



Cost of a sample Euro-PCT Patent¹

EPO Fees: EUR 6 600

- international fees
- procedural fees before the EPO
- renewal fees for 3rd and 4th year

Percentage of total: 14 %

**Validation in the
contracting states:** EUR ca. 12 500
6 translations

- attorney EUR 4 200
- translation cost EUR 7 500
- publication fees EUR 800

Percentage of total: 27 %

**Total cost:
EUR 47 000**

**Professional representation
before the EPO:** EUR ca. 12 500

- pre-filing EUR 5 400
- processing EUR 6 200
- translation of claims EUR 900

Percentage of total: 27 %

**National renewal fees
and related cost:** EUR ca. 15 500
5th to 10th year

- renewal fees EUR 8 500
- attorney: payment
of renewal fees EUR 7 000

Percentage of total: 32 %

¹⁾ 26 pages, 8 states, 10-year term, excl. in-house preparation costs for the patentee, all values rounded.



Cost of a Euro-PCT patent – model calculation

1. European patents filed by way of an application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), known as “Euro-PCT patents”, are generally valid in eight countries. In addition to the six most frequently designated countries Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain and Switzerland, applicants usually specify the Netherlands and Austria.
2. The total cost of a Euro-PCT patent is estimated at approximately EUR 47 000. This amount comprises the international PCT fees, the fees for the EPO grant procedure, the costs of representation by a patent attorney, the translation and validation costs incurred following the grant procedure and the renewal fees for maintenance of the patent in the designated countries.

Whilst this cost is only a model calculation, it is based on an empirical study. However, it may vary considerably, in some cases by up to 100%, depending on the technical field and the filing strategy chosen. If account is taken of the in-house cost to the applicant of preparing for the filing and grant procedure, the total cost of a Euro-PCT patent increases by EUR 11 000 to EUR 12 000.

3. Procedural costs: a total cost of approximately EUR 6 600 is incurred in international fees under the PCT and fees for the EPO grant procedure.
4. Patent attorney costs of about EUR 12 500 are estimated for the drafting of the patent application in one official language, representation in procedures before the EPO and the translation of the patent claims into the other two official languages.
5. Once the EPO grant procedure has been closed, the patentee must pay for the translation of the Euro-PCT patent into the official languages of the designated countries and for the filing and publication (“validation costs”) of those translations. As a result of the larger number of pages and the larger number of designated countries (eight), the translation and validation costs are higher than in the case of a Euro-direct patent and amount to approximately EUR 12 500.
6. During the term of the patent, renewal fees fixed and collected by the individual countries must be paid. The renewal fees (5th to 10th year) payable in the eight countries most frequently designated in Euro-PCT patents and the associated attorney costs amount to approximately EUR 15 500.



Cost of a sample European Patent¹

EPO Fees: EUR 4 600

- procedural fees before the EPO
- renewal fees for 3rd and 4th year

Percentage of total: 14 %

**Validation in the
contracting states:** EUR ca. 7 000
4 translations

- attorney EUR 3 000
- translation cost EUR 3 600
- publication fees EUR 400

Percentage of total: 22 %

**Total cost:
EUR ca. 32 000**

**Professional
representation
before the EPO:** EUR ca. 10 000

- pre-filing EUR 4 000
- processing EUR 5 400
- translation of claims EUR 600

Percentage of total: 31 %

**National renewal fees
and related cost:** EUR ca. 10 000
5th to 10th year

- renewal fees (years 5 - 10) EUR 4 700
- attorney:
payment of renewal fees EUR 5 300

Percentage of total: 32 %

¹⁾ 18 pages, 6 states, 10-year term, excl. in-house preparation costs for the patentee, all values rounded.



Cost of a European patent (Euro-direct) – model calculation

1. European patents filed by the direct European route – that is to say, directly with the European Patent Office in accordance with the provisions of the European Patent Convention or via a national patent office – are generally valid in six countries. The most frequently designated countries are Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Spain and Switzerland.
2. The total cost of a European patent is estimated at approximately EUR 32 000. This amount comprises the fees for the EPO grant procedure, the costs of representation by a patent attorney before the EPO, the translation and validation costs and the renewal fees for maintenance of the patent.

The amount is the result of a model calculation but is nevertheless based on actual research data. It should be borne in mind that the actual patenting costs in an individual case may differ by more than 100 %, depending on the technological field. If account is also taken of the in-house cost of preparing for the filing and grant procedure, the total cost increases by approximately EUR 6 000.

3. Approximately EUR 4 600 must be reckoned with for the costs of the procedure before the EPO. This amount includes the fees charged by the EPO for conducting the procedure and granting the European patent and the renewal fees to be paid in the third and fourth years of the procedure.
4. A cost of about EUR 10 000 in patent attorney fees is estimated for the drafting of the patent application in one language, representation in procedures before the EPO and the translation of the patent claims into the other two official languages.
5. Since all the EPC states except Luxembourg and Monaco require a translation of the European patent where the patent is not drafted in their official language, the patentee will incur considerable post-grant expense in producing, filing and publishing such translations („validation costs“). Where a patent is granted for the six most frequently designated countries, the patentee will need four translations. The associated translation, representation and publishing costs amount to approximately EUR 7 000.
6. During the term of his patent, the patentee must pay renewal fees to maintain his right. These fees are fixed and collected by the contracting states. 50% of the fees remain with the national patent authorities, whilst the remainder is transferred to the EPO. The renewal fees payable from the fifth to tenth year and the associated representation costs are estimated at approximately EUR 10 000.