

ROMANIA



STATE OFFICE
FOR INVENTIONS
AND TRADEMARKS

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



STATE OFFICE
FOR INVENTIONS
AND TRADEMARKS

ANNUAL
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FOREWORD

Dear Readers,

In such a tumultuous time, when the rhythm of the transformations occurring globally is more and more alert, the protection of industrial property rights gets vitally important for all sectors of activity.

That is why OSIM, as unique authority on the Romanian territory in the field of ensuring the industrial property protection, year after year, focuses its activities and actions on supporting a competitive and innovative environment.

In 2022, through all the actions taken, OSIM aimed at respecting, accomplishing and maintaining the integrated management system at the highest level, in order to meet the requirements of the Order of the Government General Secretariat No. 600/2018, and of ISO 9001:2015 and ISO/IEC 27001:2018 standards.

Last year, the activities in the field of digitization of services continued, so that the module dedicated to the processing of trademarks and designs case files pending before the courts, in which OSIM was summoned as a party, was completed.

At the same time, in 2022, OSIM started to implement a new complex integrated module for processing the internationally filed trademark applications for registration and the internationally registered trademarks in which Romania is a designated state.

Although started still under the COVID-19 restrictions, 2022 was a year in which OSIM specialists were involved in 34 actions of industrial property protection promotion and valorization by means of seminars, conferences, round tables, courses, tutorials, fairs and exhibitions.

In 2022, OSIM continued the activities of cooperation with international and European intellectual property organizations, such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the European Patent Office (EPO), the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). On October 27, 2022, a bilateral meeting between the representatives of the EUIPO Chambers of Appeal and the representatives of OSIM took place in Bucharest, followed by a session dedicated to the specialists in the industrial property field.

Finally, I invite you to run through the pages of this Annual Report that thoroughly presents the results and achievements of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks in 2022.

*Marian-Octavian ȘERBĂNESCU,
Director General*

INTRODUCTION



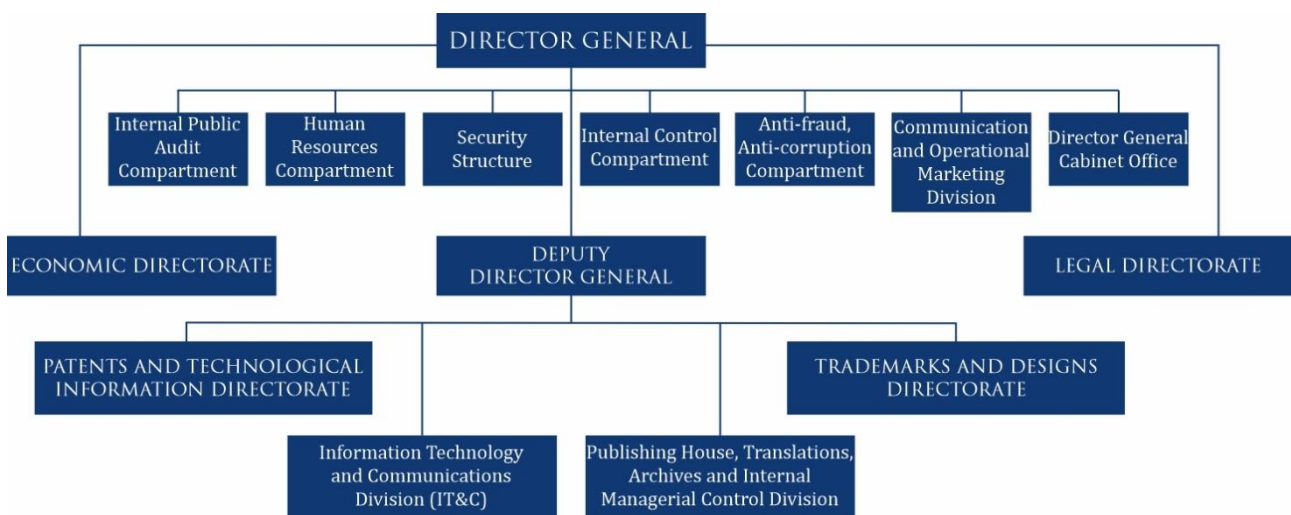
OSIM MISSION

The mission of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM), as unique authority on the Romanian territory in the field of ensuring the industrial property protection, is to support innovation, competitiveness and profitability as economic growth factors.

OSIM provides high quality specialized services while granting industrial property titles, promoting industrial property by all available means and ensures Romania's international cooperation in accordance with the treaties, conventions and agreements in its field of activity to which Romania is a party.

ORGANIZATION OF OSIM

In compliance with the Government Decision no. 573/1998, as amended by the Government Decision no. 272/2020 and the Order of Minister of Economy no. 2738/2020, the organizational structure of OSIM in 2022 has been the following:

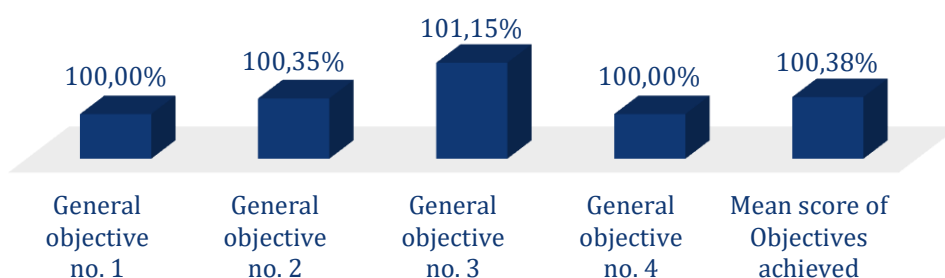


The general objectives that our organization had in view are the following:



1. **To observe, perform and maintain at the highest level the integrated management system** in accordance with the requirements of the Order of the Government General Secretariat No 600/2018 and of ISO 9001:2015 and ISO/IEC 27001:2018.
2. **To improve the quality of the organization activities** by commitment of its entire staff, its main goals being to ensure uniform protection of industrial property rights (IPR), to harmonise certain aspects specific to IPR by creating a unique system of granting of the protection titles; to provide qualified human resources and suitable technical means to meet the actual demands in the field.
3. **To support innovation, competitiveness and profitability as economic growth factor**, in the compliance with the legal regulations in the industrial property field, so as OSIM as organization to be able to be considered an assembly of processes oriented to its applicants and other industrial property (IP) stakeholders.
4. **To further improve Romania's representation** at European and international level, by involvement of OSIM in decision-making processes concerning collaboration, observance and fulfillment of IP programmes together with the national and international bodies in the industrial property field.

General objectives achievement degree for the reporting period



Said objectives which are in direct connection with OSIM duties are completed with specific objectives which necessarily arise from horizontal cooperation with international and European bodies in this field of activity, as well as from OSIM involvement in supporting innovation and competitiveness of Romanian industry and economy through the specific industrial property rights-related aspects.

ACTIVITY OF MONITORING COMMISSION

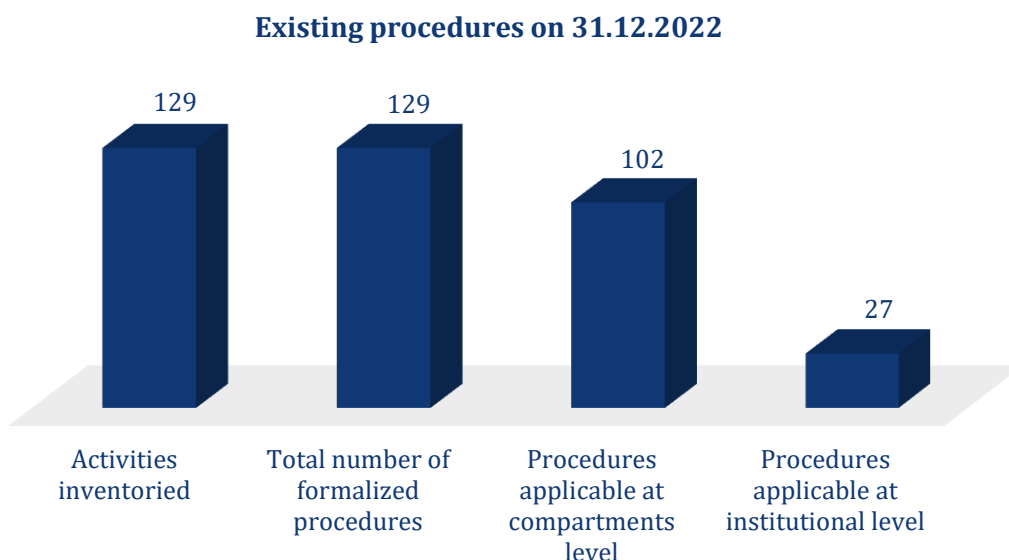
OSIM Commission for monitoring the internal managerial control system, hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”, continued its activity.

As strategic decision, beside the integrated management system already existing in OSIM (under provisions of Order of GGS No 600/2018 as corroborated with the requirements of ISO 9001:2015), the management has decided the implementation of the Information security management system (SR EN ISO/IEC 27001/2018), the requirements of which are to maintain the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information by applying a process of risk management which gives the interested parties the confidence that the risks are appropriately managed. As a consequence of the assumed objective of developing the integrated management system, a series of measures and activities were needed for the achievement thereof.

The result of this decision was that, on 20.01.2022, OSIM was granted ISO/IEC 27001/2018 certification regarding the information security management system and while closely pursuing its integration with the management system already implemented within OSIM.

The revision and/or elaboration of 9 operational procedures continued during the year 2022 in order to align them with the requirements of ISO/IEC 27001:2018 and, during that same period, the Internal Regulations of the organization were revised, so as to meet the requirements of the newly implemented standard.

At the end of 2022, the situation of the procedures existing in OSIM is as follows:



Also, in accordance with the requirements of ISO 27001:2018 the Policy Statement of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks in the field of the Integrated Management System and the Policy Statement of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks in the field of the

Information Security Management System were elaborated and approved. In support of the Policy Statement in the field of the Integrated Management System, the Quality Policy Statement of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks was revised.

Moreover, the Monitoring Commission:

- drafted, monitored and analyzed the Action Plan for achieving the general objectives of the organization;
- set performance or result indicators associated to specific objectives;
- elaborated the Program for developing the internal managerial control system and ensured its monitoring and accomplishment;
- updated, in collaboration with the Risk Management Team, the risk registers and the plans for reducing risk effects;
- analyzed the elaboration of internal managerial control system development stages while ensuring updating thereof;
- analyzed the data resulting from processes and took the necessary steps for the general objectives to be accomplished;
- drafted and presented reports on the internal managerial control system to higher bodies and other interested partners;
- ensured the inventory of procedural activities;
- ensured updating of formalized procedures in accordance with the legal provisions in the field (Order of GGS No 600/2018), as corroborated with the requirements of ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 27001:2018.

In December, the OSIM management system was subjected to an external audit by the Management System Certification Body QSCert.

The surveillance external audit did not find any nonconformity and the certification body confirmed that the integrated management system of OSIM is effective and meets the audit criteria and recommended to maintain the Information Quality and Security Management System in compliance with the requirements of ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 27001:2018 in the field: Services of general public administration.

Considering all the above, we may state that, at the end of 2022, OSIM has an integrated management system complying with the reference standards: SR EN ISO/IEC 27001/2018 – Information Technology. Security Techniques. Information security management systems. Requirements integrated with ISO 9001:2015 – Quality management system. Requirements and Order of GGS No 600/2018 for the approval of the Code of internal managerial control of public entities.





PROTECTION TITLES



PATENTS

Within our knowledge-based society, intangible assets, in particular, the patents, have an increasingly important role from the economical point of view. In its triple quality of legal, technical and economical instrument, the patent mirrors the society innovative capacities and dynamism.

Innovation support materialized in research and development projects shall certainly involve protection of innovation results by filing patent applications based on which, following examination, patents are granted, as industrial property titles which, on the one hand, confer on their owners the exclusive right of exploitation of their inventions and, on the other hand, essentially contribute to the innovative profile of the entity that owns them, while being a worldwide information dissemination way, due to their publication in patent databases.

It is worth mentioning that patenting is currently becoming increasingly important for small and medium-sized enterprises, which can be seen in the high number of European projects aiming at supporting innovative enterprises.

In Romania, the patent granting procedure is carried out in accordance with the Patent Law 64/1991, as republished on 19 August 2014.

According to the law, a patent is an industrial property right that confers on its owner an

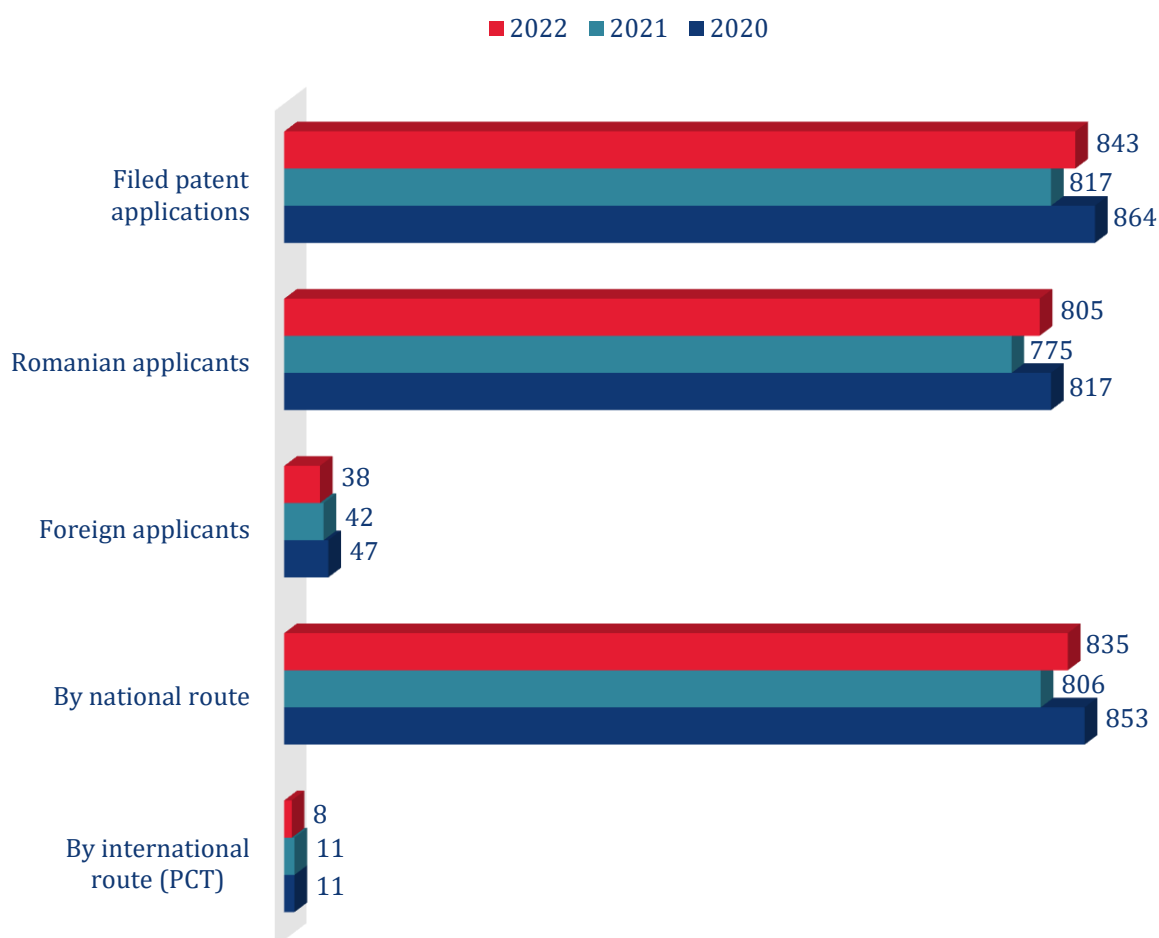
exclusive right to exploit the invention for a duration of 20 years, at the most. A patent can be granted for any invention having as a subject-matter a product or a process, in all technological fields, agriculture included. The technical solutions that are new, involve an inventive step and are susceptible of industrial application can be protected by a patent, the compliance with legal patentability conditions being assessed in the substantive examination procedure.

The assessment of the compliance with the above-mentioned patentability conditions in the substantive examination procedure is conducted by taking as a reference point the state of the art at the international level on the filing date or the priority date of the patent application, as the case may be, comprising technical knowledge accessible to the public worldwide.

If the invention cannot be retrieved in the state of the art and if it is not obvious for a person skilled in the art, it is deemed to be new and inventive. The patent granted by OSIM allows its owner to enjoy protection of the invention on the territory of Romania.

In 2022, 843 patent applications were filed with OSIM, of which 805 were filed by Romanian applicants and 38 by foreign applicants.

All the patent applications were entered in the National Register of Filed Patent Applications and the bibliographical data thereof were introduced into the OSIM database.



18 months after the date of filing the application, the invention is published by OSIM which makes the description, claims and drawings available to the public and publishes the abstract and the bibliographic data in the Official Industrial Property Bulletin, Inventions Section, issued monthly.

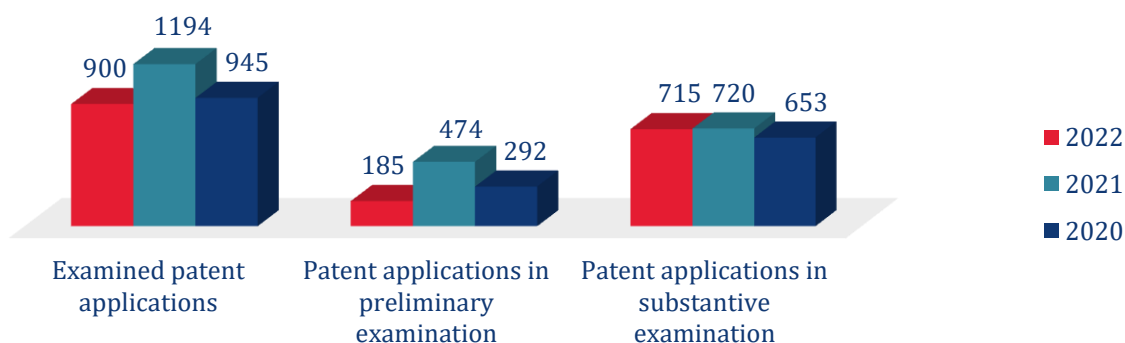
The patent applications, as filed, were analyzed in respect of the fulfillment of the legal conditions for according the filing date and constituting the regular national filing.

All patent applications filed in 2022 were classified according to the International Patent Classification (IPC).

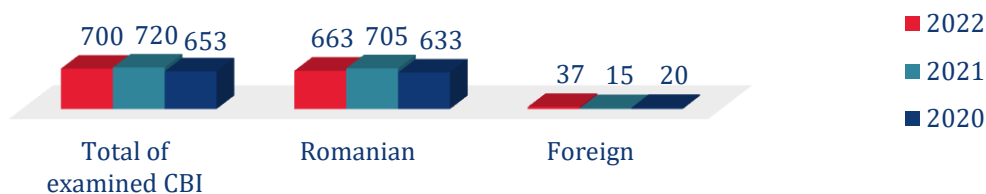
The substantive examination procedure involves a series of activities, such as:

- searching the prior art in the relevant field, by using the EPOQUE application of the EPO and the RO-Patent Search database;
- drawing up search reports for each patent application;
- examining the patentability conditions: novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability, and sending the results of the analysis to the applicant;
- elaborating the technical examination report and upholding the same before the Examination Board with a view to making a decision in respect of the application concerned.

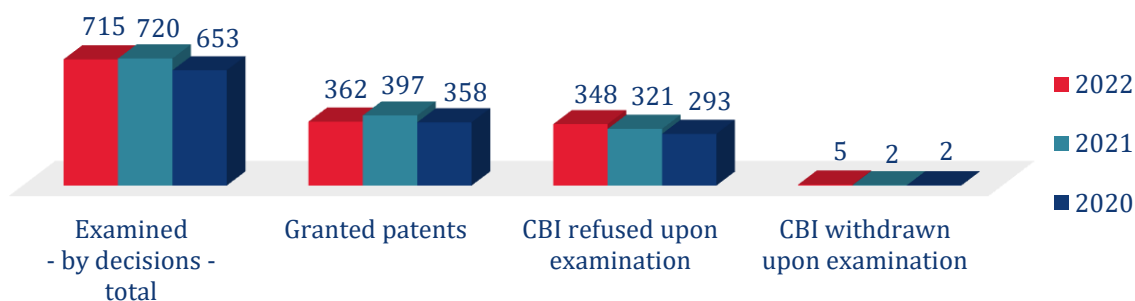
715 patent applications filed by both Romanian and foreign applicants underwent substantive examination, of which 362 ended by decisions to grant the patent, 348 were refused and 5 were withdrawn.



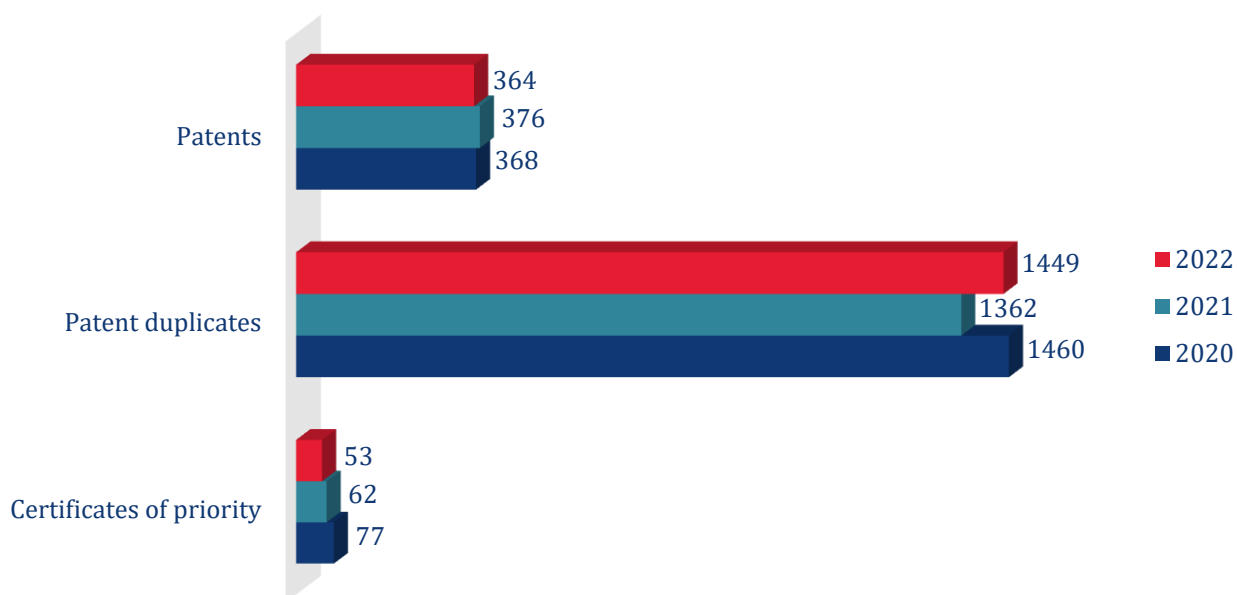
CBI substantive examination



Examined - by decisions

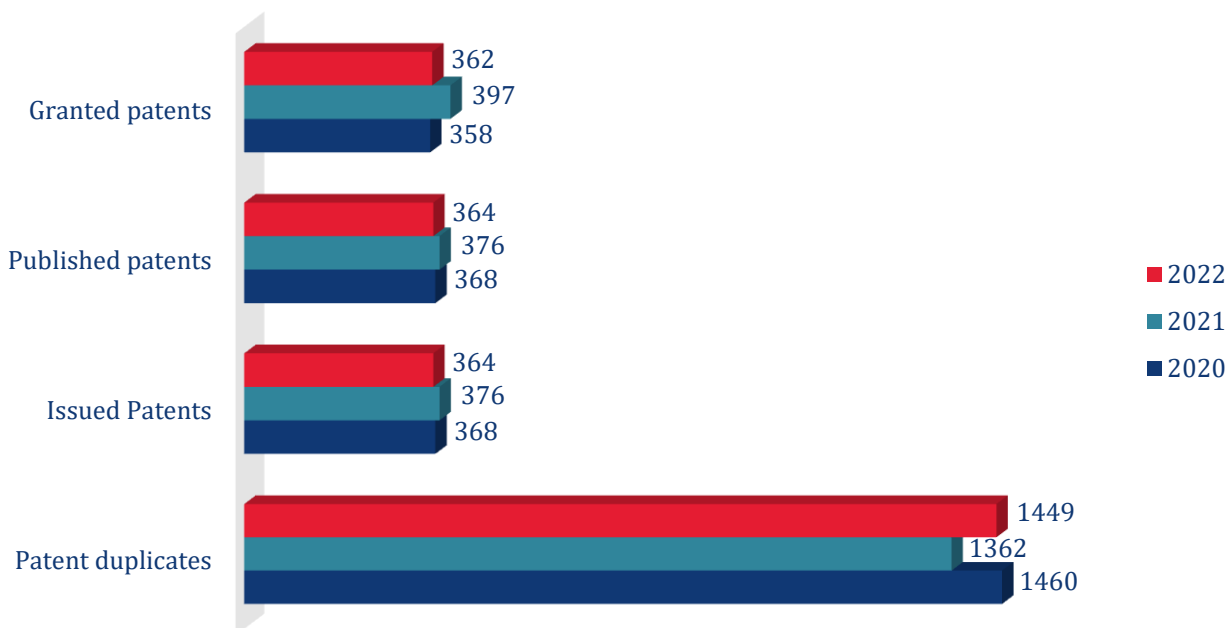


Issuance of protection documents



A number of 364 patents were issued in 2022, of which 356 to Romanian owners and 8 to foreign owners.

Patents - granted, published, issued and duplicates



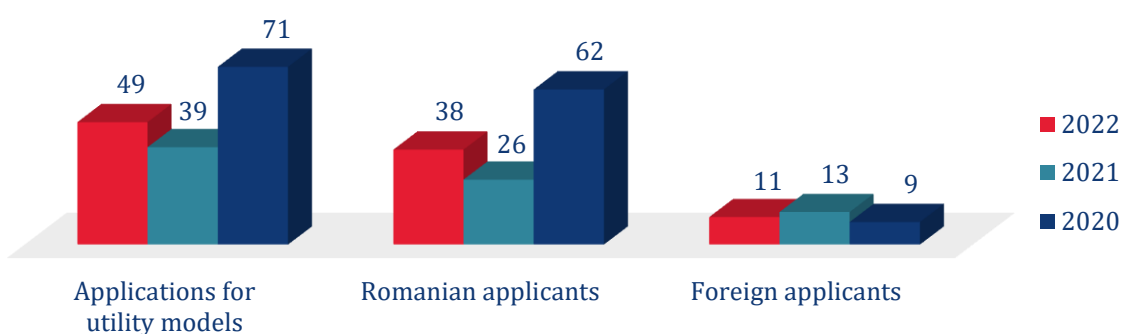


UTILITY MODELS

Beside the patent, the utility model represents a faster way of protecting the inventions, the registration procedure of which is established by the Law 350/2007 on utility models. This is why the utility model may be a strategic means for start-up SMEs.

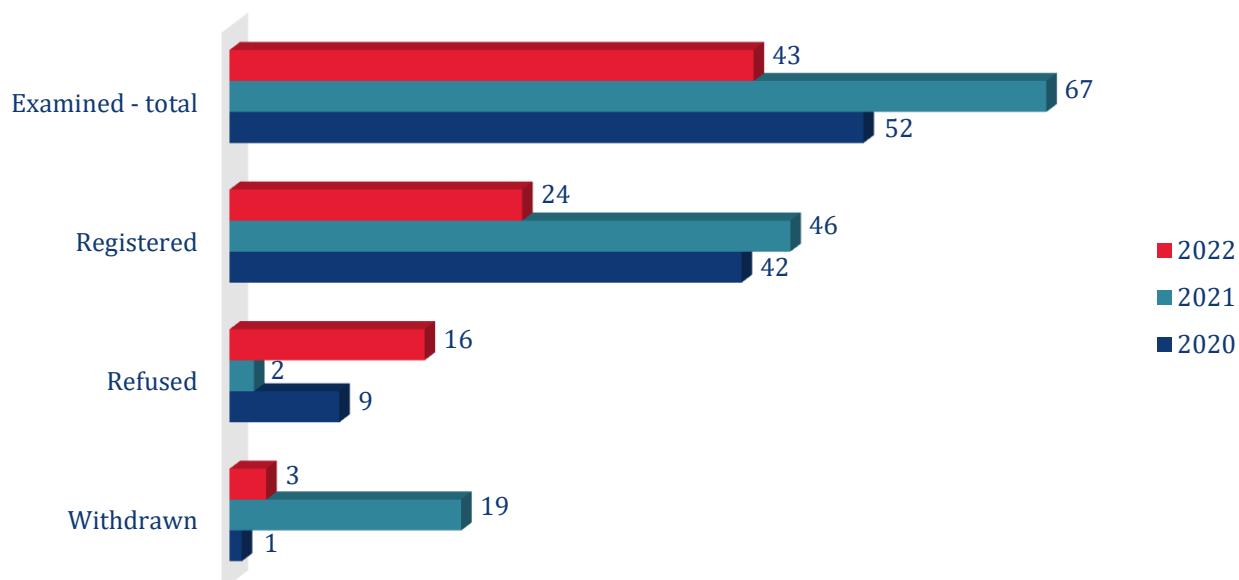
In 2022, 49 applications for utility models were filed, 38 of which belong to Romanian applicants and 11 to foreign applicants.

Applications for utility models

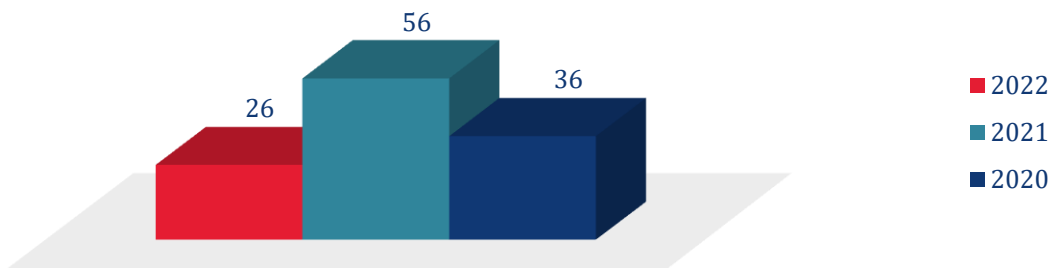


Following the examination of the fulfillment of the legal requirements, the Examination Board made 24 decisions to register the utility model, 16 refusal decisions and 3 withdrawal decisions.

Examination of utility model applications



Issuance of utility model certificates

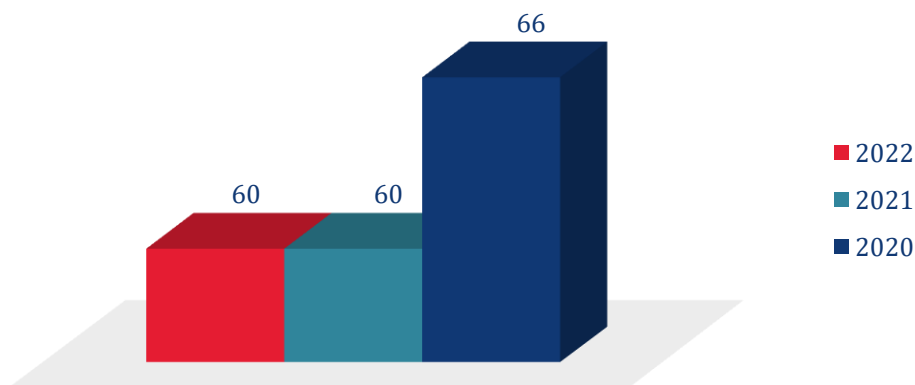


SUPPLEMENTARY PROTECTION CERTIFICATES (SPC)

As a consequence of Romania's accession to the European Union (EU), three Community Regulations entered into force, namely regulations concerning the protection of medicaments, of paediatric products and of plant protection products, based on which SPCs are granted following an examination procedure.

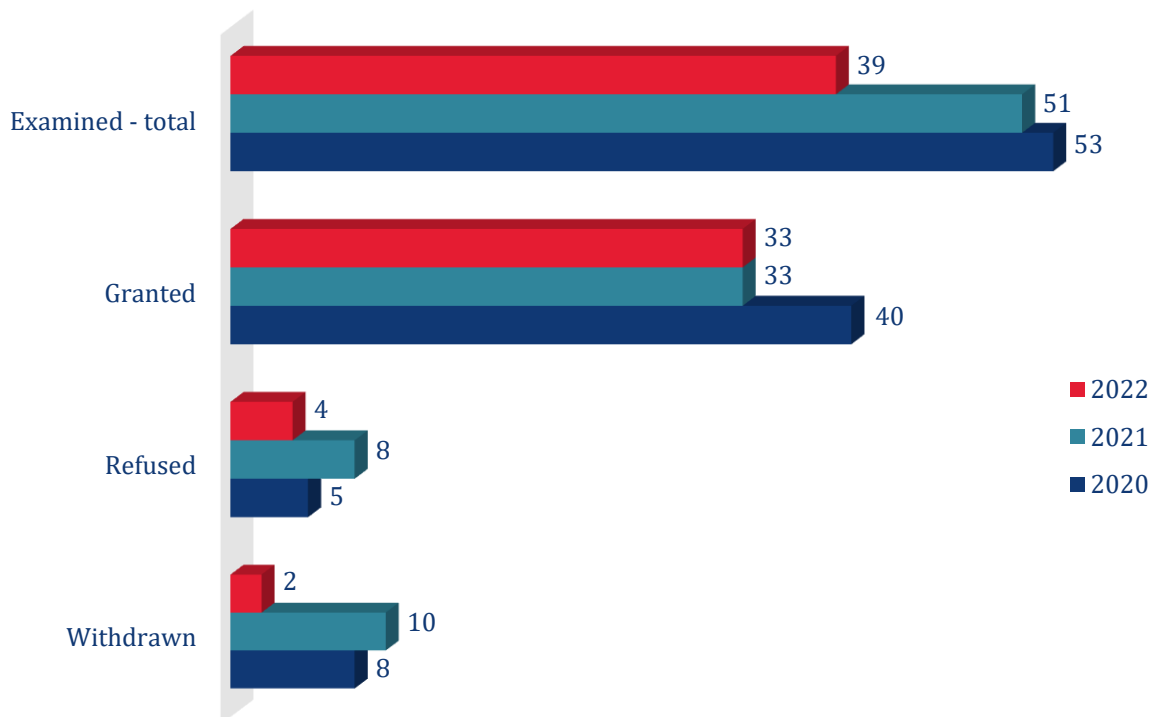
In 2022, 60 SPC applications were filed with OSIM.

Supplementary Protection Certificates

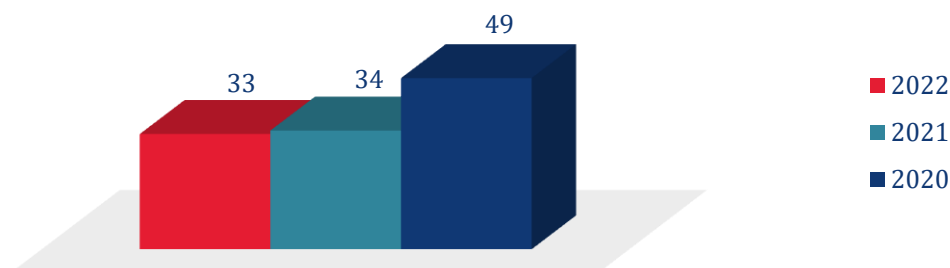


After the Board examined the fulfilment of conditions for granting the certificate, in accordance with the European Regulations, there resulted 33 granting decisions, 4 refusals and 2 withdrawals.

Examination of Supplementary Protection Certificates



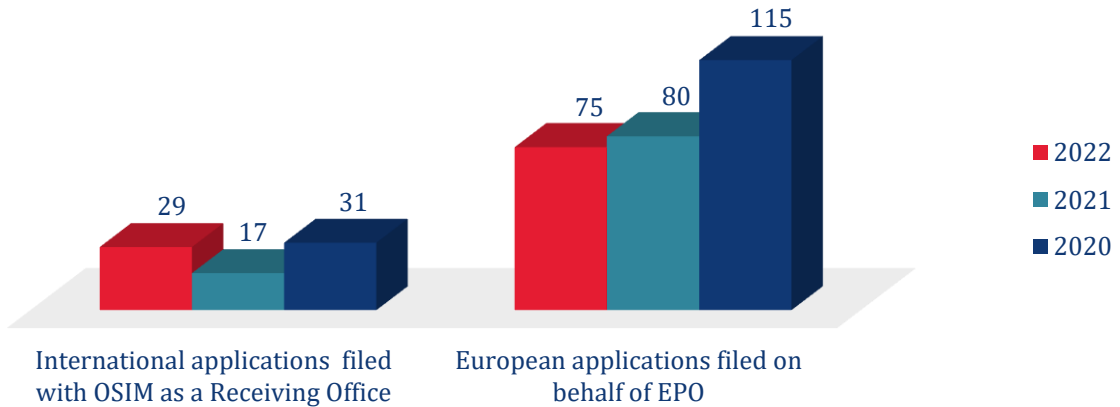
Issuance of Supplementary Protection Certificates



FILING APPLICATIONS FOR PROTECTION ABROAD

Patent applications may be filed abroad, in one or several States, either by national route (directly to the patent offices of the State on the territory of which protection is sought), or by regional or international route, under the provisions of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. In the last two cases, the application may be filed with OSIM.

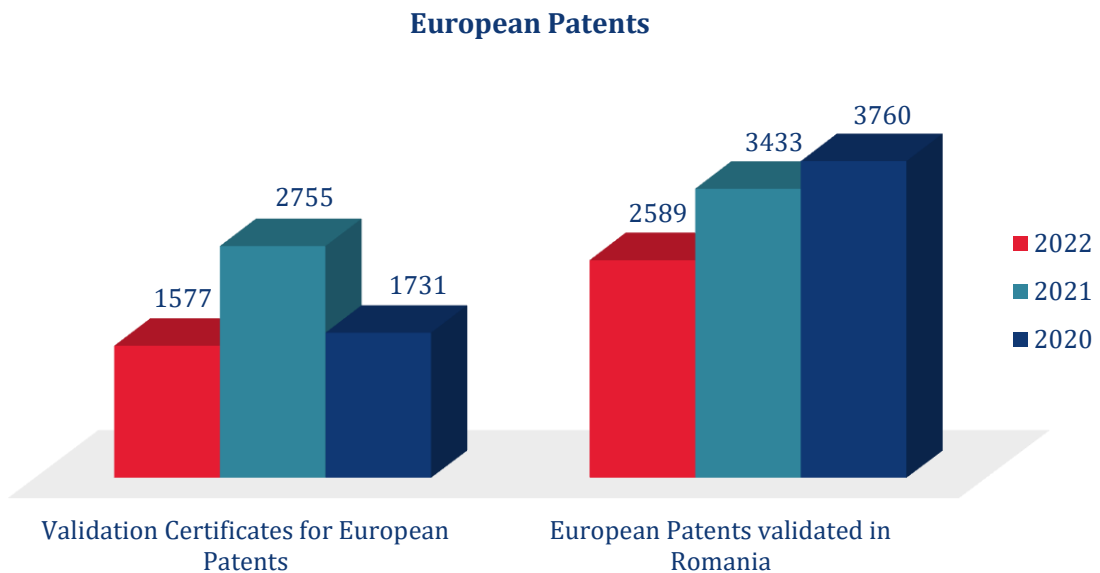
In this context, 29 international applications were filed, by Romanian applicants, with OSIM as a Receiving Office under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and 75 European patent applications were filed with OSIM acting on behalf of the European Patent Office (EPO).



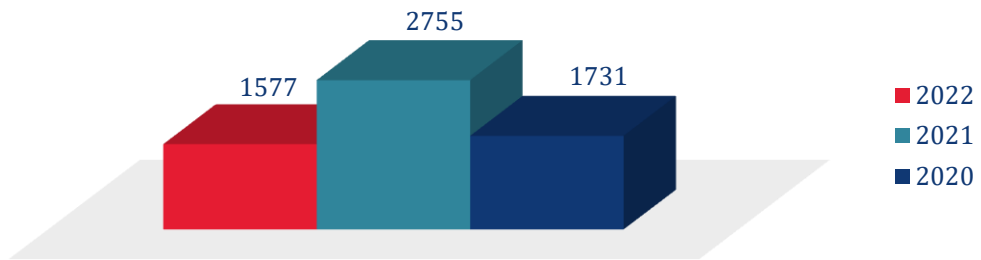
EUROPEAN PATENTS RECOGNITION IN ROMANIA (VALIDATION)

European patents granted by the European Patent Office (EPO) under the European Patent Convention (EPC) may be recognized on the territory of Romania, subject to compliance with the provisions of the Law 611/2002 on Romania’s accession to the European Patent Convention. For a European patent recognition (validation) in Romania, its owner is supposed to file with OSIM the Romanian translation of the European patent accompanied, among others, by a request for its publication, and to pay the translation publication fee and the patent maintenance fees.

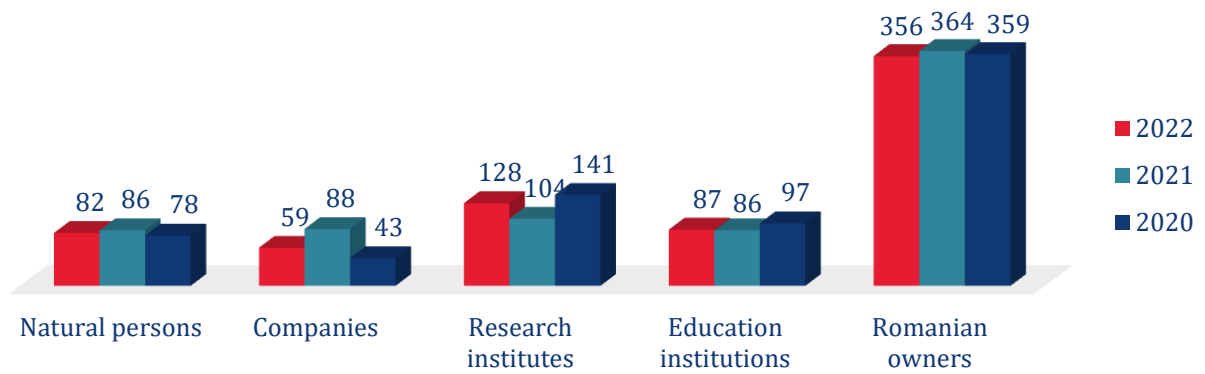
In 2022, 2589 requests for publication of European patent translation were filed with OSIM. A number of 1577 certificates for recognition of European patents effects in Romania were issued.



Issuance of Certificates for extension/recognition of European Patent effects

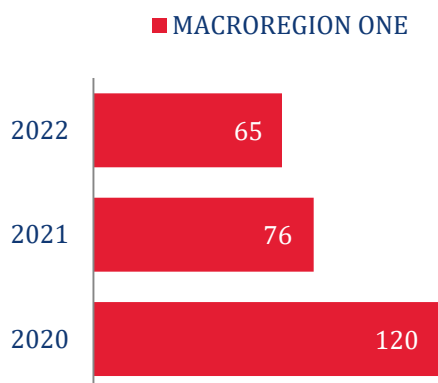


Issued patents, by categories of Romanian owners

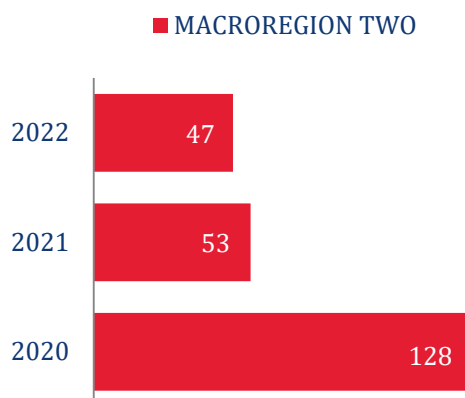


Issued patents, by administrative units

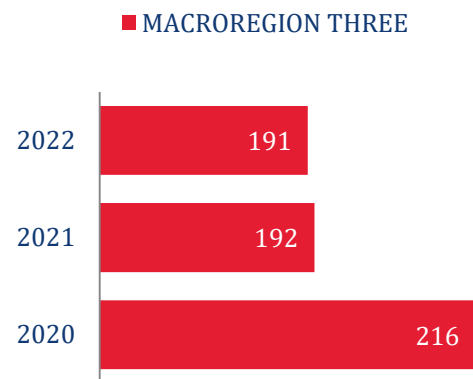
Macroregion/Development region/County	2020	2021	2022
MACROREGION ONE	120	76	65
North-West	60	49	41
Bihor	6	6	2
Bistrița-Năsăud	7	2	1
Cluj	28	32	29
Maramureș	8	8	8
Satu Mare	5	1	1
Sălaj	6	0	0
Centre	60	27	24
Alba	5	0	1
Brașov	22	15	13
Covasna	5	0	2
Harghita	9	2	1
Mureș	10	5	2
Sibiu	9	5	5



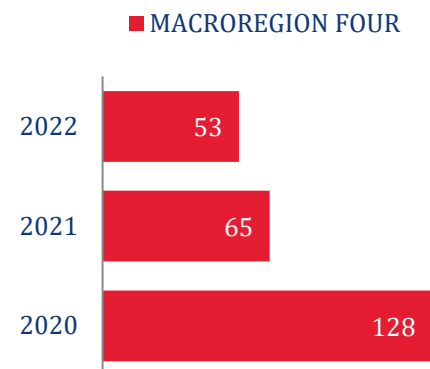
Macroregion/Development region/County	2020	2021	2022
MACROREGION TWO	128	53	47
North-East	88	44	40
Bacău	13	0	1
Botoșani	5	0	0
Iași	37	34	22
Neamț	7	1	1
Suceava	21	9	15
Vaslui	5	0	1
South-East	40	9	7
Brăila	5	0	0
Buzău	6	2	0
Constanța	9	3	2
Galați	9	4	4
Tulcea	6	0	0
Vrancea	5	0	1



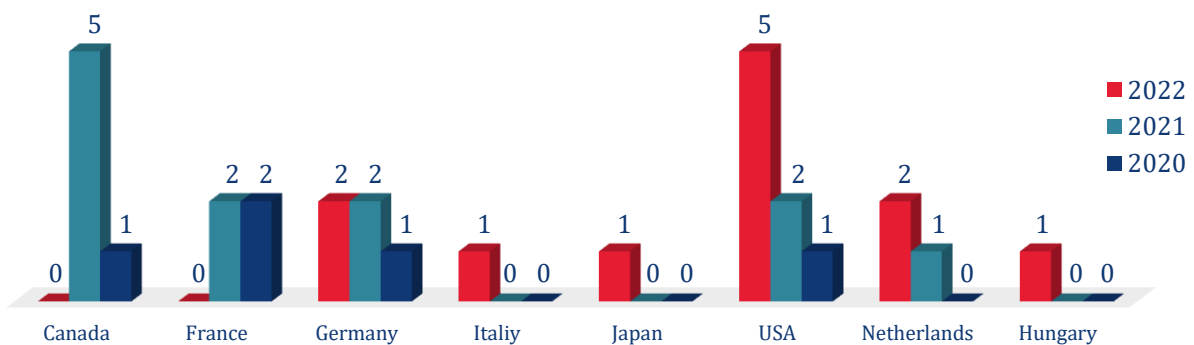
Macroregion/Development region/County	2020	2021	2022
MACROREGION THREE	216	192	191
South - Muntenia	46	17	12
Argeş	7	1	5
Călăraşi	5	2	0
Dâmboviţa	10	5	3
Giurgiu	5	0	0
Ialomiţa	5	1	0
Prahova	14	8	4
Teleorman	6	1	0
Bucharest - Ilfov	170	175	179
Ilfov	29	44	35
Bucharest Municipality	141	131	144



Macroregion/Development region/County	2020	2021	2022
MACROREGION FOUR	128	65	53
South-West Oltenia	83	42	30
Dolj	11	5	1
Gorj	5	1	0
Mehedinţi	5	1	0
Olt	7	2	0
Vâlcea	10	10	6
West	45	23	23
Arad	5	0	1
Caraş-Severin	6	2	1
Hunedoara	8	3	4
Timiş	26	18	17



Issued patents, by owner's country of residence





TRADEMARKS AND DESIGNS

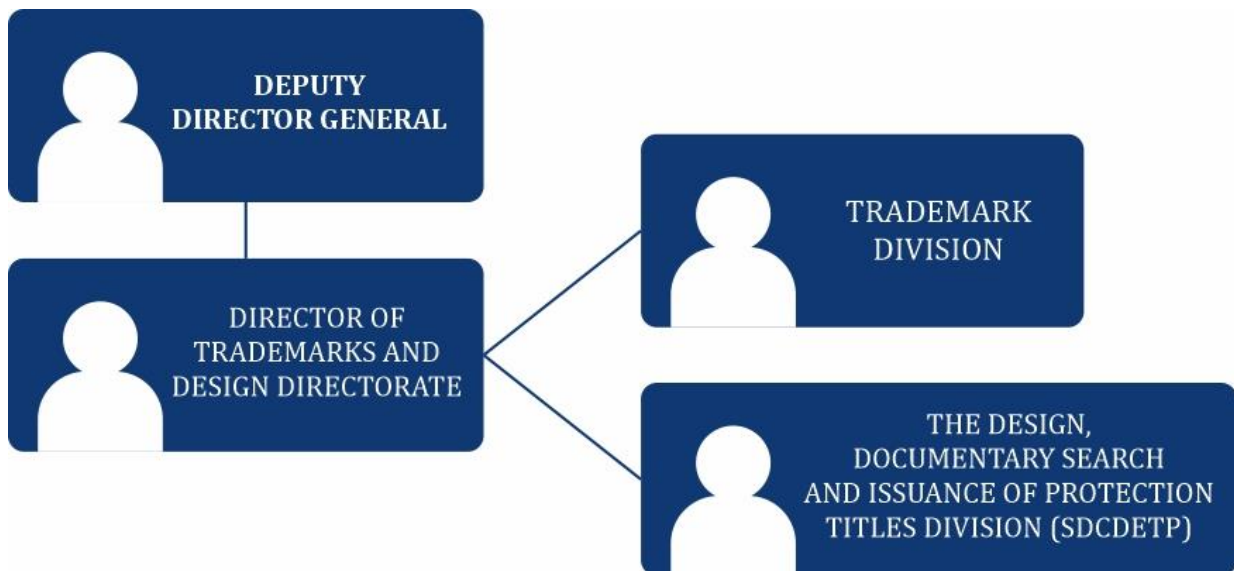
The protection of the industrial property rights relating to trademarks and designs has a high importance, its goal and finality being to protect the human intelligence product and, at the same time, to ensure the benefit reflected upon the consumers by using said product.

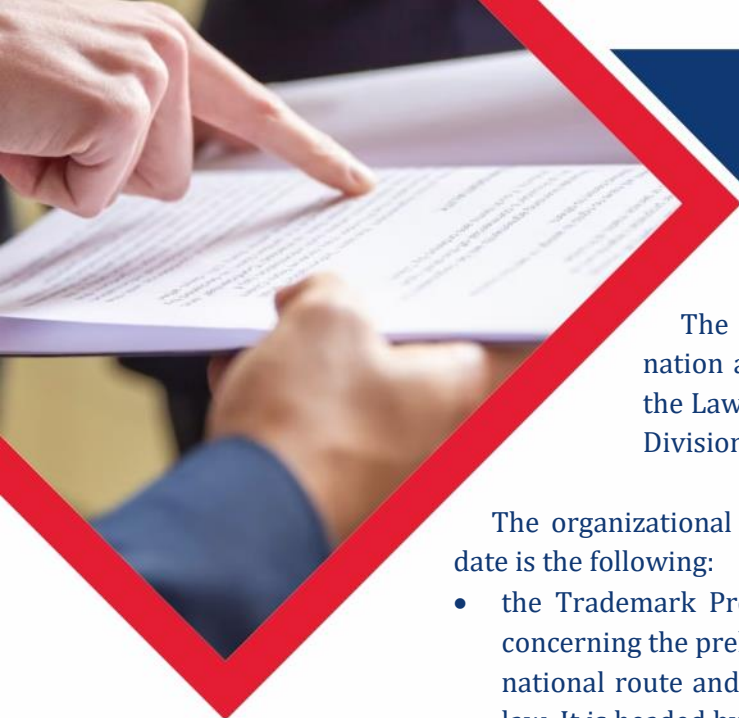
The rights conferred by the protection of trademarks and designs is one of the basic leverage of the economic, social and cultural development of a nation.

The trademarks and the industrial designs are intangible assets which contribute to the increase of a business value, making it better known and contributing also to its value increase on the market.

The Trademark and Design Directorate is one of the specialized directorates of OSIM that deals with the examination of trademarks, geographical indications and designs applications.

The organizational structure of said Directorate is the following:





TRADEMARK DIVISION

The Trademark Division carries out the activity of examination and registration of trademark applications by virtue of the Law 84/1998, as republished, and it is headed by a Head of Division, subordinated to the Director of the Directorate.

The organizational structure of the Trademark Division at the reporting date is the following:

- the Trademark Preliminary Examination Bureau - carries out activities concerning the preliminary examination of trademark applications filed by national route and the constitution of the regular filing, according to the law. It is headed by a Head of Bureau subordinated to the Head of Division and comprises two compartments, namely:
 - the Compartment for Constituting the Regular Filing and Publishing the Applications;
 - the Compartment for Classification, Renouncement, Refusal;
- the Compartment for Examination of Distinctive Signs (with attributions in the examination of trademark applications for absolute grounds) under the coordination of the Head of Division;
- the Compartment for Examination of Trademark Oppositions (with attributions in the examination of relative grounds within the framework of opposition examination) under the coordination of the Head of Division;
- the Compartment for Examination of International Applications (with attributions in the examination of trademark applications filed by international route) under the coordination of the Head of Division.

In 2022, the trademark registration application examination flow sheet was changed according to the new provisions required by the trademark law in force.

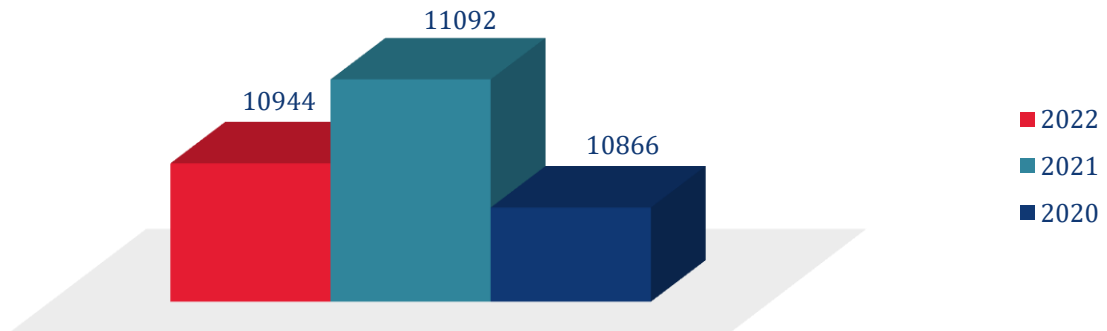
The activity of preliminary examination of the trademark applications for registration is carried out by the Trademark Preliminary Examination Bureau, while the activity of substantive examination of the trademark applications for registration is carried out by three distinctive compartments, namely: the Compartment for Examination of Distinctive Signs, the Compartment for Examination of Trademark Oppositions and the Compartment for Examination of International Applications.



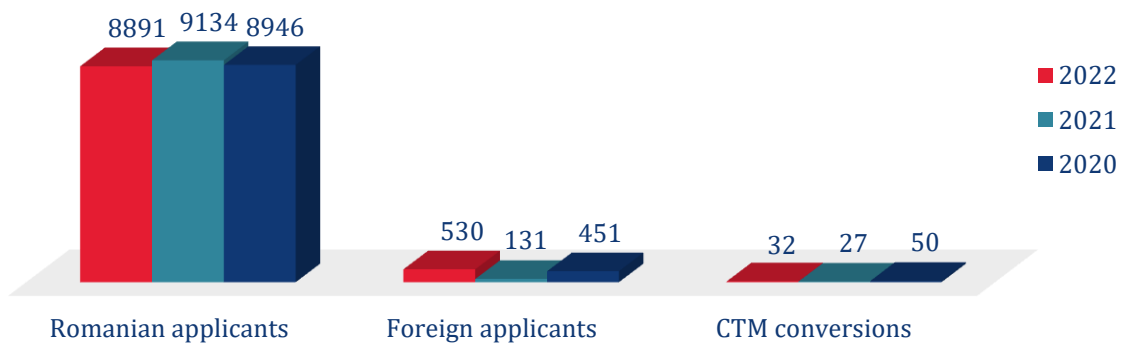
REGISTERED/RENEWED TRADEMARKS

In 2022, 10944 applications for trademark registration were filed, of which 8891 by national route and 2053 by international route.

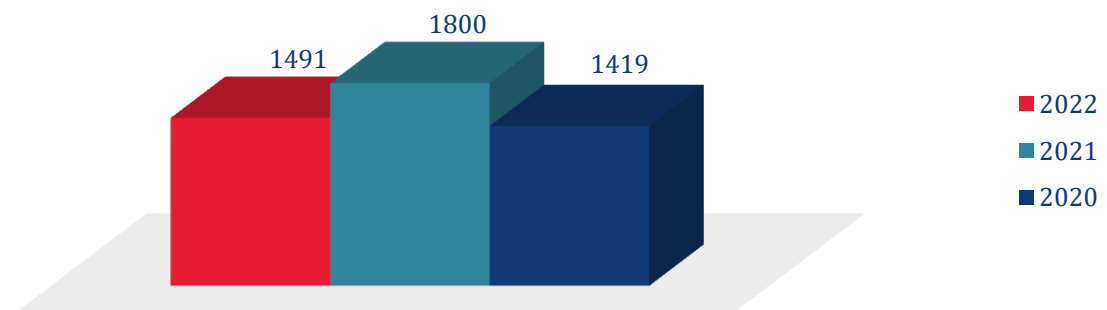
Trademark applications for registration



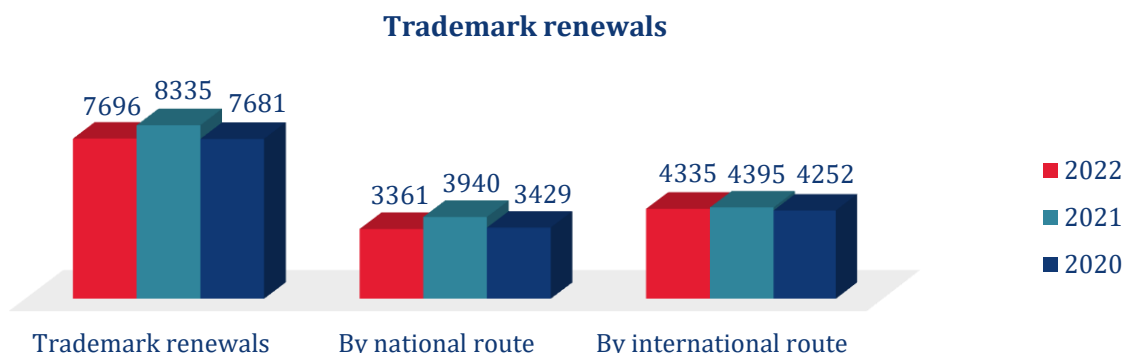
Trademark applications for registration filed by national route



Trademark applications for registration filed by international route



7696 requests for trademark renewal were filed, 3361 of which are requests for renewal filed by national route and 4335 filed by international route.



In 2022, 650 oppositions to the publication of trademark applications were filed.

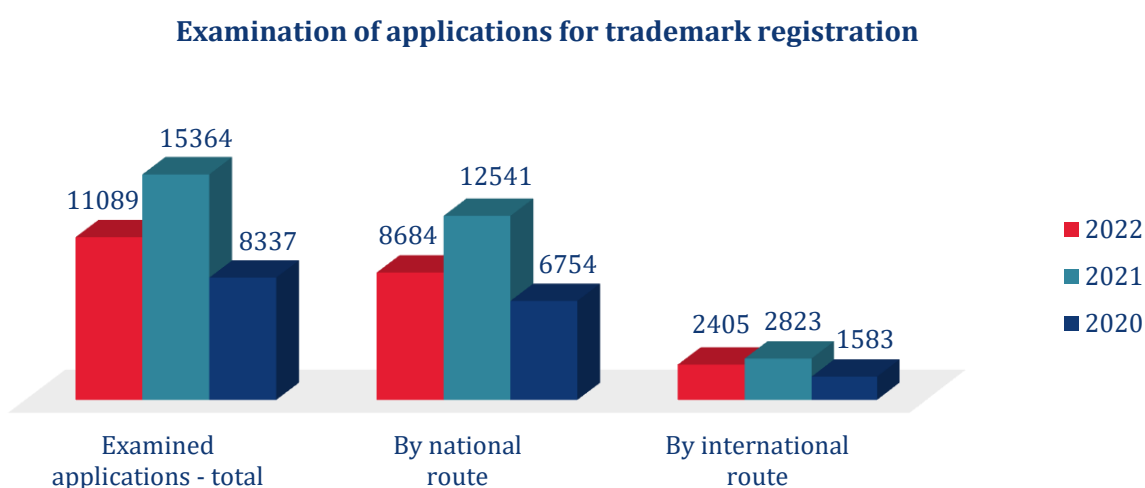
Starting from 2022, the Trademark Division has been involved in the application of the Implementing Regulations to the Law 84/1998, as republished, which represents the transposition of the Directive (EU) 2015/2436 in the national legislation.

As every European Union Member State, Romania has taken necessary steps to align trademarks examination procedures, aiming at applying common practice in the field.

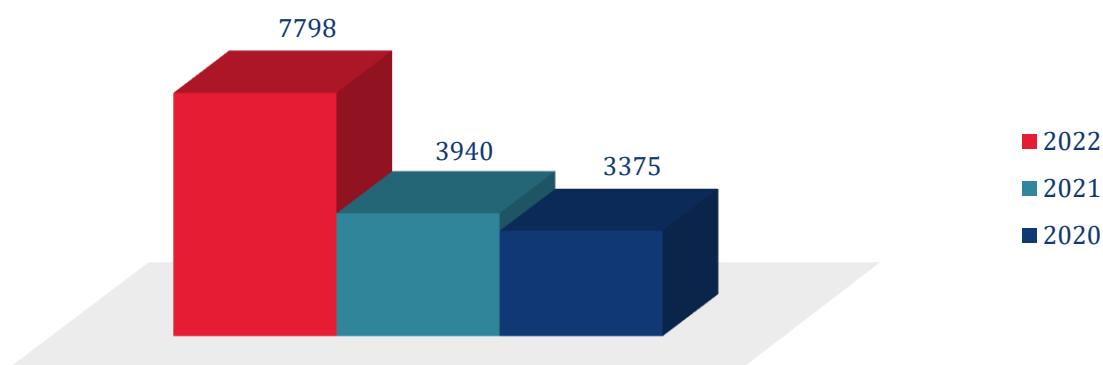
EXAMINATION OF TRADEMARK REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS

In 2022, 9453 trademark applications were subjected to preliminary examination and 11089 trademark applications to substantive examination, of which 8684 examined files included applications filed by national route and 2405 applications filed by international route. 4395 applications for renewal of the protection granted by registering the trademarks internationally were also examined.

Examination of trademark applications by analyzing absolute grounds was conducted while taking into account the provisions of Art. 5 of the Trademarks Law No. 84/1998, as republished.



Examination of trademark renewal applications



EXAMINATION OF OPPOSITIONS

In 2022, the Opposition Examination Board had to settle 748 oppositions filed by national route, of which 365 were accepted, 240 were refused, 68 were withdrawn by the opponent and 75 were lacking object.

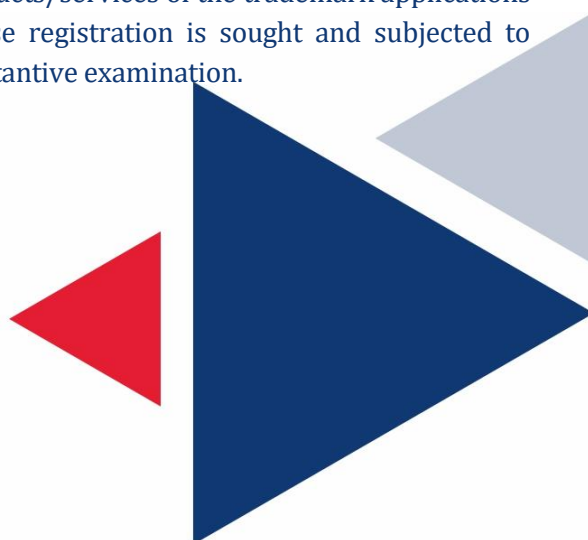
The Opposition Examination Board for Trademarks settled as well 32 oppositions filed against the registration of international trademark applications.

The number of oppositions refused and withdrawn shows that the applicants for industrial property titles, in this case trademarks applicants, understand the importance of trademark protection, which, for the Trademarks Division, stands as a permanent challenge as to observe the legal time limits and to grant the protection titles in accordance with the legal provisions in force.

The significant number of withdrawn oppositions shows that the owners of earlier rights understand and observe the similarity assessment as well as the assessment of identity of signs filed for registration as compared with the goods and services to which they relate.

As every European Union Member State, Romania has taken necessary steps to align trademarks examination procedures, aiming at applying common practice in the field.

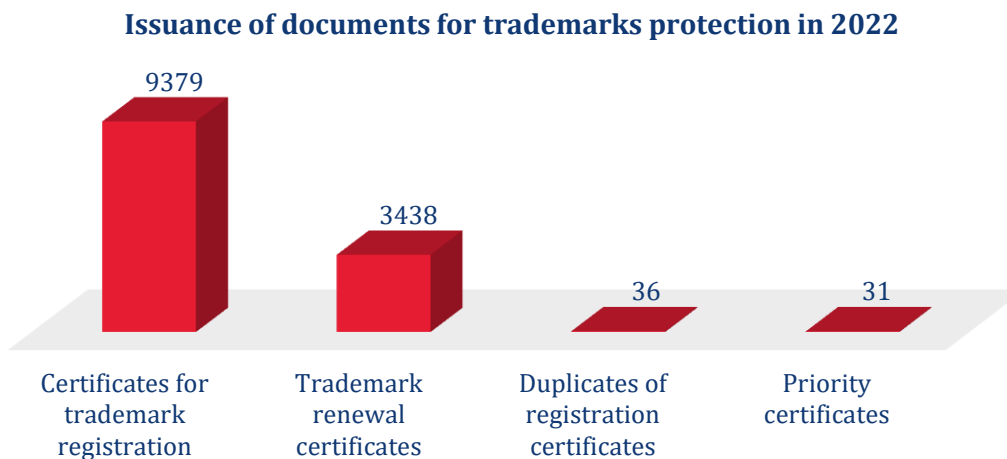
In the course of the year 2022, the applicants or representatives thereof requested changes to be recorded, including minor changes of the representations or limitations of the list of products/services of the trademark applications whose registration is sought and subjected to substantive examination.



ISSUANCE OF TRADEMARK CERTIFICATES

In 2022, 12884 protection titles were issued, of which 9379 certificates of first registration and 3438 renewal certificates and also 36 trademark certificate duplicates.

In the course of the year 2022, 31 priority certificates were requested and issued.



REQUESTS FOR RECORDING TRANSFERS OF RIGHTS AND CHANGES IN THE LEGAL STATUS

As regards the requests for recording transfers of rights, 1136 requests for recording such transfers representing assignments, mergers and licenses were filed in 2022.

In the course of the year 2022, applicants, owners or representatives thereof requested changes in legal status to be recorded, from applicants'/owners' address changes to minor trademark changes; consequently, 3919 such changes were requested.

6388 notifications of procedure conclusion relative to trademarks were sent, according to Article 32 of the Law no. 84/1998, as republished, which represents a new procedure established by the version of the law entered into force in 2020 and 1066 decisions of taking note of the trademark owner's renunciation/loss of rights were issued.

In 2022 OSIM specialists also took part in the projects developed by EUIPO, of which we mention:

- In 2022, the same as the preceding years, OSIM specialists of the Trademark Division took part in the projects and actions carried out by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), in collaboration with the national offices and developed by EUIPO, of which we mention:
 - ECP 2 Project;
 - ECP3 IMAS;
 - EPC3 Decision Desktop;
 - ECP5 Emerging Technologies Incubator;
 - ECP1 Back Office;
- in 2022, the OSIM specialists of the Trademark Service also took part in the "Language Check" project, a component of the "ECP4 Collaborative Network", which aims at the unitary regulation of the activity of language check, consisting in identifying and translating the terms contained by the European trademark applications for 78,558 terms having notional content in the Romanian language, and also providing information/explanations relating to the same.



DESIGN DIVISION

In 2022 the Design, Documentary Search and Issuance of Protection Titles Division (SDCDETP) carried out the activity of registration, examination and issuance of protection titles in the field of design in accordance with the provisions of Law 129/1992, as republished, being under the direct coordination of the Director of the Trademark and Design Directorate, while conducting documentary search in the field of design and documentary search in the field of trademarks, as well.

Moreover, the division carries out activities concerning the post-examination procedures in the field of trademarks, under the Law 84/1998, as republished.

From the organizational point of view, the division consists of:

- the Compartment for Examination of Designs (with attributions in preliminary examination, settling oppositions, substantive examination and drawing up experts opinions upon requested by the Design Board of Appeal or the Legal Division), under the coordination of the Head of Division;
- the Compartment for Documentary Search in the Field of Designs and Trademarks (it conducts documentary search in the field of designs and trademarks for the public and upon request of the Legal Division of OSIM and other public bodies: National Authority for Consumer Protection, Police, Customs, Prosecutor's Office, law courts, insolvency companies, bailiff's offices, notary offices etc.) under the coordination of the Head of Division;
- the Bureau for Issuance of Protection Titles, changes in the legal status, renewals of designs and trademarks (BETP) (it carries out activities in the field of design and trademark post-examination procedures and draws up various papers and statistics) headed by a Head of Bureau subordinated to the Head of Division.

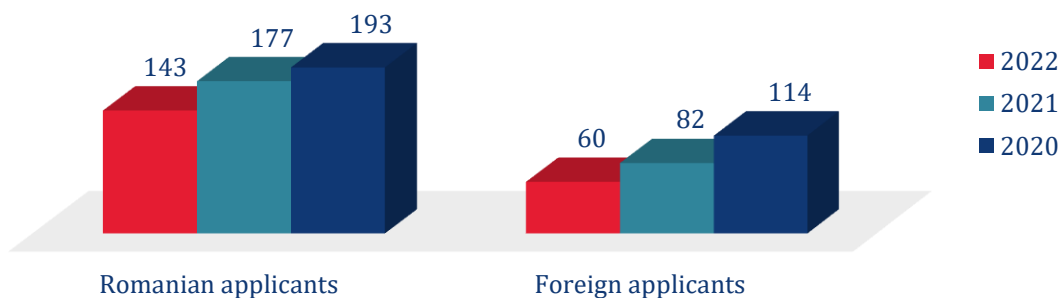
The rights in designs can be acquired by the registration and the issuance of a registration certificate under the conditions set out by the Law no. 129/1992 on the protection of designs, as republished.

The object of an application may be registered insofar as it constitutes a design, it is new and has individual character.

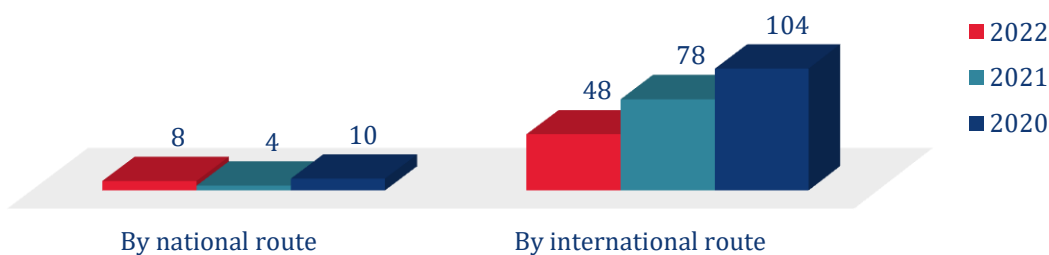
Designs determined exclusively by a technical function, technical drawings, graphic representations which cannot be typographically reproduced and those that have a purpose and appearance contrary to public order and morality cannot be registered.

In 2022, 567 designs (contained in a number of 203 applications for registration) with 1803 graphic representations were filed. Of the total number of design applications filed for registration, 118 were simple applications, with 350 graphic representations, the remaining 85 filed applications being multiple applications, including 449 designs and 1385 graphic representations (a multiple application contains more than one design, each of them having more views).

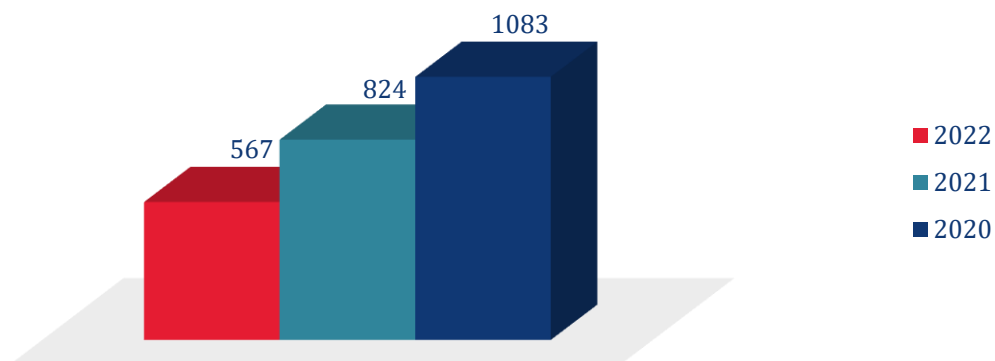
Applications for design registrations



Applications for design registrations - foreign applicants



Designs contained in applications for registration



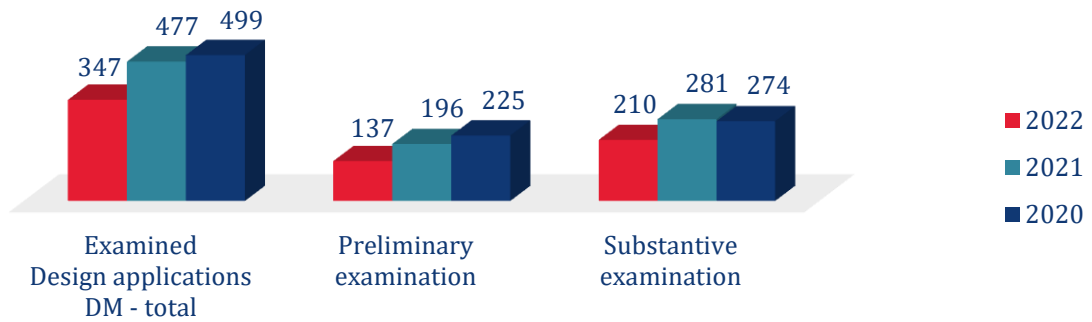
EXAMINATION OF DESIGN APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION

This year, the total number of designs subjected to preliminary examination is 137 with 545 graphic representations, contained by 156 applications for registration.

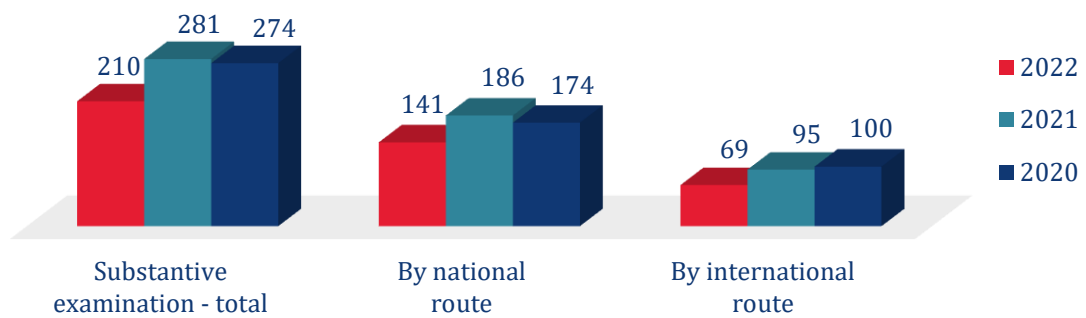
210 designs were subjected to substantive examination, with 2512 graphic representations contained by 210 applications for registration, of which 141 filed by national route and 69 by international route.

437 designs were published with 1602 graphic representations contained by 164 applications for registration.

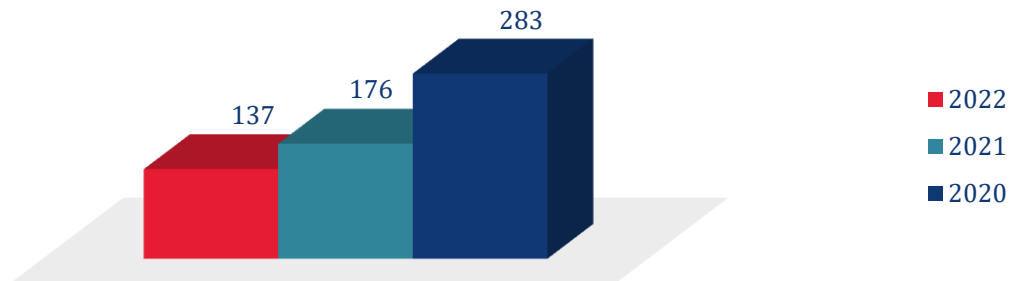
Examination of Design applications for registration



Substantive examination of Designs



Examination of Design renewal applications



380 procedures were carried out within the post-examination procedures, of which:

- a number of 78 changes in the legal status of design applications were published, as follows: 22 transfers of rights and 56 other types of changes (changes of headquarters/address of applicant/owner/representative, representative change/recordal/renunciation);
- mentions of reinstatement in respect of 7 protection certificates were recorded and published.

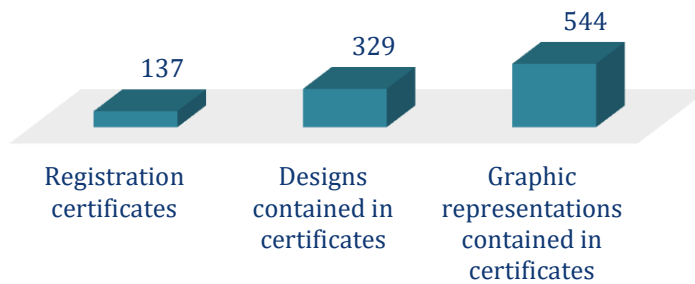
EXAMINATION OF OPPOSITIONS

4 oppositions were filed in 2022 and the Opposition Examination Board for designs solved 4 oppositions, as 1 opposition has been filed in the previous year and another opposition settlement is adjourned up to the case settlement in court.

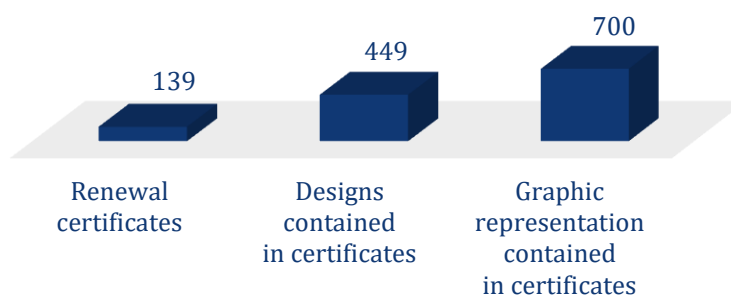
ISSUANCE OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES

In 2022, 277 Design certificates were issued, of which: 137 registration certificates, 139 renewal certificates and 1 duplicate of the certificate for maintaining the design in force.

Issuance of Design certificates of registration



Issuance of Design renewal certificates



In 2022, the same as the preceding years, OSIM specialists took part in the projects developed by EUIPO, of which we mention below.

Within the framework of Project 1.2.5. "Quality Standards", the Design, Documentary Search and Issuance of Protection Titles Division summarized and periodically transmitted to EUIPO both its own performance indicators and the indicators received from the Trademarks Division and the Appeals Division.

In 2022, design examiners were also involved in activities carried out within “Back Office” and “Front Office” projects, where they performed database check-up and tested the criteria contained in the database and made proposals for database improvement.

ECP1 “OSIM Front Office Implementation” requirements were analyzed and discussed along with EUIPO representatives.

Check-ups were performed and observations were sent regarding:

- ECP1 Project – BACK OFFICE Work Group Sessions;
- ECP2 Project – Major Improvements for BACK OFFICE BO;
- ECP3 Project – “IMAS”;
- CP7 – Harmonization of Product Indications.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

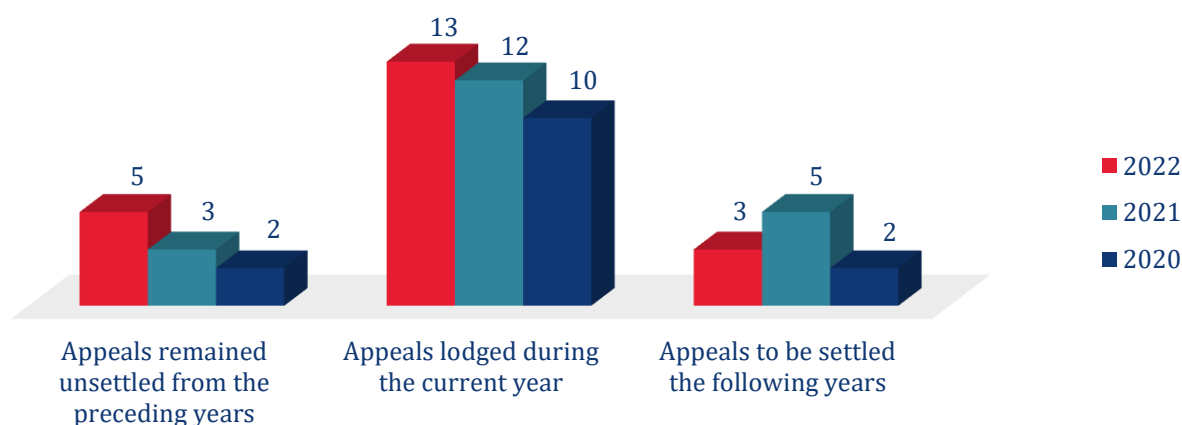
In OSIM, the activity of examination of applications for industrial property protection titles is carried out at two decisional levels:

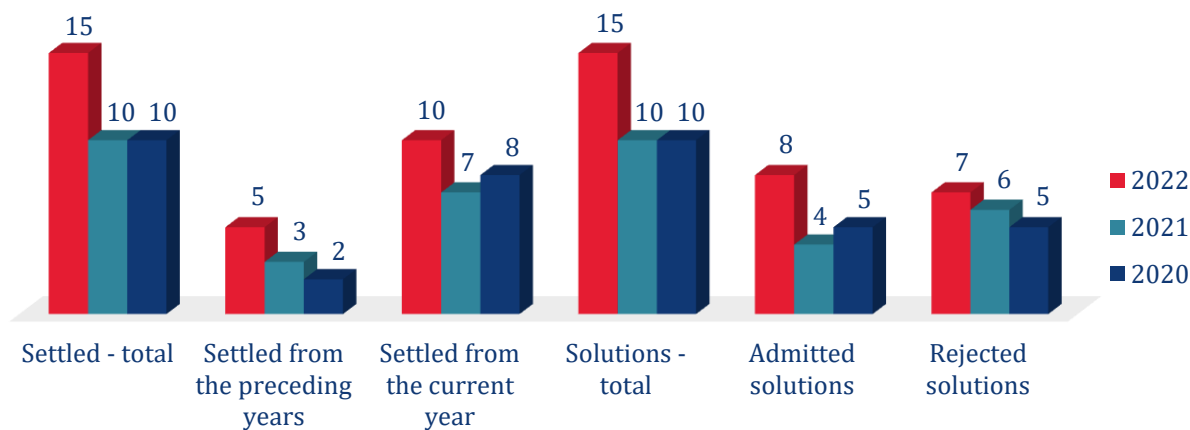
- examination and
- appeal.

The appeals are settled by Boards consisting of 3/5 members who are specialists in the Appeal Division within the Legal Directorate and in the Patents and Technological Information Directorate.

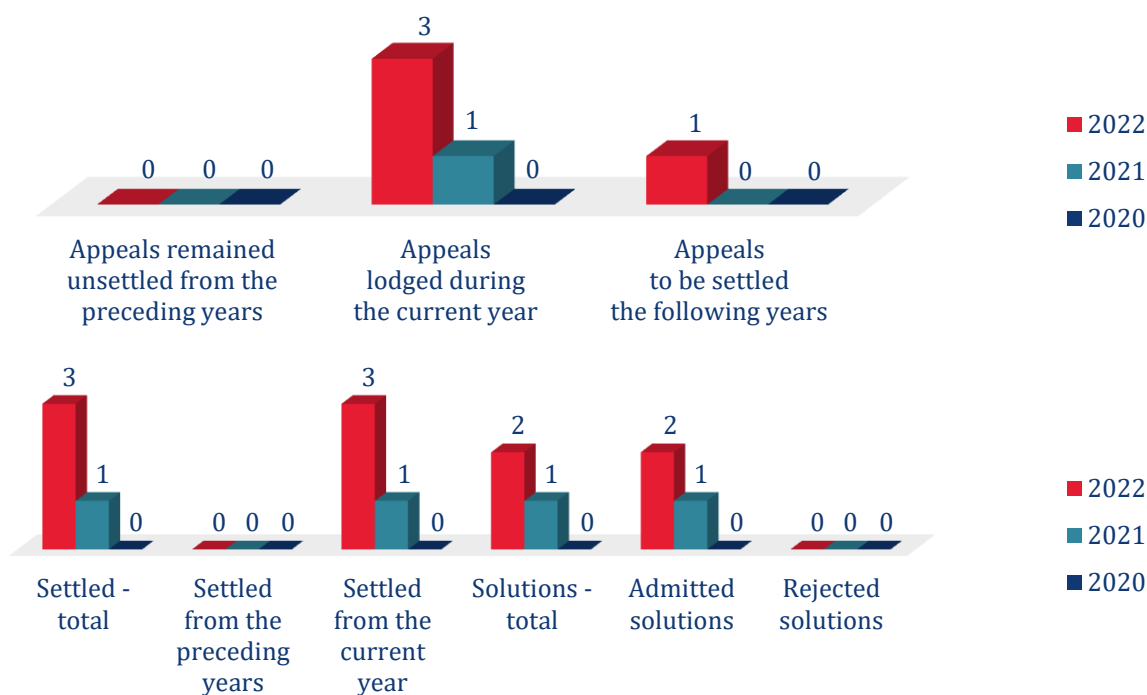
ACTIVITY OF PATENT, DESIGN AND TRADEMARK BOARDS OF APPEAL

Appeals lodged with the Patent Board of Appeal within the Appeal Division

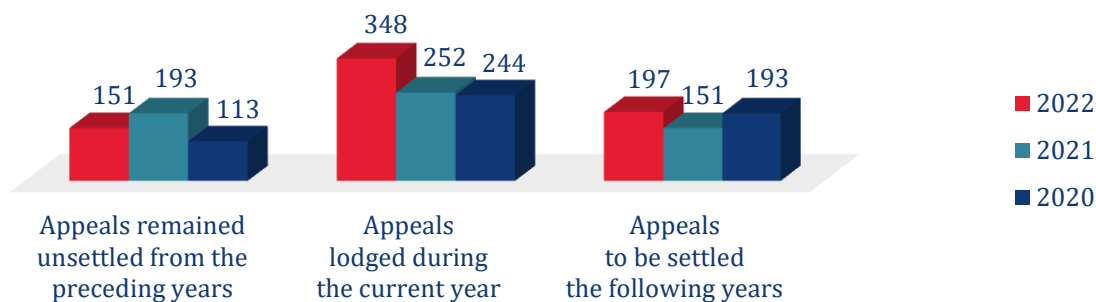


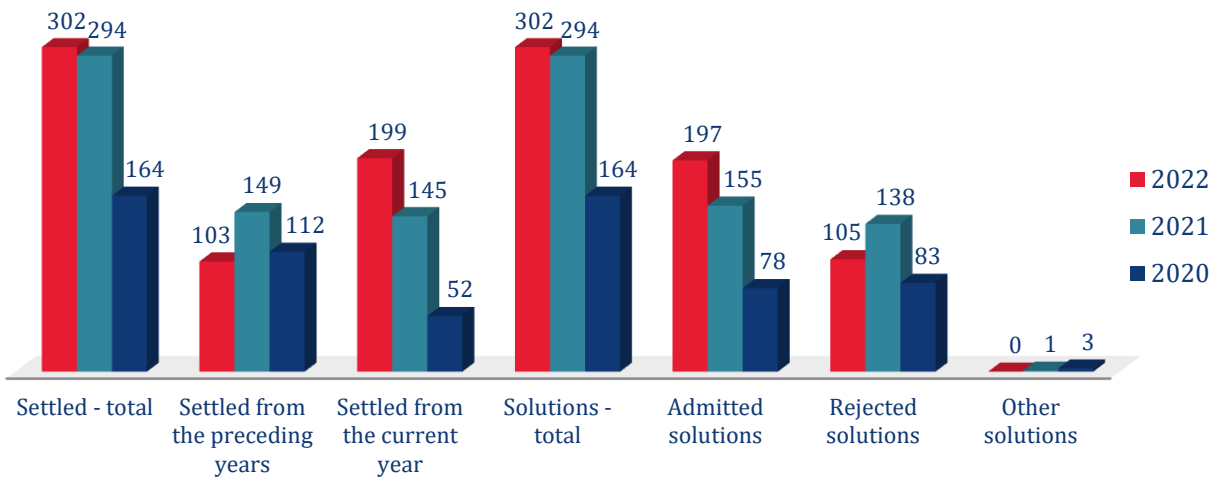


Appeals lodged with the Patent Board of Appeal within the Legal Division

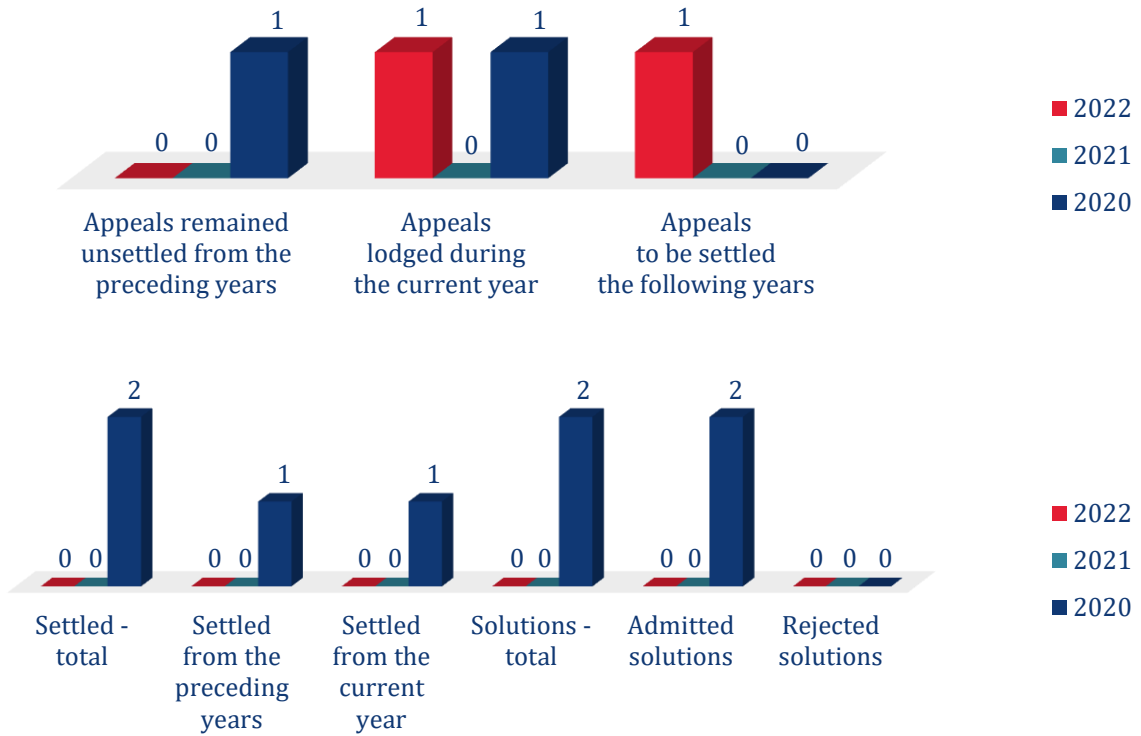


Appeals lodged with the Trademark Board of Appeal within the Appeal Division





Appeals lodged with the Designs Board of Appeal within the Appeal Division



The specialists of the Appeal Division answered 554 internal/external petitions entrusted to them for settling.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

The Draft Government Decision for the approval of the Implementing Regulations to Law 84/1998 on trademarks and geographical indications, the inter-ministerial approval procedure of which continued during 2022, was approved by the Government of Romania in November 2022 (GD no. 1197/2022).

Also, the Draft Emergency Ordinance on the amendment and completion of Law No. 84/1998 on trademarks and geographical indications, was drawn up in OSIM and subjected to Government approval, the Draft Emergency Ordinance comprising provisions regulating the OSIM procedure for invalidity and loss of rights relating to trademarks, the GEO 169/2022 being approved in December 2022.

An amendment and completion draft relating to GD no. 573/1998 on the organization and functioning of OSIM, as republished, was drawn up in order to create the organizational framework needed for carrying out the activity for invalidity and loss of rights settling in OSIM, which was submitted to the Ministry of Economy to sign it, in order for it to undergo the inter-ministerial advice procedure by the end of December 2022.

ACTIVITY OF OSIM REPRESENTATION BEFORE LAW COURTS

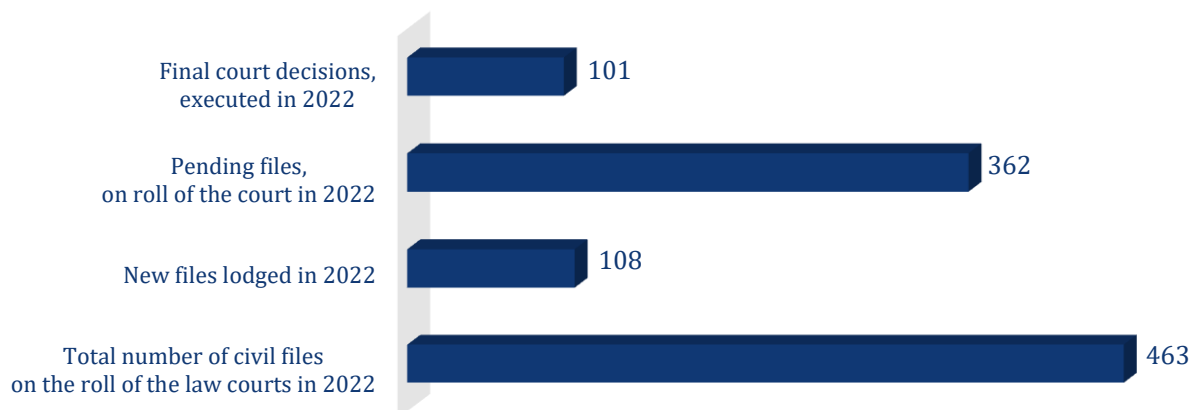
In all cases in which OSIM was summoned as a party, both representation and defense of OSIM interests before the law courts were ensured, based on the documents of the case and the technical opinions provided by the specialized directorates/divisions.

OSIM appeared before the courts in court-hearings while observing the legal time limits for submitting and upholding counter-statements, objections to expert reports, written conclusions, filing the documents required by the courts for case judgement, etc.

Between 01.01 and 31.12.2022, 101 final decisions were pronounced and in 77 cases we won in court (namely 76.23% of cases).

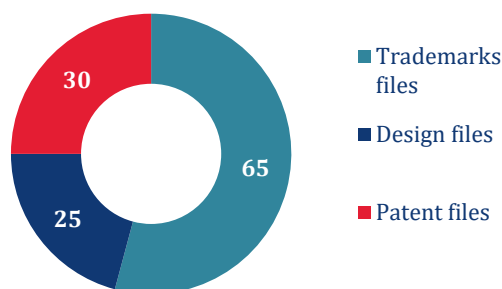


Situation of litigations pending in courts in 2022



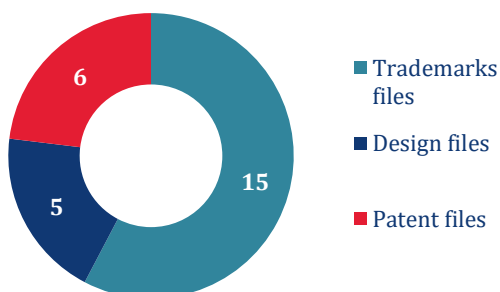
The situation of requests made by criminal investigation bodies concerning legal search in respect of granted industrial property protection titles in 2022 and of requests by other authorities, as shown by Legal Division records is the following:

- Criminal investigation files in respect of which legal search was performed concerning protected industrial property rights, upon request by Police bodies.

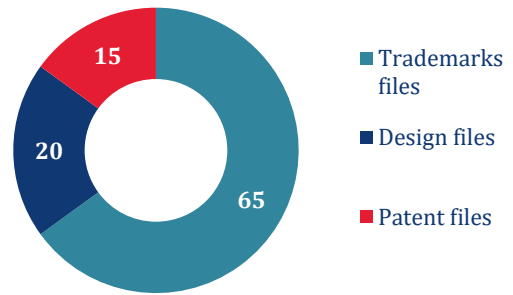


As from May 2017, the data concerning the legal status of the trademarks protected on the territory of Romania are transmitted, upon the request of Police bodies, by the Trademarks Division.

- Search files upon the request of other institutions: law courts, ministries, natural persons and legal entities;



-
- Analysis and documentation concerning foreclosure measures, upon request by bailiffs;



-
-
- Answers to letters from national authorities, other than criminal investigation bodies.





INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIVITY



Cooperation with European Patent Office

The cooperation between the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Member States has a long history. Its overall objective was to provide high-quality patent services to the European patent system users, in particular to European industry, and to promote interoperability between national intellectual property offices.

The Bilateral Cooperation Agreement between OSIM and the EPO represents the working instrument defined in various fields of activity, such as: educational activities and language training courses for the office staff involved in the patenting activity, participation

in the working groups established for defining and implementing cooperation projects, promotion and awareness activities regarding the importance of the patent field.

On November 4, 2022, OSIM together with the EPO organized in Bucharest a seminar concerning "*The advantages of patent-holding SMEs*". During the seminar, topics relating to the role of patents in companies or the ways of filing patent applications were addressed. Several case studies from which one can observe the multiple benefits that patent-holding SMEs can have were also presented.



European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

A. Implementing Cooperation Projects

During 2022, the bilateral cooperation between OSIM and EUIPO focused mainly on improving the functionality of the electronic tools developed as part of the cooperation activity, in particular the internal application for managing the procedure of examination and registration of trademarks and designs – the back-office system.

OSIM has successfully completed the last stage of the Back-Office System Improvements Project by integrating international registrations into the system. This implementation increased the functional range of the system and the operational efficiency of the office. The key benefit of this project is that OSIM can now keep electronic records of all international trademark applications and registrations of which OSIM is the home office or where Romania is the designated country. These improvements are the result of the work carried out by EUIPO and its partners in European cooperation projects. These projects support national intellectual property offices in developing more efficient, reliable and user-friendly tools and services for applicants.

OSIM examiners have been involved in defining and implementing common trademark and design examination practices. These practices ensure transparency, legal certainty and predictability, for the benefit of national offices and users.

B. Promotion Activity

The activity of disseminating information on the importance of industrial property protection at the national and EU level, as well as the organization of educational events for various categories of participants, were a significant component of the cooperation activity between OSIM and EUIPO during the year 2022, as well.

OSIM supported and promoted the SME Fund project, which is a grant scheme designed to help EU small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to protect their intellectual property rights. The project is aimed at companies that want to develop their intellectual property strategies and protect their intellectual property rights at national or European level. They were given the possibility to obtain a 50% reduction of the fee for trademark and design applications, representing up to 1500 euros.

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EUIPO European Union Intellectual Property Office
Logo of the European Union and the OSIM program

The visit of EUIPO Chambers of Appeal representatives to Bucharest, an event that took place on October 27, 2022, involved the organization of a bilateral meeting with OSIM representatives as well as of a session dedicated to practitioners in the field of industrial property. The seminar represented an opportunity to inform industrial property attorneys about the



Within the same cooperation framework, in November 2022, a video tutorial was made on the Implementation of the Trademarks Directive in national legislation. The video will be

initiated contained in the Action Plan of the EUIPO Boards of Appeal for the period 2021-2026, relevant case studies on the absolute and relative grounds for refusal, as well as alternative resolution mechanisms for solving litigations within the EUIPO, thus offering the possibility of open and constructive discussions on the proposed topics.



published on the educational portal of the EUIPO Academy for the promotion and dissemination of intellectual property knowledge.



INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY PROTECTION PROMOTION ACTIVITY

OSIM experts within the Communication and Operational Marketing Division were involved, during 2022, in 34 actions for promoting the protection and valorization of industrial property, consisting of seminars, conferences, round tables, courses, salons,

fairs and exhibitions. Moreover, thematic papers, statistical and synthesis studies, essential for the decision-making process, were developed within this Division.

Participation in exhibition events such as: national salons of research, innovation and technological transfer, technical fairs, represented last year, the same as in the preceding years, an important component of the activity of OSIM experts, who had the opportunity to share with the participants information of interest in the field of industrial property. Among the events attended by OSIM experts we mention:

1. International Exhibition of Student Innovation and Research Cadet INOVA, 7th Edition, which took place in online format;

2. Annual Scientific-Practical Symposium AGEPI Readings (online);

3. European Exhibition of Creativity and Innovation and International Conference on Innovative Research, EUROINVENT 2022, 16th Edition;

4. WIPO Meeting for National Offices;

5. International Inventions Exhibition and Conference of Inventics – INVENTICA;

6. International Exhibition of Inventions and Innovations „TRAIAN VUJIA” 2022;

7. International Conference Design Europa Talks;

8. Technology Transfer Fair UDJG;

9. International Exhibition of Research, Innovation and Inventions, PRO INVENT;

10. International Exhibition INVENTCOR 2022.

Also, during 2022, the experts of the division took part in the Fairs and Exhibitions organized by Romexpo, among which we mention:

1. International Trade Fair of Furniture, Equipment and Accessories – BIFE-SIM;
2. International Fair of Products and Equipment in the Field of Agriculture, Horticulture, Viticulture and Animal Husbandry – INDAGRA;
3. Romania’s Tourism Trade.

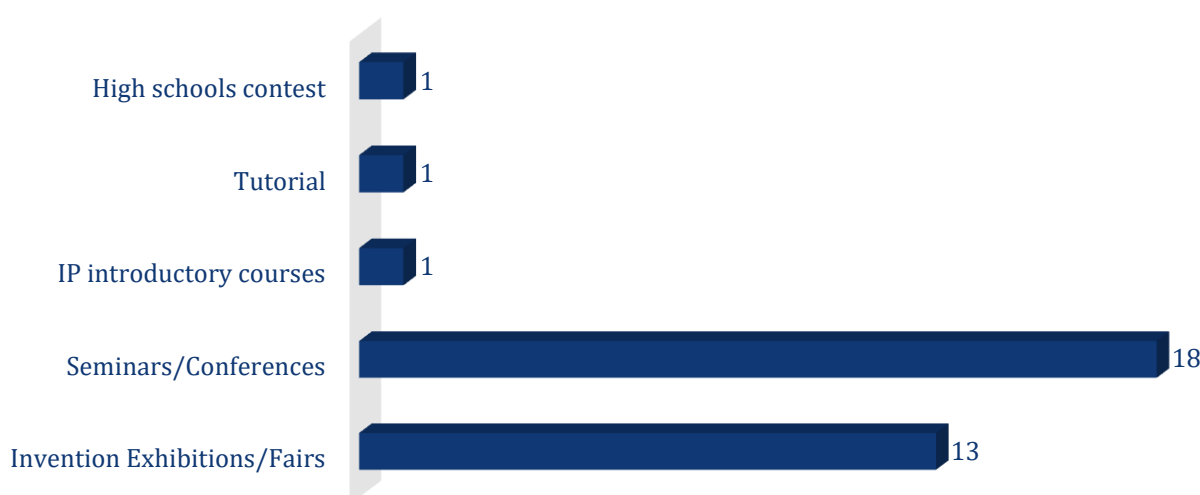
OSIM specialists participated in the event "CREATIVITY TROPHY 2022", organized by the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Navigation and Agriculture (CCINA), Constanța. The Creativity Trophy, an event in its 18th edition, was awarded by OSIM to companies from Constanța county, for outstanding activity in the field of industrial property.

At the same time, the OSIM delegation hosted the seminar "The Importance of the Protection of Industrial Property for Romanian Entrepreneurs", the lectures of which were carried out so that SMEs can understand the importance of owning an industrial property right and the benefits they can obtain in business development, when they hold an IP protection title.

At the ASTRA Sibiu County Library, the exhibition with the theme "History of Trademarks in Romania", was organized in collaboration with OSIM. Famous trademarks registered in Romania over time were exhibited here. Visitors showed particular interest in the exhibits representing known trademarks that are still on the market today, especially consumer goods, household appliances, automobiles. The exhibition was visited by a number of approximately 300 visitors.

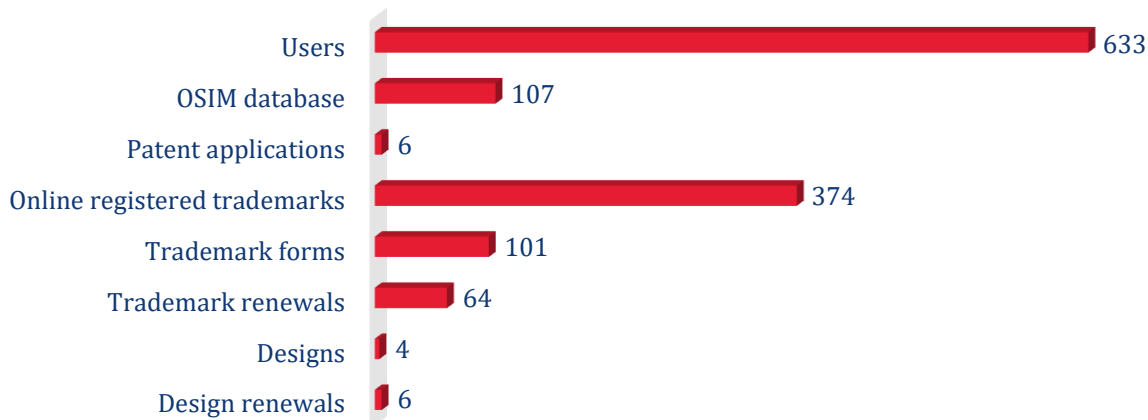
In 2022, OSIM organized introductory courses in industrial property, for the fields of: patents and utility models, trademarks and geographical indications, designs. 137 students participated in these courses (46 students – Patents, 56 students – Trademarks, 35 students – Designs).

Promotion activity across the country



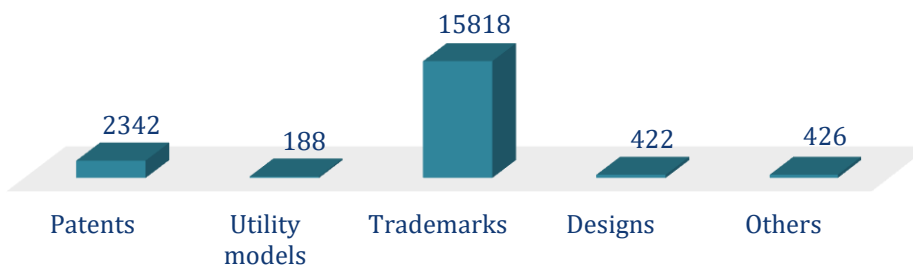
At the OSIM Reading Hall, 633 persons were lent specialized assistance consisting of information concerning the protection of inventions, trademarks and designs.

OSIM Reading Hall Services



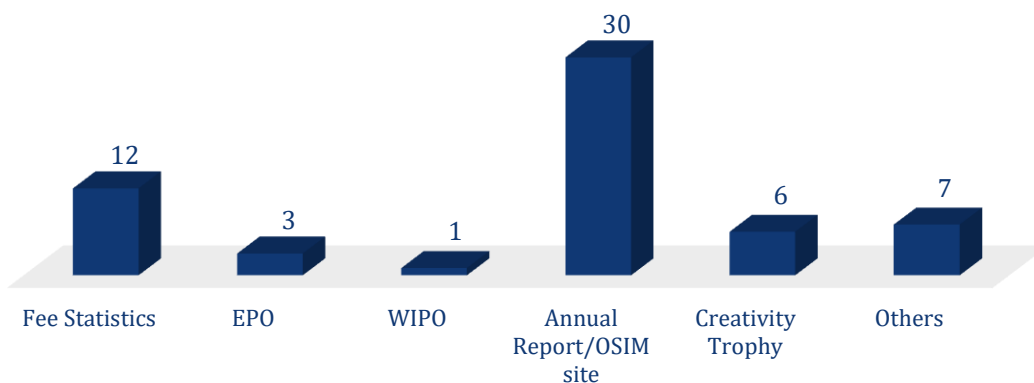
The Public Relations Compartment responded promptly and professionally to all requests for information received at the OSIM headquarters, by phone or by e-mail, 19196 requests being registered, the fields of interest being those presented in the graph below.

Fields of interest



The specialists of the Compartment have drawn up a series of statistical analyses as shown below.

Statistic analyses in 2022



PATLIB ACTIVITY

The Regional Centres of OSIM are established by virtue of Art. 14 (1) of the Government Decision No 573 of 7 September 1998 (as updated) on the organization and functioning of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks, which stipulates: "The State Office for Inventions and Trademarks may support the activity of regional centres in the field of industrial property by lending technical assistance, consultancy and endowing them, in accordance with the legislation in force". The Regional Centres are territorial entities attached to local institutions from which they benefit by financial support, premises with office supplies and personnel, while OSIM provides them with support in the field of staff training and with all the publications of OSIM.

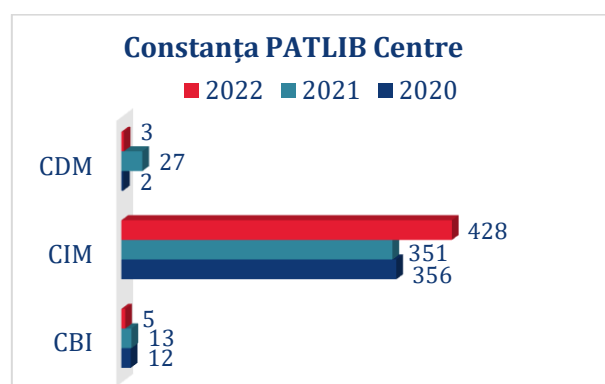
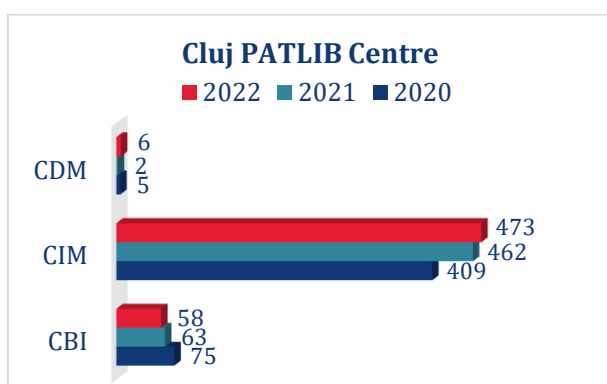
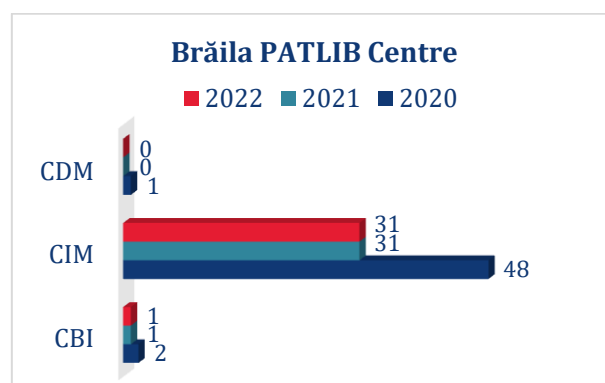
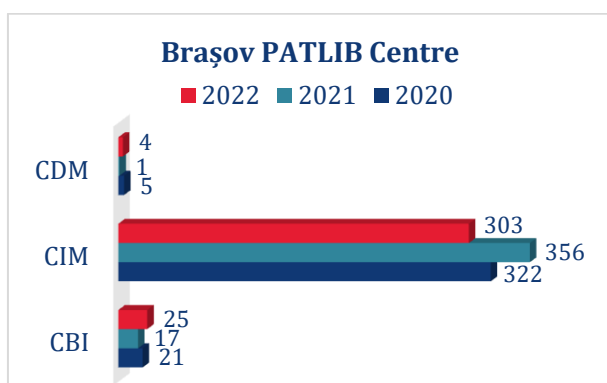
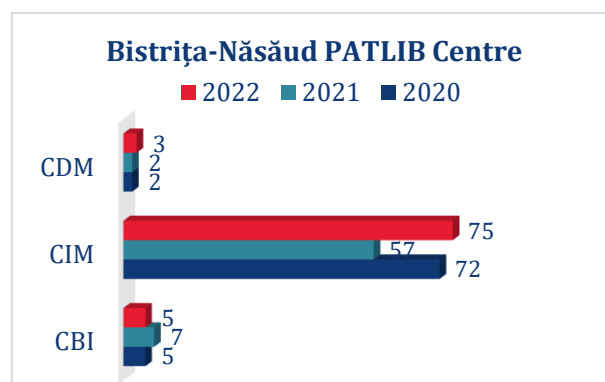
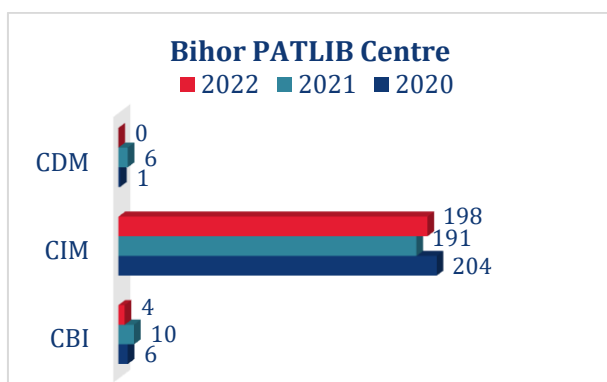
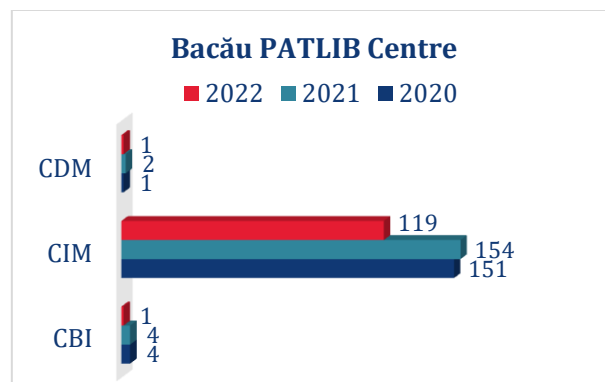
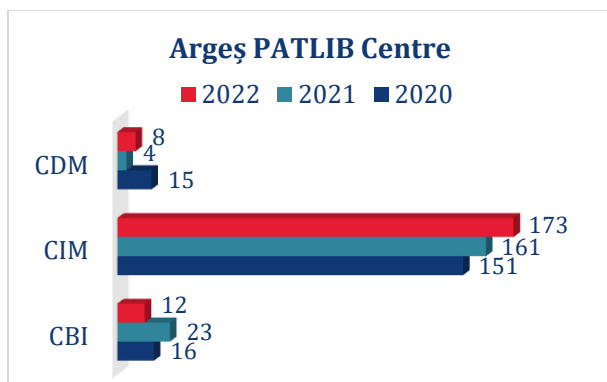
The establishment of Regional Centers was aimed at promoting the industrial property protection importance across the country, at disseminating public information on industrial property and at raising awareness of local communities on this field. The centres operate within the framework of local host-institutions, based on Collaboration Conventions concluded with OSIM, for jointly setting the objectives, as well as the duties and obligations of each party.

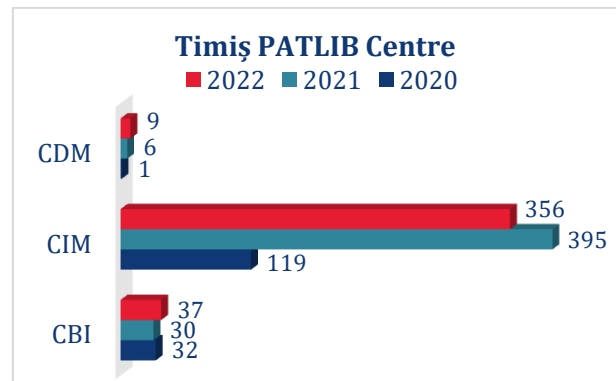
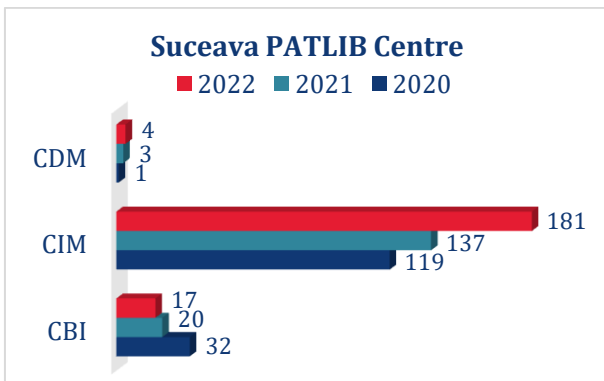
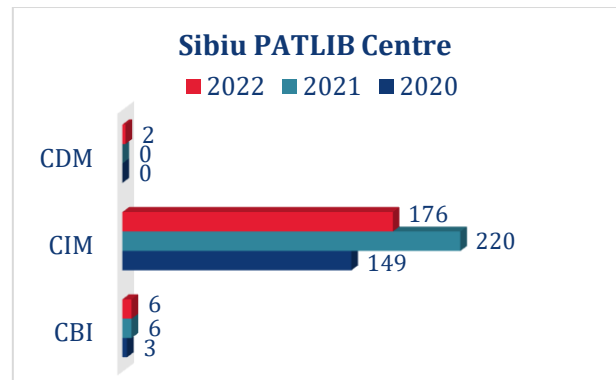
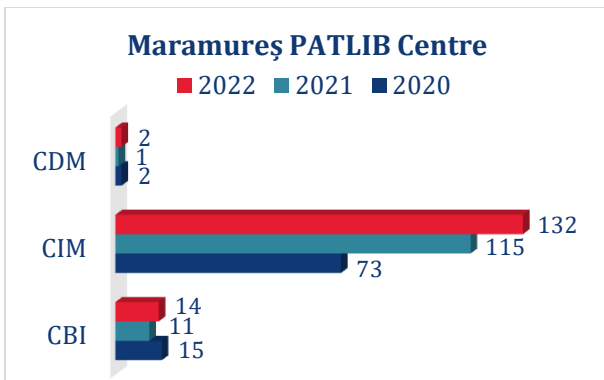
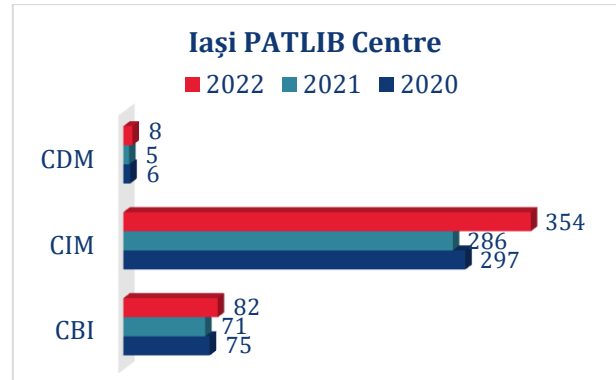
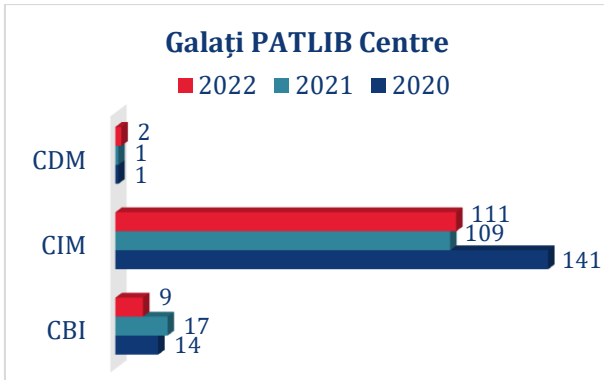
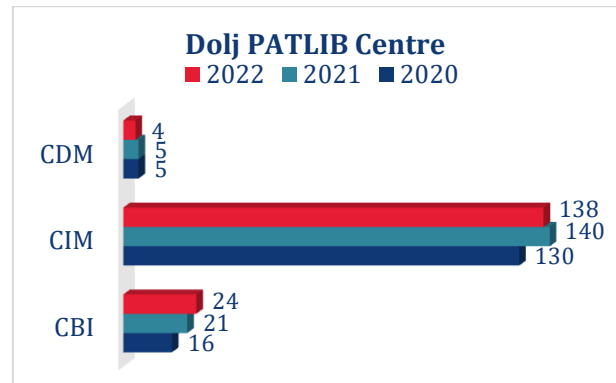
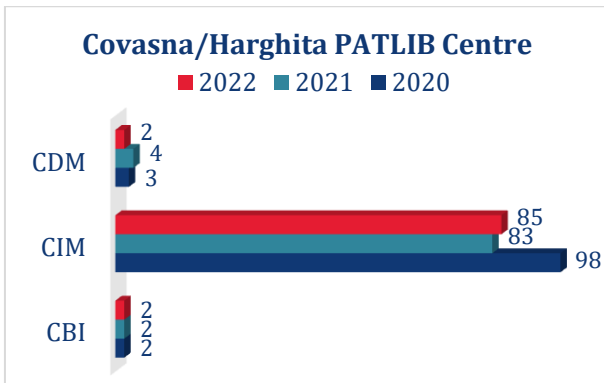
The main goal of the Regional Centres is to promote the industrial property protection and the services provided by OSIM across the Romanian territory.

Other activities of the Regional Centres concern the provision of services, such as: documentary search, technical assistance lent to applicants, within their Reading Halls, training on database utilization, evaluation of the economic potential of inventions and development of industrial property strategy, presenting lectures on industrial property protection in seminars, round tables, fairs organized in the respective regions as well as courses of initiation in the industrial property field, in particular in the case of Centres hosted by universities.



Applications distributed by administrative units*



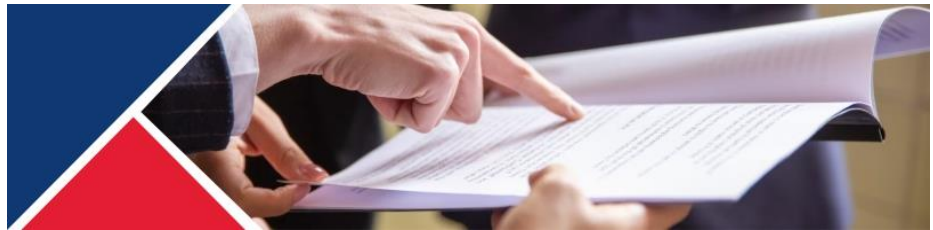


*Where: CDM – Applications for design registration;
 CIM – Applications for trademark registration;
 CBI – Patent applications.

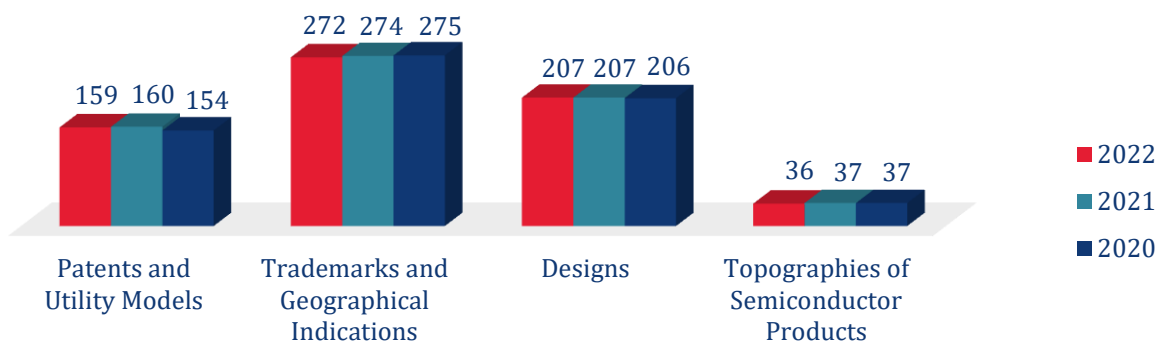
Between 12-13 May 2022, the PATLIB Conference 2022 was held in online format. The event was a good opportunity to promote new developments in the field of industrial property, to exchange experience, information and best practices. During the Conference, both representatives of the national offices and representatives of the regional centers were present.

The themes addressed during the event were oriented towards finding solutions through which the EPO together with its partners can improve coordination and collaboration at the European, national and regional level. Discussions were also held on how the introduction of the Unitary Patent will facilitate access to patent protection. Success stories and information on how inventors and innovative SMEs can access various programs were presented.

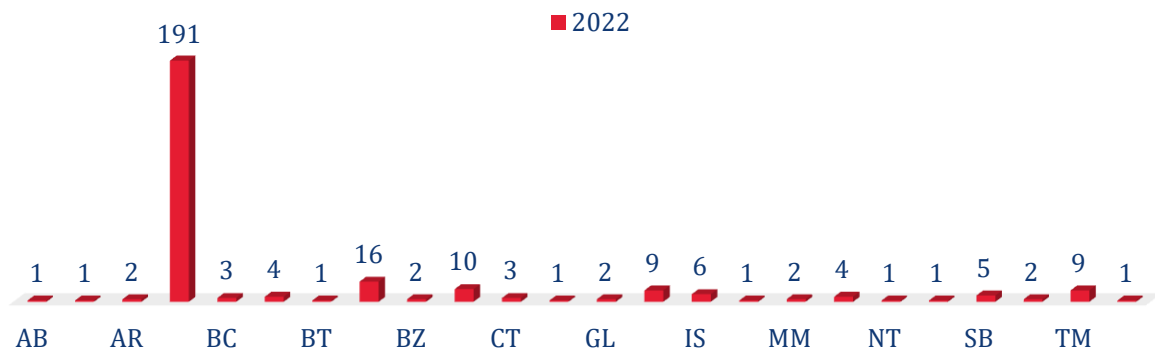
INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS



On 31.12.2022, 279 industrial property attorneys were registered with the National Chamber of Industrial Property Attorneys in the 4 fields:



Industrial property attorneys registered, by counties





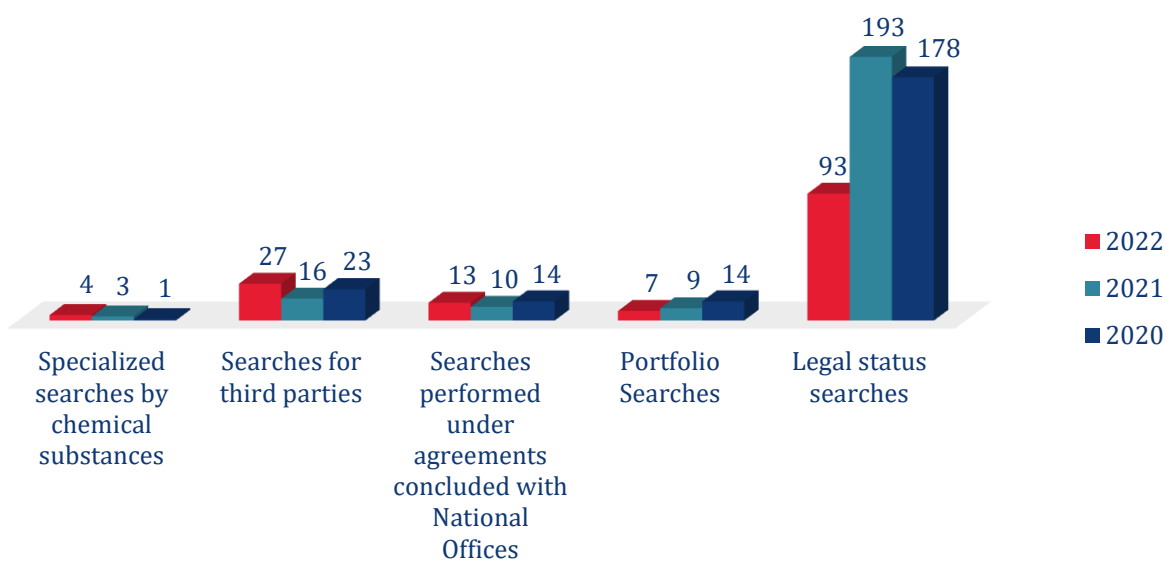
SERVICES PROVIDED TO OUR CLIENTS

SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF INVENTIONS

Based on the Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of industrial property concluded between OSIM and the Intellectual Property Offices of Slovenia and Macedonia, 13 search reports with written opinion on patentability were carried out in the reference year.

27 theme searches for third parties were carried out for Romanian third parties, upon order, in specialized technical fields, such as mechanics and electrical engineering-electronics, in patent data bases and non-patent literature. 4 specialized searches were carried out as well, on the existence, in Romania, of patents having chemical substances as their subject matter.

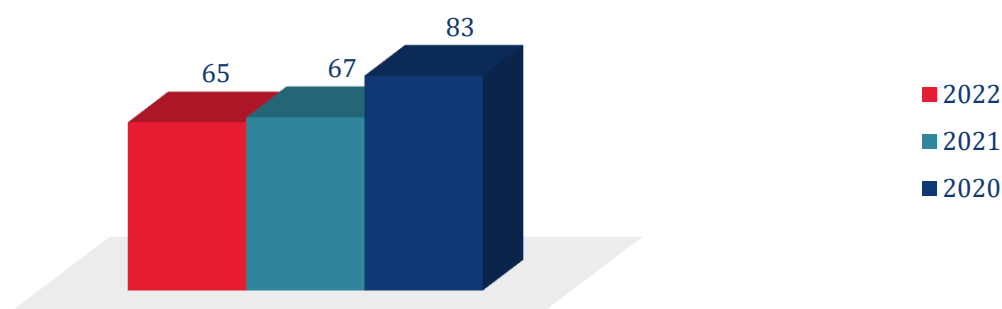
The range of services was completed by a number of 93 legal status communications referring to national patents, European patents and SPC.



IDEA ENVELOPE SERVICE

Established in 2008, with a view to storing and keeping safely, under non-public conditions, documents containing ideas of creations in various fields, which cannot be protected

under the current industrial property laws or copyright and related rights law, the “Idea envelope” service scored a number of 65 requests in 2022.

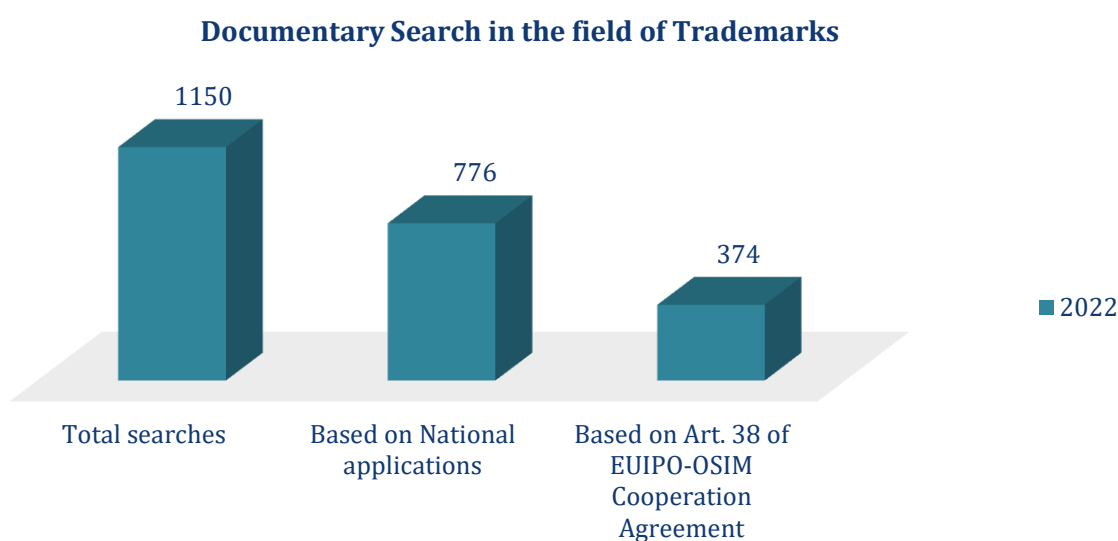


SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF TRADEMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of Law no. 84/1998, as republished, and of OSIM Order No. 4/2021, OSIM carried out, at the request of the interested parties, 776 documentary searches, which required the search of 2650 trademarks in the relevant databases and which referred to the existence of identical or similar

earlier rights, right holders’ or representatives portfolios, regarding the legal analysis of trademark status, documentary search conducted at short time intervals or periodically.

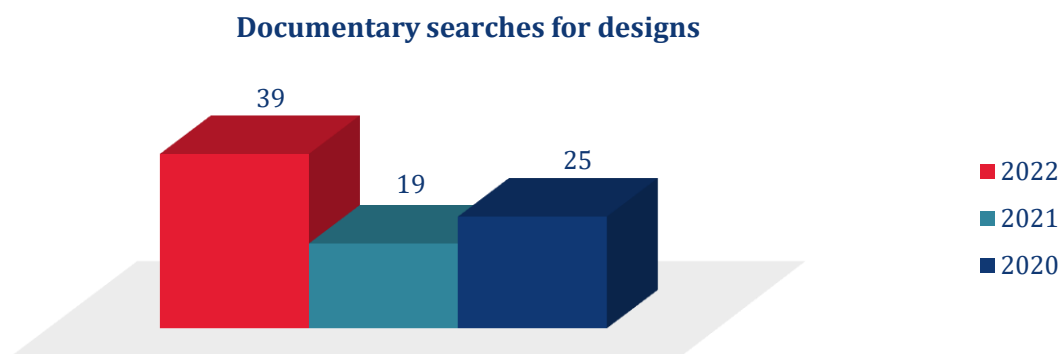
Also, based on the OSIM-EUIPO Cooperation Agreement, 374 documentary searches were carried out.



SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF DESIGNS

Documentary search in the field of designs is conducted under the provisions of the Design Law 129/1992, as republished, and of the Order of the Director General of OSIM No 80/01.08.2018, that regulate the tariffs for said activity.

In 2022, 81 requests for documentary search were submitted, with various requests, for the enforcement institutions and 39 paid documentary searches were carried out.



PUBLISHING HOUSE, TRANSLATIONS, ARCHIVES AND INTERNAL MANAGERIAL CONTROL DIVISION

In 2022, the Publishing House, Translations, Archives and Internal Managerial Control Division, comprised 3 compartments with distinct activity, led directly by the Head of Division.

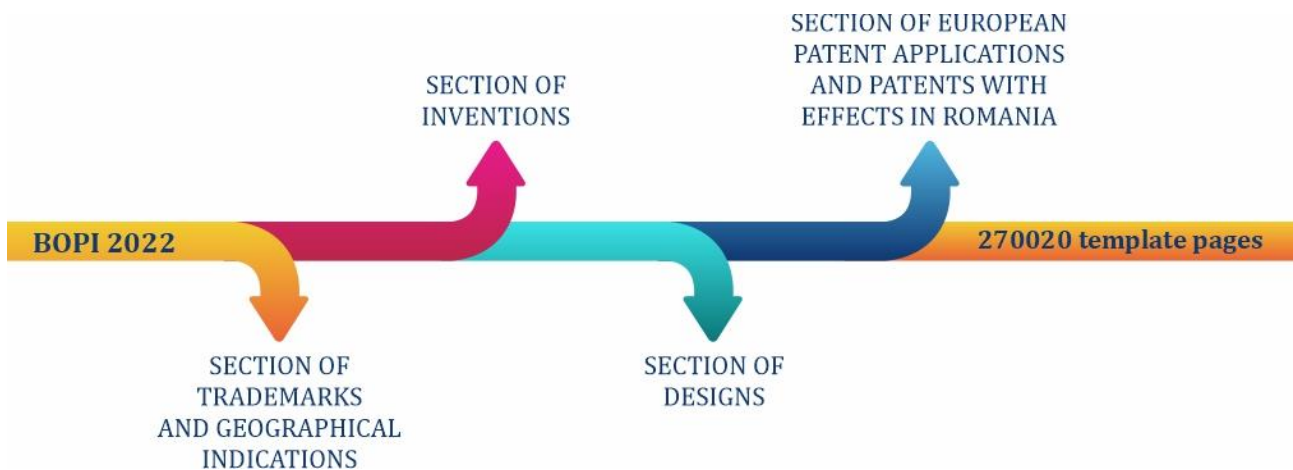
The organizational structure of the Division, at the reporting date, is the following:



PUBLISHING HOUSE

The general policy of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM) in the field of publishing the information in its own field of activity has always been oriented towards improving the system of information dissemination within the national and international social-economic environment. In order to facilitate the carrying out of this task, OSIM has got its own publishing house - OSIM Publishing House® - authorized by the Ministry of Culture since 1993. The main activity thereof is to edit and print, in accordance with G.D. No 573/1998 on the organization and functioning of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks, as amended, the OSIM publications.

In the reference year, 12 issues/section were edited and published for the four sections of BOPI.

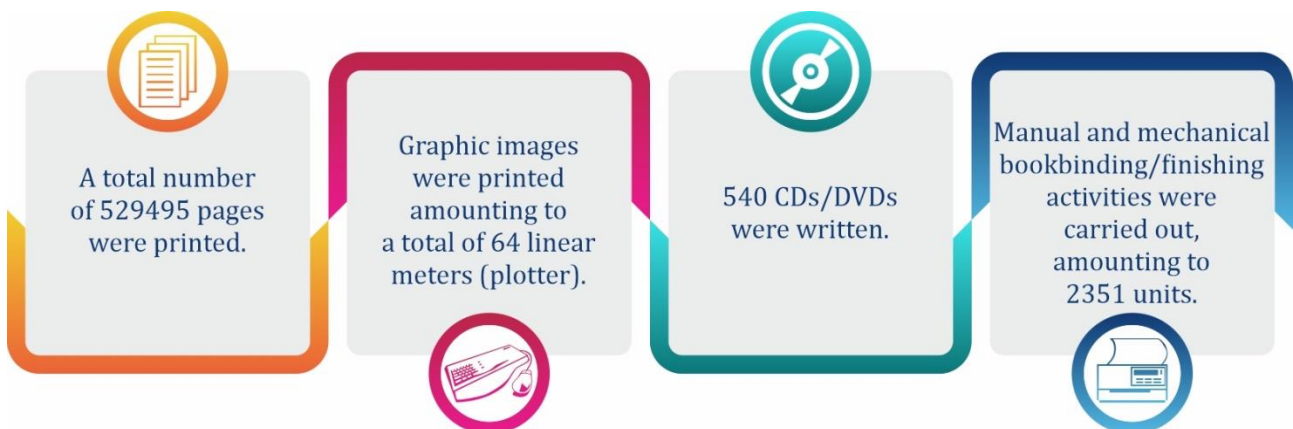


OSIM publications are carried out both in the classic printed version (paper version) and in electronic format and are distributed as CD or online/FTP, all the sections of BOPI being posted on the OSIM website, under the heading Publications.

Currently existent promotional publications were updated and printed. For better informing the public concerned, the OSIM Publishing House® section of the official OSIM webpage www.osim.ro hosts the information brochures.

The Publishing House also carried out the design, layout and printing of posters, roll-ups, diplomas and other materials needed within the events organized by our organization.

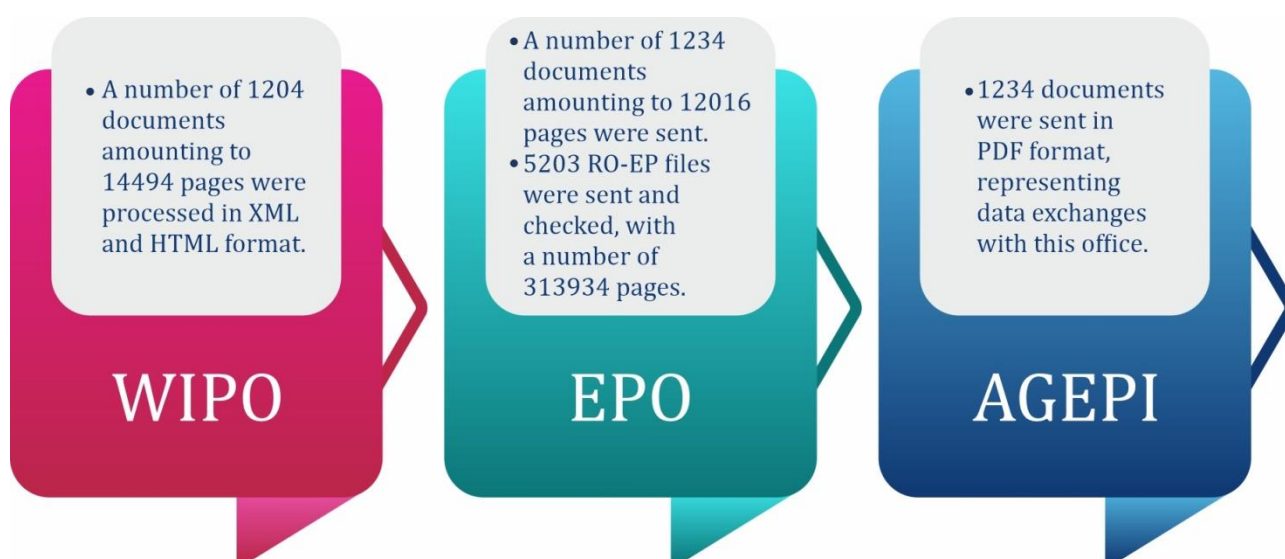
TYPOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP



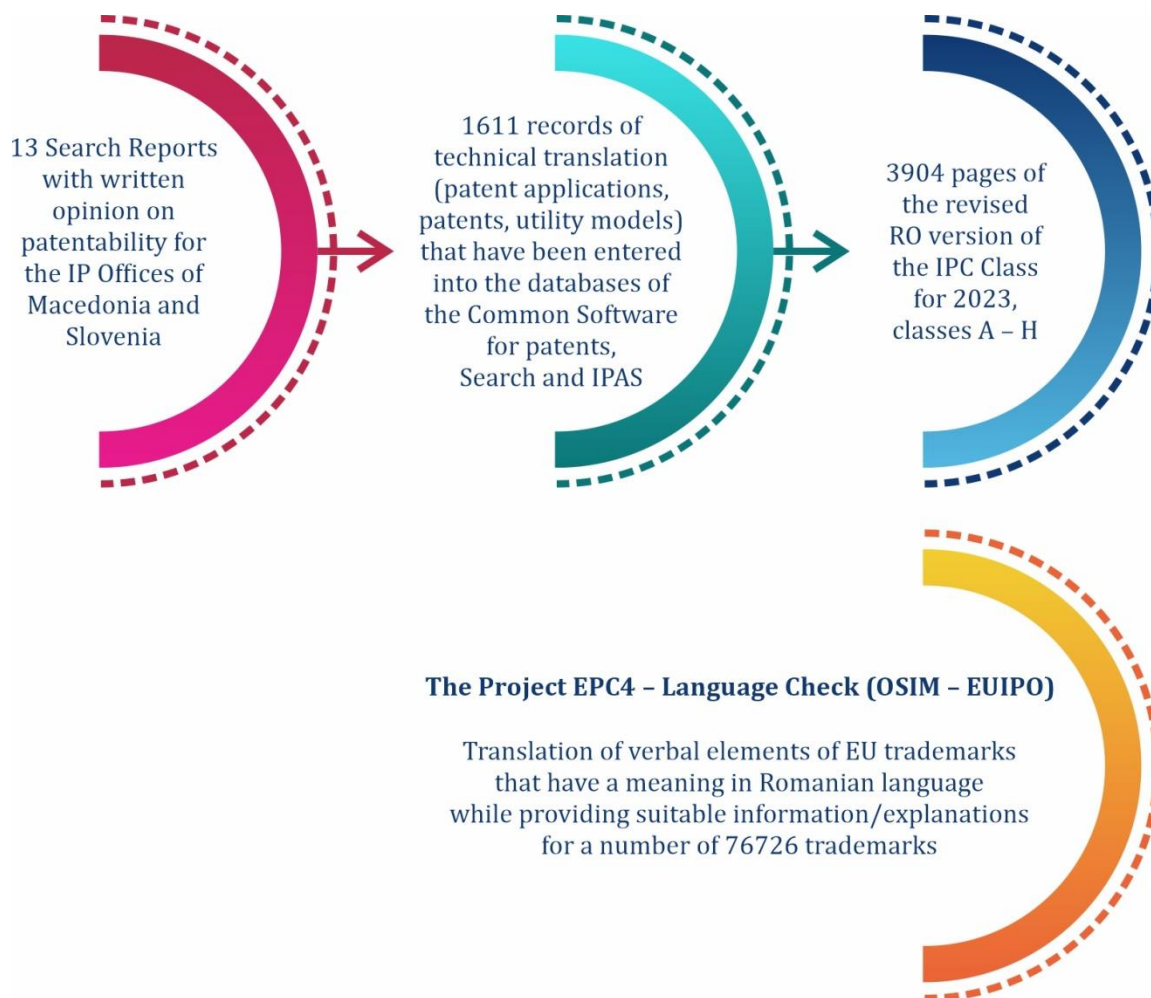
Specialized Publications



Based on the conventions concluded by OSIM with the EPO, WIPO, AGEPI a.s.o., SETFACIM prepares and transmits monthly data corresponding to the specifications of patent applications, patents and utility models, in compliance with the international standards in the field, the data structures recommended /agreed with our external partners.

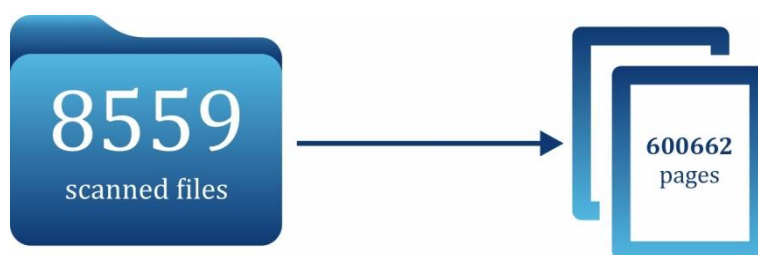


TRANSLATION COMPARTMENT

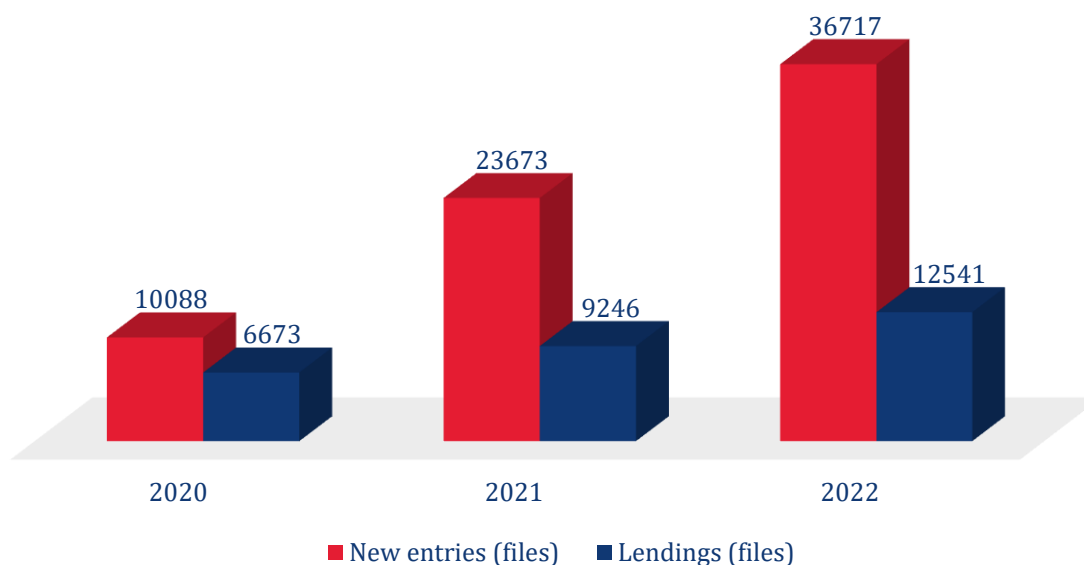


ACTIVITY OF OSIM ARCHIVES

In 2022 a special importance was given to the digitization of documents, so that the activity of setting up electronic archival units for trademarks continued.



Regarding the management of OSIM's documentary funds, the staff of the Archives Compartment made available to colleagues in the specialized divisions of OSIM 12541 archival units for which 596332 pages were certified and also took over from the specialized divisions 36717 new archival units and 12430 returned units.



Within the National Patent Collection, 1874 new entries were entered in the registers (patent applications, patents and utility models).

ACTIVITY WITHIN THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE SCIM MONITORING COMMISSION

In 2022, the Technical Secretariat of the Monitoring Commission prepared the meetings of the Commission, proposed the risk profile and the risk tolerance limit, based on the OSIM Risk Register and sent the approved Plan of Measures concerning the management of significant risks to the structures concerned, for implementation.

It also prepared the Synthesis of the results of the self-assessment, as provided in Annex no. 4.2 of the Order of the Secretary General of the Government (OSGG) no. 600/2018 for the approval of the Code of internal managerial control of public entities, by centralizing the information from the self-assessment questionnaires, as signed and transmitted by the heads of the departments at the first management level, it elaborated Chapter II of the Centralized Report regarding the stage of implementation and development of the internal managerial control system (Annex no. 3 of OSGG no. 600/2018).

At the same time, it assessed the structural compliance of the new or revised system procedures and operational procedures with the provisions of OSGG no. 600/2018 or with the internal regulations; also, all the system and operational procedures, corrective and improvement actions at the institution level were recorded, based on the data transmitted by the heads of departments at the first management level and the Commission documents were recorded, stored and archived.

Also, the Technical Secretariat of the Monitoring Commission centralized, at institutional level, the action plans for achieving the general objectives of the organization, as submitted by the departments, and the development stages of SCIM, and the documents related to the semester and annual data analysis submitted by the OSIM departments were received and registered, with a view to preparing the analyses performed at the management level.



ENSURING THE IT&C SYSTEM

By virtue of the G.D. No 573 of 7 September 1998, as republished, on the organization and functioning of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks, the activities meant to ensure the operation of the information technology and communications system are incumbent upon the Information Technology and Communications (IT&C) Division.

The IT&C Division aimed to meet the following specific objectives, derived from the general objectives of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks - as updated in 2022:

1. modernization of the OSIM information system by making the online fee payment option available to the public;
2. integration of OSIM IT system information into national and international IT structures:
 - implementation has started for a new complex module integrated into the Back Office system for Trademarks and Designs, for the processing of trademark applications filed by international route for which Romania is the country of origin, and of trademarks registered by international route, in which Romania is designated state, respectively;
 - regular updating, at the requested quality level, of external databases according to international agreements and conventions.
3. reducing the time to information access by increasing the correctness and availability of data within the OSIM IT system. The IT&C Division ensured the technical conditions for this objective to be met; in 2022 there were less major incidents than in 2021;
4. ensuring the increase of awareness in Romania regarding the role of Industrial Property and improving the way of disseminating information. The IT&C Division has timely updated the OSIM website and implemented new versions for the online Registers;
5. increasing the degree of compliance with ISO 9001: 2015, ISO/IEC 27001: 2018 and SCIM within the IT&C Division.



HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Compartment is directly subordinated to the Director General of OSIM and it is staffed by 3 experts. According to the legislation in force, the Human Resources Compartment has as main objective the management of human resources.

In 2022, the Human Resources Compartment carried out activities such as:

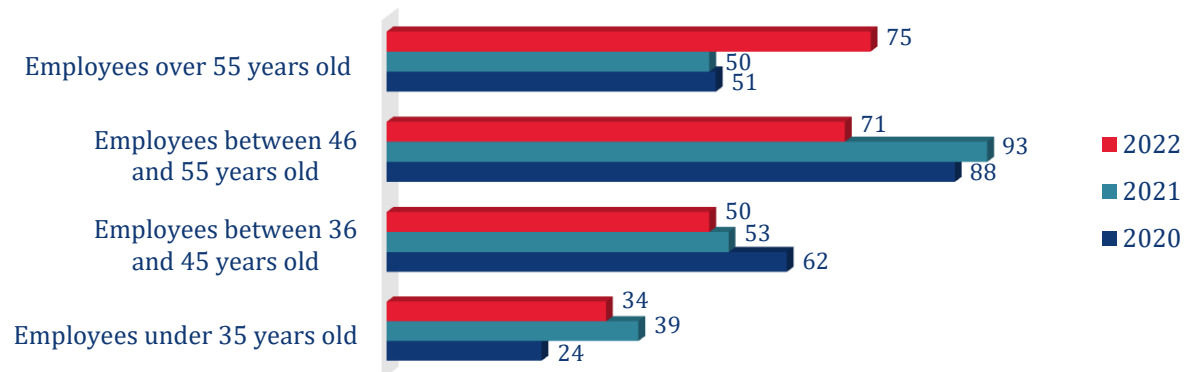
- registration and transmission of personnel data in REVISAL, for a number of 308 entries;
- introduction of 1374 documents into the personnel files, the payroll program included;
- drawing up, registering and issuing 555 certificates;
- conclusion of 565 additional acts to the Individual Employment Contracts;
- issuance of 62 orders and decisions on secondment/suspension/appointment/relocation of employees;
- management of a number of 2959 requests for annual rest leave;
- management of 319 sick leave requests;
- checking of a number of 248 time sheets drawn up by OSIM Directorates;
- management of job descriptions of employees, in a number of 137;
- management of employees' self-evaluation and evaluation sheets, in a number of 426.

Also, the Human Resources Compartment provided advice in the process of completing/updating of a number of 64 declarations of assets and interests, ensuring this process carrying out, their publication on the Intranet page of the organization and their transmission to the National Integrity Agency.

The professional training of employees continued in 2022, with the staff of the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks participating in 47 professional training courses.

On 31.12.2022, the State Office for Inventions and Trademarks had a number of 90 examiners for protection titles of the total number of 230 posts occupied.

The share of employees by age groups



ECONOMIC ACTIVITY – BUDGET



The Income and Expenditure Budget of OSIM for 2022 was approved by the main credit release authority - the Ministry of Economy.

In 2022, the total income of OSIM amounted to 78.324.86 thousand lei, of which, the major value is covered by the income made from activities relating to inventions and trademarks.

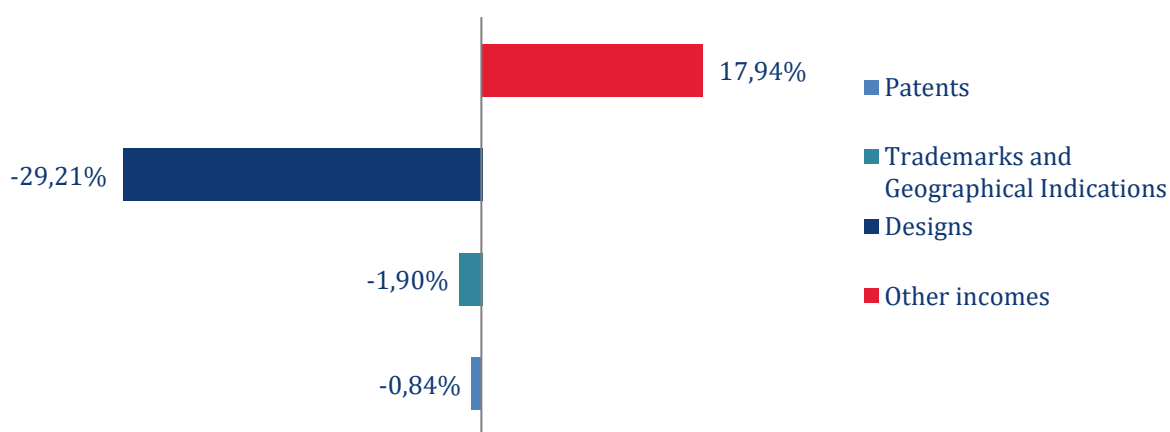
Incomes – thousand lei

Indicator	2021	2022	%
Patents	45.530,19	45.149,07	-0,84
Trademarks and geographical indications	25.416,81	24.933,02	-1,90
Designs	699,58	495,20	-29,21
Other incomes*	6.541,05	7.714,58	17,94
Total incomes	78.187,63	78.324,86	0,18

* The amount consists of:

- ✓ recovered amounts from EUIPO projects, exchange rate differences and delegations financed by EPO, EUIPO, WIPO; recovered amounts from projects with non-refundable foreign financing;
- ✓ services and publications.

Incomes 2022 vs 2021



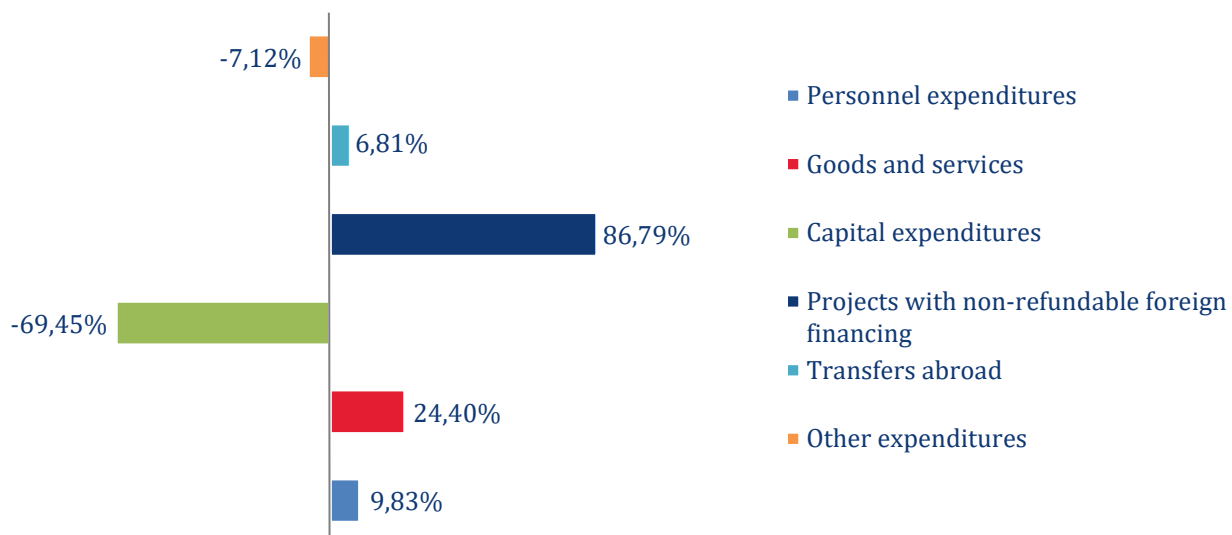
The expenditures incurred by OSIM in 2022 recorded a value of 50833.27 thousand lei, as compared to 59885.00 thousand lei, the amount approved by the Income and Expenditure Budget.

This level of expenditures allowed the carrying out of all the activities deriving from OSIM attributions, in good conditions.

Expenditures – thousand lei

Indicator	2021	2022	%
Personnel expenditures	19.770,81	21.714,81	9,83
Goods and services	4.280,44	5.324,87	24,40
Capital expenditures	1.920,93	586,84	-69,45
Projects with non-refundable foreign financing	2.330,01	4.352,26	86,79
Transfers abroad	17.437,89	18.625,84	6,81
Other expenditures	246,18	228,65	-7,12
Total expenditures	45.986,26	50.833,27	10,54

Expenditures 2022 vs 2021



STATISTICS

A. APPLICATIONS FOR PROTECTION TITLES - TOTAL

	2020	2021	2022
1. Patent applications	864	817	843
2. Applications for TSP¹ registration	0	0	0
3. Applications for Supplementary Protection Certificates	66	60	60
4. Utility model applications	71	39	49
5. Applications for trademark registration	10866	11092	10944
6. Applications for trademark renewal	7681	8335	7696
7. Applications for geographical indication registration	0	0	0
8. Applications for design registration	307	259	203
9. Applications for design renewal	389	176	143
TOTAL	20244	20778	19938

¹ TSP – Topographies of semiconductor products

Applications by administrative units

Macroregion/Development region/County	2020			2021			2022		
	CBI	CIM	CDM	CBI	CIM	CDM	CBI	CIM	CDM
MACROREGION ONE	139	1676	33	133	1835	29	122	1765	22
North-West	102	839	15	94	918	14	82	968	11
Bihor	6	204	1	10	191	6	4	198	0
Bistrița-Năsăud	5	72	2	7	57	2	5	75	3
Cluj	75	409	5	63	462	2	58	473	6
Maramureș	15	73	2	11	115	1	14	132	2
Satu Mare	1	50	1	1	68	0	0	61	0
Sălaj	0	31	4	2	25	3	1	29	0
Center	37	837	18	39	917	15	40	797	11
Alba	2	126	7	4	117	8	5	90	1
Brașov	21	322	5	17	356	1	25	303	4
Covasna	1	38	1	1	32	4	2	33	1
Harghita	1	60	2	1	51	0	0	52	1
Mureș	9	142	3	10	141	2	2	143	2
Sibiu	3	149	0	6	220	0	6	176	2

Macroregion/Development region/County	2020			2021			2022		
	CBI	CIM	CDM	CBI	CIM	CDM	CBI	CIM	CDM
MACROREGION TWO	157	1491	29	147	1420	48	133	1571	20
North-East	116	736	9	109	743	15	114	834	13
Bacău	4	151	1	4	154	2	1	119	1
Botoşani	4	40	0	4	48	2	5	37	0
Iaşi	75	297	6	71	286	5	82	354	8
Neamţ	1	90	1	7	76	3	5	76	0
Suceava	32	119	1	20	137	3	17	181	4
Vaslui	0	39	0	3	42	0	4	67	0
South-East	41	755	20	38	677	33	19	737	7
Brăila	2	48	1	1	31	0	1	31	0
Buzău	11	76	1	3	75	3	3	71	0
Constanţa	12	356	2	13	351	27	5	428	3
Galaţi	14	141	1	17	109	1	9	111	2
Tulcea	1	48	2	2	25	1	0	34	0
Vrancea	1	86	13	2	86	1	1	62	2

Macroregion/Development region/County	2020			2021			2022		
	CBI	CIM	CDM	CBI	CIM	CDM	CBI	CIM	CDM
MACROREGION THREE	424	4780	97	486	4877	86	454	4706	73
South - Muntenia	48	587	24	58	621	24	53	655	10
Argeş	16	151	15	23	161	4	12	173	8
Călăraşi	1	37	1	4	42	1	1	27	0
Dâmboviţa	11	86	2	12	62	5	8	93	0
Giurgiu	0	36	0	0	34	0	0	41	0
Ialomiţa	4	22	1	3	32	2	1	39	0
Prahova	13	226	5	16	257	12	30	243	2
Teleorman	3	29	0	0	33	0	1	39	0
Bucharest - Ilfov	376	4193	73	428	4256	62	401	4051	63
Ilfov	82	803	16	105	704	10	107	732	13
Bucharest Municipality	294	3390	57	323	3552	52	294	3319	50

Macroregion/Development region/County	2020			2021			2022		
	CBI	CIM	CDM	CBI	CIM	CDM	CBI	CIM	CDM
MACROREGION FOUR	97	871	34	111	920	15	96	849	28
South-West Oltenia	34	330	26	55	336	6	40	329	13
Dolj	16	130	5	21	140	5	24	138	4
Gorj	4	44	16	4	40	0	3	34	6
Mehedinți	0	26	0	3	15	0	1	26	0
Olt	0	47	0	8	39	0	1	49	0
Vâlcea	14	83	5	19	102	1	11	82	3
West	63	541	8	56	584	9	56	520	15
Arad	4	101	0	11	104	1	7	85	2
Caraș-Severin	3	14	0	5	18	1	1	22	0
Hunedoara	9	72	3	10	67	1	11	57	4
Timiș	47	354	5	30	395	6	37	356	9

Patents

	2020	2021	2022
1. Filed patent applications – total, of which:	864	817	843
- Romanian applicants	817	775	805
- foreign applicants – total, of which:	47	42	38
- by national route	853	806	835
- by international route (PCT)	1	11	8
2. Granted patents¹ - total - of which:	358	397	362
- published	368	376	364
3. Issued patents – total	368	376	364
4. Patent duplicates	1460	1362	1449
5. European patent validation certificates	1731	2755	1577

¹ Decisions to grant

European patents

	2020	2021	2022
European patents validated in Romania	3760	3433	2589

Supplementary protection certificate

	2020	2021	2022
1. Supplementary protection certificate applications	66	60	60
2. Issued certificates – total	49	34	33

Utility models

	2020	2021	2022
1. Utility model applications – total, of which:	71	39	49
- Romanian applicants	62	26	38
- foreign applicants – total	9	13	11
2. Issued certificates – total	36	56	26

Patent applications by categories of Romanian applicants

Categories of applicants	2020	2021	2022
Natural persons	246	226	184
Companies	129	140	111
Research institutes	246	232	312
Education institutions	196	177	198
Others	0	0	0
Romanian applicants	817	775	805

Trademarks, trademark renewals and geographical indications

	2020	2021	2022
1. Trademark applications – total, of which:	10866	11092	10944
- Romanian applicants	8946	9134	8891
- foreign applicants	451	131	530
- CTM conversion	50	27	32
2. Trademark renewals – total, of which:	7681	8335	7696
- by national route	3429	3940	3361
- by international route (Madrid)	4252	4395	4335
3. Issued certificates – total	8141	13077	12884
4. Applications for geographical indication registration	0	2	0

Designs

	2020	2021	2022
1. Applications for design registration – total, of which:	271	259	203
- Romanian applicants	193	177	143
- foreign applicants – total, of which:	114	82	60
- by national route	10	4	8
- by international route (the Hague)	104	78	48
2. Issued certificates – total	466	363	277

Designs contained in the applications for design registration

	2020	2021	2022
Designs contained in the applications	1083	824	567

B. EXAMINATION OF APPLICATIONS – TOTAL

	2020	2021	2022
1. Examined patent applications – total, of which:	945	1194	900
- Examination of patent applications – in the preliminary examination	292	474	185
- Examination of patent applications – in the substantive examination	653	720	715
2. Examination of applications for TSP¹ registration	2	0	0
3. Examination of SPC² applications	53	51	39
4. Examination of utility models	52	67	43
5. Examination of trademark registration applications	8337	15364	11089
6. Examination of trademark renewal applications	3375	3940	7798
7. Examination of design registration applications	499	477	347
8. Examination of design renewal applications	283	176	137
Total number of examined applications – OSIM	14331	21984	20962

¹ TSP - Topographies of semiconductor products.

² SCP - Supplementary protection certificate.

Patent examination

	2020	2021	2022
a. Examined – total, of which:	653	720	700
- Romanian	633	705	663
- foreign	20	15	37

	2020	2021	2022
b. Examined – by decisions – total, of which:	653	720	715
- granted patents	358	397	362
- CBI refused upon examination	293	321	348
- CBI withdrawn upon examination	2	2	5

Substantive examination of SCP applications

	2020	2021	2022
Substantive examination of SCP applications – total, of which:	53	51	39
- SCP granted	40	33	33
- SCP refused	5	8	4
- SCP withdrawn	8	10	2

Examination of utility model applications

	2020	2021	2022
Examination of utility model applications – total, of which:	52	67	43
- registered utility models	42	46	24
- refused utility models	9	2	16
- withdrawn utility models	1	19	3

Examination of applications for trademark registration

	2020	2021	2022
Examined – total, of which:	8337	15364	11041
a. Examination of applications by national route – total, of which:	6754	12541	8642
- admitted	6004	11550	7771
- refused	594	892	774
- cancelled/withdrawn	156	99	97
b. Examination of applications by international route – total, of which:	1583	2823	2399
- admitted	1455	2784	2283
- refused	128	39	116

Examination of applications for trademark renewal

	2020	2021	2022
Examination of applications for renewal	3375	3940	7798

Examination of applications for design registration

	2020	2021	2022
Examined – total	499	477	347
preliminary examination	225	196	137
substantive examination	274	281	210

Examination of applications for design renewal

	2020	2021	2022
Examination of applications for renewal	283	176	137

C. STOCK OF PENDING APPLICATIONS

	2020	2021	2022
Total stock of pending applications on 31 December 2022 Patents and Technological Information Directorate	4437	4081	4112
Stock of patent applications in the Preliminary Examination	1529	1186	1210
Stock of patent applications in the Substantive Examination	2631	2624	2593
Stock of utility model (MU) applications	79	47	61
Stock of applications for topographies of semiconductor products (TSP) registration	0	0	0
Stock of Supplementary Protection Certificate (SPC) applications	198	224	248
Total stock of pending applications on 31 December 2022 Trademarks and Designs Directorate	2808	3234	3342
Stock of trademark registration applications	2359	2435	2600
Stock of trademark oppositions	312	686	655
Stock of design registration applications in the Preliminary Examination	25	21	27
Stock of design registration applications in the Substantive Examination	112	91	58
Stock of design oppositions	0	1	2

D. ISSUANCE OF PROTECTION DOCUMENTS

	2020	2021	2022
1. Patents	368	376	364
2. Patent duplicates	1460	1362	1449
3. Priority certificates	77	62	53
4. Utility model certificates	36	56	26
5. Certificates of TSP registration	0	0	0
6. Supplementary Protection Certificates	49	34	33
7. European patent validation certificates	1731	2755	1577
8. Certificates of trademark registration and renewal	8141	13077	12884
9. Certificates of design registration and renewal	466	363	277
TOTAL	12328	18085	16663

E. APPEALS

Appeals lodged with the Inventions Board of Appeal within the Appeal Division

	2020	2021	2022
Appeals remained unsettled from the preceding years	2	3	5
Appeals lodged during the current year	10	12	13
Appeals to be settled next year	2	5	3
Settled - total	10	15	15
- Settled from the preceding years	2	3	5
- Settled from the current year	8	7	10
Solutions - total	10	10	15
- admitted	5	4	8
- rejected	5	6	7

Appeals lodged with the Inventions Board of Appeal within Legal Division

	2020	2021	2022
Appeals remained unsettled from the preceding years	0	0	0
Appeals lodged during the current year	0	1	3
Appeals to be settled next year	0	0	1
Settled - total	0	1	3
- settled from the preceding years	0	0	0
- settled from the current year	0	1	3
Solutions - total	0	1	2
- admitted	0	1	2
- rejected	0	0	0

Appeals lodged with the Trademarks Board of Appeal

	2020	2021	2022
Appeals remained unsettled from the preceding years	113	193	51
Appeals lodged during the current year	244	252	348
Appeals to be settled next year	194	151	197
Settled - total	164	294	302
- settled from the preceding years	112	149	103
- settled from the current year	52	145	199
Solutions - total	164	294	302
- admitted	78	155	197
- rejected	83	138	105
- other solutions	3	1	0

Appeals lodged with the Designs Board of Appeal

	2020	2021	2022
Appeals remained unsettled from the preceding years	1	0	0
Appeals lodged during the current year	1	0	1
Appeals to be settled next year	0	0	1
Settled - total	2	0	0
- settled from the preceding years	1	0	0
- settled from the current year	1	0	0
Solutions - total	2	0	0
- admitted	2	0	0
- rejected	0	0	0

F. SERVICES

Services in the IP field

	2020	2021	2022
Specialized searches by chemical substances	1	3	4
Searches for third parties - Inventions	23	16	27
Searches performed under agreements concluded with National Offices	14	10	13
Portfolio searches	14	9	7
Legal status searches	178	193	93
Trademark searches	590	798	1150
Design searches	25	19	39

G. ACTIVITY OF OSIM ARCHIVES

	2020	2021	2022
New entries	10088	23673	36717
Lendings	6673	9246	12541

ABBREVIATIONS


AGEPI	– State Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova
ANPC	– National Authority for Consumers’ Protection
BETP	– Bureau for Issuance of Protection Titles
BI	– Patent
BOPI	– Official Industrial Property Bulletin
CCINA	– Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Navigation and Agriculture
CDM	– Design registration application
CIM	– Trademark registration application
CTM	– Community Trademark
DM	– Design
EPC	– European Patent Convention
EPO	– European Patent Office
EU	– European Union
EUIPO	– European Union Intellectual Property Office
GD	– Government Decision
GEO	– Government Emergency Ordinance
IP	– Industrial Property
IPC	– International Patent Classification
IPR	– Industrial Property Rights
ISO	– International Standardization Organization
ISO/IEC	– International Standardization Organization ISO – International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
ITC	– Information Technology and Communications
MU	– Utility Model
OSGG	– Order of Secretary General of the Government

OSIM	– State Office for Inventions and Trademarks
PCT	– Patent Cooperation Treaty
REVISAL	– General Record of Employees
SCIM	– Internal Management Control System
SDCDETP	– Design, Documentary Searches, Issuance of Protection Titles
SETFACIM	– Publishing House, Translations, Archives and Internal Managerial Control Division
SME	– Small and Medium-Size Enterprise
SPC	– Supplementary Protection Certificate
TSP	– Topographies of Semiconductor Products
WIPO	– World Intellectual Property Organization

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