



“PAN-EUROPEAN SEAL PROGRAMME” – PAID INTERNSHIPS AT THE EPO AND EUIPO

Vilnius University, in cooperation with the European Patent Office (EPO) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), is implementing the Pan-European Seal Programme and invites final-year students and recent graduates to apply for one-year paid internships at the EPO or the EUIPO.

The Pan-European Seal Programme is designed for the early identification and development of talented graduates from leading European universities. The programme targets motivated students and graduates from various academic fields, both intellectual property-related and non-IP fields, whose one-year internships are funded by the EUIPO and the EPO.

Only final-year students or graduates who completed their studies in the same year in which the application is submitted are eligible to apply for the programme.

Each year, Vilnius University, together with other Pan-European Seal Programme partner universities, is entitled to nominate its candidates for internships at the EUIPO and the EPO. In total, approximately 100 interns are selected annually, taking into account the candidates' motivation and the operational needs of the EPO and the EUIPO.

Trainees have the opportunity to benefit from on-the-job coaching by staff, as well as online training, e-courses in their field of expertise, and language courses in one of the official languages of each office.

The internships start in September 2026 and take place at either the EUIPO or the EPO premises, depending on the selected internship.

Interns will receive a monthly allowance:

- EUIPO – EUR 1,300–1,500,
- EPO – EUR 2,300.

Please note that candidates may apply for only one internship position – either at the EPO or at the EUIPO. Applications submitted for both internships will be rejected.

Internship at the European Patent Office (EPO)

The Pan-European Seal Programme internship at the EPO lasts one year, with a possibility of extension, and is open to candidates in the following fields:

- science and engineering,
- information technology,
- human resources and business administration,
- international relations and communication,
- economics and finance,
- law.

Requirements for candidates

Applicants must:

- be a national of one of the [EPO member states](#);
- hold a bachelor's/master's degree or PHD in a relevant field (for no longer than one year);
- have excellent knowledge of one of the EPO's working languages (English, French or German).

The selection of candidates for the EPO internship is organised directly by the European Patent Office.

Applicants must:

- fill in the candidate application form on the [EPO website](#) **from February 16 to March 9**;
- submit a Europass CV (in English);
- submit a motivational letter (in English) clearly indicating the EPO as their choice for the traineeship (in English);
- submit a copy of the bachelor's diploma/master's or PHD diploma or a certificate of the completed year of study (for final year students).

Candidates selected by the EPO will be invited to an online interview with the EPO selection committee. Vilnius University will subsequently confirm that the candidates meet the established selection criteria.

Before starting the internship, selected candidates will be required to complete the following courses:

- [Introduction to the European Patent System](#);
- [Using CPC in Classification](#);
- [The EPO as a PCT Authority](#).

Internship at the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

The internships at the EUIPO are intended for students and graduates in the following fields: data analysis, communication, marketing and audiovisual design, information technology, law (including intellectual property law), finance and economics, human resources, learning and development, EU and international cooperation, project support, facility management, social sciences, EU studies, political science and international relations, project and business administration, broadcasting and computational linguistics, and other related fields.

Requirements for candidates

Applicants must:

- be nationals of an EU Member State (in exceptional cases, a limited number of candidates from non-EU countries may be selected);
- be final-year Bachelor's, Master's or PhD students or graduates of [PES university](#) who completed their studies in the year of application and obtain their degree before the start of the internship;
- have a knowledge of English at minimum level B2.

Selection procedure

The selection of candidates for the EUIPO internship is carried out in two stages.

Stage I – at Vilnius University

Candidates are invited to submit:

- a [Europass CV](#) (in English);
- a motivational letter (in English) expressing the reasons for applying;
- a copy of the Bachelor's/Master's/PhD diploma or a certificate confirming completion of the final year of studies (only final-year students are eligible to apply).

Applications must be submitted **by 13 February 2026 via email to innovations@vu.lt**
(please indicate “EUIPO internship” in the subject line). Confidentiality is guaranteed.

For further information:

Vilnius University Innovation Office, tel. +370 5 236 6279.

Stage II – at the EUIPO

At the second stage, candidates:

- submit a recommendation from Vilnius University (**Vilnius University** organizes the first selection stage and **submits recommended candidates to EUIPO for the second selection stage**).
- complete the candidate application on the EUIPO website (**only candidates who have passed the first selection stage** fill in the application; the application can be filled **from March 1 to March 31 for the internship EUIPO office**);
- [Europass CV](#) (in English);
- a motivational letter (in English) clearly indicating the EUIPO as their choice for the traineeship
- a copy of the bachelor's diploma/master's diploma with evaluation scores or a certificate of the candidate's completed year of study (final year students can also apply);
- certificate of attended free e-courses:.

Mandatory courses for the EUIPO internship:

- [EUTM in a Nutshell](#) and/or
- [EU Design in a Nutshell](#).

To attend these courses, candidates must create a [PES user](#) account and log in to [the EUIPO Academy Learning Portal \(EALP\)](#).

Click here to watch a video about the programme:

➤ [The Pan-European Seal Young Professionals Programme at the EPO.](#)