"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.

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