

**UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

uspto

Patent Public Advisory Committee
Quarterly Meeting

Office of Policy and International Affairs
Notable Events and Initiatives

Shira Perlmutter

Chief Policy Officer and Director of International Affairs

August 18, 2016

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



“Brexit”

- Two year negotiating term meaning all existing EU IP rights in effect in the UK will remain valid for at least two more years.
- Limited effect on the current UK patent system because European Patent Office (EPO) is not an EU organization.
- Unitary Patent System
 - Currently required to ratify: Germany, France (✓), and UK.
 - Post Brexit: Germany, France (✓), and Italy.
- Greater impact on industrial design rights because the EU IP Office (formally OHIM) is an EU organization



Recent Developments in China

- Substantial growth in patent filings:
 - In 2015 SIPO received 2.8 million patent applications (40% invention patents, 40% utility models, and 20% designs).
- China’s State Council (July 2016) - Turning China from a “big” IP country to a “strong” IP country.
- USPTO Efforts to improve post-filing supplementation of data, the civil judicial system and the grace period.



