

# 5 / Copyright authority

In connection with copyright, the Office is responsible for the supervision and registration of collective management organisations. In doing so, it ensures the maintenance of the online register of collective management organisations. Its competence extends to the registration of independent collective management organisations and also the authorisation of representative collective management activity. From April 2022, the number of independent rights management organisations has increased with the addition of DIGIJUS.

Hence, the following 13 associations or companies are listed in the register (<http://kjk.sztmh.gov.hu>)



## 35 The collective rights management organisations have initiated registration proceedings.

The supervision of collective rights management and independent rights management is subject to the obligation to initiate supervisory proceedings once a year in accordance with the rules on official controls. The annual supervisory proceedings are conducted after the submission of the annual reports of the collective management organisations. In this context, in parallel with the verification of compliance with the invitations made in the previous year's supervisory proceedings, the Office also examined the current functioning of the collective management organisations and whether the conditions for registration had been met continuously during the period under examination. Of the 13 annual supervisory proceedings opened in 2022, 10 proceedings were closed with a notification (order), 2 proceedings required a decision as a supervisory measure, and 1 was closed in 2023. The Office handled the administration and registration of the supervision fees payable by the collective and independent management organisations.

In the framework of the tariff approval procedure before the Office, 7 collective management organisations submitted 21 tariffs in 2022, by the deadline of 1 September 2016 set by Act XCIII of 2016 on the collective management of copyright and related rights, in order to initiate the opinion procedure. On 18 November 2022, the Minister of Justice approved 19 tariffs in their final form, as established in the course of the opinion procedure. For two tariffs, the decision was taken in the second half of January 2023, following the end of the year in question, due to the administrative recess ordered by the government.

*Orphan works are creations that are difficult to use because the right holder of the work is unknown or in an unknown place*

and the user cannot obtain permission from the author for lawful use. In order to address this situation, the HIPO has become the authority responsible for authorising the use of orphan works. During 2022, 11 applications for authorisation to use orphan works were submitted, 91% of which were for architectural works. The Office granted authorisations for use in 13 proceedings, 3 of which started in 2021.



# 6/ International IP diplomacy

*The HIPO's international cooperation activities are closely linked to the international organisations dealing with intellectual property.*



The Office is actively involved in the work of the European Patent Organisation (EPO), the Council of the European Union, the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI), and maintains bilateral relations with its partner offices. During the first months of 2022, the international events were held online due to the epidemic situation, but for the rest of the year, in-person participation was also possible.

*In the European Patent Organisation, at the meetings of the Administrative Council the HIPO was represented by the senior management of the Office.*



**10** projects.

Our colleagues participated in the work of the Select Committee of the Administrative Council, the Budget and Finance Committee, the Committee on Patent Law, and attended further trainings organised by the European Patent Academy. Under the new three-year framework agreement (2021–2023) with the EPO, the HIPO has undertaken to implement

*It was a major event of IP diplomacy that on 6 October 2022, a delegation of the European Patent Office,*

led by its President **António Campinos**, visited Budapest for talks with Minister of Culture and Innovation **János Csák**. He then held technical discussions with President **Gyula Pomázi** and the heads of the relevant departments at the HIPO.

*Regarding the ratification of the agreement on the establishment of a Unified Patent Court (UPC), the Government has decided that there is currently no political intention to amend the Fundamental Law and thus ratify the Agreement.*



As is known, the Constitutional Court ruled in its decision No. X/1514/2017, published on 29 June 2018, that the Agreement on the Unified Patent Court cannot be ratified without amending the Fundamental Law. Hungary intends to maintain its observer status in the governing bodies of the UPC and will also be following the functioning and impact of the unitary patent system. 17 EU Member States have deposited their instrument of ratification, the latest being Germany on 14 February 2023. As a result, the UPC Agreement will enter into force on 1 June 2023 and the new system can begin its functioning.

The entry into force of the agreement was preceded by a provisional application period, which started with the entry into force of the relevant Protocol on Provisional Application on 19 January 2022, after Austria also ratified it. This provided the opportunity to formally take the institutional, staffing and financial decisions necessary for the UPC to become operational.



*In accordance with its earlier commitment, the UPC training courses in Budapest from 17 January to 9 March 2023 were successfully implemented with the organisation and logistical support of the HIPO.*

However, in view of the above government decision, Hungary is no longer in a position to ensure the operation of the Training Centre in Budapest.

*In 2022, the HIPO staff continued to participate in the Working Party on Intellectual Property of the Council of the European Union and in other EU events.*

Intensive cooperation with the EUIPO continued. The senior management of the HIPO participated in the meetings of the EUIPO's Administrative Board and Budget Committee, and its expert staff participated in the Trade Mark and Design Liaison meetings, the Observatory meetings and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Working Group meeting.

The visit of a delegation led by **João Negrão**, President of the EUIPO Boards of Appeal, to Budapest on 8 November 2022, for bilateral talks with **Gyula Pomázi**, President of the HIPO, was an important event in IP diplomacy.

## **20** projects will be implemented under the EUIPO–HIPO cooperation agreement.

The replacement of the internal administrative registration system with the **EUIPO's Back Office system** and its adaptation to the domestic legal environment is a priority task for the HIPO.

On 27 April 2022, the HIPO and the EUIPO jointly organised an online seminar "Ideas Powered for Business", which provided information for SMEs on how to access EU IP resources (SME Fund). And an online seminar jointly organised on 12 May 2022 under the title „IP for you“ aimed to inform SMEs and start-ups about EU trade marks.

The HIPO represented Hungary in the international cooperation within the framework of WIPO, contributed to the work of its committees, working groups and major events of the world organization. The 63th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of WIPO took place from 14–22 July 2022.

*It is a sign of the success of Hungarian IP diplomacy that at the General Assembly of the Union established by the Budapest Treaty on the Deposit of Microorganisms,*



**Csaba Baticz** was elected as the chairman of the meeting. The meeting of the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) took place from 9–13 May 2022, and was co-chaired by **Péter Lábodý**, Vice-President of the HIPO.



## *The Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI),*

based in Budapest, was established by the four Visegrad countries as an intergovernmental organisation for patent cooperation. It acts as an International Search Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA). In 2022, the Board of Directors was chaired by **Péter Lábodý**, Vice-President of the Office. It was an important development that in June 2022 the VPI was granted observer status on the Administrative Council of the European Patent Organisation. The VPI signed a Cooperation Agreement with the International Visegrad Fund in February 2022. The first result of the cooperation was an online roundtable discussion on technology transfer in November 2022 with the participation of the Visegrad countries' university technology transfer offices.

## **127** In in 2022 the VPI received requests for International Search Reports (ISAs).

About two thirds (65%) of the requests were in national languages (Hungarian, Czech, Polish, Slovak) and 35% in English. From 1 June 2017, the VPI receives international patent applications from citizens of **Lithuania**, and from 1 September 2020, from citizens of **Serbia** and companies and other organisations established there (in 2022, 7 Serbian applications have been received, for which the international search has been undertaken by the HIPO and the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic).

# 7

## Focus on awareness raising

The HIPO is engaged in intensive awareness raising activities among enterprises and higher education institutions, raises awareness that the acquisition of intellectual property rights gives right holders a competitive advantage in the market, increases their market value and generates additional revenue.

# A

## Awareness raising among enterprises

In 2022, professional partners and customers interested in intellectual property could choose from a wide range of awareness-raising and information programmes. The Office was a participant in and organiser of more than **60 professional, awareness-raising and attitude-shaping events.**

60



**Piac és Profit Piac és Profit**, an online business journal regularly organised conferences on current economic issues, involving local chambers of commerce and industry and including intellectual property issues, too. The HIPO reached around 3 000 small and medium-sized enterprises with its awareness-raising presentations through 13 conferences organised by Piac és Profit.

16



**The HIPO has contracts for an indefinite period with County Chambers of Commerce and Industry and 6 PATLIB centres**

(University of Debrecen, University of Miskolc, University of Sopron, University of Pécs, University of Győr and University of Szeged) to operate an IP info point. On the basis of the bilateral agreement with the **EPO**, the HIPO paid special attention to the PATLIB centres, supported them in preparing their level assessment, examined the competences of each centre and the areas in need of improvement. On the basis of the survey, a possible division of work and grouping of tasks between the **PATLIB centres** and the Office was identified.

# 2

## IP education

The HIPO experienced a successful year in intellectual property education. The main pillars of the intellectual property training system are training courses in cooperation with higher education institutions and courses on industrial property and copyright at various levels organised by the Office.

The number of hours of IP education delivered in cooperation with the Office increased by

**+37,6%** and the number of students by almost 2.5 times

compared to the previous year. As a result, 3 423 students spent 1 282 hours studying intellectual property protection during the year.



**1 282**  
number of hours

**3 423**  
students

Breakdown of intellectual property training courses in cooperation with the HIPO by type of training (2022)

	Professional trainings	Training in higher education institutions	E-learning	Targeted courses
Number of training hours	<b>680</b>	<b>520</b>	-	<b>82</b>
Number of participants	<b>292</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>1 854</b>	<b>435</b>




# 13 higher education institutions, compared to 9 in the previous year

The HIPO has a long history of educational cooperation with domestic higher education institutions, which is expanding to a growing number of higher education institutions. Intellectual property protection training, taught as a separate six-month subject, was offered in 16 faculties of

In a further 7 universities (4 in the previous year), intellectual property was taught in conjunction with other subjects (business/technical/legal/social and/or natural sciences). The number of higher education students participating in e-learning increased significantly, by 2.5 times. While in 2021, 758 students took part in the Office's e-learning curriculum, in 2022, 1 854 students from 6 higher education institutions took part in this form of training.



Courses on intellectual property given in cooperation with HIPO at higher education institutions (2022)

University	  		
	Separate course	As part of other courses	e-learning
Corvinus University of Budapest	Yes	Yes	No
Budapest University of Technology and Economics	Yes	Yes	No
Budapest Business School	Yes	Yes	No
Budapest Metropolitan University	Yes	Yes	No
Eötvös Loránd University	Yes	Yes	No
Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences	Yes	No	Yes
University of Miskolc	Yes	No	No
Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design	Yes	Yes	No
University of Public Service	Yes	No	No
University of Nyíregyháza	Yes	No	Yes
Óbuda University	Yes	Yes	No
University of Pannonia	Yes	No	Yes
Semmelweis University	Yes	Yes	No
University of Sopron	Yes	No	Yes
University of Szeged	Yes	No	No
University of Győr and BME Startup Campus incubation program	No	Yes	No
University of Pécs	Yes	Yes	No
University of Debrecen	No	No	Yes
Eszterházy Károly University	No	No	Yes

The basic, intermediate and advanced level courses on industrial property and copyright, as well as the targeted courses for various organisations organised by the HIPO have traditionally played an important role in IP knowledge sharing.

Number of hours of IP education organised by the Office, number of students (2022)

The following courses were organised: 5 basic level industrial property courses and 2 basic level copyright courses; intermediate industrial property courses and intermediate level copyright courses took place once each. Over three semesters, 85 participants studied in the advanced level industrial property course. The students were mainly from the staff of the HIPO, patent attorneys, and staff of law firms, businesses or higher education institutions. In addition, on 21 occasions, the HIPO organised targeted IP-related courses, further trainings or research trainings for various institutions and target groups, and participated in exhibitions and international fairs with consulting and presentations.

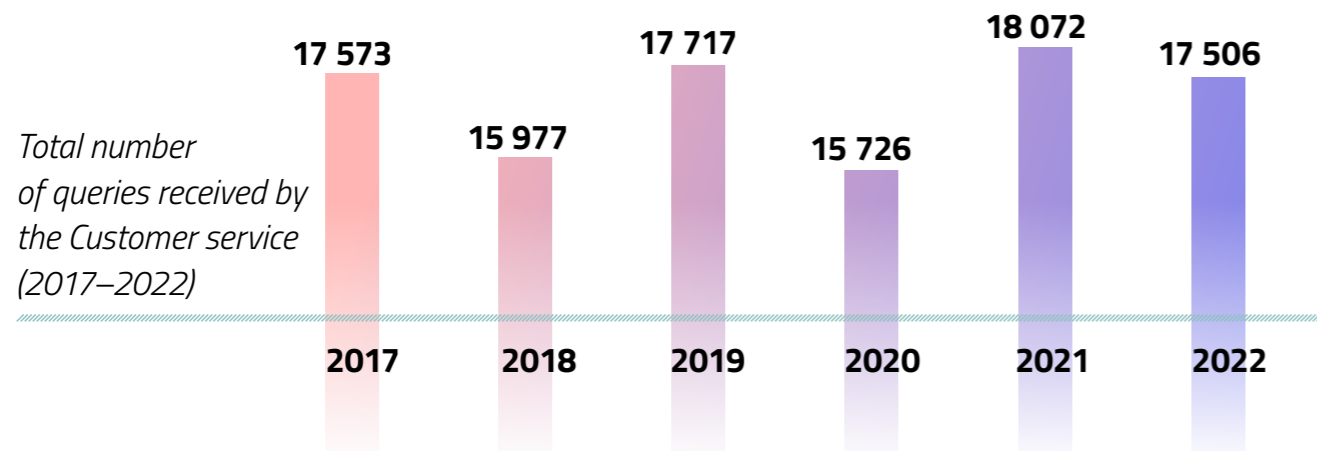


# 7/3 In the service of customers

**17 506**

The Office's central customer service provides information in person, by telephone and in writing on questions concerning the protection of intellectual property. In 2022, the customer service received *queries*, the same level as in 2019, before the pandemic.

Due to the restrictions during the pandemic, the number of queries dropped significantly in 2020 (15 726 queries) and then increased strongly in 2021 (18 072 queries) after the restrictions were lifted. In 2022, the number of queries to the customer service was back to the pre-pandemic level of 17 000.

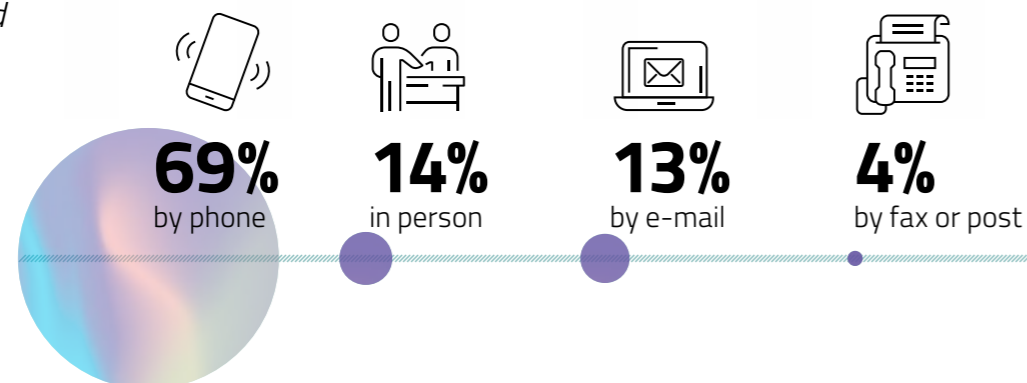


**69,2%**

Among the methods of requesting information, queries by telephone played a prominent role - both in terms of proportion and number.

*of the queries were made by telephone*, with more than 12 000 such queries received by the Office. With the pandemic over, the number of in person customer queries increased by 900 to 2 426, and the proportion rose from 8.5% to 13.9%. A group of customers prefers to request information exclusively in person. Even after the pandemic, the number of electronic queries remained high (2 329), although more than 10% lower than in 2021, but 45% higher than in 2019, the year before the pandemic. The number of queries by fax and letter remains low.

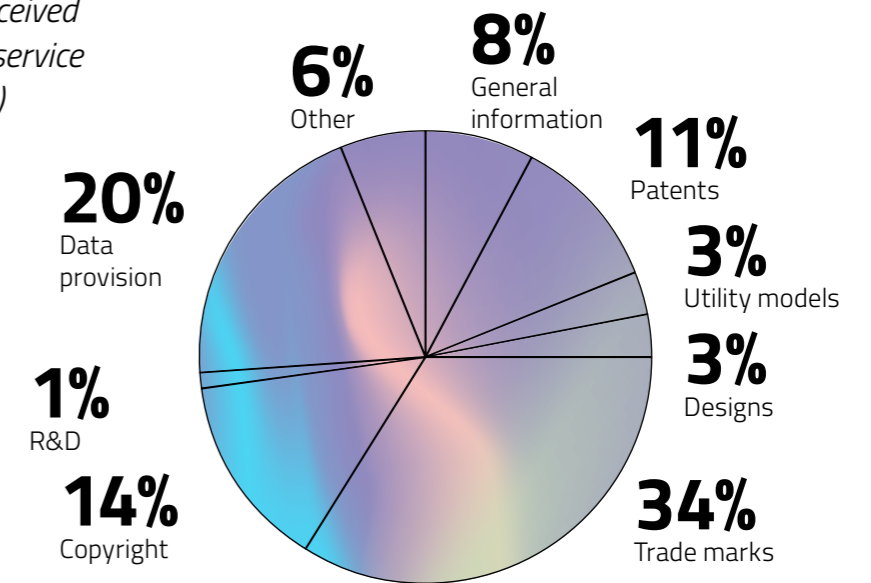
Breakdown of queries received by the central customer service by its means



*As in previous years, in 2022 the most queries of information related to trade marks (5 245).*

In addition, important areas of information requests were database related information (3 039 requests), queries in the field of copyright and legal matters (2 218 requests) and requests for patent information (1 707 requests). Among the requests for information, the number of requests for database services, patents and utility models increased compared to the previous year.

Breakdown of queries received by the central customer service by field of interest (2022)



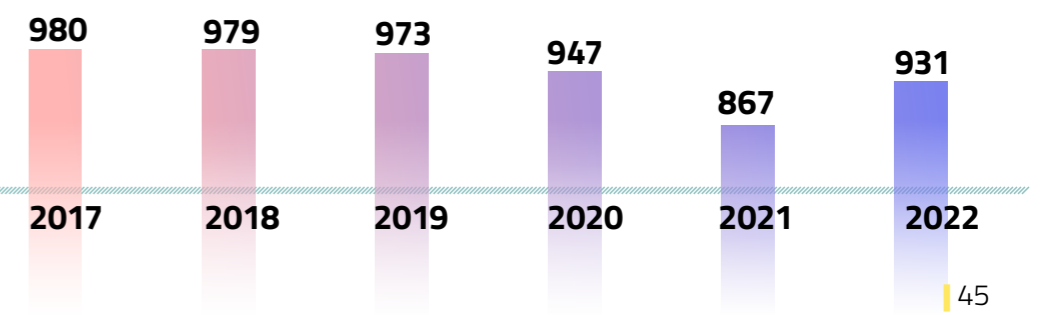
The form and methodology of the service, previously offered by the HIPO under the name of IP diagnosis, were completely renewed by joining the EUIPO European IP Information Centre (EIPIC) project in 2022. The renewed service, called IP Scan, is provided free of charge by the Office. The aim of the advice on intellectual property management for SMEs is to provide users with a more complete picture of the opportunities and risks of exploiting their intellectual property and to help them develop an IP strategy. The number of Hungarian businesses requesting the IP Scan service increased to 63 in 2022 (compared to 33 in the previous year).

Since 2006, the central customer service has been responsible for the voluntary registration of works and subject matter of related rights under **Act LXXVI of 1999 on Copyright**. The number of requests has typically been above 900 in recent years. In 2022, the Office received

**931** requests, 7.4% more than the previous year.

The option of full electronic management of the voluntary register of works was requested by 45% of the applicants, in 418 cases. As a result of daily digitalisation, the entire documentation is available electronically on the Office's e-search platform.

Number of requests for registration in the voluntary register of works (2017–2022)

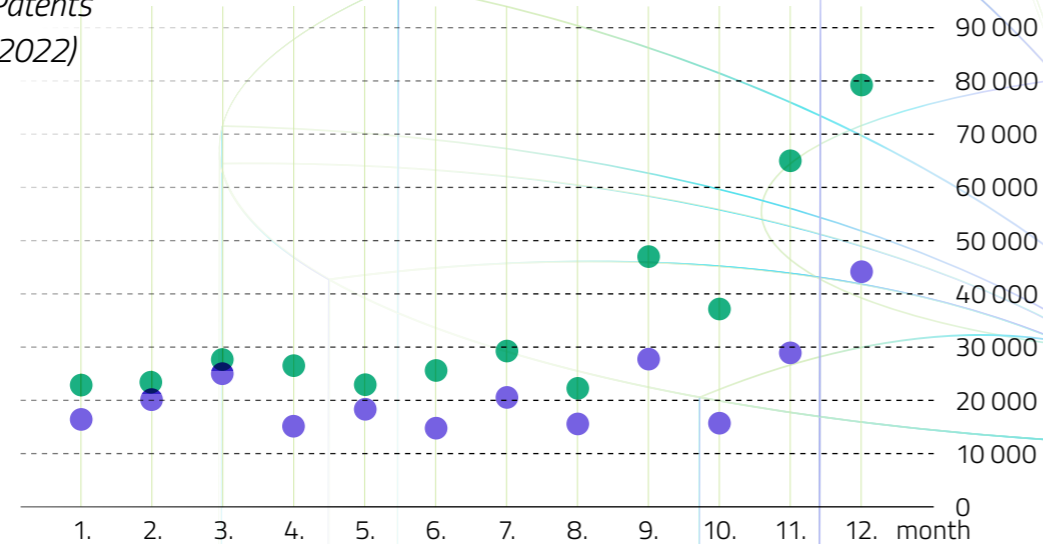


The classic tool of information provision by the industrial property office is the **Gazette of Patents and Trade Marks**,

which is published free of charge on the Office's website in pdf format, in electronic form and authenticated by electronic signature, in accordance with Act CXXX of 2010 on Legislation. The publication is widely read by interested professionals.

Monthly downloads and visits of the Gazette of Patents and Trade Marks (2022)

● pdf downloads  
● html visits



The Industrial Property and Copyright Review, a bimonthly, independent periodical on intellectual property protection, has been published for 17 years and provides high quality professional papers on intellectual property protection. The full text is immediately available and can be downloaded electronically from the Office's website.

The Office's website provides both potential clients less familiar with intellectual property and professional users with easily understandable professional information.

The high interest in the website shows that

**385 000**  
individually identifiable users  
visited the portal

**1,1 million**  
times in 2022.

Users can access useful electronic administration and application services on the website such as e-administration, e-search, e-register and e-inspection of files. It is also possible to file electronically all industrial property applications as well as requests for the validation of European patents, for R&D qualification and for registration in the voluntary register of works. A large number of customers make use of electronic services. They can also use the TM e-Filing system that receives trade mark applications, the TMView system for electronic trade mark searches, the DesignView database containing designs protected in the European Union and the GIVIEW database containing geographical indications.

The Office's external communication aimed at making the activities of the HIPO known as widely as possible, as well as at educating enterprises and researchers that greater economic advantage can be reached by IP protection.

During the year

**11**  
press  
events

**39**  
press  
releases

**20**  
major interviews  
with the President  
and Vice-Presidents

**800+**  
news items

**100+**  
radio and television  
interviews  
and reports

communicated the Office's activities to the public.

In the area of sponsored content, the office has a permanent feature on Radio Jazzy's Milliásreggeli programme. Particular attention was given to the food industry's campaign called **IP Heroes**, launched in spring, and the promotion of the IP Scan service for mapping intellectual property, in which the Office involved the companies interested in protecting intellectual property and using its assets. The HIPO's presence in the social media has been further strengthened

**1 224**



**4 570**



**368**



Thanks to the continuous digitalisation of the unique public collection content of the HIPO's special library, more than

**99 000+**  
patent descriptions,

**500 000+**  
pages

have already become available and searchable for the general public on the *Hungaricana Hungarian Cultural Heritage Portal*.

# 7/4 IP events, prizes

*The HIPO plays a leading role in organising IP-related professional events and in recognising outstanding creators and creative communities.*

As tradition has it, the Jedlik Ányos Prize giving ceremony took place on 17 March 2022.

*The Jedlik Ányos Prize was awarded to:*

*Gyula Dékány*, DSc, chemical engineer, researcher, founder of Glycom and CarboCode companies

*Elemér Fogassy*, full professor, Doctor of Science in Chemistry

*Imre Gonda*, lawyer specialising in industrial property rights, Head of the Industrial Property Department of Richter Gedeon Nyrt.

*Dóra Gyetvainé Virág*, mechanical engineer, Vice-President for Technical Affairs of the HIPO

*Zsóka Racsek*, qualified accountant, secretary and accountant of the Hungarian Industrial Property and Copyright Association

*J. Balázs Rózsa*, DSc, physician, physicist, founder and CEO of Femtonics Kft.



On 26 April 2022, on World IP Day, the Office organised the *Millennium Prize* giving ceremony in the banquet hall of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics. The awardees were the following:

*CSOMIÉP Kft.*, a company active in the fields of water drainage, sewerage, road and railway construction, storage, landfill and special concrete technologies

*Maform Kft.*, a company specialising in product design, digital product design, research and development and corporate identity design

*Hungarian Museum of Trade and Tourism*,

an institution preserving and presenting the cultural assets of the history of domestic commerce, catering and tourism

*Hungarian National Ambulance Service*,

the largest ambulance and medical institution in our country

*Soharóza Public Benefit Association*, experimental vocal ensemble, improvisational Hungarian choir, theatre company

*Solvo Zrt.*, a leading company in the Hungarian innovative biotechnology industry.

On 3 November 2022, on the occasion of the celebration of Hungarian Science, the *Academy Patent Prize* was awarded. In 2022 the Academy Patent Prize was presented to:

*László Poppe*, Doctor of Sciences, for his achievements in the synthesis of biologically active substances, the application of biocatalytic methods in pharmaceutical synthesis, the development of methods for binding and separating various proteins, and the training of young researchers

*Richárd Wohlfart*, engineer at the Department of Mechanical Engineering of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics for decades of unique laboratory work and achievements in combining research with industrial application.



# 8/1

## Efficient management

### Digitalisation, Information Technology

*The work in the field of digitalisation in 2022 was defined in detail and in an itemized way by the systematic implementation of the following tasks:*

- \_1.** The Office implemented a sequence reporting application and the related interface based on the **ST.26 standard**, as required by WIPO.
- \_2.** The document inventory function was implemented in the **Office's document management system** and the Office's archiving plans were uploaded.
- \_3.** The Office, in cooperation with the EPO, launched the **European Federated Patent Register** service, which allows customers to check the validity data of European patents in Hungary via a web service. Regular data accuracy checks carried out within the service did not identify any errors in the accuracy of the data provided in 2022.
- \_4.** The development of the automatic integration into the central **Provision Register Service** was completed.
- \_5.** The **replacement of the border protection system** of the Office has been completed. In the course of this replacement, an external border protection firewall and a Web Application Firewall were implemented to protect our current public services.
- \_6.** The **IT and information security service of the Office** introduced 136 changes to IT tools and services in 2022. This figure represents a slight decrease compared to the 148 changes effected in 2021.

**\_7.** During 2022, the Office carried out a **high-level conceptual design exercise** to gather and summarise the Office's ideas in 5 focus areas along the strategic objectives, so that it can draw on additional resources for digitalisation to finance future developments. The 5 focus areas examined by the Office were:



**500** In the course of the survey, 3 interviews per focus group were carried out and around pages of documents were processed for the feasibility study.  
The project was implemented on schedule.

# 8/2 Financial management

In Act CXCV of 2011 on Public Finances the HIPO is listed in a new chapter, Chapter XX as title 3, under the Ministry of Culture and Innovation, which reflects the government structure change in 2022.

The HIPO uses its own revenue to cover the operation of its management activities, which revenue consists of administrative service, maintenance and renewal fees, international procedural fees and convention-based revenues due to the Office, as well as fees for services rendered and other revenues, set by ministerial decree.

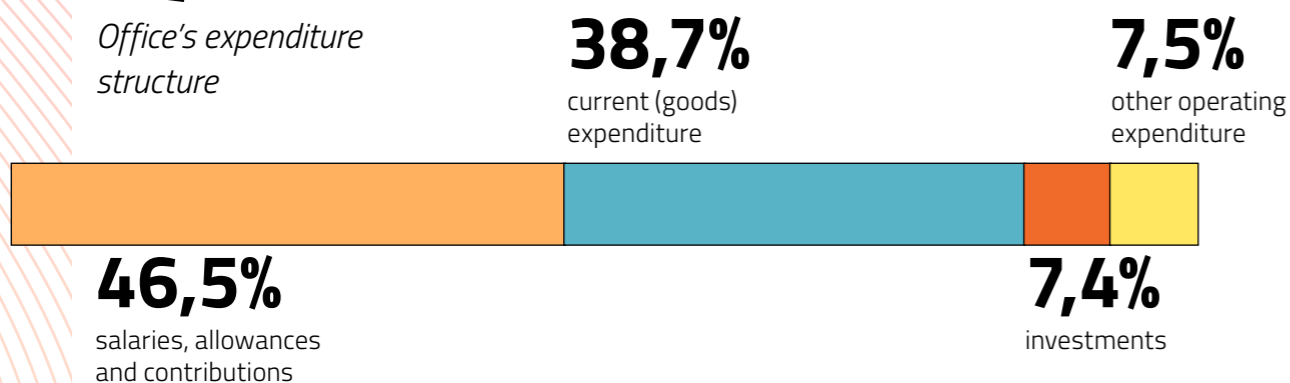
The financial resources to carry out the tasks set out in the work plan were available as a result of prudent management by the Office, despite the budget cuts and rising energy costs and continued liquidity was ensured throughout the year.

**4 257,9 million** *An initial expenditure appropriation of HUF was available for the continued operation*

of the HIPO. The Office's expenditure structure is stable and has not changed for years. 46.5% of the operating expenditure is accounted for by staff salaries, allowances and contributions. Of the remainder, 38.7% is reserved for current (goods) expenditure, 7.5% for other operating expenditure and 7.4% for investments.



Office's expenditure structure



The government imposed an extra payment obligation of HUF 103.2 million on the HIPO. The modified estimate of expenditure at the end of the year amounted to HUF 5 000.3 million, of which 93.5% was used, resulting in actual expenditure of HUF 4 676.4 million.

The Office's grand total of revenues in 2022 was initially set at HUF 4 257.9 million. After the inclusion of the surplus from the previous year and the surplus of revenue generated during the year, the modified appropriations amounted to HUF 5 000.3 million.

The new archives of the HIPO were officially inaugurated on 11 April 2022. The new storage facility established in 2021 under 158 Soroksári út, IX district of Budapest provides modern conditions for preserving the Office's documents related to the various titles of protection, which the National Archives of Hungary also found appropriate for the purposes of archives.

# 9 Bodies

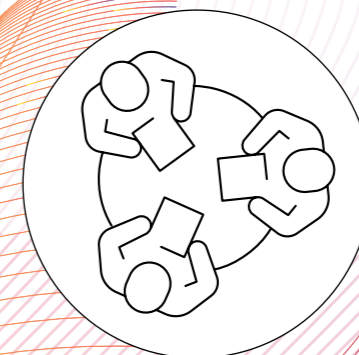
The HIPO plays a role in the work of the **Body of Experts on Industrial Property**, the **Council of Copyright Experts**, the **Examination Board of Patent Attorneys** and the **Hungarian Design Council**.

The **Body of Experts on Industrial Property** acts on the basis of requests from the courts and other authorities, as well as on behalf of customers, in specialised matters of industrial property litigation. The Body received 10 new requests and assignments in 2022. On 1 December 2022, the National Assembly adopted the amendment to the provisions of the Patent Act (Act XXXIII of 1995 on the Patent Protection of Inventions) concerning the Body of Experts on Industrial Property, and later the amendment of the government decree regulating the operation of the Body. The amendments entered into force on 1 January 2023.

The **Council of Copyright Experts** gives expert opinion to the courts and other authorities on issues arising in copyright legal disputes, and expert opinion may also be requested from the Body before the starting of legal proceedings or for out of court purposes. In 2022 the Body received 38 invitations or appointments for giving expert opinion and 2 requests for supplementary expert opinion. The expert opinions concerned 12 types of work. During the year 29 expert opinions were completed.

The patent attorney candidates, after the successful completion of the advanced level industrial property course and the completion of the necessary internship period, have to pass a patent attorney exam before the **Examination Board of Patent Attorneys** operating besides the HIPO, in order to start their operation as patent attorneys. On 22 November 2022 and on 1 December two exams were organised with the participation of two patent attorney candidates, who successfully passed the patent attorney exam.

The **Hungarian Design Council** (HDC or Council) as a consultative body plays a role in the implementation of the Government's design strategy, draws attention to the value creation capability of the design approach. The presidential tasks of the Council are performed by the President of the HIPO, Gyula Pomázi.



### *HDC is the managing agent of three recognised design competitions*

In the 43rd edition of the **Hungarian Design Award** competition, the jury awarded 6 prizes and 5 special prizes to entries submitted in four categories – product, visual communication, design, and student work.

The **Design Management Awards**, established by the Council, reward organisations that use design management tools. The award was presented to **Panyolium, Kultikum Rendezőház** and **Vates**, while a special prize was awarded to **Co & Co Designcommunication Kft.**

In 2022, the **László Moholy-Nagy Design Scholarship Programme**, which supports the professional development of young designers, offered 8 scholarships to 8 young designers. The Council produced an updated and extended „Start-up Guide”, providing business advice for micro and small entrepreneurs starting up in the creative industries – entitled, *Business advice for start-up enterprises in the creative industry.*

The 19th *Budapest Design Week (BDW)*, the internationally recognised showcase of the design profession, was organised by the HIPO and HDC between 7 and 16 October 2022 focusing on “Spaces of Encounters – architecture and design”. The 10 days of the festival offered a rich programme: exhibitions, conferences, award ceremonies, open studios, unique building tours, guided tours, architectural walks, family day, children’s workshops, business development programmes guided visitors through the exciting and diverse world of design.

*The HDC also participated in the work of international organisations* in 2022. It was represented at the BEDA (Bureau of European Design Associations) Board and Members’ Meeting in Saint-Étienne, where the staff member from the HDC Office was confirmed for another two-year term as a member of the Board.



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