The Unified Patent Court has published a roadmap and is expected to open on 1 April 2023.

- This means the Court will open its doors on 1 April 2023 if nothing unexpected disrupts the preparations.
- The sunrise period should therefore start on 1 January 2023. This will enable patentees to start opting European bundle patents and SPCs granted for products protected by such patents out of the UPC system.

The UPC has also now announced the names of the judges, which have been appointed to the Court. 34 legally qualified and 51 technically qualified judges have been appointed. A few appointments remain outstanding, and these will be completed prior to the Court opening.

- Seven renowned judges have been appointed to the Court of Appeal. Two of them are German: Mr Klaus Grabinski and Ms Patrica Rombach. Two are from the Netherlands: Mr Peter Blok and Ms Rian Kalden. The remaining judges are Ms Françoise Barutel from France, Ms Emanuela Germano from Italy and Ms Ingeborg Simonsson from Sweden. Klaus Grabinski will be the presiding judge. He is a very renowned judge of the German Federal Supreme Court with extensive experience in patent law.
- The initial allocation of legal judges to the Courts of First Instance has been announced. As with the Court of Appeal many of the appointees are existing judges with extensive experience in patent matters.
- The technical judges include a mixture of patent attorneys and specialist patent lawyers, all of whom are familiar with patent litigation.

We are still awaiting an announcement from the Court regarding exactly where life sciences cases in the Central Division will be heard. It is possible these cases will be heard in Milan. Alternatively, the cases may be split between Munich and Paris.
Our Team for the UPC

Dr. Dr. Jochen Herr, LL.M.
Munich Office Managing Partner
+49 89 83931 1232
jochen.herr@finnegan.com

Darren M. Jiron
London Office Managing Partner
+44 (0)20 7864 2853
darren.jiron@finnegan.com

Dr. Victoria Barker
Associate, London
+ 44 (0)20 7864 2812
victoria.barker@finnegan.com

Dr. Antje Brambrink
Counsel, Munich
+49 89 83931 1239
antje.brambrink@finnegan.com

Dr. Harrison Chang
Associate, London
+ 44 (0)20 7864 2825
harrison.chang@finnegan.com

Luigi Distefano
Associate, London
+44 (0)20 7864 2823
luigi.distefano@finnegan.com

Nicholas Fox
Partner, London
+44 (0)20 7864 2820
nicholas.fox@finnegan.com

Dr. Caroline Haas
Associate, Munich
+49 89 83931 1237
caroline.haas@finnegan.com

Dipl.-Ing. Alexandre Hoffmann
Associate, Munich
+49 89 83931 1236
alexandre.hoffmann@finnegan.com

Dr. Moritz Meckel
Partner, Munich
+49 89 83931 1235
moritz.meckel@finnegan.com

Yelena Morozova
Partner, London
+44 (0)20 7864 2819
yelena.morozova@finnegan.com

Dr. Amanda K. Murphy
Partner, London
+44 (0)20 7864 2814
amanda.murphy@finnegan.com

Harry Muttock
Associate, London
+44 (0)20 7864 2828
harry.muttock@finnegan.com

Maeve O’Flynn
Partner, London
+44 (0)20 7864 2856
maeve.olflynn@finnegan.com

Dr. Victoria Randall
Associate, London
+44 (0)20 7864 2812
victoria.randall@finnegan.com

Sarah J. Rodriguez
Associate, London
+44 (0)20 7864 2810
sarah.rodriguez@finnegan.com

Yanfei Ru
Patent Consultant, Shanghai
+86 21 6194 2069
yanfei.ru@finnegan.com

For more information, please visit our website or scan the QR code.

WWW.FINNEGAN.COM