

COVID 19 | Intellectual Property

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A. EUROPEAN UNION

The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) decided to suspend all terms for the practice of procedural acts to be carried out before the Office that expire between March 9 and April 30, 2020, automatically starting to expire on May 18.

The EUIPO will continue to receive, examine and publish trademark and design applications and will continue to send communications and set terms. Bulletins will continue to be published as usual.

B. PORTUGAL

. Industrial Property Office - IPO

Following the publication of Law 1-A/2020, of 19 March, the terms and procedures regarding the practice of acts provided for in the Industrial Property Code (hereinafter "IPC") were suspended since 12 March 2020. Notwithstanding the aforementioned suspension of the terms, interested parties who so wished, could continue to practice the acts through IPO's online services as well as by postal mail.

In view of the measures approved by Law 4-A/2020, of 6 April and Decree-Law 16/2020, of 15 April, the aforementioned suspension is no longer applicable to the terms provided for in the IPC. Thus, as of April 16, 2020, the counting of previously suspended terms is resumed.

It follows from the measures now approved that, all acts provided for in the IPC, are now practiced exclusively through the online services available on the PTO's website, and the practice of acts in paper form is no longer permitted.

. Intellectual Property Court - IPC

All terms and diligences to be practiced with the IPC in pending cases have been suspended since March 13, 2020, except for urgent cases and provided that it is



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technically feasible to carry out any procedural acts through means of distance communication considered appropriate, in particular, teleconference or video call.

The terms for filing judicial appeals against IPO's acts that grant, modify or extinguish rights have also been suspended since March 13, 2020, with this suspension being maintained until the end of the exceptional situation that the country is going through is declared.

For more information, please visit our website at www.ga-p.com or send an e-mail to: info@ga-p.com