of the IP and innovation ecosystem. In addition, the International Bureau is providing comprehensive advice and support regarding the diagnostic phase and related report as well as the preparation of the draft Strategy.

3.3. PROVISION OF POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE ADVICE

3.3.1. Copyright

39. During the reporting period the International Bureau held consultations with the government authorities of Ukraine on copyright matters and provided legislative advice as follows:

- Analyzed and provided comments on the new Copyright Law, including the possible outcomes from the implementation of the Copyright Law and points to be considered for further development of the by-laws and possible amendments to the Copyright Law;
- Analyzed and provided comments on the two draft by-laws to implement the new Copyright Law concerning the procedure and conditions for the authorized use of orphan works, phonograms, videogames, and performances recorded therein; and

the procedure for the protection of author's moral rights for works in the public domain, in the absence of the author's heirs;

- Analyzed and provided comments regarding the accreditation processes of CMOs.

3.3.2. Industrial Property

40. At the request of UANIPIO, and in the context of the development of the National IP Strategy, policy and legislative advice was provided to Ukraine by the International Bureau in the area of industrial property. In particular, advice was provided on:

- Ukraine's utility model system;
- Patent-related exceptions to make them more operational and aligned with the country's interests;
- Legal provisions on trade secret protection.

3.4. SUPPORT TO INCREASED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

3.4.1. WIPO Academy - IPTI Ukraine

41. The IPTI project for the IPA was completed in 2023. The support provided included creating technical and pedagogical capacities for a pool of 24 national trainers, the preparation of a business plan to guide the IPA's operations, the establishment of the IPA's library, and the design and piloting of the following skills-building programs in 2023:

- "IP and Emerging Technologies" aimed at providing students with Law Master's degrees with knowledge and skills on the latest technologies and related IP issues;
- "Trademarks in the Virtual World" for professionals who have received/are receiving IP education and have little experience in the field of IP; and
- "Maximizing Commercialization Opportunities: Technology Transfer in Universities and Research Institutions," for technology transfer managers of universities and research institutions, employees of technology transfer offices, TISCs, and patent and licensing departments.

42. In addition, the joint IP Capacity-Building Project for Women in Creative Industries Sector in Ukraine benefited more than 30 women art creators and photographers.

43. Overall, the IPA has reported delivering 58 activities for more than 5,180 participants in 2023, of which approximately 70 per cent were women.

44. In 2024, at the request of the IPA, the WIPO Academy started the development of four projects to be implemented in the course of the year, namely:

- IP Project for folk craft entrepreneurs under the Build-Back Fund. The project aims at empowering folk craft entrepreneurs with IP knowledge and tools to safeguard their works, drive innovation, and preserve cultural heritage, thereby fortifying their resilience amidst socio-political challenges. Its multifaceted approach encompasses needs-assessment, education and training, mentorship by international experts, implementation and reporting. During the reporting period, consultations on this project were initiated with the IPTI and relevant stakeholders from the sector to learn about the current state of their businesses and explore potential support initiatives that can be provided within this project;
- IP capacity-building for children. The project aims at fostering IP awareness among children, with a focus on developing tailored e-learning content hosted on the IPTI's website. During the reporting period, a preparation phase was initiated to identify:

- (i) potential national experts capable of providing support in content creation; and,
- (ii) a national e-learning digital company to create relevant graphics;
- Continuous Training of Trainers' Program on IP and Emerging Technologies. The project consists of an online training program, mentorship of selected professors, and the integration of specialized curricula in national universities. It intends to enhance the capacity of national universities to effectively teach topics related to IP and emerging technologies across various academic disciplines. During the reporting period, preparations were initiated, including on an agreement on priority topics to be covered, and on first proposals for the training components; and
- Development of the IPTI's website, web presence and its digital marketing. The project has the aim of improving its online visibility to better present its training offerings and reach a wider audience, including the diaspora. During the reporting period, two companies were chosen to undertake specific roles within the project: one for website creation and another for digital marketing. In addition, the digital marketing strategy and branding package have been in the design phase.

3.4.2. Ukrainian Participation in other WIPO Academy Programs

45. Additionally, the WIPO Academy initiated the translation and customization of the foundational distance learning IP courses (DL-001 and DL-101) for the Ukrainian national audience. To facilitate the process, the WIPO Academy has set up a translation and customization area on the eLearning platform, providing the necessary resources and access for the local IPTI.

46. The total number of participants from Ukraine in the WIPO Academy IP eLearning courses reached 680 in 2023 and 317 at the end of April 2024.

47. Nine participants from Ukraine enrolled in WIPO Joint Master's programs in 2023 and 2024. Eleven participants from Ukraine participated in the WIPO-Harvard Law School course on Patent Law and Global Public Health in 2023-2024. In addition, one participant from Ukraine took part in the 41st Annual Congress of the International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in IP (ATRIP) in 2023 in Tokyo.

3.4.3. Capacity and Network Building for Patent and Trademark Examiners

48. The International Bureau initiated two Pilot Projects for Needs-Assessment, Network Building and Capacity Building of Trademark and Patent Examiners in the Central European and Baltic States and Mediterranean Countries (CEBSMC). Their aim is to facilitate experience and knowledge sharing between the IP offices in the region and provide opportunities for capacity building of the trademark and patent examiners.

49. The project for trademark examiners was launched in March 2024. Seventeen countries from the region, including Ukraine, are participating in the program. The project included online training modules focusing on classification of goods and services for the purpose of the registration of marks, an overview of the Nice Classification, an assessment of absolute grounds for refusal to register a trademark, electronic databases, and trademark information systems, which were finalized by May 2024. The modules related to the assessment of relative grounds for refusal to register a trademark as well as additional trainings on e-tools and databases are expected to be completed in November 2024.

50. Fifty-nine trademark examiners from Ukraine actively participated in the trademark related trainings, which is an indication of their interest and the high relevance of the project.

51. The International Bureau has also been providing special sessions with interpretation for the Ukrainian trademark examiners.

52. Ukraine is one of the 14 countries benefiting from the project for patent examiners. Based on the findings of the needs-assessment, the training program was crafted to cover specific topics of interest, including those of examiners from UANIPIO. Those are: search for prior arts; legal and practical expertise on applying the patentability criteria; use of work products from other offices and International Searching Authorities under the PCT; examination practices; and drafting examination reports. The program also covers a case studies module to analyze real patent cases, and to apply theoretical knowledge and foster a deeper understanding of practical challenges in specific areas of technology.

53. The International Bureau foresees seven modules of the training phase for a period of 10 months (May to December 2024) through interactive online workshops, providing patent examiners, including those from UANIPIO, with numerous opportunities for experience sharing among the network of examiners in the CEBSMC region.

54. Forty-three patent examiners from UANIPIO are participating in the training. They also will be presenting practical cases at two of the training sessions. The first online training session on drafting and interpretation of the patent application took place on May 28, 2024.

3.4.4. Support for the Judiciary

55. Following consultations between the International Bureau and the Supreme Court of Ukraine, which took place throughout 2023, an MoU between WIPO and the Supreme Court was signed in November 2023. The MoU paves the way for developing close cooperation and joint activities with a view to strengthening the judicial system and services for IP protection.

56. In November 2023, Ukraine joined the WIPO Lex-Judgments database by concluding a separate MoU with WIPO. The purpose of the MoU is to facilitate the dissemination of leading judgments in the field of IP through a WIPO operated database.

57. As of April 2024, Ukraine submitted six judgments to the WIPO-Lex Judgments database that were published and made publicly available on the WIPO website. Based on the information provided by the Supreme Court of Ukraine, the judicial administration structure of IP disputes for Ukraine has been published on the WIPO Lex website.

58. With a view to promoting increased knowledge on adjudicating IP disputes and facilitating the use of legal databases, including WIPO Lex, the International Bureau initiated a series of capacity-building activities for the members of the Ukrainian judiciary in April 2024.

59. From the foreseen series of trainings, two online workshops on IP adjudication were provided in April and May 2024 and two other workshops have been foreseen for June 2024. The workshops were held with interpretation into Ukrainian and have been addressing issues such as: WIPO's work with judiciaries; the WIPO Lex-Judgments database; legal resources and databases of the Court of Justice of the European Union; protection of pharmaceutical trademarks; non-traditional trademarks; and adjudicating online IP infringements.

60. Seventy-one participants, including 41 judges from the Supreme Court and commercial courts of different regions of Ukraine and 30 staff members of the Supreme Court, participated in the first two workshops held on April 24 and May 15, 2024.

3.5. SUPPORT TO INNOVATORS, CREATORS, SMES, UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

3.5.1. Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) Network

61. During the reporting period, the International Bureau continued supporting the development and operation of the national TISCs network by providing technical assistance, capacity building, and facilitating access to IP databases.

62. Since July 2023, the network has grown significantly, with 23 new TISCs established. That brought the total number of TISCs in Ukraine to 37. UANIPIO reported that the TISCs network organized 72 IP awareness events targeting various stakeholders and developed 21 informational and analytical products⁷.

63. In December 2023, the International Bureau participated in the “IP&I for Science and Business” seminar, which was organized for local universities and TISCs. In April 2024, the International Bureau also contributed to the IP&Innovations Hub Day organized by UANIPIO.

64. Following the consultations held with the Ministry of Economy and UANIPIO in April 2024, the International Bureau will work to enhance the effectiveness of the TISCs network, namely, by providing the following:

- support in organizing trainings for TISC staff on patent searches and in the area of patent analytics; and
- support in organizing an online workshop to present the WIPO Toolkit on New Product Development and Inventions in the Public Domain, based on a modular blended-learning training approach comprising a learner’s guide, introductory animated videos, resources, as well as datasets and associated exercises for individual or group training.

3.5.2. IP and Innovations Hub

65. UANIPIO established the IP&Innovations Hub in 2023 with the objective to build an effective innovation ecosystem for the development and support of innovative activities based on the active interaction between the state, the research sector, innovators, and businesses, with the involvement of the public and foreign partners.

66. The International Bureau has also been supporting the development of the IP&Innovations Hub portfolio of services, as well as sharing relevant materials on similar projects, including the development of the TISCs networks in other regions worldwide. The International Bureau has been holding consultations with Ukrainian authorities to identify the potential cross-regional experience-sharing opportunities, including the development and functioning of IP marketplaces.

67. Following the consultations with the Ministry of Economy and UANIPIO, several additional areas of support for the “IP&Innovations Hub” of Ukraine have been identified and agreed upon. These areas include organizing an IP Management Clinic for Ukrainian SMEs, and holding a workshop on IP issues for Ukrainian startups, to support innovative companies in identifying, managing, and using their IP assets, as well as in formulating their IP strategies.

⁷ <https://nipo.gov.ua/ip-week-24-ip-innovations-hub/>

3.5.3. Technopark Project

68. From September to December 2023, the International Bureau carried out the Project on Cross-Regional Experience Sharing of Best Practices on IP Management in Technoparks. This project involved 39 technoparks from 14 Member States, including the Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Türkiye, and Ukraine.

69. Three Ukrainian technoparks, Science Park Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv, Science Park Kyivska Polytechnic, and Scientific Park of Lviv Polytechnic National University, actively participated and demonstrated significant engagement in the project.

70. The participating technoparks enhanced their IP management methodologies. Through the project, they fostered stronger partnerships, identified principal challenges, and developed comprehensive roadmaps aimed at future growth and development.

3.5.4. Cross-Regional Project on IP Commercialization in Academia

71. Ukraine has been invited to participate and submit nominations of partner institutions in the pilot of the Cross-Regional Project on IP Commercialization in Academia – Scale Up Your IP. The project will be implemented in the second half of 2024. It envisages training on IP commercialization and go-to-market strategies that empower and enhance the knowledge of spin-offs and ventures to transform scientific discoveries into real-world applications, including through a cross-regional virtual experience exchange workshop.

3.5.5. Support Tools for SMEs and Startups

72. During the reporting period, the International Bureau continued to put emphasis on implementing IP support tools for SMEs and startups in Ukrainian, and on customizing them to the domestic legal and regulatory environment.

73. In this context, the translation into Ukrainian of “Enterprising Ideas – a Guide to Intellectual Property for Startups” and “WIPO IP Diagnostics” was finalized in December 2023. Work is ongoing on the customization of these resources and is expected to be finalized in 2024.

74. Once customized, the IP Diagnostic Tool will become an accessible resource, helping business identify and assess the strength of their IP, and evaluate the business opportunities as well as risks associated with their IP. Training will also be provided for UANIPIO staff on how to utilize the IP Diagnostics to offer comprehensive support to businesses in navigating their IP strategies.

3.5.6. Project on Access to and use of Government-Generated/Funded IP Assets (IP Audit Project)

75. The International Bureau maintained consultations with Ukraine on the implementation of the IP Audit project. The identification and selection of the participating government-funded research and development institutions to be engaged in the project as pilot institutions for the audit continued by UANIPIO in the reporting period. The International Bureau has already selected the international expert who would conduct the IP audit and draft the Guide on IP Audit with subsequent training and mentoring of selected local professionals on the IP Audit methodology.

76. The project on IP Audit in the Government-funded institutions is planned to be implemented throughout 2024-2025.

3.5.7. Inventor Assistance Program

77. In 2023, UANIPIO expressed interest in joining the WIPO Inventor Assistance Program (IAP), and consultations with the International Bureau took place to this end. The International Bureau shared with UANIPIO relevant details on the aim of the Program, the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders involved in the implementation of the IAP locally, as well as conditions and requirements for joining the Program. The International Bureau continued consultations with UANIPIO regarding development of the program, focusing on the scope of beneficiaries, identification of country focal point, local volunteers and other support groups which would facilitate the local implementation of the Program.

3.5.8. CEBS WEP Project

78. From March 2023 to January 2024, the International Bureau implemented the Training, Mentoring and Matchmaking Program on Intellectual Property for Women Entrepreneurs from Local Communities in the CEBSMC Region (CEBS WEP Project). The project was designed in response to interest from CEBSMC countries and brought together 21 women from 15 countries engaged in traditional textile production within the region.

79. Three Ukrainian women entrepreneurs, specialized in authentic traditional clothing and embroidery, fashion design art using traditional images, and linen home textile, participated in the project. The project included in-person trainings, online group clinics and benefited from continuous online mentoring, and networking opportunities, as well as a final event that featured an exhibition of the traditional textile products of all participants. This exposure not only facilitated the sharing of experiences and ideas but also helped participants understand how to use IP tools to protect and promote their traditional knowledge and develop their businesses based on traditional textiles and designs.

80. The Ukrainian participants benefited particularly from dedicated legal advice provided *pro bono* by a Ukrainian law firm focusing on branding and trademark strategies, enhancing their ability to refine and implement their IP strategies effectively.

3.6. PROVISION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGIES

81. The International Bureau continued to facilitate access to patent and non-patent databases and literature for UANIPIO and other Ukrainian institutions through two key public-private programs: the Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI) program offering access to subscription-based scientific and technical journals, and the Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI) program, which provides access to commercial, more sophisticated search and analytics patent databases.

82. The free access to ASPI, ARDI and other Research4Life programs for eligible national institutions of Ukraine, including the TISCs network, has been extended until the end of 2024. This extension is part of a strategy to ensure that Ukrainian institutions continue to benefit from global knowledge repositories and technology databases amidst ongoing challenges.

83. Following the consultations with the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine in April 2024, the following future activities have been planned:

- support in organizing and providing training for national eligible institutions, including UANIPIO and TISCs for effective utilization of ASPI, ARDI, and other Research4Life programs and to ensure that participants are adept at using specific databases selected by the institutions; and

- support in organizing training on specific patent databases conducted by patent database providers to enhance the skills of Ukrainian users in searching and utilizing the vast array of information and knowledge contained within these databases.

3.7. ENHANCED IP INFRASTRUCTURE

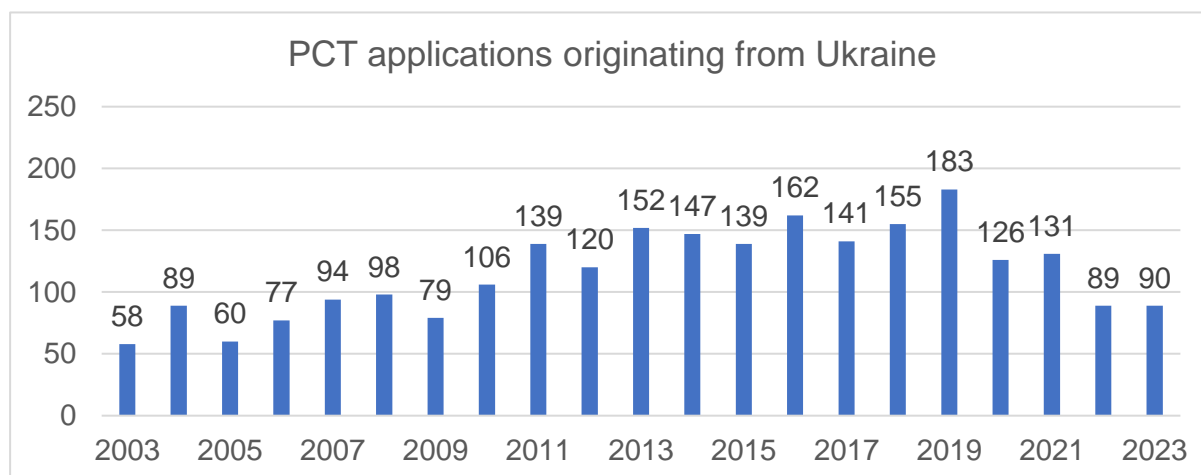
84. The International Bureau continued consultations with UANIPIO regarding the implementation of enhanced business solutions for UANIPIO. The consultations are ongoing, as are consultations on extended data exchange and the development of a program for introducing artificial intelligence (AI) into the work of UANIPIO, in particular for the translation of patent documentation (WIPO Translate). In addition, the International Bureau continued to provide support to Ukraine in implementing WIPO Standards.

4. ACCESS TO WIPO'S IP SERVICES

85. The International Bureau continued to take appropriate measures to ensure that IP applicants from Ukraine, as well as UANIPIO, continued to have access to the full range of WIPO IP services, including those provided by WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center (AMC) and are granted appropriate extensions, exemptions and other remedies as provided for in relevant WIPO treaties, rules and regulations, in connection with the current circumstances.

4.1. PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

86. In 2023, the PCT filings by Ukrainian applicants remained almost at the same level as in 2022, with a decrease of 32 per cent as compared to the pre-war 2021.



Source: WIPO statistics database (May 2024)

87. Ukrainian applicants have continued to use the PCT System during the reporting period. If applicants experience delays in meeting time limits, the PCT System provides appropriate extensions, exceptions, and other remedies, as set out in paragraph 106 of document [A/64/8](#).

4.1.1. International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority (ISA/IPEA)

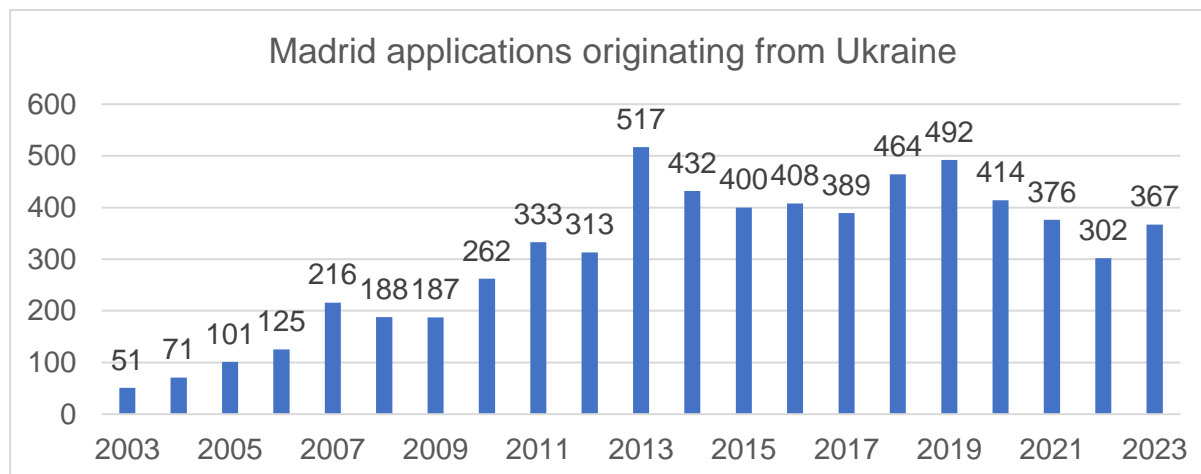
88. The PCT Union Assembly, at its 55th session in July 2023, approved amendments to the Agreement between the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine and the International Bureau of WIPO concerning the functioning of the Ukrainian National IP Office as

an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority. These amendments entered into force on July 14, 2023.

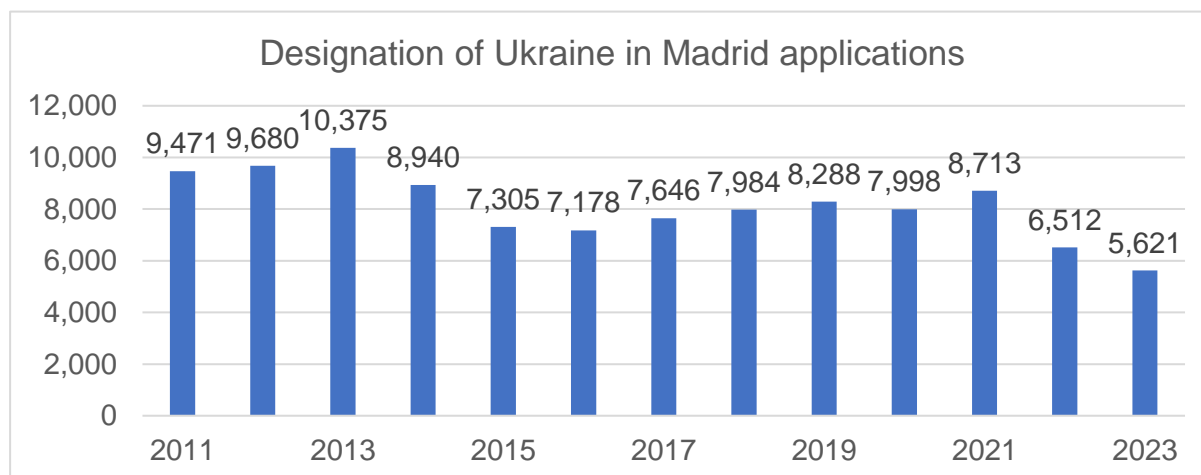
89. Since the 2023 Assemblies, UANIPIO has prepared approximately 50 international search reports.

4.2. MADRID SYSTEM

90. International trademark applications of Ukrainian origin under WIPO's Madrid System increased by approximately 21 per cent in 2023 compared to 2022 and almost reached the number of applications filed in the pre-war 2021.



91. The number of designations of Ukraine in international trademark filings received by the International Bureau declined by around 14 per cent, from 6,512 in 2022 to 5,621 in 2023.



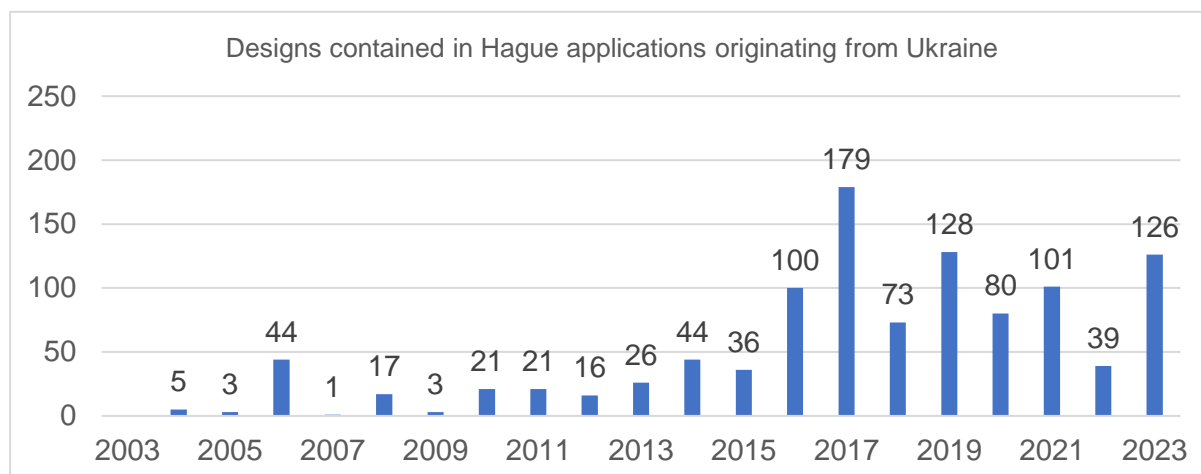
92. The International Bureau has been providing support to Ukraine in utilizing the Madrid eFiling system, which they started using in 2021. In 2023, specific assistance was provided in the form of data extracts to help address difficulties surrounding payments that were encountered by Ukraine. The International Bureau continued to liaise with and support Ukraine in that context, and to ensure smooth operation of the payment process.

93. The International Bureau continued to facilitate access to the relief measure provided for in [Rule 5 of the Regulations Under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement](#) against missed time limits due to *force majeure* reasons by waiving the evidence requirement and by re-enabling online payment upon request.

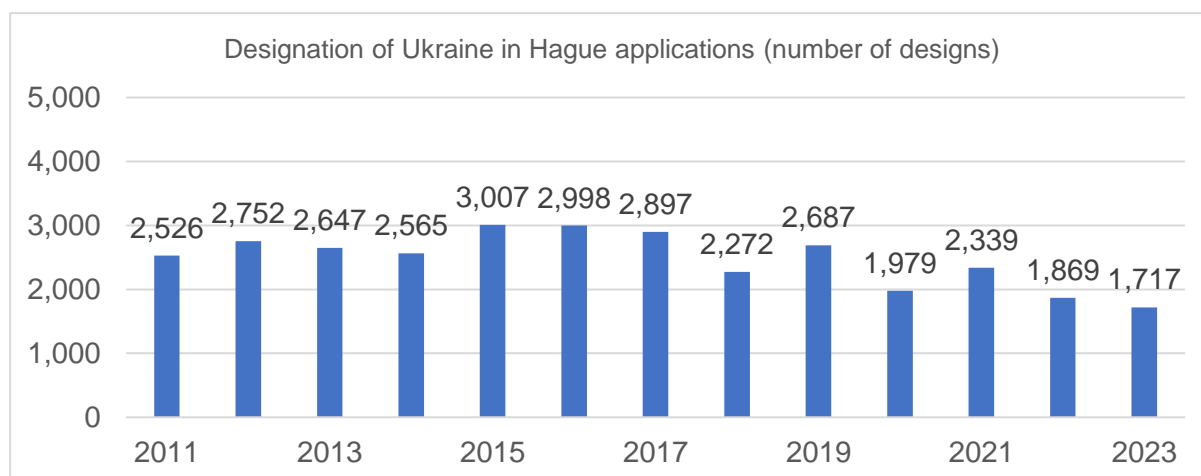
94. During 2023-2024, 21 participants from Ukraine took part in the Madrid System public webinars program.

4.3. HAGUE SYSTEM

95. In 2023, the number of designs contained in applications of Ukrainian origin under the Hague System increased and reached 126 designs contained in 40 applications, compared to 39 designs contained in 31 applications in 2022.



96. The number of designs contained in international applications with the designation of Ukraine reached 1,717 designs contained in 496 applications in 2023; in 2022, there were 1,869 designs contained in 484 applications.



Source: WIPO statistics database (May 2024)

97. During the reporting period, there has been no request for application of Rule 5 “*Excuse of Delay in Meeting Time Limits*” of the [Common Regulations under the 1999 Act and the 1960 Act of the Hague Agreement](#).

98. Ten participants from Ukraine took part in the Hague System public webinars during the reporting period.

4.4. ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION

99. Following the conclusion of the MoU with the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine concerning the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) in the Area of IP in 2018,

the AMC has been engaging with Ukrainian stakeholders on IP ADR and domain name dispute resolution, in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy, IP and ADR associations and Ukrainian law firms.

100. The AMC engagement has included webinars, trainings for IP and dispute resolution practitioners based in Ukraine, and invitations to join the WIPO List of Mediators and/or Arbitrators.

101. Since the last Assemblies, the AMC continued to be the dispute resolution provider for the national .UA domains, for which it has administered 13 cases to date. The AMC maintained communications with the .UA Registry, including by advising on updates to their dispute policy in 2023 and 2024. During the reporting period, the AMC has also administered 78 Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP)-based cases involving parties from Ukraine.

102. In March 2024, the AMC and the .UA Registry held an online webinar in Ukrainian “UA-DRP - Domain Name Dispute Resolution. Ukrainian experience.” Sixty participants attended the webinar, including Ukrainian IP lawyers, SMEs, and registrars.

103. The International Bureau supported the launch of the Mediation Center within UANIPIO in September 2023. The Center is pivotal in facilitating mediation services in Ukraine, aligned with the objectives of the MoU. It focuses on raising awareness about IP mediation, supporting the development of mediation procedures in IP dispute resolution, organizing training for IP mediators, and fostering international cooperation on mediation issues with WIPO and other organizations.

5. CONCLUSIONS

104. The comprehensive framework of WIPO support from across various programs and initiatives illustrates a robust commitment to assisting Ukraine in enhancing its IP infrastructure, ensuring access to necessary resources, increasing IP knowledge and skills, and developing capabilities to manage and resolve IP-related issues effectively.

105. The International Bureau reiterates its commitments to maintaining close collaboration with Ukraine and to providing comprehensive support and assistance to Ukraine’s innovation and creativity sector and IP system to contribute to rebuilding the ecosystem and strengthening the country’s economy.

106. The International Bureau remains ready to provide any additional information requested by Member States.

[End of document]