



Technical Assistance for Turkey in Horizon 2020 Phase-II

EuropeAid/139098/IH/SER/TR

# Horizon Europe: Legal & Financial, IPR Aspects in EIC Accelerator

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Photo by Christian Lue on Unsplash















Odysseas Spyroglou Key Expert 2. Legal, Financial & IPR

- Innovation consultant with engineering, ICT and financial background.
- Over 20 years of working experience in EU funded projects: preparing proposals, building consortia and managing projects under FP7, CIP, COSME, INTERREG, MED, H2020 and more.
- Specialise in **Project Management** & **Quality**, **Intellectual Property** and reengineering **business processes**.
- Designed and delivered more than 300 training sessions on Innovation Management, IPR, Entrepreneurship, Proposal Writing, Project Management, financial administration.

20+

Years

60+

**Projects** 

90m+ Funds



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### What we'll cover

Legal, Financial and IPR Issues in EIC Accelerator



#### Legal

- Incorporation
- Operating Agreements
- Employee Contracts
- Partnership
   Agreements



#### **Financials**

- Reliable Financial Assumptions
- Financial Plan



#### **Intellectual Property**

- Freedom to Operate
- IP Strategy





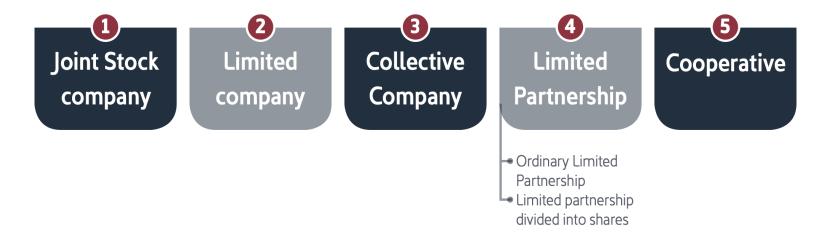




# First Things First Incorporate



- Incorporation: Choose the right business structure. What type of company you need.
- Each country has some variations.



https://ticaret.gov.tr/data/5d3e935313b87607d8feeffc/rehber\_Eng.pdf





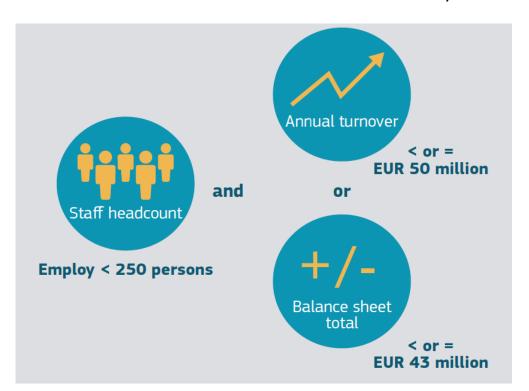


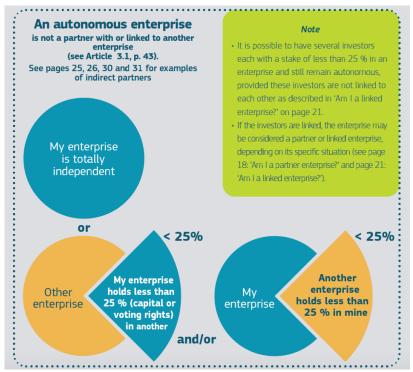


### **SME** Definition



Are you an SME?





https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/42921









## Memorandum of Understanding



Other documents you will need



- Framework of negotiations among partners of consortium
- Concluded in the beginning of the negotiations on the involvement in a project (before submitting a proposal)
- Will for intended common line of action
- Explains:
  - protocols for communication, information exchange,
  - reporting,
  - confidentiality issues
  - modifications and conditions for terminating the agreement.











## Non-Disclosure Agreement

Other documents you will need



- **Confidentiality** in R&D projects, from the setting-up (even during earliest discussions), to implementation and exploitation phases.
- A non-disclosure agreement, is a document that two parties can use to agree not to disclose confidential information to any third party. If either party releases any of the information shared, they may be liable to legal and monetary damages.









## Operating Agreements



How your startup will work

**Operating Agreement** is a legal document (of LLCs) that outlines:

- o financial rules,
- o responsibilities of founders,
- how disputes are resolved,
- o and more.



Articles of Incorporation, Company Bylaws, Stock Certificates















What you should include

- The job description
- The financials
- Time off arrangements
- Intellectual Property
- Company policies
- Termination clauses
- Non-competition and restraint clauses









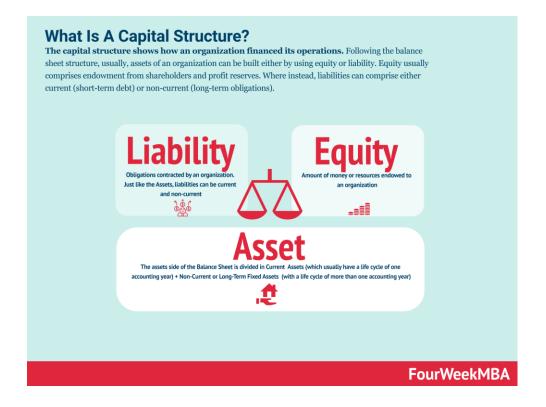


## Financials Aspects



#### What you need to address in your application

- How will you finance this success?
- Current company's ownership and capital structure











## Financials Aspects



### What you need to address in your application

- Current applications for funds/discussion with public & private investors
- Funding & Growth strategies:

  organization's plan for overcoming
  current and future challenges to
  realize expansion goals: growth
  strategy goals, increasing market
  share and revenue, acquiring assets,
  and improving the organization's
  products or services.











## Financials Aspects



### What you need to address in your application

- Financial needs to scale up (precise amounts per work package)
- Precise Grant/Investment component amounts
   needed from the EIC and justification
- Profit & Loss account over the next 3 years:
   (income statement or statement of operations) =
   financial report, summary of a company's
   revenues, expenses, and profits/losses over a
   given period of time.

#### Profit and loss statement example

Profit and	loss of	company	XYX
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Total revenue	£100,000
Cost of goods sold	£20,000
Gross profit	£80,000

#### Operating expenses

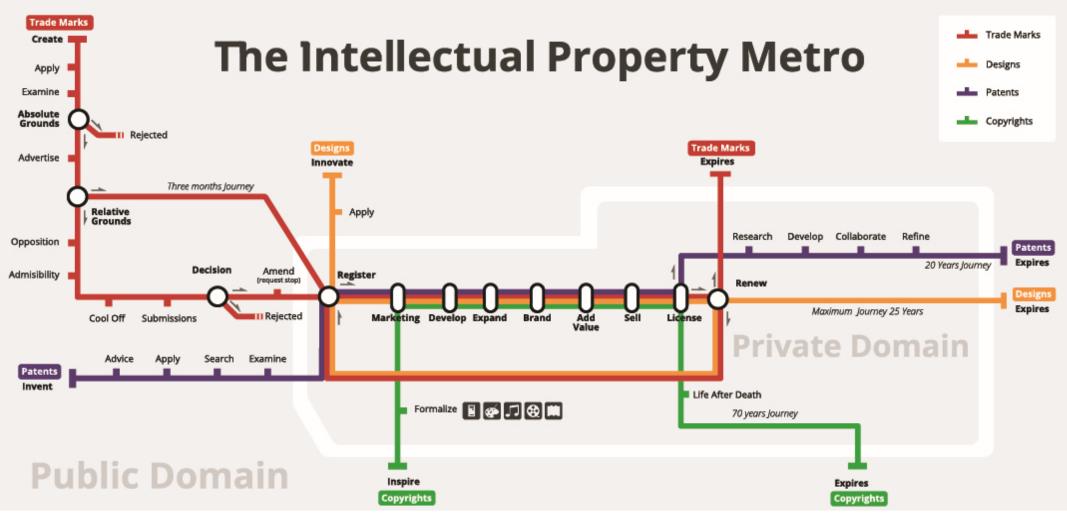
	o portaining emperiods	
	Salaries	£10,000
	Rent	£10,000
	Utilities	£5,000
	Depreciation	£5,000
	Total operating expenses	£30,000
	Operating profit	£50,000
	Interest expense	£10,000
	Income before taxes	£40,000
	Taxes	£10,000
	Net income	£30,000

https://www.ig.com/uk/glossary-trading-terms/profit-and-loss-definition

















## Why IP is important



- Your ideas
- Your work
- Your business advantage
- A valuable asset that must be protected (it can be traded)









### Intellectual Property RIGHTS



- A granted "right" for a limited legal monopoly.
- Limitations exist in time, territory and scope.
- Anyone who violates IP rights is an "infringer". Rights
  holder can bring legal action against infringer to
  restore the monopoly.
- The rights holder can:
- Transfer their rights (sale or licensing);
- Waive their rights (intentionally or voluntarily); and
- offer "access rights" to background IP and/or foreground IP





Intellectual Property Right

Less IPR

Note

1. All data from Table 24, pg. 85 in "Intellectual property rights intensive industries: contribution to economic performance and employment in the European Union." Industry-Level Analysis Report, September 2013. A joint project between the European Patent Office and the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market.
Available at his Intellectual Control of the Contr











## Types of IPR



- Copyrights
- Patents
- Trademarks
- Industrial Designs
- Trade secrets
- !!Protection still in national level rather than EU\*
- Apply to European Patent Office but European patent needs to be <u>validated</u> by the <u>national patent office in each country</u> where protection is required.











### Patent Rights (5+1)

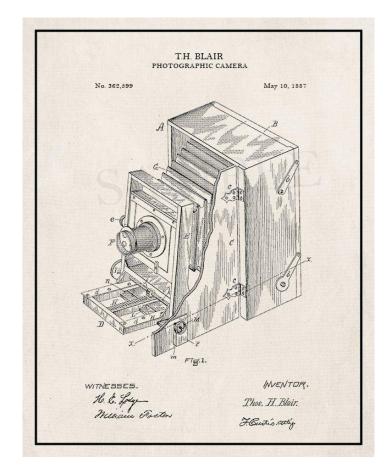


#### Exclusive rights for patent holders:

- 1. Making/Using
- 2. Offering for sale (advertising)
- 3. Selling
- 4. Importing into the protected territory
- 5. Storing in the protected territory

Limited by time, territory and scope.

Patent owners can **assign**, **transfer** by succession, conclude **licensing** contracts.













## Copyrights

- Providing protection to creators (writers, artists, music composers, etc.) on their creations. ("works")
- Does NOT extend to ideas, only to expression of thoughts.
- No need for registration (some countries have a system)
- Types of rights:
  - Economic: financial reward / reproduction, distribution, public performance, broadcasting, translation, adaptation.
  - Moral: attribution / recognition, fame, right to object to changes, adaptations
- Protection: companies or organisations of creators
- Duration: usually 50 years after a creator's death









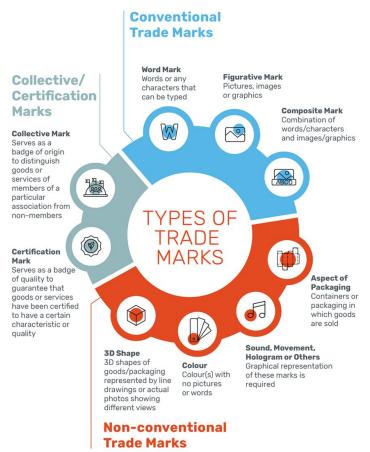




### **Trademarks**



- Sign used to identify certain goods and services by someone (person or enterprise)
- Can consist of a word, combination, abbreviations, names, drawings (logos), 3D shapes, colors, even music.
- Must be distinctive
- Types of trademarks (in addition to commercial):
  - Collective: members of an organization, union
  - Certification: comply with a set of standards
- Protection: Registration in country Trade offices
- Duration: usually 10 years, renewed indefinitely











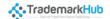
#### THE 5 CATEGORIES OF TRADEMARKS



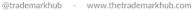




Trademarks are divided into five different categories, which are ranked by distinctiveness. Fanciful trademarks **EXON** Kodak Polaroid Fanciful trademarks are made-up words which are invented to be used as a trademark name. Arbitrary trademarks Arbitrary trademarks are words that have a real, common meaning but they are completely unrelated to the product or service. Suggestive trademarks **NETFLIX** Suggestive trademarks are named after a characteristic of the Microsoft IAGUAR product or service. Descriptive trademarks Descriptive trademarks are a description of the product or SHARP BRITISH AIRWAYS service. Generic trademarks Generic trademarks cannot be protected as they are simply a **ASPIRIN** THERMOS generic description of the product or service.















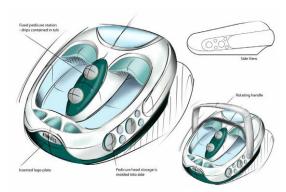


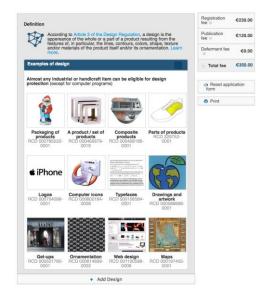




### **Industrial Designs**

- Ornamental or aesthetic aspect of an article: 3D features, shape, patterns, lines or color (instruments, watches, jewelry, houseware, electrical appliances, vehicles, architectural structures, textile designs, etc.)
- Must "appeal the eye" (aesthetic)
- Protection: Registration in country authorised agencies/trade offices
  - Prevent unauthorised copying or imitation
  - license or authorize others to use
- Duration: usually 5 years, renewed up to 15



















#### **Word mark**

A word mark is represented using words, letters, numbers or any other characters that can be typed.

**View examples** 



#### Figurative mark

A figurative mark is represented using pictures, graphics or images; a figurative mark does not contain words or letters.

View examples





#### Figurative mark containing word elements

A figurative mark containing word elements combines the use of pictures, graphics or images with words or letters.

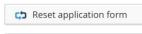
View examples



#### 3D mark

A three-dimensional mark is represented using a three-dimensional shape, such as the actual product or its packaging.

View examples



Print





#### Sound mark

A sound mark must be represented graphically using, for example, musical notation (score music).

View examples



#### 3D mark containing word elements

A 3D mark containing word elements combines the use of a three-dimensional shape with words or letters.

View examples





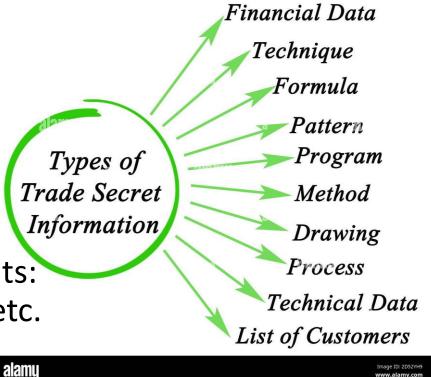




#### **Trade Secrets**



- Confidential Business Information
- Provides a competitive edge for the company
- Not registered but Kept Secret
- Protection:
  - Through legal binding agreements: Non disclosure, confidentiality, etc.
- Duration: indefinitely













## Use IP to Make Your Project Awarded

Assessment of state of the art

- Large amount of R&D carried out by private sector. Prefers to patent instead of publish.
- Neglecting patent databases, you neglect 80% of technical information available for your use (OECD)



https://worldwide.espacenet.com





https://patentscope.wipo.int









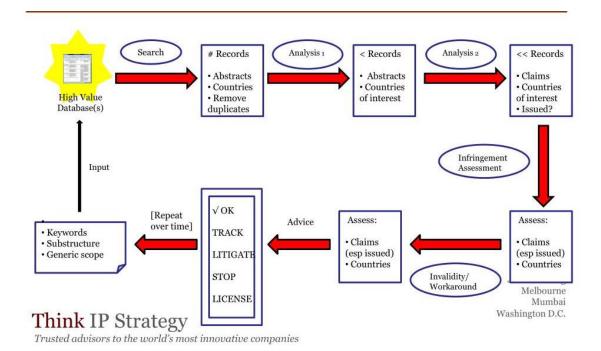






## Freedom to Operate (FTO)

- Ability to use your technology without infringing on another's intellectual property.
- FTO searches are known as right to use searches, patent clearance searches, or patent infringement risk assessments.













## Freedom to Operate (FTO)

- If FTO reveals that one or more patents do limit a consortium freedom to operate, you must decide how to proceed;
  - purchasing the patent or licensing in
  - cross-licensing, making changes to the product
  - process in order to avoid infringing on the patent(s) owned by others, etc
- Think and determine possible solutions and costs, costs can be included in the project budget.











Q&A

Time to ask your questions!













