

Design: UE joins The Hague Agreement

Effective from January 1st, 2008 the European Community Design is part of the Agreement of The Hague.

Therefore, it is now possible to designate a UE design within an International model application.

In the past, only few Countries of the EU were Member States of this Agreement, namely Benelux (Belgium, Luxembourg and The Netherlands), Bulgaria, France, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, plus Albania, Croatia, Iceland, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine.

Now, through an International model application, it is possible to cover a territory overlapping the Countries members of the European Patent Convention, with the exclusion of Norway. However, this kind of registration does not seem convenient in view of a slightly higher amount of the overall due fees.