

What future for the
EUROPEAN
patent system
EUPACO: Brussels
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Some facts

- Population
 - Japan – 127m
 - USA – 295m
 - EU - 459m
- GDP
 - Japan – €3.7b
 - USA - €10.1b
 - EU - €41b
- Languages
 - Japan – 1
 - USA – 1 (maybe 2)
 - EU - 23
- Patent Costs
 - For 13 out of 27 member states European cost is 11 times more than US patent and 13 times more than Japanese patent
 - Litigation
 - 90% in FR, DE, NL, FR
 - First instance costs
 - FR €50k- €200k
 - DE €50k
 - NL €60k- €200k
 - UK €150k - €1500k
 - Second Instance
 - Range €40k- €1000k

Some quotes

- Angela Merkel
 - “the European patent system must be improvedwe are so proud of our diversity but the Community patent is one point where diversity could be reduced a little to be more standardised, affordable and legally secure”
 - Günter Verhaugen
 - “must learn from mistakes made as result of short sightedness .. Need London Agreement, European patent judiciary, and Community patent”
 - Tony Blair
 - “It is ridiculous we don’t have a single European patent”



Challenges

- Political tensions
- Language
- Litigation
- Delivery
- Institutions and Policy Making



Which Europe?
Whose Europe?

SURELY WE CAN DO BETTER

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WE HAVE TO

