Central European and Baltic States Newsletter

CEBS Youth = Unlocking Opportunities through IP







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I am delighted to present to you the third edition of the Central Europe and Baltic States Newsletter, which features a very important and timely topic "CEBS Youth = Unlocking Opportunities through IP".

The Newsletter, prepared by Poland in the capacity of CEBS Coordinator in 2023, is a joint initiative of all Members of the Central Europe and Baltic States Group. It could not have happened without a fantastic support of the Team of WIPO Transition and Developed Countries Division, whose work and valuable projects are also presented in the Newsletter.

Young inventors have changed our lives and the world for the better. Trampoline, Christmas lights, swim slippers, Earmuffs or T-pack are only a few examples of discoveries made by young generation creators. Today almost half of the innovations come about from creators, who are in their 30s.

Young innovators are an important potential driving force for the innovation in countries



of Central Europe and Baltic States. They play a key role in our strive to transit from traditional industries to businesses focused on innovation, technologies and entrepreneurialism. The CEBS countries have been investing efforts and resources to empower young talents and encourage them to pursue their ideas and concepts. Whether it is a new invention, solution, design, or an idea for a new business, young people deserve an opportunity to fulfill their dreams.

With the dynamic and accelerating pace of innovation, there is a greater need for supporting youth in facing many of most pressing challenges. Without this necessary assistance, young entrepreneurs, artists, creators and innovators, cannot overcome the hardships they encounter on their way to develop creative ideas, including financial barriers, low visibility or a limited understanding of IP and incentive systems.

While there is no one simple answer how to transform a traditional economy into an

innovative environment one thing is certain: to promote ground-breaking solutions, our innovators need to have a profound understanding of how IP works and how they can benefit from IP Rights. When young innovators start their professional journey, for many of them IP seems to be an ambiguous and abstract term, although today IP is one of the main drivers of global economy. This is why education about the importance of IP and vital role played by IP in providing support for the new generation as they seek to innovate and drive a more sustainable future is so fundamentally important.

The Newsletter presents abundance of ideas, projects and initiatives developed and implemented in CEBS countries with an aim to unlock opportunities for future generations through IP. All of them are different, but equally important. We can learn a lot from each other's experience and – by this – we can create a better future for Youth through IP.

ZBIGNIEW CZECH

AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AT GENEVA



Throughout the year, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the WIPO Academy in close partnership with the Section of Central European and Baltic States and Mediterranean Counties in Division for Transition and Developed Countries (TDC/CEBSMC Section), has been engaging and supporting the youth in the Central European and Baltic States (CEBS) Region, through the delivery of various educational programs and activities, professional training programs and awards.

From our recent activities we are pleased to highlight the **National Seminar IP4Youth&Teachers** held from October 31 to November 01, 2023, in in Bucharest, **Romania**. The program of the Seminar organized in cooperation with the Romanian Copyright Office and the Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM) drew 105 high-level stakeholders and participants and trained more than sixty high school teachers from Romania, and additionally, Republic of Moldova.





Photos from the IP4Youth&Teachers Training, Bucharest, Romania, 2023 (Photo: Cristian Florescu)



Similarly, in close cooperation with the General Directorate of Industrial Property (GDIP) of Albania, WIPO successfully organized the the IP4Youth &Teachers National Seminar: Impact Certificate Course (IPCC) for Schoolteachers from November 13 to November 17, in Tirana, Albania. During the Seminar, 35 primary and high school Albanian teachers, focusing

on creativity, inventiveness, and intellectual property, were trained to creatively teach IP to youth using various approaches and methods, integrating IP into their classroom subjects. Numerous activities were organized to teach IP creatively through games and experienced speakers from Albania shared their valuable perspective on IP Education.



Group photo from the Impact Certificate Course (IPCC) for Schoolteachers from November 13 to November 17, in Tirana, Albania (Photo: Hani Aji, WIPO)



TDC/CEBSMC Section also had the pleasure to participate in the **WIPO-UNIGE Summer School** on **IP Summer School**, held from June 19-30, 2023, as a coordinator of a group project on "**Gaming and IP**", in which eleven students developed and presented IP advice to a gaming-company company on relevant IP issues and potential risks, in view of meeting with potential investors.



Group photo from the WIPO-UNIGE Summer School on IP Summer School, June 30, 2023

TDC/CEBSMC continued the traditional annual collaboration with the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia (Sakpatenti) and the European Law Students Association on the organization of the **ELSA**Summer School on Intellectual Property Law in Tbilisi and online from June 26 to 29, 2023, with an insightful presentation on the International Aspects of IP and the Functions and Activities of WIPO.

WIPO had also the pleasure to host on April 28, 2023, the students and inventors,

Winners of the "National Student-Inventor Competition", co-organized by the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland and Kielce University of Technology, who presented and promoted their inventions during the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva and in WIPO. The students followed a presentation on WIPO as the The Global Forum for Intellectual Property (IP), and engaged in dynamic discussions on issues, opportunities and inventions with WIPO young professionals and senior staff.



Group photo from the visit of the winners of the "National Student-Inventor Competition", taken in WIPO, Geneva, on April 28, 2023 (Photo: Berrod, WIPO, 2023)

In 2023 the WIPO Young Experts (YEP) hosts **Program** participants from the CEBS region, for an immersive two-year on-thejob training program at WIPO HQ in Geneva, among a diverse group of young IP professionals from across the globe. Through the program, the YEPs, all under 35, are building knowledge and skills on how to transform their communities through IP, innovation, and creativity. Currently, Eva Stefanovska (North Macedonia). Anastassia Nikolova (Bulgaria), Lucius Klobučník (Slovakia) and Magdalena Pisko (Poland) are contributing to the delivery of several impact-driven projects and research on various topics such as patents, traditional knowledge, copyright law and IP enforcement.



Photo of the CEBS participants in the Young Experts Program, clockwise from the top: Eva Stefanovska (North Macedonia), Anastassia Nikolova (Bulgaria), Lucius Klobučník (Slovakia) and Magdalena Pisko (Poland)





The **WIPO IP Youth Ambassadors Program** is an international awards program that recognizes young, innovative, energetic and creative minds for their substantial contribution to creativity and innovation. Since the start of the program in 2019, two IP Youth Ambassadors have been selected from the CEBS Region.

Firstly, in 2021, WIPO Academy awarded three teenagers and inventors from Georgia for coming up with a revolutionary mobile application to help tourists navigate the transport system in their native region.



From left to right: WIPO IP Youth ambassadors in 2021, Tamari (17), Saba (18) and Salome (15); (Photo Millennium Innovations Award, 2020)

In addition, in 2022, WIPO and the Romanian Copyright Office awarded 15-year-old Călin-Tudor Topan, one of Romania's nationally recognized, young painters, as WIPO's new IP Youth Ambassador. His duties as an IP Youth Ambassador are to promote IP education among young people in Romania and the Central European and Baltic States.





Left: Irina Florescu mentoring Călin-Tudor Topan, WIPO IP Youth Ambassador in 2022, (Photo: Larissa Emily Bota, 2021) and right: *Gură de Rai (Piece of Heaven*), 2021, a painting by Călin-Tudor Topan



Albania

The General Directorate of Industrial Property (GDIP) of Republic of Albania has successfully finalized the pilot project "Train the Trainers" for the teachers of pre-university education system in the field of Intellectual Property.

In the scope of implementation of the National Intellectual Property Strategy 2022-2025, the General Directorate of Industrial Property has successfully completed the pilot project "Train the Trainers" for the training of teachers of the pre-university education system in order to inform them in the field of intellectual property.

The representatives of the General Directorate of Industrial Property have developed a circle of trainings in 15 Local Education Offices of the Republic of Albania from where the participating teachers had the opportunity to obtain valuable knowledge about the field of Intellectual Property.

The training of teachers at the country level comes as a recommendation of the World Intellectual Property Organization, considering it a very important indicator in the education of new generations.



This project is an initiative of GDIP in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Sports and the Agency of the Quality Assurance of Pre-University Education, where the accreditation of the intellectual property module will become possible and will soon be part of the educational curricula.



Albania

Also, during the implementation of this project the teachers are informed about another achievement of GDIP which was the establishment of an official website dedicated to teachers and pupils (9-14), informing them on the industrial property objects, copyrights, games, quizzes and various publications in the field of IP; www. shkollatpi.dppi.gov.al.

IP4 Youth& Teachers National Seminar: IP Impact Certificate Course (IPCC)

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in cooperation with the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the General Directorate of Industrial Property has hold on November at 13 to 16, in Tirana, Albania the National Seminar "IP4 Youth& Teachers" IP Impact Certificate Course (IPCC).

This training is a continuation of the joint activities organized by WIPO and GDIP in the field of intellectual property with the participation of international experts from Zambia, Egypt, Georgia and Finland.

The event targeted 35 primary and high school Albanian teachers, focusing on creativity, inventiveness, and intellectual property.

What's Included:

- Four days of enriching training and interactive sessions
- Access to a tailored curriculum for primary and secondary education
- Exclusive insights and resources from WIPO Academy and its Experts
- Networking opportunities with 35 likeminded educators



Albania

What Teachers achieved:

- Gain profound knowledge on how to teach Intellectual Property creatively
- Develop practical strategies to seamlessly integrate IP education into daily classroom's lesson plans
- Become part of a supportive community dedicated to advancing creativity in education.

During this training, the teachers were introduced to the basic concepts and main principles of Intellectual Property, also there were provided basic examples of how to encourage creativity and innovation among the younger generations.

Numerous activities were organized to teach IP creatively through games and experienced teachers from Albania shared their valuable perspective on IP Education.

Part of the agenda during the 4-days have been young generation in entrepreneurship and artist.

At the end of the fourth day of training course, the teachers were provided with a certificate issued by the WIPO Academy.

Entrepreneurship Week – 13-17 November 2023

In the framework of Entrepreneurship Week held in Tirana 13-17 November 2023, where the General Directorate of Industrial Property had a special panel on November 14 near the Destil premises, dedicated to entrepreneurship with the theme: "Protecting Business through Intellectual Property", presented by the General Director of GDIP.



Also of great interest was the presentation of the IP prediagnostic tool - a very important tool for entrepreneurship (completely free and accessible in the Albanian language), offered by WIPO.

- This tool is only available in 6 languages of the world, including the Albanian language.
- During the presentation of this tool, a young girl representing "Beez and Trees" (company producing the skin care products) carried out the evaluation and completion of this questionnaire, where at the end the system generates a report to inform the business on the steps it should take care of for the registration of intellectual property objects.
- This tool is a self-assessment questionnaire and does not replace legal assistance. However, it is a very important tool to make a preliminary assessment regarding the intellectual property system and not only.



Bulgaria

Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria, in cooperation with the European Union Intellectual Property Office, organizes a series of trainings for students and teachers from the educational system across the country, which aim to disseminate among students the importance of intellectual property, how this knowledge can help them in their future development as creators and how the products they create can receive legal protection and they as their creators can profit from it.

The trainings are conducted by experts from the Patent Office on topics related to the application and registration of trademarks; industrial design as a sign of products and businesses distinctiveness; examples of provocative commercial messages contrary to morality and good manners; approaches in the positioning of trademarks and industrial design in social networks for the purposes of business advertising and other useful topics for young people.

The training is conducted in two parts: theoretical and practical. During the practical part of the training, the students are divided into several competing teams. The teams have different tasks, such as preparing and presenting a social media advertisement for a company they have created. Participants demonstrate a rich common culture, outstanding creativity, innovative approach, presentation skills, teamwork and good ideas in the field of industrial property.

All teams are awarded special prizes, and all participants receive a certificate on behalf of the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria.





Croatia

Given the importance of creative and innovative work related to the concept of knowledge economy, the State Intellectual Property Office recognises the necessity of introducing the IP in education of children and young people about its potential and possibilities, so that they will be ready for the economic opportunities and markets of the 21st century in the future.

With this goal, as early as in 2017, the State Intellectual Property Office organises and conducts the project under the motto called Be Creative, Be Innovative, BUDI DIV, intended for children and youth of all ages - The Intellectual Property Day for Children and Youth in cooperation with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). The project is aimed at children and youth aged 6 to 18 and it envisages activities and educational workshops designed according to specific age groups: children from 1st to 4th grade of primary schools, children from 5th to 8th grade of primary school and youth in all grades of high schools. The activities conducted across Croatia brought closer to the students' importance of creativity, and intellectual innovation property potential through games and content intended for their age (animated films, video clips, documentaries, conversations with young creatives and innovators) to encourage them to creation. The event includes educational and entertaining programme in the form of a central event, followed by a conversation with children and youth and the participation of schoolchildren in workshops at learning stations. All materials are available on the SIPO's web page: https://www.dziv.hr/en/ education/budi-div/about-budi-div/.



Recognising the interest of young people in video content, the SIPO has launched a YouTube channel dziv.HR on which a dozen videos were published from interviews with young inventors to tutorials on trademark and design applications https://www.youtube.com/user/dzivHR/videos.

All contents and materials are available in Croatian.

Promoting the protection of intellectual propertyrights, the SIPO initiated the platform STOP COUNTERFEITING AND PIRACY (http://www.stop-krivotvorinama-i-piratstvu.hr/en/) publishing the relevant content for various target groups of consumers including young people.



Croatia



The relevant information are published on the social media https://www.facebook.com/ (Facebook stopkrivotvorinamaipiratstvu.hr/?hc_ ref=ARTANtGm8cb_OnTXCIEIHH_ Soe6Y2VssPRwkb5tGp313FaoUph-ArfeKndSu_myDicw&fref=nf) and X (https:// twitter.com/STOPiratstvu). To make it more attractive to the followers and wider public, campaigns, prize games and quizzes are organised periodically.

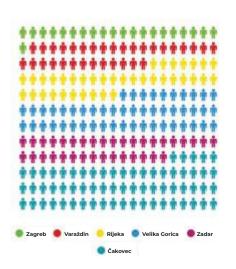
There are also a lot of other different projects and programs in Croatia that support young creative innovators and artists.

Digital Innovation Incubator Project powered by Croatian Telekom is intended for pupils and students from Croatia in which their creative potential is developed. Project participants start developing solutions with the support of experts and they can discuss

their ideas and share their own perspectives and opinions.

INOVA Youth Exhibition is the largest exhibition of youth innovations in the Republic of Croatia, which regularly gathers all the achievements of young innovators from Zagreb together with guests from all over Croatia and abroad since 2001. INOVA-YOUTH is a program of the Association of Innovators of Zagreb, the Association of Innovators of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Shipbuilding and the Zagreb Association of Young Innovators with the aim of stimulating further development of youth innovation in the City of Zagreb with a large exhibition event.

Split TASK Program organised by the Art Organisation Naturščik from Split is a creative program that produces works of young choreographers, authors and performing artists through a mentored two-month process.



BudiDIV – Data on event attendance. Total number of children and youth at the events: 4121.

Croatia





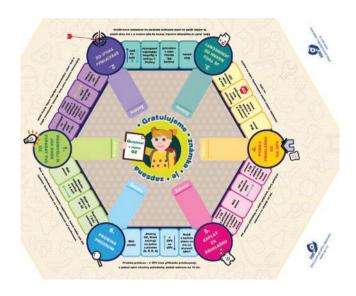




The Czech Republic

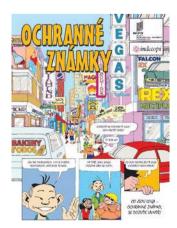
Raising Awareness of the Importance of using the Industrial Property Protection System among Youth in the Czech Republic

The Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic recognises the enduring necessity of raising public awareness and knowledge on the industrial property protection system, emphasizing the need to initiate this awareness from an early age. In cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, a methodological portal has been established. Here, primary school teachers can acquaint themselves with matters concerning intellectual property and explore how these issues can enhance and diversify the teaching of physics, chemistry, natural sciences, and informatics. Additionally, the Office provides the training for teachers and conducting lectures, discussion seminars, and other activities for students. These activities take place both online and in person, conducted either directly at respective schools, at the Office premises, at outdoor festivals, fairs, or at the specialized suburban children's summer camp. The Office endeavours to impart knowledge to young people in an engaging and playful manner. In cooperation with WIPO and the INDECOPI, the Office published short **comics** that provide insights into patents, trademarks, and copyright for the youngest audience. The Office has also established a section for young people on its website, offering downloadable materials, games, quizzes on various topics of IPR, and videos presenting, in popular form, the value an innovation can possess, explaining how it is created, and elucidating the achievements of a correct innovation.













The Czech Republic

performances of Regular the Amazing Theatre of Physics (ÚDiF) accompanied by discussions intellectual property, are held in various locations throughout the Czech Republic for primary and secondary school students. This engaging and professionally executed show aids students in understanding the essence and significance of intellectual property.

The largest outdoor popular science event in the Czech Republic, that introduces science and technology to young people in a popular and interactive manner, the **Sciencefest**, is a joint project of universities, academic workplaces and leisure institutions since 2011.

The **Science Fair**, organised by the Czech Academy of Sciences, is another event where various organisations present themselves alongside the Academy of Sciences.

The Let's Play with Your Head event takes intriguing topics to the streets for all enthusiasts of science disciplines. Organized by the Department of Physics of the University of Hradec Králové in collaboration with the Hradec Králové Observatory and Planetarium, it targets pupils and students of primary and secondary schools, as well as their parents and everyone who enjoys playing, thinking, and exploring the mysteries of the world around us.









The Czech Republic

The **Patents to Stars** programme has been hosted multiple times on the premises of the Industrial Property Office. Children gaze into space with guests from the Astronomical Institute of the CAS and discover which inventions were used in their research.



The **Czech Heads** is a comprehensive program aimed at supporting talented students of technical and natural science fields. It aims to increase interest among young people in studying these fields at secondary schools and universities and fostering a general interest in these disciplines. The project's methodology targets high school youth and is based on informing the general public about gifted students presented as role models for their peers in a broadly conceived media campaign.



Estonia

The Estonian Patent Office introduces IP world to youngsters

Estonia is internationally recognised as a good breeding ground for start-ups and unicorns. The focus on creativity and innovative thinking begins at an early age, and young people are eager to create student companies and put themselves to the test in various competitions. However, awareness of how to protect the results of their creative work and turn them into a profitable business is unfortunately low.

The problem is the lack of intellectual property education in general education schools. Often the companies don't reach out to Patent Office to protect their product until it has already been presented at a competition, market or social media – this means that the novelty requirement has been violated. To raise the youngsters' awareness of IP, we published educational guidelinesthisyear. The aim of the guide "The ABC of Intellectual Property for Students" is to explain the world of intellectual property in simple language to young people and their supervisors.

From the five chapters of the guide, the reader will learn what kinds of intellectual property can be found in one product and why students should protect their creative work. In the chapters on trade marks, industrial designs, inventions and copyright, we explain the basics of IP and give examples of IP protected by well-known Estonian companies

We introduced the guide to the tutors of student inventors and companies at



webinars held in cooperation with the Estonian Research Council and Junior Achievement Estonia.

The guide can be found on the website of the Patent Office (in Estonian): https://www.epa.ee/sites/default/files/documents/2023-08/intellektuaalomandi-abc_0.pdf

*References to trademarks and patents depicted in the visual can be found in the guideline.



Georgia

The Gaming Sector in Georgia: A Dynamic Landscape Unveiled

The gaming sector in Georgia has evolved into a multifaceted realm of entertainment, encompassing video games, board games, and role-playing games. Beyond the sheer joy of gaming, it has become a nexus of creativity, innovation, and community engagement.

Evolution and Proliferation: In recent years, Georgia's gaming subsector has experienced remarkable development, firmly establishing itself as a valuable tech field. From the proliferation of cutting-edge game development studios to the vibrant display of esports events and thriving gaming communities, the sector has become an important part of the technological ecosystem.

Distinguishing Characteristics: While encountering obstacles, the industry is presented with a myriad of opportunities, laying the foundation for a continued upward trajectory.

Trailblazing in Game Development: One notable challenge faced by Georgia's gaming subsector is the limited number of game development studios. Startup MaxHP stands out as a trailblazer, carving a niche by creating games tailored for a new wave of gamers transitioning from PC to mobile platforms. Their approach prioritizes skill-based gameplay mechanics, crafting intellectually stimulating games that captivate players across devices.

The Competitive Edge: Esports has emerged as a dynamic facet of Georgia's gaming subsector, garnering substantial popularity through tournaments, events, and a burgeoning community. The competitive spirit within the Georgian esports scene has not only resulted in thrilling matches but also cultivated a supportive ecosystem for players, teams, and event organizers. The growing interest from investors and organizations further solidifies Georgia's position as a significant hub for esports.

Education and Skill Development: Georgia's commitment to fostering its gaming subsector is exemplified through dedicated educational initiatives. Skill development organizations offer specialized programs focused on game development, design, and esports management. Training centers and mentorship programs contribute to the growth of a vibrant gaming ecosystem, empowering the next generation of gaming and esports talent.

Economic Impact: The analysis of Georgia's gaming sector reveals a surge in participation in free-to-play games, particularly on mobile platforms. This trend has a notable impact on the local economy, contributing to economic growth, job creation, and the development of related industries. The substantial engagement of individuals in gaming activities fosters a positive influence on Georgia's economy.



Georgia

Challenges and Future Outlook: While experiencing growth, the gaming subsector in Georgia faces challenges such as competition and the need for sustained investment. The narrative emphasizes the importance of continued support for game development, esports events, and educational programs. Fostering a diverse and inclusive gaming community is deemed essential for long-term success.

Georgia's gaming subsector is a thriving and expanding industry that encompasses game development, esports, education, and various other facets. With established studios, a vibrant esports scene, educational initiatives, and a significant impact on the local economy, Georgia is poised to become a substantial player in the global gaming landscape. As the industry confronts challenges and seizes opportunities, the future of Georgia's gaming sector appears promising, with potential for further growth and success. The gaming revolution in Georgia is underway, marking the beginning of an exciting journey.

Ani Vashakmadze Associated Professor of BTU





Hungary

University is one of the best places to help young innovators.

On 8 October 1910, a 10-year-old boy visited the Royal Hungarian Patent Office to apply for a patent for his invention which he called the Aeroplan carousel. You could ride in a proportionally small aircraft: it was both fun and a good example of demonstrating aerodynamics. The young inventor's name was Dénes Gábor (Dennis Gábor), who later achieved several scientific results and was also awarded the Nobel Prize.

he career of Dénes Gábor is a good example of the importance of awareness. At the age of 10, he already knew that it was worth applying for a patent for his own invention. This was the very first of many patents he was the legal owner of. Do you know what he truly became known for? He was the father of holography.

This shows that you cannot startearly enough to make youngsters aware. A creative mind can inspire fantastic ideas no matter how old you are. A good example of this was the project of university students Sarolta Hüttl, Judit Soltész, Zsófia Zétényi and Zsófia Zoletnik, who developed a drinking tap that does not affect the operation of fire hydrants but can be mounted on them. Imre Sziszák, Miklós Ilyés and József Cseh were also still sitting in the lecture hall when they made the first business plan for their startup, Platio, a company developing solar paving. In both cases, the creators considered the importance of protecting their intellectual property.





Former US President Franklin D. Roosevelt said, 'We cannot always build a future for our youth, but we can always build our youth for the future.'



Hungary

His words suggest that our main task is to raise a new generation that is much smarter in the way it uses its opportunities, more alert to and more prepared for changes in the world, more responsive to them, and it does so not only for its own benefit but also for the wider society.

One of the best places to work with young people is in higher education. Cooperation between universities and businesses is key to exploiting synergies between science and business. Putting scientific research results into practice, promoting market activities and supporting innovation rely on joint efforts between universities and the business sector. Everyone benefits from this cooperation, as it can help national businesses improve their competitiveness, while universities and research institutions have the opportunity to apply their results.

For this reason, the priority of the Hungarian Intellectual Property Office is to develop an even more active cooperation with universities and to continue the already ongoing work not only with the aim of increasing the number of applications but also to make the technology and knowledge transfer more efficient and economically demonstrable.

Never before has it been so easy to apply for intellectual property rights for the latest technical solutions, brand or design ideas. Never before has so much help been given to businesses to take advantage of the opportunity to apply for IP protection. And





both, the Hungarian and the international innovation ecosystem need more conscious innovators like Dénes Gábor in his days, and the young people who developed the water tap and solar paving in the present.

Latvia

Young people are one of the most important target groups in promoting awareness of intellectual property (IP) protection, and at the same time, they have very rich imagination, not being afraid of creating something unique, extraordinary, and revolutionary.

Young people are one of the most important target groups in promoting awareness of intellectual property (IP) protection, and at the same time, they have very rich imagination, not being afraid of creating something unique, extraordinary, and revolutionary. This age group lacks understanding and knowledge in the legal protection of their inventions therefore the Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia has identified this target group as one of the prioritaries for both educational and motivational activities.

The Creative Intellectual Competition is one of such activities aimed at primary and secondary school-age pupils. The aim of this competition is to develop pupils' creativity and promote their understanding of the importance of intellectual and, in particular,

industrial property in business, as well as to stimulate their curiosity and interest in research, creativity, entrepreneurship, and innovation. To qualify for valuable prizes, pupils must prepare two creative tasks on IP-related topics, expressing their creativity and flight of imagination.

How to tell children and young people about the importance of IP protection? While the idea of integrating the IP-related topics into the school curriculum is just an idea and a plan, the Patent Office of the Republic of Latvia has prepared a methodological material for schools titled "Journey in the World of Industrial Property", where children can learn about IP using the tasks, examples and theory provided in an easy-to-understand language.





Lithuania

Young Designer Prize 2023 competition

The Young Designer Prize is an annual competition organized since 2011 by The Design Innovation Centre at Vilnius Academy of Arts (VAA) in co-operation with The State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania. The main aim is to encourage the professional development of design students, providing them with an opportunity to present their ideas outside the Academy. This year marks the thirteenth edition of the competition. It received 90 applications from seven Lithuanian and three foreign higher education institutions, and the entries were divided into five categories: product, communication, fashion, interior design, and design research. In total, 17 young designers were selected by an international jury to take part in the competition exhibition.

Award Ceremony

On the 14th of September, the award ceremony took place at the Museum of Applied Arts and Design in Vilnius. Five winners were announced. They were awarded a prize of EUR 1,000 and an annual subscription to the magazine "Centras". The winner of the Communication category was awarded with a certificate entitling her to take part in the ADC*E (Art Directors Barcelona

JDP 23' Design Talks

This year the Young Designer Prize presented a new additional event - a public, one day conference Club of Europe) Competition for Young Talent Student Projects in

JDP 23' Design Talks. The jury members (Alessandro Maria Ferreri, Liene Jakobsone, Kristian Snorre Andersen, Agnieszka Jacobson- Cielecka, Omnigroup) became lecturers and shared their latest projects, experience and advice about the industry with the young designers and students.





YDP Design Talks. Luxury fashion brands expert Alessandro Maria Ferreri talks about the importance

The awards ceremony



Lithuania

Exhibition

Seventeen young designers were selected to take part in the competition's exhibition, which for the first time took place outside the Vilnius Academy of Arts, at the Museum of Applied Arts and Design in Vilnius and later at the Klaipėda Culture Communication Centre. Since 2011, the exhibitions have been visited by over 21,000 people. Architecture and graphic design: DADADA studio.



The exhibition at the Museum of Applied Arts and Design

21

21

22

15

FASHION DESIGN

Bachelor graduates

PRODUCT DESIGN

Bachelor graduates

COMMUNICATION DESIGN

Bachelor graduates

INTERIOR DESIGN

Bachelor graduates

DESIGN RESEARCH

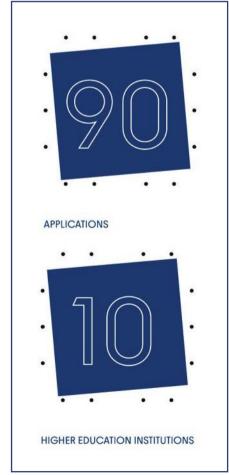
Master graduates



The winner in Design Research category:

21st Century textile Design Practices: Interactive rug for preschool children By Viktorija Kuliavaitė

Interactive carpets have been designed to stimulate children's engagement and development. The creative object depicts various locations in Lithuania: the Kernavė castle mounds, a part of the Siesarties stream in Ukmergė district and the lakes of Kirkilai in Biržai district. An interactive rug game invites children and the whole family to put the objects in place. The colours of the carpets in the daylight introduce the autumn, spring and summer colours, while in the evening the carpets show the colours of winter.





Republic of Moldova

Empowering Tomorrow's Innovators: AGEPI's Annual Intellectual Property Youth Contest

Since its establishment, the State Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova (AGEPI) has consistently endeavored to foster the interest of young individuals in the field of intellectual property (IP). Among the numerous initiatives undertaken by AGEPI, a particularly noteworthy event is the Intellectual Property Contest for Youth, organized annually since 2017. This collaborative effort, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova, the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks of Romania, and the Romanian Copyright Office, has evolved into a significant annual event shaping the intellectual landscape for the next generation.



Engaging the Future Minds

The event is launched every year on April 26 to coincide with World Intellectual Property Day, under the theme chosen by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The contest specifically targets secondary school students (grades IX-XII) and technical professional institutions in both the Republic of Moldova and Romania. Now in its seventh edition, the competition draws the participation of approximately 100 young minds annually, offering them a unique platform to explore and express their creativity in the dynamic field of intellectual property.

A Three-Stage Journey of Exploration

The competition unfolds in three distinct stages:

- 1. FirstStage:Registration and Participation
 All enthusiastic participants kick off
 their intellectual journey by completing
 a registration form. This phase is about
 inclusivity, ensuring that anyone with an
 interest in intellectual property can join
 the contest.
- 2. Second Stage: Knowledge Assessment
 Moving forward, participants face a set
 of challenging questions that test their
 understanding of intellectual property
 concepts. Only those who answer correctly
 advance to the next stage, showcasing
 a deeper engagement with the subject
 matter.
- **3. Final Stage: Creative Expression** The culmination of the contest sees selected participants crafting diverse works ranging from PowerPoint presentations and performances to interviews, short films, studies, and drawings. These creations are centered around intellectual property themes chosen from a curated list provided by the organizers.



Republic of Moldova





Celebrating Excellence and Encouraging Passion

The evaluation of these creative endeavors and the subsequent awarding of winners take place during a summarization session, where all competition finalists participate. The regulations ensure that participants not only gain valuable insights into the world of intellectual property but also have the chance to win attractive prizes, recognizing and celebrating their dedication to the field.

A Vision for the Future

This competition serves as a platform for talented young individuals interested in the field of IP, providing them with an opportunity to express their creativity and demonstrate their skills in this vital area for innovation and development. AGEPI's commitment to promoting innovation and intellectual property education shines through this annual event, laying the groundwork for a future generation that not only comprehends the importance of intellectual property but also actively contributes to its evolution and impact on society. In embracing the dynamic and ever-evolving nature of intellectual property, AGEPI propels these young minds toward a future where innovation and creativity thrive.



Poland

Shaping the Future: How the Polish Patent Office is Empowering Youth with Intellectual Property Knowledge.

In the rapidly evolving landscape of innovation and creativity, the Polish Patent Office (PPO) stands as a beacon of enlightenment for the youth, illuminating the path of intellectual property (IP) in Poland. With a commitment to nurturing young minds, the PPO has launched several groundbreaking initiatives, aiming to embed the significance of IP rights among school students and teachers, and even reaching out to the youngest in kindergartens.

Project "Intellectual Property in Your School"

The cornerstone of the PPO's mission regarding youth is the "Intellectual Property in Your School" initiative. The initiative aims to integrate intellectual property education into secondary school activities through a combination of webinars. lectures and interactive sessions. The program intends to make intellectual property concepts tangible and accessible to students and teachers. lt. includes comprehensive educational materials like the "Get Familiar with Intellectual Property" publication, detailed lesson plans, and engaging case studies. These valuable resources bridge the gap between the complex realm of IP law and practical wisdom, establishing a solid groundwork for forthcoming innovation.

Moreover, the PPO enriches this educational journey with real-life experiences. Students can visit the PPO headquarters, where they



IP in Education workshop for teachers

can attend lectures and witness firsthand the proceedings in the Adjudicative Board's courtroom. These experiences demystify the legal processes surrounding IP and inspire students to consider careers in this dynamic field.

Expanding Educational Horizons

The PPO's dedication to IP education transcends the boundaries of traditional classrooms. In a remarkable initiative, they extended their educational outreach to a scout camp, illustrating that learning about IP can be both fun and engaging in informal settings. This approach not only diversifies the educational experience but also makes IP relatable to a wider audience.

Poland

IP workshop for scouts



PPO's active participation in the EUIPO network group "IP in Education" and the organization of workshops for teachers show commitment to create a robust IP education ecosystem. This ecosystem is not limited to schools. For the first time, it has reached kindergartens and even graced the Children's Day celebrations at the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, proving that it is never too early to start the conversation about IP.

"Ambassador of School Inventiveness" Competition

A pivotal event in the PPO's calendar is the "Ambassador of School Inventiveness" competition. Now in its 8th edition, this competition has evolved to include new categories like industrial designs and invites participation from Polish communities worldwide. This expansion not only broadens the competition's scope but also fosters a more diverse range of creative talents, encouraging students to explore various facets of IP and innovation.

Championing Youth Innovations

The PPO's collaboration with the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland in organizing "Startups in the Palace. Youth Innovations" initiative was a highlight of their endeavors in 2023. This high-profile event, attended by the President himself, served as a platform for students across Poland to show their inventions. The event's interactive elements, such as the multimedia IP quiz, not only educate but also engage the participants in a dynamic learning experience.

The PPO's involvement in Explory, Poland's largest inventors' competition, further demonstrates their commitment to nurturing young talents. By participating in the jury and conducting specialized IP workshops traveling around the country with our IP as part of the regional Explory stage, the PPO ensures that young inventors have both the platform to present their innovations and the knowledge to protect them.

A Beacon of Innovation

The Polish Patent Office's systematical, wide-ranging initiative to educate the youth about intellectual property is more than just a series of measures, it is a deep-seated pledge to the advancement of innovation in Poland. By means of these initiatives, PPO not only imparts knowledge but also motivates the next generation of innovators and establishes the foundation for a world in which innovation and imagination are not only held in high esteem but also duly protected.

Romania

NEOPLACIP – Impedimetric biosensor based on vertical graphene, integrated with a microfluidic system for monitoring the plasma levels of anti-tumoral agents



The NEOPLACIP project proposes the development of a microfluidic system, based on detection by electrochemical impedance, for the prognosis and personalization of antitumor therapy by determining the concentration of the antineoplastic agents in the biological fluids of patients undergoing treatment.

This project is financing by UEFISCDI and cofinancing by DDS Diagnostic SRL, through the Project 69PTE/2023. DDS Diagnostic is the coordinator with partners: National Institute for Research and Development in Microtechnologies and University of Bucharest.

Director of Project is PhD Dana STAN with expertise in research projects coordination, development, production and CE mark documentation for medical devices for human diagnosis over 20 years.

The treatment of patients diagnosed with different types of malignant tumors with antineoplastic drugs is difficult, due to the considerable variability of the



Romania

pharmacokinetic parameters of these drugs, but also due to a plethora of adverse and secondary effects. The project proposes development of a sensor for simultaneous detection from human plasma of three antitumoral compounds commonly used in cancer therapy in Romania: etoposide, cisplatin and bleomycin. They are often used in combination therapy, in an attempt to minimize side effects and maximize the therapeutic effect. The NEOPLACIP project proposes the development of a microfluidic system, based on detection by electrochemical impedance, for the prognosis and personalization of antitumor therapy by determining the concentration of the antineoplastic agents in the biological fluids of patients undergoing treatment.

The microfluidic system will be presented with integrated electrochemical sensors whose working electrodes are functionalized with vertical graphene and will specifically bind the therapeutic compounds through a set of immunoglobulins. This type of sensor is able to provide information on the concentration of antineoplastics in the human plasma, through a fast and sensitive analysis, in real-time. The information obtained will lead to the personalization of the administration method, with benefits first and foremost for the patient, and subsequently economic benefits through low consumption of reagents, low costs, cheap and easy-to-handle equipment and instruments and implicitly, very low risk of contamination.

This type of sensor is able to provide information on the concentration of antineoplastics (cisplatin, bleomycin and etoposide) in the human plasma, through a fast and sensitive analysis, in real-time. The information obtained will lead to the personalization of the administration method, with benefits first and foremost for the patient, and subsequently economic benefits through low consumption of reagents, low costs, cheap and easy-to-handle equipment and instruments and implicitly, very low risk of contamination.

One of the results of this project is the Patent Application, registered at OSIM, Bucharest, Romania. The invention patent is entitled "Procedure for obtaining a biosensor for the electrochemical detection of cisplatin from artificial plasma samples".

Slovakia

Spreading intellectual property awareness among youth in Slovakia

The majority of young people in Slovakia do not encounter the issue of intellectual property within the educational system. Main reason is that the intellectual property is not present in school syllabuses. The Industrial Property Office of the Slovak Republic (IPO SR) has been organizing lectures and seminars for all students from primary schools to universities for a long time.

In 2022, we decided to change the format of intellectual property (IP) awareness spreading. We updated the topics. introduced modern and interactive teaching methods, which fully involve students in teaching activities. We have created a range of tailor-made topics that are targeted at primary, secondary school pupils and students of universities. The most popular topics are Coca Cola the most famous trade secret: Who Will Protect Mickey Mouse; Original versus Fake; Intellectual property around us - what does it offer?: IP and Business. Education process is highly interactive with the use of audiovisual technology and engaging activities. Students also participate in various competitions, which significantly diversify the educational process.

Demand for our IP awareness activities is constantly growing. In 2022, 478 students from primary, secondary schools and universities participated in our workshops and lectures. In 2023, the number of

participants has grown more than four times; almost 1900 pupils and students participated in educational events. We have organized 61 educational events, visited 50 schools and 7 summer children's camps. We have received very positive feedback from students so far. At the end of the educational process, they regularly demonstrate the ability to identify elements of IP and methods of IP protection. In addition, our activities help young people to understand why it is important to protect their IP. Moreover, many participants are interested in this topic from the point of view of future business activities.

We plan to continue rising IP awareness among young people with enthusiasm; not only students, but also teachers consider our activity as very beneficial for further education process. Therefore, we have started an IP Academy, which is the special Department of the IPO SR and has been established since October 1, 2023. The goal of the IP Academy is to conceptually cooperate and spread IP awareness in schools. Another objective is to support the IP awareness among small to medium-sized enterprises, technological centers, cultural and innovation centers. In addition, IP Academy will also focus on the professional public. We hope that our activities will help to spread IP awareness and support the innovation ecosystem in Slovakia.

Slovakia



Serbia

European Researcher's Night 2023. Manifestation for the popularization of science during which over 200 "patents" were issued for children's inventions. No boundaries for the creativity of the youngest population.

Traditionally, the 14th European Researcher's Night was held during the last weekend of September. The goal of the event itself is to bring and popularize science to all interested visitors, and especially to bring science closer to our youngest in a funny and educational way, both to schoolchildren who have mastered the first letters and to those who are preparing for the big graduation. In the Republic of Serbia, this year, 25 cities joined in the organization of this gathering of young people and science, in various ways.

The Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Serbia has been participating in this event for the last six years, where on the first day of the event the Office is a mandatory, last stop of the "Treasure Hunt" activity, when participants come to protect their "invention" - that they made as a task at the previous stops. School children came organized with their teachers and professors, but also with their families, to this popular manifestation. By filling in a simple form "My first invention", with a short description and a drawing, the children received information about intellectual property rights, and especially about why it is important and how to protect their inventions. Children submitted their applications to the Office's experts, who "reviewed" the applications and approved them by affixing a specially made seal



for that event, which read "PATENT". This "patenting" met with a very good response from schoolchildren, who were very proud of their "patents", and, in a very entertaining way, they learned something about the protection of inventions and the institution responsible for it.

On the other hand, the Office's experts had the opportunity to get acquainted with the "genius inventions", even of those children who have not yet mastered all the letters, but showed creative ways imagining to solve different problems. They not only had a creative way of solving certain problems, but they also showed awareness of solving problems of general interest, such as renewable energy sources,



Serbia

labor shortage through multifunctional devices, environmental and transportation problems. Very easily and quickly, they were able to apply new knowledge, such as the concept of intellectual property, primarily invention, in their tasks, during the "Treasure Hunt", when more than 200 "patents" were issued, which also had very interesting titles.

On the second day of the manifestation, at the stands of the participating institutions, among which was the Intellectual Property Office's stand in front of the faculties for natural sciences, kids had the opportunity acquainted with interesting children's inventions that were applied, which also aroused the great interest of visitors, especially the youngest. The young visitors were very curious about their peers' inventions, especially those that are still very popular today, such as ear warmers, ice cream on a stick, but also those that helped certain groups of people, such as the Braille alphabet. Through their curiosity and openness, the children easily entered into a conversation with the experts, and in this very funny way, discovered their imaginative ideas with which they tried to "solve a certain problem", and at the same time came to acquire new knowledge.

The creativity and knowledge absorption capacity of the youngest population, knows no boundaries. This event also confirmed that the early age is the right age in which the first knowledge about intellectual property should be acquired.



Slovenia

Inlecteltual proper - what!?

How many times have you had to repeat the phrase "intellectual property" because someone didn't understand what you were talking about?

The Slovenian IP Office would like to share with you some practices on how to effectively present our field of work to young people.

We address this target group through various channels and media and thus achieve reach and frequency of appearance through media mix.

When we introduce our work to young people, we name IP rights by words they know: copyright ("you are the author, right?"), patent, trademark and design. We always present IP through stories.

So how exactly do we do it?

Lectures for educational institutions

We provide tailor-made and interactive lectures with interesting and entertaining examples for primary, secondary schools and faculties. We always give each participant a small gift, usually an example of a patent (see picture).

Lectures and workshops in museums

Cooperation usually creates synergies, which is why we have been successfully cooperating with various Slovenian museums for several years for example the Technical Museum of Slovenia and the Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana. We present technical heritage and the most prominent Slovenian inventors at various events for youth or organize joint exhibitions.

Competitions in entrepreneurial ideas

Young people present their innovative ideas every year at various competitions: Junior Achievement Award (JA) Slovenia (part of JA Europe/JA Worldwide), Popri (Peppers) etc. Our office participates with lectures and with promotion stands, often also as jury members.

Online articles

We regularly publish articles on online portals and websites aimed at young people. The articles are adapted to different events, such as World IP Day, World Anti-Counterfeiting Day.

Promotion stands at various events throughout Slovenia

For many years now we have been present at many renowned youth events such as Researchers' Day and Cultural Bazaar. We always put effort in preparing our stand in an appealing, unusual and interactive way. The extra effort pays off: our stand is usually well-frequented, students and teachers can't wait to spin the wheel of fortune, compete in knowledge and win a prize.

Animated video on Originalen.si website

You are original! This is the name of a site with information on why buying fakes is not worth it and the collateral damage of such a purchase. For elementary schools, we wrote a script and created a fun animated video on the topic on counterfeit goods, which explains the potential threats and signs we should pay attention to when shopping online. And hey, good news –we're excited to share the video with you!

Slovenia

Television show "Little Grey Cells"

At the office, we are particularly proud of participating in the "Little Grey Cells" show, which has been airing on our national TV since 1994 and is well-loved by primary school students. It is a quiz show covering the field of natural and social sciences, in which students aged 12-14 from 32 schools from all Slovenian regions participate.

In the show, the office is mentioned as a sponsor, and at the same time, the main prize of our office is highlighted throughout the year – a trip to the Technical Museum in Vienna! Hooray!





Pictured: two of our promotional projects –patent granted for toilet paper (1891) and pencil with eraser (1858)



Ukraine

Young Generation as the Agent for a Better Tomorrow

The proportion of young people under 20 and women in Ukraine has decreased dramatically. According to the rough estimates by Daria Herasymchuk, Advisor – Presidential Commissioner for Children's Rights and Child Rehabilitation, the Russian occupiers could have deported nearly 200-300 thousand children from Ukraine to Russia. According to the International Organization for Migration, about 13 million people in Ukraine have been internally displaced since February 24, 2022. According to the UNHCR, women and children make up 90% of Ukrainian citizens who have fled the country.

IPRs enable young people to turn their talents, ideas into valuable economic assets and facilitate the process of generating income from their ideas. Ukraine see an urgent need to strengthen the innovative capacity, focusing on increasing the participation of youth in the national innovation system, by supporting them in using the IP system more effectively to protect and commercialize their IP rights.

Much good work is being done to ensure IP awareness raising initiatives among youth through joint projects at the national and international level (UNICEF platform, WIPO, UNESCO), initiatives involve representatives of the public and private sectors.

National Center «Junior Academy of Sciences of Ukraine" (JAS) is a unique educational system, which ensures the organization and coordination of students' research activities, creates conditions for their intellectual, creative development

and professional self-determination that contributes to the country's scientific potential. The organization has 33 regional territorial offices, and more than 300 out-of-school institutions of various types. In October 2017 on the basis of JAS was launched a UNESCO Center of the 2nd category. This status allows us to improve the quality of work with creative children and provides ample opportunities for the exchange of experience.

Ukrainian National Office for Intellectual Property and Innovations (UANIPIO) launched the IP Connecting Students project, which aim is to popularize IP culture among young people, deepen the knowledge of IP among the student community, and outline current trends in the development of IP, creativity and IPRs protection. This aim is realized through the monthly meetings with the university community. Also, representatives of the IP office prepared script and text of the comics "Metaverse Travelers" where teenagers can find answers on issues connected with IPR protection in an understandable form.

Superheroes School is an educational space at the National specialized children hospital "Okhmatdyt" and other hospitals in Ukraine – a project that began as a regular initiative of the NGO "Small Heart with Art", in 2021 received state support and the status of a state organization. Art therapy, "Portal of Creative Ideas" project, a drawing master classes with explanation of the basic copyright principles, for children undergoing long-term treatment.

Ukraine







Ukraine's initiatives are getting new formats of implementation adapting to the conditions of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, to current trends in the development of the digital universe, online learning, and Ukraine's innovative development agenda. **Prominent inventions by Ukrainian young people:**

Quadcopter Mines Detector invented by **Igor Klymenko**, a 17-year-old student of Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute, developed a robot deminer and became a finalist for the Global Student Prize in 2022. "I realized that mines are a serious problem for the military, so I started thinking about what I could create to save the lives of our people."

School graduate **Valentyn Frechka** invented an ecofriendly technology for **creating paper from fallen leaves**. The innovator used a kitchen blender to grind the garbage and separate the cellulose that can be used to make paper. He mixed the fibers with water and put the resulting mass on a mold. When the material dried in the sun, he smoothed it with a stone. This is how thick sheets of paper were formed. This is a great eco-startup because this material can be used to make glasses, plates, bags, and bags, as well as designer, craft, wrapping paper, or book covers. The technology has been tested on specialized equipment and is already in use in large-scale production lines.

At the age of 17, **Anastasia Livochka** came up with a way to help save the lives of soldiers. Anastasia made two useful inventions. The first is a smoke divider for stoves, which helps to conceal the presence of soldiers at the campsite and make them less visible to thermal imagers. The second device is a suspension for safe transportation of the wounded. A special platform keeps the stretcher in a stable position.



Young Generation as the Agent for a Better Tomorrow

Awareness raising activities for young people:

- Animated movies: **«TyMur and copyright»**, "Valera and Animating in Ukrainian talk about all things related to copyright and the creation of animated films (a project by Valeriy Lifirenko);
- NUMO is a joint project of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and UNICEF aimed at developing a child's creativity as a basic, everyday skill, the ability to think outside the usual framework and stereotypes, and the ability to make non-standard decisions;
- **Pirates Catchers** a short adventure story that helps young people learn about various aspects of piracy: its concept, types, responsibility for committing it, the damage it causes, and specific ways to combat it. The comic is accompanied by an interactive online game that will help you test your knowledge of piracy.
- "Ukrainians Against Counterfeiting" a special event of the campaign against piracy and counterfeiting (joint initiative of the UANIPIO and the Ukrainian Alliance Against Counterfeiting and Piracy). The goal of the campaign is to form a rational consumption model, to raise awareness of the risks and consequences of purchasing counterfeit goods.





Wishing you a peaceful and joyful time with your loved ones and every success in the New Year





Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations Office at Geneva

Prepared by: Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the UN Office at Geneva, based on inputs received from CEBS Members and WIPO TDC Photo on the front page: Startups in the Palace President Andrzej Duda

Photos in the text: received from CEBS Members

Graphic design: studio io Rafał Pudło