

FOI Release
Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Extension of Patents to Gibraltar, Sovereign Base Areas, Isle of Man, Bailiwick of Guernsey, and Bailiwick of Jersey

Date of release: 13 April 2016

Information request:

As above.

Information released:

Agreement on a Unified Patent Court

The Agreement on a Unified Patent Court is not yet in force and the UK is currently making all the necessary preparations for ratification of the Agreement. We are currently consulting with the relevant authorities in the Isle of Man, Jersey, Guernsey and Gibraltar about extension of the Agreement to those territories. The IPO does not hold any information regarding extension to the Sovereign Base Areas at this time.

The question of the Isle of Man was raised during the debate in the House of Lords on the Patents (European Patent with Unitary Effect and Unified Patent Court) Order 2016 which took place on 2 March 2016. In response, the Minister for Intellectual Property, Baroness Neville-Rolfe, confirmed that the UPC would extend to the Isle of Man and that this would be achieved via separate legislation.

Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure and Convention establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization

These treaties have not been extended to Gibraltar, the Sovereign Base Areas, Isle of Man, Guernsey or Jersey.

European Patent Convention (EPC)

The EPC extends only to the Isle of Man. This information is publically available and can be found at: http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/other_treaties/remarks.jsp?cnty_id=3022C .

Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property; Patent Cooperation Treaty; and Patent Law Treaty

These treaties extend only to the Isle of Man.