
[European Patent Office Annual Review](#)

The number of new patent applications reached an all-time high in 2019, according to the European Patent Office (EPO). 181,406 applications were registered in 2019, which is an increase of 4.0% over the previous year.

In addition, 421,250 search, examination and opposition products were performed by patent examiners and 137,787 European patents were published (+8% increase to 2018).

"All of the achievements of 2019 have helped to make sure the European patent system serves European innovators and society, and is attractive also to other regions. And, importantly, these changes set us up to face the challenges of 2020 - and to face them successfully, with quicker decision making, more agile and collaborative structures, and digital preparations that have enabled our staff to work from home" said EPO President António Campinos.

This is the first review that was influenced by the new Strategic Plan (SP2023) launched in June 2019. Major progress has been made for all 5 goals of the SP2023 in 2019, according to António Campinos: "This Annual Review reports on those initial achievements, driven by the surge of energy, creativity and engagement nurtured by SP2023. The report forms an essential pillar of our transparency and openness as we progress towards achieving our goals."

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