

Patrick Waelbroeck's speech on Sept 4, 2014, European Parliament, Brussels

Mr. Chairman
Mr. Director General
Members of the Parliament,
Dear colleagues from the Policy-making galaxy
Dear colleagues from the academic galaxy
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is an honor for me to bring the European Policy for Intellectual Property association to the European Parliament. EPIP is a non-profit association of researchers that grew out of a network financed by the European Commission in 2003. After 10 years of existence, the association now returns to its roots. I would like to thank Kerstin Jorna and Kirstin Schreiber as well as their respective teams for supporting the conference and making this event possible.

As EPIP president, I have led the association to work more collaboratively with policy and decision makers in Europe. The annual conference of the association that I organized in Paris last year on the frontiers of Intellectual Property rights was a first step in gathering experts from the European Commission and the EPIP community. I will make sure that future EPIP presidents will pursue this collaboration as I strongly believe that all actors of the IP system need to talk with each others. The outcome of these discussions will be mutually beneficial. As the EPIP association moves towards a more active involvement from European policy makers, we welcome European Commission experts and Members of the European Parliament to participate to the annual conference of the association. We are also listening to their suggestions for topics of mutual interest that could be further investigated.

Thank you.