

Revision note

A vertical line in the right-hand margin of a page indicates text amended or newly introduced on account of publications in the Official Journal of the EPO and on the EPO website as from November 2017.

The following important amendments have been made since November 2017:

- Safeguard against outages of electronic communication (R.134(1):2, 3)
- Decision G1/16 of the Enlarged Board of Appeal on undisclosed disclaimers (Art.123(2):2.4.4)
- New referral G1/18 to the Enlarged Board of Appeal on appeal deemed not filed or inadmissible (Art.108:4)
- Patentability of presentation of information, mathematical methods, mental acts, and rules for playing games (Art.52(2):3, 5, 7, 9)
- Unity of invention (R.44(1):1, 2)
- Amendments in the November 2018 edition of the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO

Note for EQE candidates

The legal status cut-off date for the European Qualifying Examination is 31 October of the year preceding the examination (OJ 2017 A88). Accordingly, the legal cut-off date for the 2019 pre-examination and main examination is 31.10.2018.

The 2018 Guidelines for Examination in the EPO came into force on 01.11.2018, meaning that candidates of the EQE 2019 are expected to refer to the 2017 Guidelines, which were in force at 31.10.2018.

In this book, references to the current Guidelines are in the form “C-IX,1.6” to denote part C, chapter IX, paragraph 1.6. Where paragraphs of the Guidelines have been re-numbered, the notation is given as “F-V,2.2.2.2; GL2017 F-V,5”, providing both the current and former numbering. A reference to a completely new paragraph of the Guidelines has the format “G-II,3.3.1; not in GL2017”.