

# Christoph Ernst to be next EPO Vice-President for Legal and International Affairs

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## 10 October 2018

The Administrative Council of the European Patent Organisation, in a meeting chaired by the Council's Deputy Chairman, Josef Kratochvíl, has appointed Christoph Ernst Vice-President of the European Patent Office's (EPO) Directorate-General Legal and International Affairs. Mr Ernst will succeed fellow German Raimund Lutz. The appointment is for five years starting on 1 January 2019.

Christoph Ernst is currently head of directorate at the German Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, and has served as Chairman of the Administrative Council of the European Patent Organisation since 1 October 2017.



Christoph Ernst

The EPO's Directorate-General Legal and International Affairs is in charge of European and international co-operation, patent law and multilateral affairs, legal services, patent information and the European Patent Academy.

The Administrative Council, made up of delegations from the 38 member states, is the EPO's legislative body. It supervises the activities of the European Patent Office, the executive arm of the Organisation. The Council also approves the Office's budget, and appoints its senior managers, including the EPO's President and vice-presidents.

## Further information

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[\*\*Administrative Council\*\*](#)