

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM 2026

Patent Litigation in Japan, Germany and at the Unified Patent Court



German Japanese
Association
of Jurists



Deutsches
Patent- und
Markenamt
German Patent and
Trade Mark Office



Japan Patent
Office



Japan Intellectual
Property
Association



Japan Patent
Attorneys
Association



Japanese Group
of AIPPI



Japan Federation
of Bar Associations



IP Lawyers
Network Japan

September 25, 2026

German Patent and Trade Mark Office, Munich

Patent litigation in Japan, Germany and before the Unified Patent Court is developing at remarkable speed. The first years of the UPC have already produced important procedural and substantive guidance, while recent decisions in Germany and Japan continue to shape core issues of patent enforcement, validity and cross-border litigation. This makes comparative exchange between the Japanese, German and UPC patent litigation communities more valuable than ever.

This *International Symposium 2026* brings together experienced judges, practitioners and experts from Japan, Germany and the UPC, to present and discuss central developments in patent litigation across these jurisdictions. Since 2009, the symposium has been held six times, alternating between Munich and Tokyo. This year, the organizers are delighted to bring it back to Munich as a forum for dialogue between Japan, Germany and the UPC.

Date and Time

September 25, 2026, 9:00 - 17:30

Venue

German Patent and Trade Mark Office, Zweibrückenstr. 12, 80331 Munich

Language

English

Participation Fee

Free of Charge

Presentation Materials

djjv.org/symposium2026

8:00	Registration, coffee/tea	
9:00	Welcome/Greetings	Eva Schewior, President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office Tsuyoshi Ideta, Deputy Consul General, Consulate-General of Japan in Munich Oliver Schön, President of the German-Japanese Association of Jurists
9:30	Session 1: Patent litigation in Japan and at the Unified Patent Court: Key developments, topics and cases Moderation: Dirk Schübler-Langeheine, Attorney-at-law and UPC Representative, Hoffmann Eitle	Minoru Masuda, Chief Judge of the Japanese IP High Court Klaus Grabinski, President of the Court of Appeal and Chairperson of the Presidium of the UPC
11:00	Coffee break	
11:30	Session 2: Cross-border aspects of patent litigation in Japan and Germany - International jurisdiction - Application of foreign law - Service on foreign entities Moderation: Christian Lederer, Attorney-at-Law and UPC Representative, PENTARC	Eri Kikuchi, Judge, Japanese IP High Court Oliver Schön, Presiding Judge, Regional Court Munich I
13:00	Lunch break	
14:00	Session 3: The approach towards claim construction and the assessment of inventive step by Japanese courts and the UPC Moderation: Thorsten Bausch, Patent Attorney and UPC Representative, Hoffmann Eitle	Takeshi Maeda, Professor of the University of Tokyo, Graduate Schools for Law and Politics Bérénice Thom, Presiding Judge, Local Division Düsseldorf of the UPC Practitioner's comments from: Shimako Kato, Patent Attorney and IP Litigation Attorney, Abe, Ikubo & Katayama Jan Phillip Rektorschek, Attorney-at-law and UPC Representative, PENTARC
15:30	Coffee break	
16:00	Session 4: Panel on procedural challenges in Japanese, German and UPC patent litigation proceedings - Current court practice - Obtaining evidence - Claim amendment Moderation: Dirk Schübler-Langeheine Christian Lederer	Makoto Hattori, Attorney-at-law, Abe, Ikubo & Katayama Tobias Pichlmaier, Judge, Local Division Munich of the UPC Tilman Büttner, Presiding Judge, Regional Court Düsseldorf
17:30	Symposium closing	

After the symposium, all participants are invited to a reception at the foyer of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office.