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Coverage of linked open EP data

Coverage of European patent (EP) applications

Linked open EP data contains the bibliographic data of:

- EP applications and publications; and
- the related applications and publications from other patent authorities.

In other words, it covers:

Applications

- EP applications
- International (PCT) applications of EP applications
- Priorities of EP applications
- Non-EP applications in the same simple patent family as an EP application

Publications

- EP publications
- Publications that an EP publication cites directly or indirectly (indirectly means via non-patent literature)
- Non-EP publications where the application is in the same simple patent family as an EP application

The data is updated weekly.

Notes:

- For EP documents, coverage includes most of the bibliographic data available. For non-EP documents, coverage is limited to basic patent identification information.
- Data directly linked to EP publications – except citations and IPC classifications – is provided as it was published. All other data may be subject to updates, for example because of a change in IPC or CPC classification or corrections.
- The data does not include citations provided by applicants because they are typically of poor quality. However, it does include citations from all other sources – for example from search, examination, opposition and third-party observations.
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The **simple patent family** is also called the "DOCDB family". All applications are members of exactly one simple family. Most families have one representative member.

The `rdfs:seeAlso` property links EP patent RDF resources to RDF resources from other offices. However, currently the only such links are to applications from the Korean Patent Office.


**Coverage of the Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)**

Linked open EP data contains the most-relevant data from the CPC.

The CPC is a patent classification scheme with 250 000 classifications covering all technical fields. More information is available on the CPC website at [https://www.cooperativepatentclassification.org](https://www.cooperativepatentclassification.org).

The data is updated whenever a new version of the CPC comes into force – typically three to five times a year.

For more details on the linked open CPC data, see the [CPC ontology overview](https://data.epo.org/linked-data/data/publication/EP/3102070/A1/-) page.