



20th Annual Conference
European Policy for Intellectual Property Association (EPIP)

TURNING IP AMBITIONS INTO ACTION: CREATING CONNECTIONS, COLLABORATIONS, AND COMMUNITIES

10 – 12 September 2025
University of Antwerp, Belgium

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Enjoy EPIP 2025 and the vibrant city of Antwerp!



**The 20th Annual Conference of the
European Policy for Intellectual Property (EPIP) Association
is made possible by the following organisations:**

Organisers



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Welcome from the EPIP President

Dear EPIP Conference Participants,

It is with great pleasure that I, and the EPIP Board, welcome you to this landmark 20th edition of the EPIP Conference. EPIP2025 takes place in Antwerp, a fascinating city blending historical architecture and a rich cultural heritage with innovation, a strong fine arts scene, and a sparkling fashion industry.

As the President of the EPIP Association, I would like to express my deepest thanks to Esther van Zimmeren and her team for the wonderful job they made and the tireless effort they put in organising this year's conference, as well as to the members of the EPIP2025 Local Organising Committee for their support. Many thanks also to our keynote speakers and roundtable participants, who enthusiastically accepted our invitation to contribute to our thought provoking debates, and to all EPIP Board Members who were involved in the paper review process and provided us with their timely feedback despite the massive amount of applications. A special thanks goes to the organisers of our traditional PhD workshop (Felipe de Andrade, Devanshi Saxena, and Manon Vanderhaeghe), which now represents an institution in itself, offering a consolidated platform for current PhD students to build their professional networks and integrate with the international IP community.



Following the approach of the past year, the EPIP2025 Antwerp edition has been planned as an in-person event only, since we strongly believe that our annual conference is fundamental to building the EPIP community and strengthening our members' professional and personal participation. As a confirmation of the validity of this intuition, and to our delight, this choice had no impact on the number of submissions received and of confirmed participants. EPIP 2025 will host more than 250 presenters and guests from all of the inhabited continents, from academics to representatives of international, regional, EU, and national public institutions, patent, and trademark offices, EU and US policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders. This embodies the most vivid example of how much the EPIP Association and its conferences represent, today, one of the most diverse, inclusive, and interdisciplinary forums of debate on the EU policy for intellectual property, with a reach that is not only pan-European but attracting participants from all over the world.

On behalf of our Association, I would also like to thank all the sponsors for their contribution to this year's conference. Our thanks go particularly to the EUIPO, for its support through a generous yearly grant to EPIP, which enables us to assist local conference hosts with a fundamental baseline for the development of EPIP scientific and policy goals, and to also provide assistance to participants in need.

Let me take this opportunity to wish everyone three fruitful, intellectually stimulating, and enjoyable days in Antwerp. I am sure EPIP2025 will be remembered for its wide array of thought-provoking presentations, lively discussions, and memorable social moments. Please take full advantage of it, not only during the plenary and parallel sessions, but also during coffee breaks, lunches, and social events, where you will have plenty of time to meet and talk with old friends, to make new ones, and to establish new fruitful cooperations.

Enjoy EPIP2025, and thanks for contributing to make it a great event!

Caterina Sganga

EPIP President 2024-2025

Welcome from the Chair of the Local Organising Committee

Dear EPIP2025 participants,

We are delighted to welcome you in Antwerp for the 20th Annual Conference of the EPIP Association. Reaching this 20-year milestone is a moment of pride and reflection for our association. Since its beginnings, EPIP has brought together scholars, policymakers, and practitioners committed to advancing knowledge on intellectual property and innovation. Hosting this edition in Antwerp, a city shaped by centuries of trade, creativity, and exchange, feels especially fitting.



Behind this year's conference stands a strong team at the University of Antwerp, supported by valued partners from across Belgian universities. At the University of Antwerp, the conference is jointly organised by the Faculty of Law, the Government and Law Research Group and the IP Law & Governance team, with the support of the GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence and the Faculty of Business and Economics. In addition, within the Local Organising Committee, we are glad to collaborate closely with KU Leuven, Ghent University and Université Libre de Bruxelles.

We are grateful for the opportunity to organize EPIP2025 in Belgium to revive the tradition of the 6th, 7th and 9th EPIP conferences in 2011 (Brussels), 2012 (Leuven) and 2014 (Brussels) respectively, with a team of colleagues from various Belgian universities. At the time of the EPIP2012 Conference, I was a PhD researcher at KU Leuven and joined the organising team in Leuven. It is inspiring to see how the EPIP community has expanded in the last decade and blossomed into a fantastic interdisciplinary, diverse group of scholars, policymakers, judges, representatives from various IP Offices, as well as IP lawyers, patent attorneys and IP arbitrators and mediators from around the world.

This year's programme reflects that richness. We are proud to host about 150 papers in 35 parallel sessions, including 2 WIPO-sponsored sessions, 6 themed sessions and 2 book launches. On top of that, throughout the three days of the conference, we will have 3 excellent and inspiring keynote speakers and 7 roundtables with a splendid mix of high-level speakers.

The overarching theme of the conference *"Turning IP Ambitions into Action: Creating Connections, Collaborations, and Communities"* is reflected across all of the sessions in different ways. We hope the sessions will inspire us to go beyond discussing IP ambitions and to focus on examining and recommending how these ambitions may be translated into action, in particular in the context of the many global challenges facing our society (i.e., climate change, loss of biodiversity, inequality, pandemics, and geopolitical tensions). Surely, these challenges are also reshaping the IP landscape and underscore the need to think together about a more resilient and adaptive IP system.

We are deeply grateful to the EPIP Board for their guidance and for reviewing the many submissions within a very short timeframe. We also thank them for serving as jury members for the Young Scholars awards, for helping to organise roundtables, and for their role in chairing various sessions and providing feedback in the PhD workshop. We are equally excited to learn from the outstanding keynote and roundtable speakers. Learning from their expertise and experiences in "turning IP ambitions into action" will certainly spark many interesting discussions during the sessions, coffee breaks, lunches and other social activities.

Our special gratitude goes to the EPIP2025 sponsors, partners and collaborating institutions. We are especially grateful to the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) for their significant financial support which made this conference possible. We also warmly thank the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) for sponsoring our two special sessions on gender, economic, innovation and IP policy, with generous support for travel and accommodation costs for many of the session speakers.

Moreover, we are very grateful to the many representatives from the EUIPO, WIPO and the European Commission that are joining to participate in roundtables, parallel sessions, and in the career session of the PhD Workshop and their incredible commitment to contributing to IP education and career building of our young IP scholars. Many thanks also to the IP firm De Clercq & Partners for their sponsoring and to the University of Antwerp, KU Leuven and Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) for providing research funding for the conference.

We are optimistic that the interdisciplinary EPIP community can contribute by pushing for and delivering concrete action in those situations where IP can serve as a driver of change. At the same time, we recognise that innovation and IP are only one small piece in a very complex puzzle of today's "wicked problems", and that many of the major societal challenges on the agenda cannot be solved by IP action alone.

As we celebrate EPIP's 20th Annual Conference here in Antwerp, let's get into action by creating new connections, strengthening collaborations, and continuing to build the EPIP community!

Esther van Zimmeren

Chair of the EPIP2025 Local Organising Committee

Conference Organisers

Universiteit Antwerpen

The [University of Antwerp](#) is proud to host the **2025 Annual Conference of the European Policy for Intellectual Property Association**.



**Universiteit
Antwerpen**

The University of Antwerp is a young, dynamic, publicly funded and fully accredited Belgian university. It was founded in 2003 after the merger of three universities: UFSIA (*Universitaire Faculteiten Sint-Ignatius Antwerpen*), RUCA (*Rijksuniversitair Centrum Antwerpen*) and UIA (*Universitaire Instelling Antwerpen*). It integrates the assets of its historic roots with its ambition to contribute positively to society, carries out its tasks in a spirit of academic freedom and responsibility, and espouses active pluralism.

The University of Antwerp is characterised by its high standards in **pioneering, creative and innovative scientific research** which strives for international excellence. It stimulates both basic and applied research and their valorisation. It has 15 Centres of Excellence (CoE) across all scientific disciplines, each of which is an international flagship, bringing together researchers of proven scientific quality and impact. The GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence, which is co-organising the EPIP2025 conference, is an example of such a research excellence consortium, bringing together interdisciplinary expertise on trust and multi-level (regulatory) governance.

The University of Antwerp also offers **excellent internationally accredited academic education** – closely connected to its scientific research – to students from all social groups and of all generations. Students acquire knowledge about research results during lectures, through their course materials and digital media. The university aims at the development and integration of knowledge, skills and attitudes that will prepare its students to take responsibility in society.

Moreover, the University provides **student-based education** and lays emphasis on the development of competences. In addition to knowledge and insight, these competences include particular skills and attitudes. Owing to this **competence-oriented education**, its academic graduates are able to contribute successfully and critically in professional environments.

The University of Antwerp is not an island: it builds **bridges** to secondary education, to industry and, by extension, to society as a whole, and stimulates **public debate** on scientific, societal, economic, philosophical and ethical questions. Furthermore, it is committed to the development of its city and region. With its partners in the Antwerp University Association, it takes responsibility for higher education in the Antwerp region. It also attaches great importance to its close, historic links with Antwerp University Hospital, the Institute of Tropical Medicine and Antwerp Management School. It seeks **constructive partnerships** in the fields of research, teaching and academic service to society. The University shares its expertise with both public and private partners.

The university has **nine faculties**: 1) Applied Engineering, 2) Arts, 3) Business and Economics, 4) Design Sciences, 5) Law, 6) Medicine and Health Sciences, 7) Pharmaceutical, Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences, 8) Social Sciences and 9) Science. Doctoral programmes are available in all faculties, with more than 1,800 PhD students registered.

The University of Antwerp has more than 21,000 fee-paying students. About 4,000 of these students are from foreign countries, with about 130 different nationalities. In line with the Bologna process, the University of Antwerp has adopted the Bachelor-Master structure, offering more than 140 Bachelor and Master programmes in total. The University of Antwerp has over 80,000 alumni. With over 6,000 members

of staff, it is **one of the most important employers in Antwerp**, Flanders' largest city. It fosters diversity and offers its staff and students equal opportunities and maximum potential for personal development.



More specifically, the EPIP2025 Conference is organised by the [Faculty of Law](#), the [Government and Law Research Group](#) and the [IP Law & Governance team](#), with the support of the [University of Antwerp](#) and the [Faculty of Business and Economics](#). The Conference reflects a shared commitment to interdisciplinary research in law, governance, and intellectual property. The [University of Antwerp](#) is a young, dynamic, and forward-thinking university known for academic excellence, social engagement, and international collaboration. Within the University of Antwerp, the [Faculty of Law](#) combines high-quality legal education with creative and innovative research with a strong international outlook. It is a vibrant hub of legal scholarship and engagement, promoting practice-oriented approach in its teaching and interdisciplinary approach in its research. As part of the Faculty, the [Government and Law Research Group](#) focuses on the relation between law and government in a broad sense, embedded in a legal, political, and social context. [GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence](#) and the [Faculty of Business and Economics](#). The Conference reflects a shared commitment to interdisciplinary research in law, governance, and intellectual property. The [University of Antwerp](#) is a young, dynamic, and forward-thinking university known for academic excellence, social engagement, and international collaboration. Within the University of Antwerp, the [Faculty of Law](#) combines high-quality legal education with creative and innovative research with a strong international outlook. It is a vibrant hub of legal scholarship and engagement, promoting practice-oriented approach in its teaching and interdisciplinary approach in its research. As part of the Faculty, the [Government and Law Research Group](#) focuses on the relation between law and government in a broad sense, embedded in a legal, political, and social context.

The **IP Law & Governance team**, led by Esther van Zimmeren, brings together international scholars from different disciplines working on innovation and intellectual property operating at different governance levels, employing a rich diversity of research methods. Team members carry out cutting-edge research regarding IP & sustainable development, IP & new technologies, IP & technology transfer and knowledge valorisation, IP & dispute resolution and enforcement and urban innovation. The international IP Law & Governance team has been growing gradually and is increasingly hosting visiting international researchers. Extensive research collaborations exist with research institutes and colleagues on all continents and from a wide variety of disciplines. Research of the IP Law & Governance team is funded by European, national, regional, local and university-based project funding. The team is responsible for the organisation of the EPIP2025 Conference and is leading the local organising committee. All group members have shown a strong commitment to various tasks in conference organisation including the organisation of the PhD workshop, funding and sponsoring, review and programming, communication, etc.

The Conference is organised in close collaboration with the [GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence](#), which studies the dynamics, causes and effects of trust between actors in multi-level governance. GOVTRUST combines the expertise of University of Antwerp's law, social sciences and business and economics faculties, taking into account the increasing integration of governments into multilevel systems such as the EU. The IP Law & Governance team is particularly involved in GOVTRUST research on trust and courts, including specialised courts, such as the Unified Patent Court.

Finally, the [Faculty of Business and Economics](#), one of the largest faculties at the University of Antwerp, supports the Conference through its strong research and education profile in economics, management and entrepreneurship.

The University of Antwerp team appreciates the close collaboration with KU Leuven, Ghent University and Université Libre de Bruxelles in the Local Organising Committee of the EPIP2025 Conference.

KU Leuven



KU Leuven, founded in 1425, is celebrating its 600th anniversary in 2025 as one of Europe's oldest and most esteemed research universities. With a strong commitment to interdisciplinary inquiry and societal relevance, KU Leuven ranks among the world's top institutions for its research output, innovation, and

international engagement. It offers a wide range of programs across disciplines and plays a leading role in shaping academic and policy debates both in Europe and globally. The **Centre for IT & IP Law (CiTiP)** at KU Leuven is a leading research center specialising in the legal and ethical dimensions of intellectual property and information technology. Its work in IP law encompasses copyright, patents, trade secrets, and licensing, particularly in relation to innovation, digital platforms, and AI-driven technologies. Beyond IP, CiTiP conducts cutting-edge research on data protection, cybersecurity, algorithmic regulation, platform governance, and the broader implications of digital transformation on law and society. The Centre is deeply involved in European and international research projects, contributes to policy development, and serves as a key academic hub at the intersection of law, technology, and fundamental rights.

Universiteit Gent



Established in 1817, **Ghent University** is the second-largest university in Belgium. Consistently ranked as a top-100 research and educational institution, it is a comprehensive university offering over 200 programmes at 11 faculties in Flanders and South Korea. Driven by its motto "Dare to Think", UGent takes pride in its openness, pluralism, and social engagement. Located in the historical heart of Ghent, the **Faculty of Law and Criminology** is one of the founding faculties of Ghent University. It steadily hosts over 4000 law and criminology students.

Besides excellent research and high-quality teaching, the Faculty attaches great importance to well-being and equal opportunities.

Ghent IP Law Institute (GIPLI) is a young research institution with a heart for intellectual property law, rooted in Ghent University and open for academic and professional collaboration. Embedded in the Faculty of Law and Criminology, GIPLI is all about research, education, services, and knowledge sharing in the field of IP. Ongoing research mainly focusses on copyright and related rights, on IP protection in a

data-driven world, and on sustainable IP. In addition, GIPLI proudly represents Ghent University in the Pan-European Seal program by the EUIPO and the EPO.

Université libre de Bruxelles



UNIVERSITÉ
LIBRE
DE BRUXELLES

Founded in 1834, **Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB)** has a long tradition of excellence in Research with four scientific Nobel Prizes, two Nobel Peace Prizes, one Fields Medal, three Wolf Prizes, and two Marie Curie Excellence Awards. It is one of the largest Research Universities in Belgium, with a student population of 35,000 and with almost 2,000 PhD in progress distributed among 22 Doctoral schools. ULB has considerable

experience with European funding programmes, being involved in more than 310 projects financed by the 7th European Framework Programme (FP7), Horizon 2020 (H2020), and Horizon Europe (HE), from which 97 MSCA projects have been awarded. ULB has participated in 36 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Networks.

JurisLab is an interdisciplinary research unit dedicated to the Law of Creation and Innovation. Along with other research units, it is a department of the Research Center for Private Law of the Faculty of Law at ULB. It is also a department of the Fab Lab ULB, an interdisciplinary environment relying on collective intelligence, Open Science principles, and digital fabrication tools for research and educational purposes. The project at JurisLab is to emancipate from traditional legal research and methods. To that aim, it engaged in cutting-edge interdisciplinary research through its installation in a technical environment (Fab Lab ULB) where it collaborates with academic and scientific members coming from other ULB Faculties.

EPIP 2025 Conference Venue

The EPIP 2025 conference takes place at [University of Antwerp's 'Stadscampus' \(city campus\)](#). The Stadscampus is a 15-minute walk or 5-minute bike ride from Antwerp Central Station. The registration desk, the keynotes and the roundtables are located in the Meerminne building. The panel sessions are spread across the Meerminne, Brantijser and Kattenstraat buildings, all within a few minutes walking distance from each other. The PhD workshop will take place at Hof van Liere. Please see the map on the next page for an overview of the conference venue locations.



Hof van Liere



Meerminne building



Brantijser building

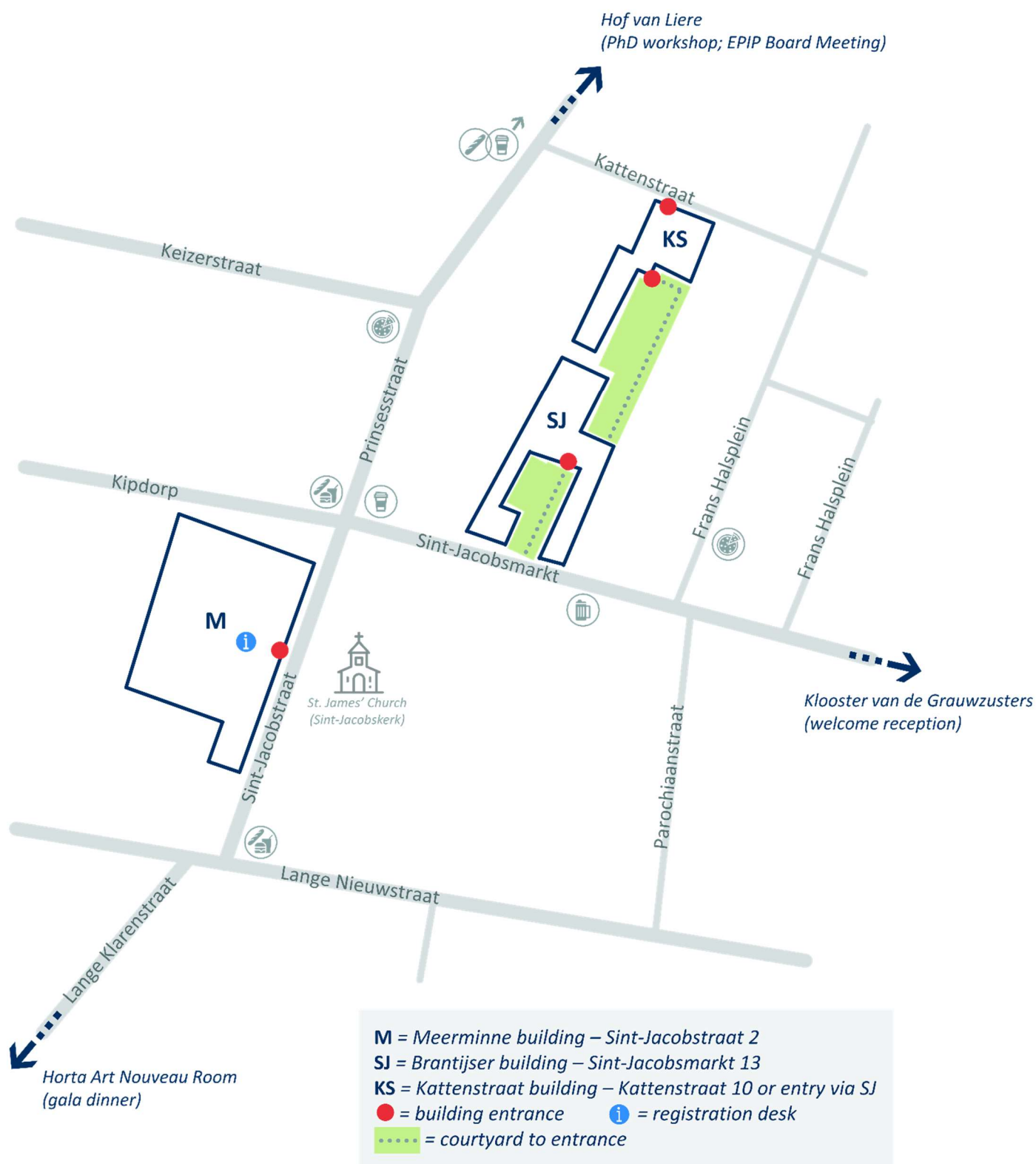


Brantijser courtyard towards Kattenstraat building

The conference will take place in the following locations:

- *Meerminne building*
Rooms indicated with S.M.
Sint-Jacobstraat 2, 2000 Antwerpen
- *Brantijser building*
Rooms indicated with S.SJ.
Sint-Jacobsmarkt 13, 2000 Antwerpen
- *Kattenstraat building*
Rooms indicated with S.KS.
Kattenstraat 10, 2000 Antwerpen (or entry through Brantijser building)
- *Hof van Liere*
Only for PhD workshop & EPIP Board Meeting
Prinsstraat 13, 2000 Antwerpen

Conference venue map



Registration & Information Desk

The registration desk will be located in the entry hall of the Meermanne Building (Sint-Jacobstraat 2, 2000 Antwerpen). A member of the local support team or the student team will always be present at the registration desk – they are happy to help with any questions. Feel free to ask for information here.

Conference Platform



The EPIP 2025 live conference platform is available at <https://event.fourwaves.com/epip2025/pages>. If you need any help with access, please ask our staff at the registration desk. We invite registered participants to add their short bio, picture, and contacts on their personal page on the Fourwaves platform, using the email and password provided at registration.

Presenters are requested to upload their PowerPoint presentation, if used, no later than 3 September 2025, on the Fourwaves platform, using their registration credential. During the days of the conference, the Organising Committee cannot guarantee technical assistance onsite to upload presentations locally.

Lunches & Coffee Breaks

Lunches and coffee breaks will be served in **two locations**, being the entry halls/foyers of the Meermanne and Brantijser buildings. To ensure comfort for everyone, we kindly ask participants to spread out across the two locations during lunch and coffee breaks.

Social Media



EPIP 2025 is present on LinkedIn. Find and follow our page “[UAntwerp – IP Law & Governance](#)” on LinkedIn. You can also scan the QR code below.

Please tag us and use the hashtag **#EPIP2025** in your social media posts!



LinkedIn UAntwerp – IP Law & Governance

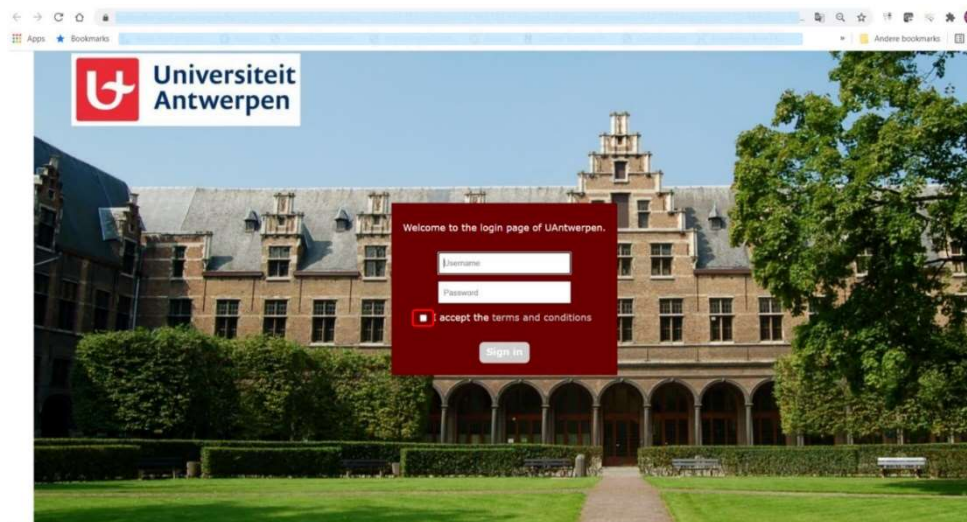
WiFi Access

On your name badge, you can find a **personal username and password** to connect to the internet.

In order to obtain wireless access, you must perform the following steps:

- 1) Connect to the wireless network (SSID) « **UA-guest** »
- 2) When opening a http webpage in a browser, you will be redirected to an authentication page (see printscreen below) where you will have to enter the **personal username and password** that you can find on your name badge. Note: the password and username are both case sensitive.
- 3) Click on “I accept the terms and conditions” and click on “Sign in”.
- 4) You are now connected to the wireless network of the University of Antwerp. Note: this connection is not encrypted.

!! Make sure to keep track of your personal username and password !!



Alternatively, you can also use the **Eduroam** network of your home university. In case of problems, [check out our website](#).

Photography Disclaimer



Photos will be taken at this event.

They may be used in reports about the event and in the communications of the University of Antwerp or EPIP (website, info brochures, image library).

Please speak to the photographer if you would prefer not to be photographed.

Thank you for your understanding.

Schedule-at-a-Glance

Wednesday, 10 September 2025

08:30 - 14:00	PhD Workshop & Career Fair	<i>Hof van Liere</i>
11:30 - 13:00	EPIP Board Meeting	<i>Hof van Liere</i>
9:30 - 12:00	Chocolate Nation Tour & Workshop (if registered)	<i>Chocolate Nation</i>
10:00 - 13:00	MoMu Fashion Museum Walk & Expo & Library (if registered)	<i>MoMu</i>
12:30	Registration (open during whole event)	<i>Meerminne Foyer</i>
14:00 - 14:30	Welcome, Opening, and Introduction	<i>S.M.001</i>
14:30 - 15:15	Keynote Address 1 - Caroline Ncube	<i>S.M.001</i>
15:15 - 15:45	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne Foyer</i>
15:45 - 16:45	Roundtable 1: Turning SDG Ambitions into Action	<i>S.M.001</i>
16:45 - 18:45	Parallel Sessions A	<i>S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.</i>
19:00 - 21:00	Welcome Reception	<i>Grauwzusters</i>
20:00 - 21:00	Seef Brewery Tour (if registered)	<i>Seef Brewery</i>

Thursday, 11 September 2025

08:30 - 10:30	Parallel Sessions B	<i>S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
11:00 - 11:45	Keynote Address 2 – Bhaven N. Sampat	<i>S.M.001</i>
11:45 - 12:45	Roundtable 2: Economic Perspective from IP Offices	<i>S.M.001</i>
12:45 - 14:00	Lunch	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
14:00 - 16:00	Parallel Sessions C	<i>S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.</i>
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
16:30 - 17:30	Roundtable 3: Open Innovation, SDGs, and Circular Design	<i>S.M.004</i>
	Roundtable 4: Turning IP Legislation into Action	<i>S.M.001</i>
17:30 - 18:30	EPIP General Assembly	<i>S.M.001</i>
20:00 - 22:30	Gala Dinner (if registered - arrivals from 19:30)	<i>Horta Art Nouveau Room</i>

Friday, 12 September 2025

08:30 - 10:30	Parallel Sessions D	<i>S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
11:00 - 11:45	Keynote Address 3 – Peter Blok	<i>S.M.001</i>
11:45 - 12:45	Roundtable 5: Turning UPC Ambitions into Action	<i>S.M.001</i>
12:45 - 14:00	Lunch	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
14:00 - 15:00	Roundtable 6: Turning Conflict Resolution Ambitions into Action	<i>S.M.001</i>
	Roundtable 7: Turning Academic (Ambitious) Education into Policy and Action	<i>S.M.005</i>
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
15:30 - 17:30	Parallel Sessions E	<i>S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.</i>
17:30 - 18:00	Conclusion and Farewell	<i>S.M.001</i>
18:30 - 19:30	Seef Brewery Tour (if registered)	<i>Seef Brewery</i>

Keynote Speakers

Caroline Ncube

Professor, University of Cape Town

Wednesday 10 September 2025, 14:30 – 15:15, S.M.001



Caroline Ncube is a Professor and the DST/NRF SARCHI Research Chair in Intellectual Property, Innovation and Development in the Department of Commercial Law at the University of Cape Town (UCT). She served as Head of the Department of Commercial Law from 2014 - 2016 and as Deputy Dean, Postgraduate Studies in 2017 and Jan - June 2019 and in 2022. She is a member of the African Policy, Research & Advisory Group on STI, a member of the Advisory Board of the African Network of International Economic Law (AfIELN), and of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf). She also serves on the the AU Scientific Technical Research Commission ASRIC Taskforce on IP Protection in Joint Research and Collaboration During Outbreaks and a member of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) trade and industrial development advisory council.

Caroline has served as an expert for various institutions including the African Union, World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the AfCFTA Secretariat, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). In August 2024, she was awarded the South African Women in Science Awards (SAWISA) Distinguished Women Researchers' Award (Humanities and Social Sciences) by the Department of Science and Innovation.

She is a member of various academic associations such as the International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property (ATRIP), the South African Association of Intellectual Property Law and Information Technology Law Teachers and Researchers (AIPLITL), and the Society of Law Teachers of Southern Africa (SLTSA). She is affiliated with the University of Ottawa as an Associate Member, Centre for Law, Technology and Society.

Bhaven N. Sampat

Professor, School of Government and Policy and the Carey Business School, Johns Hopkins University

Thursday 11 September 2025, 11:00 – 11:45, S.M.001



Bhaven N. Sampat has recently joined Johns Hopkins University, with appointments at the new School of Government and Policy and the Carey Business School and a Research Associate in the Productivity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Program at National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).

An economist by training, his research focuses on the economics and political economy of innovation and innovation policy. Among other topics, he has studied US and global life science patent policy, the politics and economics of publicly funded science, the roles of the government in pharmaceutical innovation, and the economic history of the US biomedical research enterprise. An overarching theme in his research is how science and technology policies can best be designed to contribute improvements in health and other socio-economic outcomes.

Before joining ASU in 2023, he was Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor at the Department of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. He has held visiting positions at NYU Law School and NYU's Wagner School of Public Service, among other institutions.

He is a founding member of the National Bureau of Economic Research's (NBER) Innovation Information Initiative (I3), a data collaborative for open innovation data and related analytics, tools, and metrics, a member of the editorial advisory board of the Milbank Quarterly, a leading health policy journal, and an affiliated professor in the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) Science for Progress Initiative.

Sampat's current research is focused on three main projects: (1) An NSF-funded project assessing the long-run effects of the World War II research effort on U.S. science, innovation, and science and technology policy; (2) Research on pharmaceutical patent policy, innovation, competition, and access to medicines in the U.S. and globally; (3) Historical and quantitative research on the economics and political economy of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), the largest single funder of biomedical research in the world. He also works on creating and validating new measures linking publicly-funded research investments to private sector patents, drugs, and other socio-economic outcomes, a topic of long-running interest throughout his career.

Peter Blok

Judge, Court of Appeal, Unified Patent Court (UPC) – Deputy Judge Court of Appeal (The Hague); Professor, Utrecht University

Friday 12 September 2025, 11:00 – 11:45, S.M.001



Peter Blok is a professor in the Center for Intellectual Property Law of Utrecht University. He holds the Patent law chair. He is a deputy judge in the Commercial Law Chamber of the Court of Appeal in The Hague. He is specialised in intellectual property law and in particular patent law.

From 2015 to 2023, Peter Blok was a judge at the Court of Appeal of The Hague. From 2007 to 2015, he was a judge in the Intellectual Property chamber of the District Court of The Hague. Before that he was an attorney-at-law in Rotterdam and Amsterdam.

In 2002 Peter Blok finished and defended a PhD-thesis on privacy and data protection law at Tilburg University. Part of his research was done at Georgetown University Law Center, Washington D.C. Peter Blok studied law and philosophy at Leiden University.

Roundtables

A short bio for all of the roundtable speakers is available on the Fourwaves platform under “Speakers” followed by “Roundtable Speakers”.

Roundtable 1: Turning SDG Ambitions into Action

Wednesday, 10 September 2025, 15:45 – 16:45, S.M.001

Chair:

- Geertrui Van Overwalle – Professor Emerita IP law, KU Leuven, CiTiP

Speakers:

- Peter Oksen – Green Technology & Research Manager, Climate Change & Food Security Unit, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- Federica Baldan – Legal and Policy Officer, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation,
- Bruno Vandermeulen – Senior IP Advisor and Director, Impact Licensing Initiative v.z.w.
- Dominique Junod Moser – Director of Legal Affairs, Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative
- Brigitte Vézina – Director of Policy and Open Culture, Creative Commons

Roundtable 2: Economic Perspective from IP Offices - Turning IP Ambitions into Action

Thursday, 11 September 2025, 11:45 – 12:45, S.M.001

Chair:

- Nicola Searle – Reader (Associate Professor), Goldsmiths University of London

Speakers:

- Julio Raffo – Head of the Innovation Economy Section, WIPO
- Nathan Wajzman – Chief Economist, European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)
- Yann Ménière – Chief Economist, European Patent Office (EPO)
- Brent Lutes – Chief Economist, United States Copyright Office (USCO)
- Manda Tay – Director, Strategic Planning and Policy, Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS)
- Hugues B.H. Derème – Director General, Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP)

Roundtable 3: Open Innovation, SDGs, and Circular Design

Thursday, 11 September 2025, 16:30 – 17:30, S.M.004

Chair:

- Wim Vanhaverbeke – Professor Digital Strategy and Innovation, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Antwerp

Speakers:

- Graham Cross – Executive Fellow and Senior Lecturer, Erasmus University/Rotterdam School of Management
- Dolores Modic – Associate Professor, Nord University Business School
- Frank Tietze – Professor of Innovation Engineering, University of Cambridge
- Kathleen De Belder – Senior IP expert, IMEC

Roundtable 4: Turning IP Legislation into Action

Thursday, 11 September 2025, 16:30 – 17:30, S.M.001

Chair:

- Harrie Temmink – Head of Service, “Intellectual Property in the Digital World”, EUIPO

Speakers:

- Sabina Tsakova – Deputy Head Copyright Unit, European Commission, DG CNECT
- Virginie Fossoul – Legal and Policy Officer, European Commission, DG GROW
- Maria Turbasa – Senior desk officer, European Commission, DG CNECT
- Anneli Andreasson-Bourgey – Senior desk officer, European Commission, DG TRADE

Roundtable 5: Turning UPC Ambitions into Action

Friday, 12 September 2025, 11:45 – 12:45, S.M.001

Chair:

- Rochelle C. Dreyfuss – Pauline Newman Professor of Law Emerita, NYU School of Law

Speakers:

- Samuel Granata – Judge, Court of First Instance, Brussels Local Division, Unified Patent Court
- Sir Richard David Arnold – Judge, Court of Appeal, UK
- Volkmar Henke – IP Lawyer, Bardehle Pagenberg
- Verena Bertram – IP Lawyer, Taylor Wessing
- Michaël Beck – Patent Attorney, IP Lawyer, Co-Founder of IPLodge

Roundtable 6: Turning Conflict Resolution Ambitions into Action

Friday, 12 September 2025, 14:00 – 15:00, S.M.001

Chair:

- Arina Gorbatyuk – Research Fellow, KU Leuven, Centre for IT and IP Law (CiTiP) and EDSON

Speakers:

- Chiara Accornero – Legal Officer, IP Disputes, WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center
- Karin Kuhl – Director, EUIPO Mediation Centre
- Aleš Zalar – Director, Patent Mediation and Arbitration Centre (PMAC)
- Flip Petillion – Lawyer, Arbitrator, Deputy Judge

Roundtable 7: Turning Academic (Ambitious) Education into Policy and Action

Friday, 12 September 2025, 14:00 – 15:00, S.M.005

Chair:

- Irene Calboli – Professor of Law at Texas A&M University; Academic Fellow at the University of Geneva

Speakers

- Vladia Borissova – Director, EUIPO Academy
- Josef Drexler – Director, Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition
- Laurent Manderieux – Professor, Bocconi University & EIPTN
- Yann Ménière – Chief Economist, European Patent Office (EPO)

Full Conference Programme



Scan QR code for full programme with abstracts
or go to conference website: <https://event.fourwaves.com/epip2025>
(find the programme under 'Conference Materials').

DAY 1 – Wednesday, 10 September 2025

08:30 - 14:00	PhD Workshop & Career Fair	<i>Hof van Liere</i>
11:30 - 13:00	EPIP Board Meeting	<i>Hof van Liere</i>
9:30 - 12:00	Chocolate Nation Tour & Workshop (if registered)	<i>Chocolate Nation</i>
10:00 - 13:00	MoMu Fashion Museum Walk & Expo & Library Visit) (if registered)	<i>MoMu</i>
12:30	Registration (open during whole event)	<i>Meerminne Foyer</i>
14:00 - 14:30	Welcome, Opening, and Introduction	<i>S.M.001</i>
14:30 - 15:15	Keynote Address 1 - Caroline Ncube	<i>S.M.001</i>
15:15 - 15:45	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne Foyer</i>
15:45 - 16:45	Roundtable 1: Turning SDG Ambitions into Action	<i>S.M.001</i>
16:45 - 18:45	Parallel Sessions A	<i>S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.</i>
	Parallel Session A.1 – WIPO Sponsored EPIP Special Session Gender, economics, and innovation (I)	<i>S.M.005</i>
	<i>Chair: Julio Raffo, WIPO</i>	
	- Female Leadership and Intellectual Property Strategy in Startups: Evidence from India's HealthTech Sector — Rahul Patil, University of Cambridge - Gender differences in awareness about intellectual property (IP): Evidence from a Global Survey — Carlotta Nani, WIPO - Witch hunt and female inventors — Gabriele Pellegrino, Catholic University Milan - Unlocking Gender-Inclusive IP Participation in the Halal Innovation Ecosystem: Insights from Muslim Women Entrepreneurs in Malaysia — Nasiibah Binti Ramli, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia - The Patent Trifecta: Gendered Interactions of Inventors, Attorneys, and the USPTO in Patent Prosecution — Mike Schuster, University of Georgia	

Parallel Session A.2 – Crafting Livelihoods: Knowledge Management and IP Governance (Themed Session)

S.M.101

Chair: Ophelia Bostyn & Devanshi Saxena, University of Antwerp

- Indigenous and Rural Women's representation in the creative sector and IP system: The Tonga basket weavers of Zambia — Charlene Tsitsi Musiza, University of Cape Town
 - “Whose Identity Counts?” Rethinking Geographical Indications through the Migratory and Multivocal Histories of the Khatri Community — Niharika Salar, Queens University Belfast
 - Geographical Indications for the Craft Sector in the European Union: Regulation and Potential Impact — Vishv Priya Kohli, Copenhagen Business School
 - Weaving the Chanderi Saree GI: Strength to the weakest thread? — Devanshi Saxena, University of Antwerp
 - Crafting an Intellectual Property Strategy: A Case Study of Intellectual Property Strategies in Flemish Craft orientated SMEs within the Cultural and Creative Industries — Ophelia Bostyn, University of Antwerp
-

Parallel Session A.3 – Standardisation, SEPs, and Patent Intermediaries (I)

S.M.107

Chair: Valerio Sterzi, BSE, University of Bordeaux

- Standard-Essential Patents and FRAND Licensing as a Model for Copyright Licensing in AI Training — Sofie Grettve von Rosen, PRV (Patent- och registreringsverket)
 - The acceleration of technology strength of catch-up firms by standardization experience — Magnus Buggenhagen, Technische Universität Berlin & Carsten Guderian, Northwestern University
 - Licensing Negotiation Groups: Scope for Pro-competitive Justification and Antitrust Safeharbor? — Juha Vesala, University of Turku
 - From Research to Standards: The Influence of Science on Standard-Essential Patents — Mainak Ghosh, Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition
 - How does policy synergy drive high-quality urban economic development? A quasi-natural experiment based on China's “dual pilot” of intellectual property and standardization — Yunmeng An, Shanghai International College of Intellectual Property, Tongji University
-

Parallel Session A.4 – IP & AI (I)

S.M.004

Chair: Julien Cabay, Université libre de Bruxelles

- Owning the Mind: Rethinking Copyright Law in the Age of Brain-Computer Interfaces — Alexandra George, University of New South Wales
 - Between Turing and Searle: Rethinking the Legal Boundaries of AI-Generated Content — Yiheng Lu, Queen Mary University of London
 - Building Trust in AI Governance: A Role for Copyright Law in the EU AI Act's Institutional Design — Daanish Naithani, Damjan Grozdanovski & Esther van Zimmeren, University of Antwerp
 - Can software copyright in the EU survive the vibes? AI as a copyright-breaking layer of abstraction — Bohdan Widta, Jagiellonian University
 - From Human Authorship to AI Outputs: Copyright Approaches in Australia and the European Union — Nirogini Thambaiya, Griffith University
-

Parallel Session A.5 – Innovation, Commercialisation, Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship (I)

S.SJ.022

Chair: Carolina Castaldi, Utrecht University

- Patent Fees and Legal Status among SMEs: Evidence from America Invents Act — Francesca Chiaradia, University of St Andrews
 - A new approach to measuring invention commercialization: An application to the SBIR program — Carlo Bottai, University of Milano-Bicocca
 - Constructing Technical Classification of Scientific Papers Using Retrieval-Augmented Generation — Chin-Yuan Fan, Science & Technology Policy Research and Information Center, National Institutes of Applied Research
 - TechLicVec: A Scalable Tool to Classify Provisions in Technology Licensing Contracts — Manuel Gigena, KU Leuven
 - Patent Protection and Software Firm Financing — Christian Helmers, Santa Clara University
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Parallel Session A.6 – IP & Creative Industries

S.SJ.117

Chair: Martin Kretschmer, University of Glasgow

- ‘Ready lawyer one’ the i-Game project as a case study on IP in video game design — Noémie Krack & Jozefien Vanherpe, KU Leuven
 - Copyright earnings and labour markets in creative industries: what have we learned from a series of UK surveys since 2006 — Martin Kretschmer, Arthur Ehlinger & Amy Thomas, University of Glasgow
 - Protecting Fashion Design in Cross-Border Transactions: A Comparative Study of China and the European Union — Anna Pokrovskaya, Peoples' Friendship University of Russia & CUI Lianqi, Tongji University
 - Creating Value through Design and Law: the Expanding concept of Design and Its Legal Responses — Ole-Andreas Rognstad, University of Oslo & Stina Teilmann-Lock, Copenhagen Business School
 - New EU Regulation for the Protection of Geographical Indications for Craft Products: The Baltic perspective — Vadim Mantrov, University of Latvia, Ramūnas Birštonas, Vilnius University & Aleksei Kelli, Tartu University
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Parallel Session A.7 – Book Launch Liber Amicorum Geertrui Van Overwalle

S.M.002

Chairs: Amandine Leonard, University of Edinburgh, Law School & Arina Gorbatyuk, KU Leuven and EDSON

- A discussion with authors and friends of Prof. Dr. Geertrui Van Overwalle to celebrate the publication of her Liber Amicorum *'The Future of IP: Stimulating Creativity and Inclusivity'* (2025) Amandine Léonard, Arina Gorbatyuk & Esther van Zimmeren (eds.), Intersentia, ISBN 978-1-83970-595-3.
 - **Abstract:** This celebratory volume honours the remarkable career and intellectual legacy of Geertrui Van Overwalle. Spanning 25 contributions from leading academics and practitioners across the globe, structured around six thematic parts and enriched with peculiar inventions drawn from Jacques Carelman's Catalog of Fantastic Things – each selected and reimagined by the contributors – this Liber Amicorum offers both a scholarly and deeply personal tribute. It invites readers to see IP not as a closed system, but as a framework that can be shaped to promote creativity, openness, inclusivity, equity, and public interest – priorities and values that Prof. Van Overwalle has consistently advanced throughout her career.
 - **Authors:** Rochelle Dreyfuss, NYU; Saurav Ghimire, Vrije Universiteit Brussel and University of Liège; Arina Gorbatyuk, KU Leuven & EDSON; Amandine Léonard, University of Edinburgh & KU Leuven; Niels Louwaars, Wageningen
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University; Gregor Rauch, ETH Zurich; Jozefien Vanherpe, KU Leuven; Lodewijk Van Dycke, KU Leuven; Esther van Zimmeren, University of Antwerp.

19:00 - 21:00	Welcome Reception	<i>Grauwzusters</i>
20:00 - 21:00	Seef Brewery Tour (if registered)	<i>Seef Brewery</i>

DAY 2 – Thursday, 11 September 2025

08:30 - 10:30	Parallel Sessions B	S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.
Parallel Session B.1 – Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic for IP Licensing Practices in Vaccine Production (Themed Session)		S.M.101
<i>Chair: Duncan Matthews, Queen Mary University of London</i>		
• Introduction British Academy-funded research project on ‘Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic for IP Licensing Practices in Vaccine Production’ • Main findings from the research project consisting of a landscaping study and an interview study • Researchers: Duncan Matthews, Queen Mary University of London (Principal Investigator), Eduardo Mercadante Santino De Oliveira, Queen Mary University of London (postdoctoral researcher), Ken Shadlen, LSE, Esther van Zimmeren, University of Antwerp, Żaneta Zemła-Pacud, Polish Academy of Sciences, Timo Minssen, CeBIL University of Copenhagen • Discussants: Bhaven N. Sampat, Johns Hopkins University and Virginie Fossoul, European Commission, DG GROW		
Parallel Session B.2 – WIPO Sponsored EPIP Special Session Gender and IP Policy (II)		S.M.005
<i>Chair: Carlotta Nani, WIPO</i>		
• Understanding Participation in Intellectual Property: A Research Programme by the UK IPO — Pauline Beck, UK IPO • National IP Office Strategies for Closing the Gender Gap: Emerging Best Practices — Jennifer Brant, The University of Akron • Intellectual Property as a Tool for Reparative Justice: Empowering Refugee Women in Africa — Ghati Nyehita, University of Cape Town • Conserving and Safeguarding Tribal Heritage: An AI-Enhanced Method for Documenting and Legally Protecting Oral Traditions in Jharkhand and European Indigenous Communities — Laxmi Kumari, REVA University		
Parallel Session B.3 – KU Leuven Special Session IP & AI (II)		S.M.004
<i>Chair: Jozefien Vanherpe, KU Leuven, CiTiP</i>		
• AI and Inventorship: From the Perspective of Ukrainian Patent Law — Nataliia Bulat, Odesa I. I. Mechnikov National University • Tracing the Flow of Knowledge from Science to Technology Using Deep Learning — Michael Rose & Mainak Ghosh, Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition • Intellectual Property Protection of AI Training Data in South Africa: A Comparative Analysis with the EU and US — Christine Strauss, Stellenbosch University Law Faculty • Sustainability as a Guiding Principle for Copyright Reform? Moral Rights Issues Concerning the Use of Generative AI in the Field of Research and Education — Christophe Geiger & Francesca Di Lazzaro, Luiss Guido Carli University		

Parallel Session B.4 – Innovation, Access, & IP (I)

S.SJ.022

Chair: Amandine Leonard, University of Edinburgh

- Securing Farmers' Right to Breed: A Proposal for an Innovation Garden — Saurav Ghimire, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Intellectual Property Rights on Inventions and Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources: A Comparison — Julia Wijns, 3BIO, KU Leuven and University of Antwerp
- Use and Disclosure of Marine Genetic Resources of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction in Patent Applications - Practical Challenges and Ways Forward? — Amandine Leonard, University of Edinburgh
- Digital Injustice: Navigating Orphan Works and Digitisation after Brexit — Naomi Korn & Smita Kheria, University of Edinburgh
- Internet Television Piracy in Europe: Empirical Investigation — Antanina Garanasvili, London Metropolitan University

Parallel Session B.5 – Copyright Law, Remuneration Rights, & Research Freedom

S.SJ.117

Chair: Thomas Margoni, KU Leuven, CiTiP

- Remunerating journalists: an appropriate share of the unknown — Ula Furgał, University of Glasgow, CREATE
- Volunteering for the Platforms. How the Fair Remuneration Principle of Authors and Performers May Be Violated by Social Media Terms of Service — Ludovico Bossi, Luiss University Rome & Innovation Law and Ethics Observatory
- Fair Remuneration in Copyright Law: Collective Bargaining v. Collective Right Management — Branislav Hazucha, Kyushu University
- Towards a European Research Freedom Act: A Proposal for an EU-wide Secondary Publication Right — Thomas Margoni, KU Leuven, CiTiP
- Towards a European Research Freedom Act: A Reform Agenda for Research Exceptions in the EU Copyright Acquis — Kacper Szkalej, University of Amsterdam, IViR

Parallel Session B.6 – IP Strategies (I)

S.KS.103

Chair: Markus Simeth, Copenhagen Business School

- The Dark Side of Licensing: How Contract Design Influences Inventor Mobility — Marcos Balmaceda, KU Leuven
- Invention Breadth and the Inventor Corporate Role: A Patent Portfolio Perspective on Strategic Non-Use — Gabriel Franceschini, University of Bologna
- IP Strategies for Biotech Commercialisation: A Case Study of Cambridge Antibody Technology — Frank Tietze, University of Cambridge
- Quality, Scope, and Leniency: Strategic Application Behavior at the US Patent Office — Lorenz Gschwent, University of Duisburg-Essen

Parallel Session B.7 – Standardisation, SEPs, and Patent Intermediaries (II)

S.M.107

Chair: Fabian Gaessler, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

- What Drives Formation, Growth, And Failure of Patent Pools? An Analysis of SEP Holders' Joining Decisions — Pietro Fantini, Technical University Munich
- State-sponsored knowledge contribution to standardization: The case of Telecommunication — Elona Lazaj, Eindhoven University of Technology
- Microfoundations of IPR and standardization strategies of companies: Evidence from the evolving European Single Market — Jussi Heikkilä, LUT University
- A Tale of Trolls and Fees: The Impact of Fee-Shifting on Patent Assertion and Innovation — Tommaso Alba, KU Leuven

Parallel Session B.8 – Subnational Variations in Intellectual Property Governance (Themed Session)

S.KS.104

Chair: Pratyush Nath Upreti, Queen's University Belfast

- The Local Space in International Intellectual Property Law — Emmanuel Oke, University of Edinburgh
- Variations in transfer of technology legal arrangements in regional and bilateral economic agreements: in what ways do they reflect and impact national transfer of technology and intellectual property policies — Felipe de Andrade, University of Antwerp & KU Leuven
- The Technological Potential of Innovation Ecosystems — Julio Raffo, WIPO
- Collective and Inclusive: An empirical study on innovation in the EU wine industry — Rahmi Can Yamanoglu, Gran Sasso Science Institute

10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
11:00 - 11:45	Keynote Address 2 – Bhaven N. Sampat	S.M.001
11:45 - 12:45	Roundtable 2: Economic Perspective from IP Offices	S.M.001
12:45 - 14:00	Lunch	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
14:00 - 16:00	Parallel Sessions C	S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.

Parallel Session C.1 – Dispute Resolution Mechanisms in IP (I)

S.M.101

Chair: Bernd Justin Jütte, University College Dublin

- An Empirical Research Agenda for Evaluating Creative Sector Dispute Resolution Systems: A Dispute System Design Approach — Seun Lari-Williams, University of Antwerp
- Liability of Online Marketplace Providers for Processing unfounded IP Notices: Interpreting the Best-Effort Standard Through the Private Enforcement of the DSA — Chuqi Feng, Ludwig-Maximilian-University
- Rethinking the requirement of access for copyright infringement in China: an empirical study based on 1217 judgments — Yuhan Tang, Shanghai International College of Intellectual Property (SICIP), Tongji University
- Towards Harmonisation? Cross-Border Jurisdiction and Decision-Making in the European Patent System — Karen Walsh, Maynooth University

Parallel Session C.2 – IP and Access to Health Technologies

S.M.004

Chair: Julia Wijns, University of Antwerp, KU Leuven and 3BIO

- The role of patents during a pandemic - Contemplations by a patent attorney — Rob Aerts, Archer Daniels Midland
- Access to affordable Biosimilars: The Indian Struggle — Niharika Bhattacharya, Rajiv Gandhi School of IP Law, IIT Kharagpur
- How can voluntary licensing mechanisms expand access to health technologies in African countries? — Zoe Ejiofor, University of Edinburgh
- Patents & Access to Patented Health-Technologies in Everyday Healthcare Contexts: Implications and Limitations of Addressing Access issues through a right to health approach. — Aisling McMahon & Lauren Kane, Maynooth University
- Fairness in Wellness (Apps) - Exploring the Balance Between Quasi-Intellectual Property Rights and Data Access in EU Regulation — Marta Musidłowska & Manon Vanderhaeghe, KU Leuven

Parallel Session C.3 – IP Strategies (II)

S.M.107

Chair: Elisabeth Mueller, IESEG School of Management

- Applying Game Theory to Legal Decision-Making: The Case of Divisional Practice — Gertrud Metsa, Queen Mary University of London
- Patent Pledge and Technological Innovation: The “Good Faith” of Tesla — Ziming Wang, University of Tokyo
- IP Assets, Demand Uncertainty, and Tobin’s Q — Grid Thoma, University of Camerino
- Imprinted by Environment, not Experience: How CEOs’ Early-Life Cultural Environments Influence Firm’s Pro-Social Behaviors — Lorenzo Palladini, Stockholm School of Economics

Parallel Session C.4 – IP & Research Security (Themed Session)

S.SJ.117

Chair: Nicola Searle, Goldsmiths University of London

- Becoming Invisible? Data Breach Risk and Scientific Publications — Tim Martens, Bocconi University
- Trade Secrets Protection and Transparency Obligations: Shifting the Boundaries — Maurizio Borghi, University of Turin
- Markets for Trade Secrets — Aldona Kapacinskaite, INSEAD
- Trusted Research & Innovation: How Knowledge Leakage Affects the Research & Innovation Ecosystem — Bernhard Ganglmair, University of Mannheim & ZEW Mannheim

Parallel Session C.5 – Innovation, Commercialisation, Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship (II)

S.SJ.022

Chair: Joost Poort, University of Amsterdam, IViR

- IP as disincentive? Realising innovation by mitigating risk for knowledge institutions — Kacper Szkalej, University of Amsterdam, IViR
- Science-industry intermediaries from the Renaissance period until WWII: An evolutionary framework — Julien Pénin, Université de Strasbourg
- The role of RDTI in shaping innovation: Insights from Australian patenting firms — Michael Falk, IP Australia
- The Effect of Application Fees on Entry into Patenting — Gaetan de Rassenfosse, EPFL
- Patently Peculiar: Patents and Innovation in the United Kingdom of the Netherlands — Christopher Colvin, Queen's University Belfast

Parallel Session C.6 – Book Launch “A Modern Guide to Patents” - Challenges of Patenting in the 21st Century

S.M.002

Chair: Nikolaus Thumm, Technische Universität Berlin

- A panel discussion with authors of the book publication ‘A Modern Guide to Patents’ (2025) Nikolaus Thumm, Knut Blind (eds.), Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd. ISBN: 978 1 03530 859, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781035308606>.
- **Abstract:** The patent system is an established intellectual property rights system that is subject to a continued process of regulatory reform and fine-tuning to cope with the challenges of the 21st century. The different use cases (e.g. artificial intelligence, patent assertion entities, trade secrets, COVID-19 patent filings, patent enforcement, automotive industry) presented and discussed by authors illustrate the continuous change in the use, its application, and the changing regulatory environment of the patent system.
- **Authors:** Heinz Goddar, Boehmert & Boehmert; Jonathan Porath, University of Cologne; Alfred Radauer, University of Applied Sciences Krems; Nicola Searle, Goldsmiths University of London and Valerio Sterzi, University of Bordeaux.

16:00 - 16:30	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
16:30 - 17:30	Roundtable 3: Open Innovation, SDGs, and Circular Design	S.M.004
	Roundtable 4: Turning IP Legislation into Action	S.M.001
17:30 - 18:30	EPIP General Assembly	S.M.001
20:00 – 22:30	Conference Dinner – arrivals from 19:30 (if registered)	<i>Horta Art Nouveau Room</i>

DAY 3 – Friday, 12 September 2025

08:30 - 10:30	Parallel Sessions D	S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.
Parallel Session D.1 – Dispute Resolution Mechanisms in IP (II)		<i>S.M.101</i>
<i>Chair: Martin Stierle, University of Luxembourg</i>		
• Trust-building in specialised IP courts: the case of the Unified Patent Court (UPC) — Daanish Naithani, University of Antwerp • Edwards Lifesciences v Meril - Injunctions as a Remedy for Patent Infringement for Health Technologies: A Critical Analysis of the Unified Patent Court’s Discretion to Balance Patient Interests and Rightsholder Interests — Aisling McMahon & Sharon Adedapo, Maynooth University • The Private Cost of Legal Uncertainty: Evidence from the Unified Patent Court — David Angenendt, Technical University of Munich & CBR Cambridge • The Unified Patent Court: Towards A Multi-Door Courthouse for Patents? — Seun Lari-Williams & Esther van Zimmeren, University of Antwerp		
Parallel Session D.2 – Pharma & Biotechnology (I)		<i>S.M.107</i>
<i>Chair: Justyna Ożegalska-Trybalska, Jagiellonian University</i>		
• Patentability of NGT-Related Innovations in the EU and China: A Matter for Agricultural Innovation and Food Security? — Kaili Jiang, Maastricht University • Navigating Moral Exclusions: Integrating Human Rights into Patent Law for Biotechnology — Surasing Phukhae, Durham University • The Impact of the War on Cancer on Innovation — Christoph Reese, University of Münster • Evaluating the trade-off between speed and grant rates in patent examination: lessons from pharmaceuticals in Brazil — Eduardo Mercadante, Queen Mary University of London • Re-evaluating patent pools: a viable solution for access to medicines and health emergencies? — Agnieszka Sztoldman, University of Wrocław		
Parallel Session D.3 – Innovation, Commercialisation, Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship (III)		<i>S.SJ.022</i>
<i>Chair: Johanna Vanderstraeten, University of Antwerp</i>		
• Identifying Knowledge and Talent: Using the patent system to source high-skilled migrants — Benjamin Buettner, Eindhoven University of Technology • When Technology is Hard to Transfer: The Strategic Value of Relational Licensing Contracts — Bart Leten, KU Leuven & Hasselt University • The Singapore Study on Intellectual Property Right (IPR)-intensive Industries and Economic Performance — Jia Yi Ho, Intellectual Property Office of Singapore • Where do innovation trajectories start? Is there such a thing as a “patent zero” that triggers a new trajectory? — Melanie Martini, Fraunhofer INT		

Parallel Session D.4 – IP, Global Inequality, and Inclusivity

S.KS.203

Chair: Keith Maskus, University of Colorado, Boulder

- Guardians of Wealth or Engines of Inequality? Intellectual Property and the Global Divide in South Asia and Beyond — Gururaj Devarhbuli & Taruna Jakhar, Institute of Law, Nirma University
- The Political Economy of Intellectual Property Piracy: Do the Special 301 Pressures Matter? — Sunil Kanwar, University of Delhi
- Burning Bridges or Bridging Divides: Geopolitics and Collaboration in Research and Innovation — Muhammed A. Yildirim, Harvard University & Koç University
- Virtual Worlds, real biases? Re-imagining copyright law to address systemic inequalities in the age of Web 4.0 user-generated creativity — Francesca Portante D'Alessandro, KU Leuven CiTiP-imec, LRD Facturenbureau
- Machine Translation of Patents and Export Performance — Dandan Xia, Utrecht University

Parallel Session D.5 – IP & Sustainability: Reconciling IP Law with Sustainability in the Upcycling Context (Themed Session)

S.SJ.117

Chair: Irene Calboli, Texas A&M University School of Law

- EU Right to Repair between Intellectual Property and Servitization — Bernardo Calabrese, Università degli studi di Verona
- Upcycling in the Fashion Industry: The Problem of Overlapping Intellectual Property Rights and How to Solve It — Martin Senftleben, University of Amsterdam, IViR
- Quo vadis upcycling? The normative approaches to transformative recycling under copyright law — Peter Mezei, University of Szeged
- Upcycled and Rightful: Navigating Trademark Law and the Circular Economy in the United States — Irene Calboli, Texas A&M University School of Law
- From Exclusivity to Sustainability: The Human Right to a Healthy Environment as an Interpretive and Defensive Tool in Intellectual Property Law — Elena Izyumenko, University of Amsterdam, IViR

Parallel Session D.6 – IP & Data Governance (I)

S.KS.103

Chair: Caterina Sganga, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna - Pisa

- Space technologies: knowledge flows and role of governmental agencies — Federico Caviggioli, Politecnico di Torino
- Navigating the Lock-in Morass in China: Data Portability or Mandatory Data Sharing? — Yulu Jin, Beijing Jiaotong University
- The Data Propertization Impulse — Orit Fischman-Afori, College of Management & Sharon Bar-Ziv, Sapir Academic College
- Strengthening Quality Journalism by Governance: Integrating regulatory potentials of Copyright Law, Competition Law, and Data Protection — Ingrid Schneider, University of Hamburg
- Compilation of Corpus vs AI Training: the Dilemmas of the Use of Works — Julija Kalpokienė & Saulė Milčiuvienė, Vytautas Magnus University

Parallel Session D.7 – IP Governance

S.KS.104

Chair: Arina Gorbatyuk, KU Leuven and EDSON

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- The Legal Challenges of Ghostwriting under Droit D'auteur Systems: insights from Brazilian law — Luíza Guimarães, Federal University of Minas Gerais
- The first of its kind in Europe: sui generis right to non-original objects generated by a computer programme under Ukrainian copyright law and the EU internal market — Liliia Oprysk, University of Bergen
- Turning Intellectual Property's Ambition to Protect the Author into Action: From Contractual Protections to Remuneration Rights in EU Copyright Law — Christophe Geiger, Luiss University & Innovation Law and Ethics Observatory (ILEO), Silvia Scalzini, University of Parma & ILEO, Ludovico Bossi, Luiss University & ILEO
- Designing an Impact Licensing Ecosystem: Findings from a needs assessment — Frank Tietze & Soujanya Mantravadi, University of Cambridge

10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
11:00 - 11:45	Keynote Address 3 – Peter Blok	S.M.001
11:45 - 12:45	Roundtable 5: Turning UPC Ambitions into Action	S.M.001
12:45 - 14:00	Lunch	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
14:00 - 15:00	Roundtable 6: Turning Conflict Resolution Ambitions into Action	S.M.001
	Roundtable 7: Turning Academic (Ambitious) Education into Policy and Action	S.M.005
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee Break	<i>Meerminne & Brantijser Foyers</i>
15:30 - 17:30	Parallel Sessions E	S.M. – S.SJ. – S.KS.

Parallel Session E.1 – Dispute Resolution Mechanisms in IP (III)

S.M.101

Chair: Amandine Leonard, University of Edinburgh, Law School

- Trust and Legitimacy in the Unified Patent Court: A Theoretical Framework for Understanding Institutional Authority — Daanish Naithani, University of Antwerp
- What do we know about the role of the EU Court of Justice in the Unitary Patent System, and what might it surprise us with? — Karolina Szafarowicz, Kulikowska & Kulikowski
- Flexibilities in Domestic Patent Enforcement: Law versus Practice — Lisa van Dongen, University of Amsterdam, IViR
- Patent Courts in the Age of AI: Ensuring Efficiency, Transparency, Privacy and Fairness — Tamar Khuchua, University of Luxembourg
- Evaluation of the Role of Expert Opinion in Intellectual Property Dispute Adjudication in India — Malobika Sen, The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata, India

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S.M.107

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- Developing National Life Sciences Capacity Through Voluntary Technology Transfer — Mark Schultz, University of Akron School of Law
- Improved Drug Security and Accessibility: IP and Regulatory Pathways for the EU Health System Resilience and Crisis Preparedness — Justyna Ożegalska-Trybalska, Jagiellonian University
- AI-Generated Medicines and the Plausibility Standard: A Legal Analysis of G 2/21's Implications — Krystian Petz, Polish Academy of Sciences
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S.KS.104

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- Toward a Typology of EU Data Spaces: Mapping Regulatory, Technological, and Sectoral Variations — Leona King, KU Leuven, CiTiP, imec & FWO
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- Using patent mining technology to explore the portfolio and strategic paths of generative artificial intelligence — Chin Yuan Fan, National Institutes of Applied Research, NIAR
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- Cross examination of green patents and trademarks: A case study of green innovation landscape — Pei-chia Tsai, NTHU
- The Role of Scientific and Application Orientation in the Disruptiveness of Climate Change Patents — Darius Lambrecht, Tom Willeke, Trier University and Yasushi Hara, Kobe University

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- Destruction of Visual Art: The Moral Right to Integrity as a Bridge between Copyright and Cultural Heritage — Lorenza Giordani, Bocconi University
- Elvis' Ghost or Digital Replica? Publicity Rights and Integrated IP Strategy — Brent Lutes, US Copyright Office

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- Mapping SDGs to Patents through Concept-Extraction via LLMs — Grazia Sveva Ascione, Politecnico di Torino
- Looking through the Crack in the Black Box: A Comparative Case Law Benchmark for Auditing AI-Powered Trade Mark Search Engines — Julien Cabay and Thomas Vandamme, Université libre de Bruxelles
- Discussants: Justin Jütte, University College Dublin, Valerio Sterzi, University of Bordeaux, Joost Poort, University of Amsterdam & Leonidas Aristodemou, University of Cambridge

17:30 - 18:00	Conclusion and Farewell	S.M.001
18:30 - 19:30	Seef Brewery Tour (if registered)	<i>Seef Brewery</i>

Book Launch Promo

NEW

The Future of IP: Stimulating Creativity and Inclusivity

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Amandine Leonard, Arina Gorbatyuk,
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This celebratory volume honours the remarkable career and intellectual legacy of Professor Dr. Geertrui Van Overwalle, an influential scholar in patent law and plant breeders' rights. For more than four decades, Van Overwalle has questioned conventions, supported inclusivity, openness, and the public interest.

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A MODERN GUIDE TO PATENTS

Challenges of Patenting in the 21st Century

Edited by **Nikolaus Thumm**, former Chief Economist, European Patent Office, Senior Scientific Advisor, ETH Board, Zurich, Switzerland and Associate, Technische Universität, Berlin and **Knut Blind**, Professor of Innovation Economics, Faculty of Economics and Management, Technische Universität Berlin and Head of the Business Unit Innovation and Regulation, Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research ISI, Karlsruhe, Germany

'Blending deep historical insights with forward-looking analysis, this expertly curated volume examines the enduring relevance of patents in today's rapidly evolving technological and economic landscape. Thumm and Blind have assembled outstanding contributions from renowned experts, illuminating how this cornerstone of innovation policy must adapt to 21st-century challenges.'

— Carsten Fink, Chief Economist, World Intellectual Property Organization

'A Modern Guide to Patents is a very engaging, highly contemporary and relevant review of topics at the center of the modern patent system. It draws on the finest minds in the applicable patent-related spaces to assess topics including patent management with an eye on AI and in crisis brought on by pandemics, considerations around PAEs, the ascendancy of trade secrets as a dominant form of IP protection, standards and the current issues associated with standard-essential-patents, as well as the evolving role of enforcement in an era marked by both threats to innovation as well as sharing economies in innovation. A Modern Guide to Patents is a great resource for a wide range of readers interested in the role the patent system plays in inciting innovation for the benefit of mankind.'

— David J. Kappos, Former Undersecretary of Commerce and Director, United States Patent and Trademark Office; and Partner, Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP

With contributions from well-known academics and industry experts, this highly relevant Modern Guide presents an overview of patenting in the 21st century. It analyzes a wide range of cases to illustrate the continuous change in the use, application, and regulatory environment of the patent system.

Chapters explain key features of patent management and consider how the patent system may be used in combination with alternative protection means such as trade secrets. They examine specific challenges of patenting, including those presented by artificial intelligence, patent assertion entities, and the ongoing effects of COVID-19. Expert authors provide insights into the roles of standard essential patents and patent enforcement, highlighting key debates and revealing how patents can help address critical societal issues. Ultimately, the Modern Guide emphasizes the benefits of having a structured system to recognize and protect inventions, underscoring the need for ongoing regulatory reform to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

A Modern Guide to Patents is an essential read for academics and students in intellectual property, economics of innovation, knowledge management, organizational innovation, and innovation policy. Its coverage of recent trends and cutting-edge perspectives also makes this an invaluable resource for patent practitioners, policy makers, economists, and lawyers.

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Social Events

Welcome Reception

The welcome reception at the end of the first day of the conference will be held in the foyer of the *Klooster van de Grauwzusters*, one of the beautiful monumental buildings of the University of Antwerp. Feel free to join us for a drink – a great chance to meet fellow participants.

- **Who?** All registered participants are welcome to join.
- **When?** Wednesday 10 September 2025, 19:00 – 21:00
- **Where?** Klooster van de Grauwzusters, Lange Sint-Annastraat 7, 2000 Antwerpen



Klooster van de Grauwzusters

Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony at Horta's Art Nouveau Room

The conference's gala dinner and award ceremony will be held at [Horta's Art Nouveau Room](#), located in the heart of Antwerp's theatre district. Horta accommodates all kinds of events in its multifunctional Art Nouveau Room. The original iron rafters were recovered from the demolished Maison du Peuple in Brussels, one of the masterpieces of famous Art Nouveau architect Victor Horta, and given a new life of as the Room's structure. As a result, Horta's Art Nouveau Room breaths Belgian cultural heritage. For the conference dinner, there will be a set menu. The venue also accounts for dietary requirements that were noted on the registration page.

- **Who?** Only those who signed up and paid at registration participate in this event.
- **When?** Thursday 11 September 2025, 20:00 – 22:30 (arrivals welcome from 19:30)
- **Where?** Horta's Art Nouveau Room, Hopland 2, 2000 Antwerp



Horta Grand Café and Art Nouveau Room



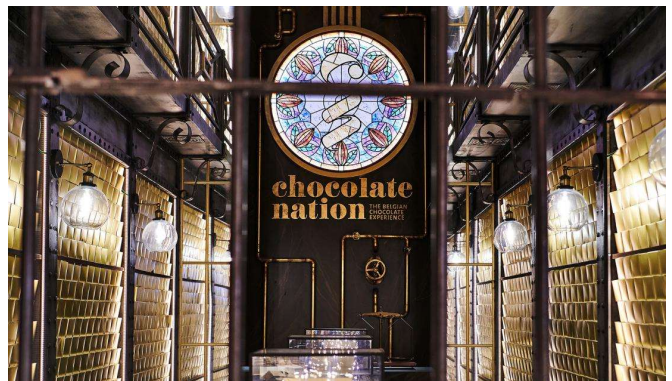
Horta's Art Nouveau Room

In addition to the welcome reception and gala dinner, EPIP 2025 hosts a number of **optional social activities** for participants to choose from – each representing a pillar of Belgian culture. Please note that these social activities are **only available for those who signed up at registration**. Members of the Local Support Team will join for these social activities and are available for questions or support.

Chocolate Nation Tour & Workshop

Discover the world's largest Belgian chocolate museum, [Chocolate Nation](#). Throughout 14 rooms you will pass through a fascinating experience which will submerge you in the wondrous world of Belgian Chocolate. Every visitor will get a unique insight in the traditions surrounding the 'sweet gold' and will learn what makes Belgian Chocolate so special and why we are so proud of it. At the end of the tour, you can try 10 different flavours of Chocolate in their Chocolate Heaven. The tour takes around 60 to 90 minutes and is carried out with the help of an audioguide.

The activity also includes a 1-hour workshop during which you have a hands-on experience with some basic techniques in chocolate processing and the production of some chocolate products like mendiants and chocolate lollipops. After the workshop, you can of course take home the products you made.



- **Who?** Only those who signed up at registration can take part in this event.
- **When?** Wednesday 10 September 2025, 9:30 – 12:00
- **Where?** Koningin Astridplein 7, 2018 Antwerpen

Seef Brewery Tour

At the Seef Brewery, you will be completely immersed in the world of brewing beer at a great local Antwerp brewery. The guided tour (approx. 1 hour) will take you through the active brewery and tell you all about the history of brewing in Antwerp, the brewery, and the brewing process. Seefbier is claimed to have been around since about 1600. In 2012, Seef received the stamp of official city beer.

- **Who?** Only those who signed up at registration can take part in this event.
- **When?** Wednesday 10 September 2025, 20:00-21:00
or Friday 12 September 2025, 18:30-19:30
- **Where?** Indiestraat 21, 2000 Antwerpen



MoMu Fashion Museum

Experience the renown of Antwerp fashion at [MoMu](#).

Fashion & Sustainability Walk: During the Fashion & Sustainability Walk (approx. 1.5 hours), you will explore the many facets of sustainability and fashion. Antwerp's fashion legacy is deeply rooted in sustainability, where practices like reuse, recycling, and upcycling, have long been integral to its design ethos. The walk takes you past key locations, designers, and movements that have shaped the city's fashion identity.



Expo visit and collection presentation of MoMu (Fashion Museum Antwerp): MoMu houses the world's largest collection of contemporary Belgian fashion. The collection presentation reflects on four decades of Belgian fashion, complemented by highlights from the museum's historic holdings. During the visit (approx. 1 hour) key themes such as surrealism, craftsmanship, deconstructivism, and a deep connection to art, history, and innovation will be touched upon revealing what makes the collection unique. This activity also includes a visit to the MoMu research library.

- **Who?** Only those who signed up at registration can take part in this event.
- **When?** Wednesday 10 September 2025, 10:00-13:00
- **Where?** Nationalestraat 28, 2000 Antwerpen

Conference Gift: A Story of Local Products

We are pleased to be able to support several local initiatives with the EPIP2025 conference gifts. In selecting our local partners, we tried to align with the principles underlying the conference while giving you a pleasant “taste”, a token of our appreciation and small souvenir of the conference. Upon your arrival at the conference, you will be able to select a gift that appeals to your interests and personal preferences. Keynote and roundtable speakers also receive a combination of such local products.

About Coop Centraal



Coop Centraal is a supermarket run by its own shoppers. As a cooperative, all decisions are made democratically by its members. They take this model a step further by asking each member to contribute three hours of work to the store each month.

As a grassroots initiative, Coop Centraal explores how a food co-op can respond to major societal challenges. Whereas access to quality food remains unequal, food also has the power to connect people across cultural divides.

Coop Centraal was founded by former climate strikers who wanted to build a practical alternative to traditional business models and many of them were and/or are linked to the University of Antwerp. It quickly became a laboratory for testing ideas from philosophy, biology, sociology, history, and economics. Three years in, Coop Centraal has grown from a dream shared by a few into a store with nearly 300 members from all walks of life.

Cabardouche

Cabardouche is a small cooperative brewery in Antwerp's neighbourhood Borgerhout. In the past, each Antwerp district had its own brewery — but over time, large beer companies bought out and shut down the smaller ones. Cabardouche aims to bring back the spirit of local brewing. Their brewery is located in a former brothel tucked under the train tracks; these spaces were known as "cabardouches" during the Napoleonic era. They brew a wide range of beers, each named after a fictional character who could have once lived there. If you're in the area, their taproom on the *Engelselei* is well worth a visit.



(On)kruid



(On)kruid makes tea from weeds. Often seen as pests, weeds are actually vital for biodiversity, offering shelter and food to insects and birds. On most farms, these plants are removed using chemicals because they are seen as economically worthless. By turning weeds into tea, *(On)kruid* gives them new value. The company pays farmers to create "weed corridors" across their fields, providing safe habitats for wildlife. In return, *(On)kruid* harvests these plants to produce unique herbal teas.

I Just Love Breakfast

Natalie, the founder of *I Just Love Breakfast*, spent years working as an architect around the globe. During her travels, she fell in love with the diverse world of granola. When she returned to Belgium, she could not find anything that matched what she had had abroad, so she started making her own. What began as a passion project quickly turned into a thriving business. Today, her handmade granola is produced just 20 kilometres from Antwerp in Puurs.



Coup de Chocolat



Coup de Chocolat takes sustainable chocolate to the next level. The cocoa industry is notorious for unfair labour practices and ecological damage. Today, 90% of cocoa is traded by just three companies, turning chocolate into a cheap commodity.

Coup de Chocolat is working to reverse that. They buy directly from small-scale producers, import their beans emission-free via cargo sailing ships, and have won multiple awards for their exceptional flavours. Much like wine, their chocolate lets you taste the terroir of the beans: rich, complex, and deeply satisfying.

Cordon Coffee

Koen, founder of *Cordon Coffee*, is an uncompromising entrepreneur who always chooses ethics first. He started Cordon in 2012 as one of Antwerp's first independent roasters, using green energy and delivering coffee by bike.

After learning that farmers typically earn just 1% of the final price of a cup of coffee, Koen tried to explore fairer alternatives. That search led him to partner with *This Side Up*, a transparent distributor that breaks down exactly who earns what along the value chain.

Beyond producing Antwerp's most ethical coffee, Koen uses his company to support people with disabilities, feminist organisations, and decolonial food practices.



Nona's Artisan Bakery



Nona is a baker who takes vegan pastries to the next level. Working with whole grains and locally sourced ingredients, she is dedicated to crafting plant-based alternatives to traditional *koffiekoeken*: the classic Sunday morning pastries beloved in Belgian households.

For this occasion, we asked Nona to create special cookies inspired by Het Steen, Antwerp's iconic riverside castle and one of the city's most recognisable landmarks.

About the City of Antwerp: Maximise Your City Experience

Antwerp is an atypical metropolis in the heart of Europe. Despite its relatively humble size, it boasts one of the biggest port areas in Europe and is named the oldest and largest diamond trade centre in the world. Antwerp combines the grandeur of yesteryear with an urban vibrancy. Its vast offering of cultural, historical and culinary delights is enhanced by more than 170 nationalities. The Grote Markt and Cathedral, Scheldt riverbanks and cobbled streets go hand in hand with a thriving nightlife, galleries and art palaces... the options in Antwerp are endless.

The city of Antwerp is not just a backdrop for the EPIP 2025 conference, it's a dynamic, living entity waiting to be explored. Therefore, we have gathered some suggestions on what to see and do in the city during your stay¹.

Don't miss this opportunity to make the most of your time in Antwerp!



Giraffe at Antwerp Zoo

If you arrived in Antwerp by train, you may have passed by the [Antwerp Zoo](#) without even knowing it. Next to the Antwerp Central Station, which is an architectural masterpiece in its own right, lies the Antwerp Zoo. It is one of the oldest and most famous zoos in Europe and offers an oasis of calm in the heart of the city. The beautiful gardens, the characterful listed buildings and, of course, the animals: it is the perfect setting for a fun outing with your partner, family or colleagues.

As the home of Pieter Paul Rubens, Antwerp has its fair share of cultural destinations and museums worth visiting. Although the Rubens House is currently closed for a thorough renovation, you can encounter the work of Rubens in several other places in Antwerp, such as the [Plantin-Moretus Museum](#) (UNESCO World Heritage site), the Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp, and the Cathedral of Our Lady. Especially the [Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp \(KMSKA\)](#) is an absolute must-visit, where you can admire a beautifully renovated building and discover seven centuries of the finest art in the backdrop of a completely new setting. This palace of the arts is home to a staggering collection of over 13,000 pieces. Among them are works by many great historic European painters, including Rubens, James Ensor, Jan van Eyck, Pierre Alechinsky and many, oh so many more. The KMSKA is located in the [Zuid neighbourhood](#), one of Antwerp's vibrant and trendy neighbourhoods, with wide avenues, stately townhouses, lovely squares, interesting shops and a number of world-class museums. Thanks to the many cafés and restaurants, there are also plenty of places where you can have a drink or something to eat.



Restoration of a Rubens painting at KMSKA



KMSKA

¹ Source: Visit Antwerpen (<https://visit.antwerpen.be/en>) and Visit Flanders (<https://www.visitflanders.com/en>)



Cathedral of Our Lady & Rubens statue

In the old city centre stands the [Cathedral of Our Lady](#), a monumental building that has graced the Antwerp skyline since the beginning of the 14th century. The cathedral's architecture is gothic, while its interior is baroque. And that is definitely due to Rubens and four of his masterpieces that may be found here. Another church worth visiting is the [St. Charles Borromeo Church](#), which is sometimes considered the essential Rubens church with both paintings and sculptural works from his hand. Located on the picturesque Hendrik Conscienceplein, this triumphant baroque church is certainly an eye-catcher.

Another place worth visiting is Antwerp's iconic [Grote Markt](#). You can admire the beautiful renaissance Town Hall (UNESCO World Heritage) and the countless 16th-century guild houses, and enjoy a drink on one of the many terraces. Another must-see in the square is the impressive Brabo Fountain, depicting the legend from which Antwerp is said to have derived its name. Near the Grote Markt, look for the hidden, picturesque [Vlaeykensgang](#), a medieval alley that transports you into another era. If you head towards the river, you will encounter the medieval castle [Het Steen](#), currently a tourist information centre.



Vlaeykensgang



MAS at Het Eilandje

[Het Eilandje](#) (Little Island), so-called because it is surrounded by water, has long had a reputation as one of Antwerp's coolest neighbourhoods. It breathes water and exudes charm with its monumental warehouses, lanterns, and cobblestones. A focal point of the neighbourhood is the stately [Museum aan de Stroom](#), or MAS. This city museum is well worth a visit in itself, and its breathtaking rooftop panorama doubly so. Visit the rooftop (free access!) at sunset for an ultimate other-worldly view of the city, the river and the port. You can also explore the area's many culinary hotspots. In addition, the many pubs and cafés in this area are perfect places to familiarise yourself with that other great Belgian heritage item: beer. You may want to order a glass of De Koninck, the local brew. One (or several) of these 'bollekes' will assure you of a good night's sleep.



Local De Koninck beer ('bolleke')

Finally, venture a little more to the north to encounter another highlight: the [Port House](#). The structure houses the headquarters of Antwerp's Port Authority, which manages one of the largest ports in Europe. This modern icon, where a sparkling diamond is perched on top of an old fire station, was created by architect Zaha Hadid. The stunning structure soon became a city landmark, an instantly recognisable part of the skyline.

For further information on Antwerp, visit the website of Visit Antwerp (<https://visit.antwerpen.be/en>).

Or visit one of the Tourist Information Offices located at Steenplein 1, 2000 Antwerp or in the Antwerp Central Railway Station.



Contact Information

Members of the local academic support team will be present at the venue throughout the conference. They are also supported by a student team. All are clearly recognisable by their red t-shirts with University of Antwerp logo. Do not hesitate to ask them for assistance when you need it!

Contact UAntwerp Local Academic Support Team: epip2025@uantwerpen.be

More information on the website of the conference: <https://event.fourwaves.com/epip2025>

Emergency Services

In case of an emergency:

- Call **112** for emergency assistance from an **ambulance** or the **firefighters**.
- Call **101** for emergency assistance from the **police**.

Both emergency numbers are for free and available day and night.

- For urgent medical needs, you can also go to a hospital with an emergency department, such as ZAS Cadix (Kempenstraat 100, 2030 Antwerp).

Non-emergency after-hours care:

- Call **1733** for the **doctor** on duty.
- For situations requiring a doctor on the weekend and you're in Antwerp's city centre, visit Huisartsenwachtpost Antwerpen-Centrum (GP Duty Post) at Sint-Vincentiusstraat 20, 2018 Antwerp (telephone: +32 3 283 14 50). Hours: Open from Friday 7 pm to Monday 7 am.

Pharmacy near conference venue:

- Apotheek Sint Jacob, Sint-Jacobsmarkt 98, 2000 Antwerpen
- Apotheek Broeckx, Teniersplaats 2, 2000 Antwerpen

Getting Around

Train



National train services

<https://www.belgiantrain.be/en>

Trams and Buses



Antwerp has a dense public transportation network. Buses and trams are available to take you to different parts of the city. A single ticket within the city is €3 and allows you to use public transportation (buses and trams) for one hour. You can consider buying a *De Lijn* card (10 rides for €21), or a day of unlimited travel (€9). Tickets can be purchased in advance via de app, the [website](#) or at the [sales points in the city](#). On all buses and trams of De Lijn you can also pay for your ticket 'contactless' via the white terminal, by using your contactless bank card (Maestro, Mastercard, VPAY and Visa), payment apps (Apple Pay, Google Pay), or wearables (Fitbit Pay, Garmin Pay).

For more information on local tram and bus services De Lijn:

<https://www.delijn.be/en/gemeente/antwerpen/>

Cycling and Scooting

Antwerp is a bike-friendly city. The distances are not too large, the bike lanes are flat and with the right gear, you can cycle all year round.



Velo is Antwerp's metropolitan bike scheme. There are check-in and drop-off zones of the city bikes throughout the entire city. To ride Velo you have to register beforehand. You can buy a day pass for €5 or a week pass for €12. After purchasing a day or week pass, you can use the bikes for a maximum of 30 minutes per session. Find more information on www.velo-antwerpen.be/en.

Donkey Republic is a bike rental service. It offers normal and electric bikes; short or long bike rentals and you pay as you go via the app. Find more information on www.donkey.bike/cities/bike-rental-antwerp/.

In Antwerp we have **shared electric scooters** from [Voi](#), [Lime](#) and [Poppy](#). They all work with a free-floating system, meaning that they do not have a fixed parking spot, but can be found scattered throughout the city. To use a scooter, you must first download the Voi, Lime or Poppy app. Use the app to find the closest scooter and scan the QR code. After your journey, leave the scooter in a place where it cannot obstruct traffic and end your journey in the app.

Riding



Uber is available in Antwerp: <https://www.uber.com/be/en/>. You can request a ride in real-time or request a ride in advance so your ride is ready when you are. Whether you are traveling in a group or alone, you can use the app to find a ride option for your needs.



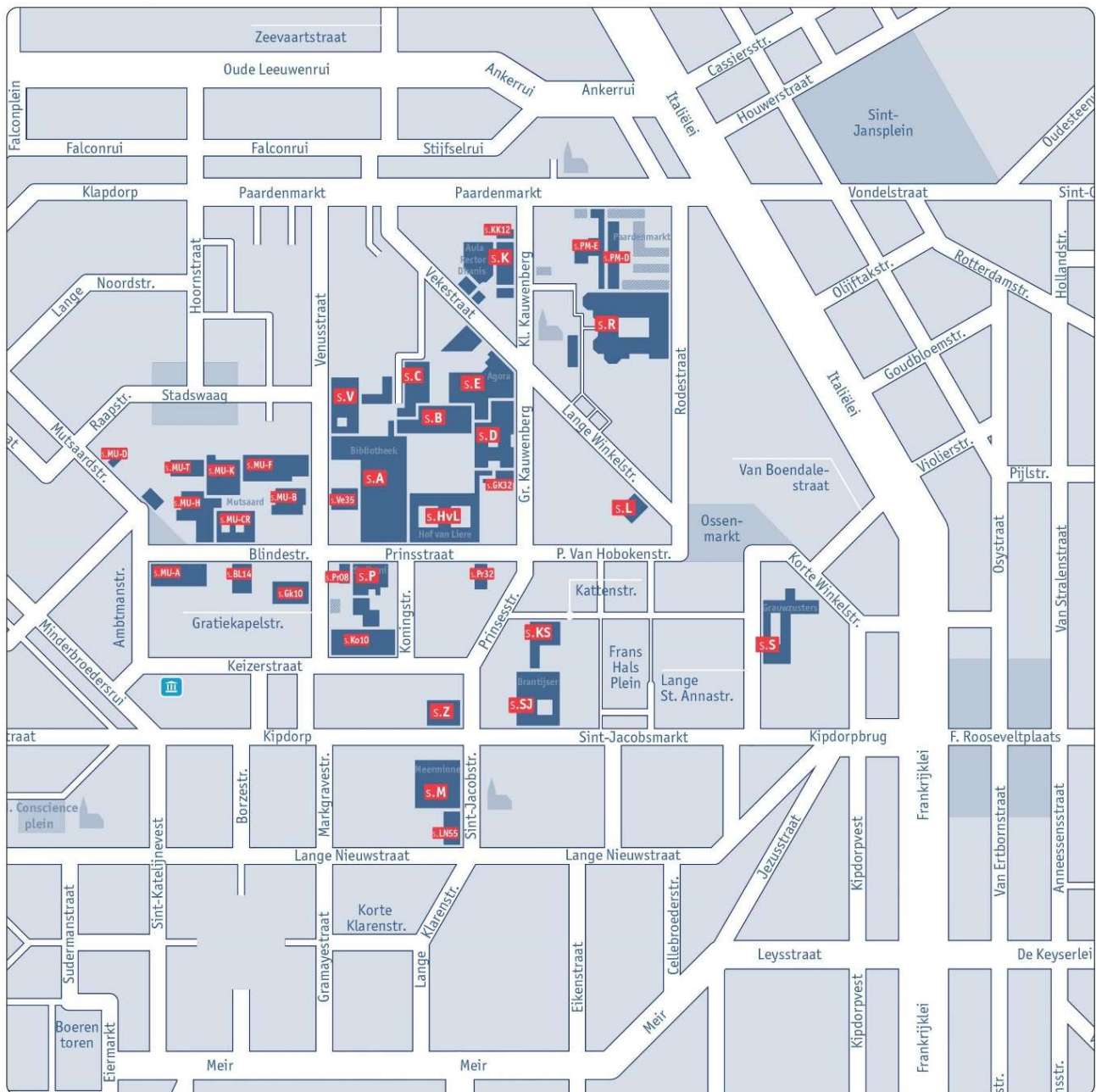
Taxi: Antwerp-Tax

Karel Oomsstraat 14, 2018 Antwerpen

www.antwerp-tax.be

Telephone: +32 3 238 38 38

Annex – UAntwerp’s Stadscampus detailed map ([online version](#))



- s.A - [Bibliotheek](#), Prinsstraat 13
- s.B - Prinsstraat 13
- s.BL14 - [Open Universiteit / Centrum West](#) - Blindestraat 14
- s.C - Prinsstraat 13
- s.D - Grote Kauwenberg 18
- s.E - [Agora/Sporthal](#) - Grote Kauwenberg 2
- s.Gk10 - [Dienst Internationale Samenwerking](#) - Gratiekapelstraat 10
- s.GK32 - [Ruusbroecgenootschap](#) - Grote Kauwenberg 32-34
- s.HvL - [Hof van Liere](#) - Prinsstraat 13
- s.HvL - [Universiteitsclub](#) - Prinsstraat 13b
- s.K - [Aula Rector Dhanis](#) - Kleine Kauwenberg 14
- s.KK12 - [Linguapolis](#) - Kleine Kauwenberg 12
- s.Ko10 - [Komida studentenrestaurant/Labothek](#) - Koningstraat 8
- s.L - Lange Winkelstraat 40-42

- s.M - [De Meerminne](#) - Sint-Jacobstraat 2
- s.MU - [Mutsaard - Faculteit Ontwerpwetenschappen](#) - Mutsaardstraat 29
- s.MU-A - [Mutsaard - Productontwikkeling](#) - Ambtmanstraat 1
- s.P - [Scribani](#) - Prinsstraat 10
- s.Pr08 - [Linguapolis](#) - Prinsstraat 8
- s.Pr32 - [Zomaar een dak](#) - Prinsstraat 32
- s.PM - Paardenmarkt 92
- s.R - Rodestraat 14
- s.S - [Gauwzusters](#) - Lange Sint-Annastraat 7
- s.SJ - [Het Brantijser](#) - Sint-Jacobsmarkt 13
- s.V - Venusstraat 23
- s.Ve35 - [Vrijzinnige Dienst / Preventiedienst](#) - Venusstraat 35
- s.Z - [Peter Benoit](#) - Kipdorp 61

