

# Annual Report/ 2017

საპატენტო ცენტრი



საქართველოს ინტელექტუალური  
საკუთრების ეროვნული ცენტრი

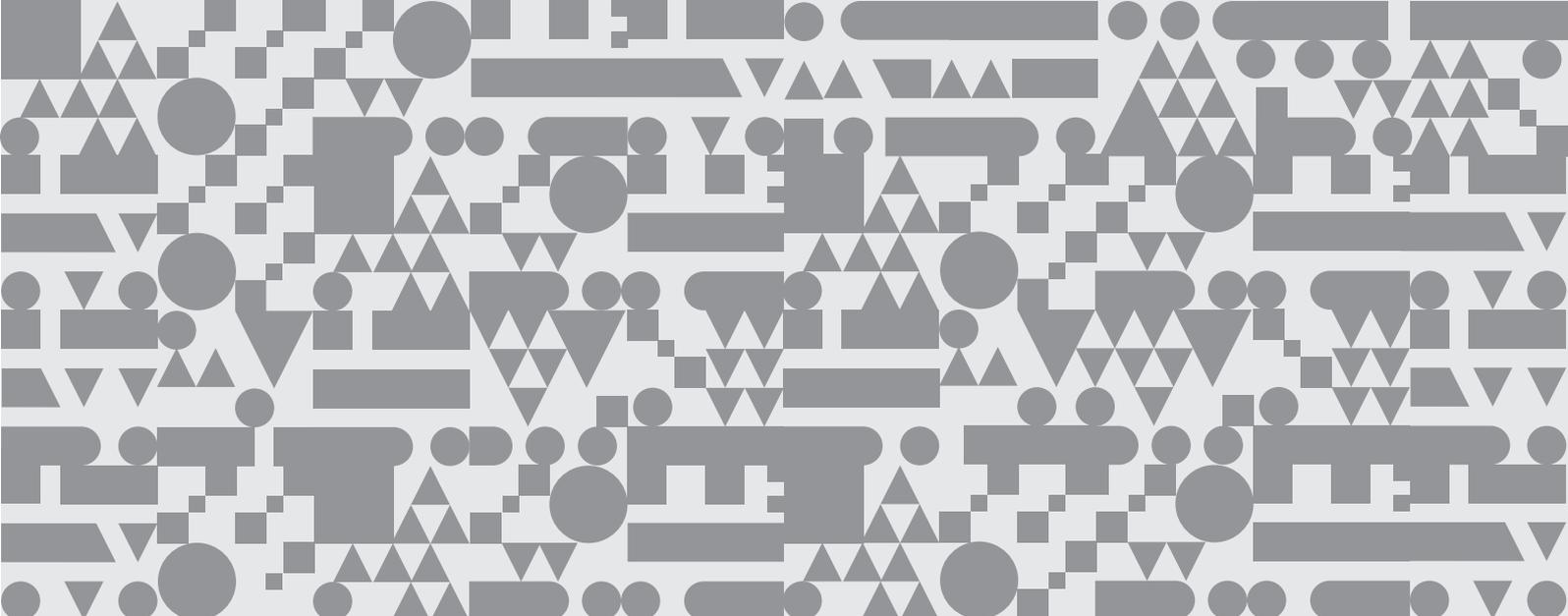
**საქპატენტი**

**SAKPATENTI**

NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
CENTER OF GEORGIA

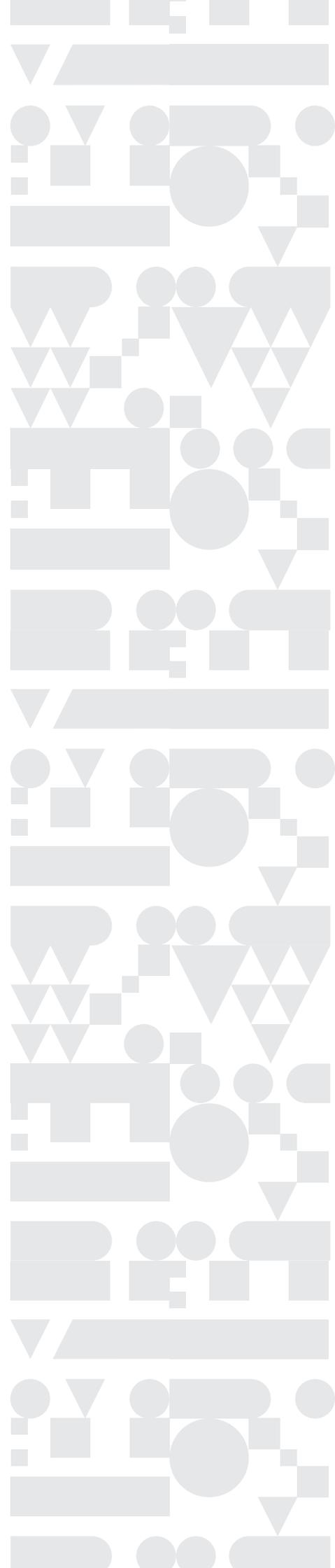
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# Foreword

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Dear reader,

In 2017 the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment. We are presenting the anniversary edition of the Annual Report of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti for 2017.

After gaining its independence, Georgia defined one of its priority the foundation of a national intellectual property protection system, which was reflected in the Constitution and relevant legislative acts of the country. Georgia was the first of the former Soviet Republics to create its national patent service “Sakpatenti” in 1992, which on later stage transformed into the National Intellectual Property Center. In the course of time the office consolidated all the major fields of intellectual property: inventions and utility models, trademarks, designs, geographical indications and appellations of origin, new plant varieties and animal breeds, as well as copyright and related rights.

Since the day of its establishment, with the direct participation of Sakpatenti, the legislation regulating the IP field was prepared and enacted. The current legislation is fully harmonized with international standards and requirements of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), and is in line with the European Union legislation.

At present Georgia is a member of all the main conventions and agreements in the IP field and participates in many bilateral international treaties. Besides, Georgia is actively involved in the work of international forums of various levels and is an initiator of a number of significant proposals.

An important tool for protection of intellectual property rights abroad is the full-fledged integration of Georgia’s IP in the global system, which is the main priority of Sakpatenti.

It is noteworthy that in the recent years Sakpatenti has been engaged in especially successful activities on the international level. First of all, it should be stressed out that we joined the Central European and Baltic States Regional Group (CEBS) of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). In 2017, the Office efficiently carried out one-year coordinator duty for the Regional Group CEBS at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The efforts made by Georgia in the capacity of the Regional Group Coordinator was highly appreciated by the delegations as well as the Director General of the Organization.

It is remarkable that in 2017 during the 57<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the WIPO Member States, the Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti was elected as the Chair of the Special Union for the International Registration of Marks (Madrid Union), whose candidature was nominated by the Central European and Baltic States Regional Group (CEBS). The representative of Georgia chaired for the first time the WIPO Union. Georgia was also elected as the Chair of the Working Group for the Preparation



of Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), which should be regarded as an outcome of successful activity of Sakpatenti on the international arena.

In 2017 an English-language “Training Course on Geographical Indications” was held for the first time in Tbilisi, at Sakpatenti Training Centre, organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Academy and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, within the WIPO professional development program. The course was intended for officials from intellectual property offices of various countries and relevant ministries. The course was attended by representatives of 12 countries. In our view, successful organization of the course is a confirmation that at the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of Sakpatenti we have moved from the stage of learning to the stage of sharing knowledge and experience, which enables us, together with leading countries, to make our contribution to the development of the intellectual property system.

The reporting year was distinguished by a number of significant legislative amendments. On December 23, 2017, the Parliament of Georgia enacted the legislative amendments drafted by Sakpatenti, which were prepared in relation with fulfilling the obligations under the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part. At the same time, Sakpatenti actively continues to work for further enhancement of the intellectual property legislation.

The recent years were also noteworthy from the viewpoint of the implementation of global projects. Especially successful were various projects implemented in cooperation with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). In particular, Sakpatenti trademark and design databases were integrated into the EUIPO databases – TMview and Designview, which has allowed foreign users to search information on marks/designs registered in Georgia on the EUIPO website. Along with this, it has become possible for Georgian users to search in EUIPO databases by means of the Georgian interface. Sakpatenti also joined the TMclass platform, which allows searching and translating the list of goods and services in 42 languages.

In addition, Sakpatenti planned and implemented several projects for development of electronic management and proceedings. As a result, it has become possible to receive and process applications filed for all subject-matters and carry out proceedings electronically, whereas applicants have been given an opportunity to monitor filed applications online. Within the project funded by USAID, cooperation remains with HICD 2020 (Human and Institutional Capacity Development). After completion of the project, Sakpatenti will have an improved standard operation procedures, effective staff assessment, management and development tools and indicators, as well as elaborated processes of electronic document circulation.

It is also noteworthy that the activities carried out in previous years for raising public awareness on significance of IP protection and popularization of this field has yielded its results, which is demonstrated in the increasing interest of the population in the IP protection and increase of the number of applications filed with Sakpatenti.

We think, in 2017 Sakpatenti celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with significant achievement. We are continuing active work for the further development of the intellectual property system in the country and hope that we will successfully achieve our objectives and overcome challenges in future as well.

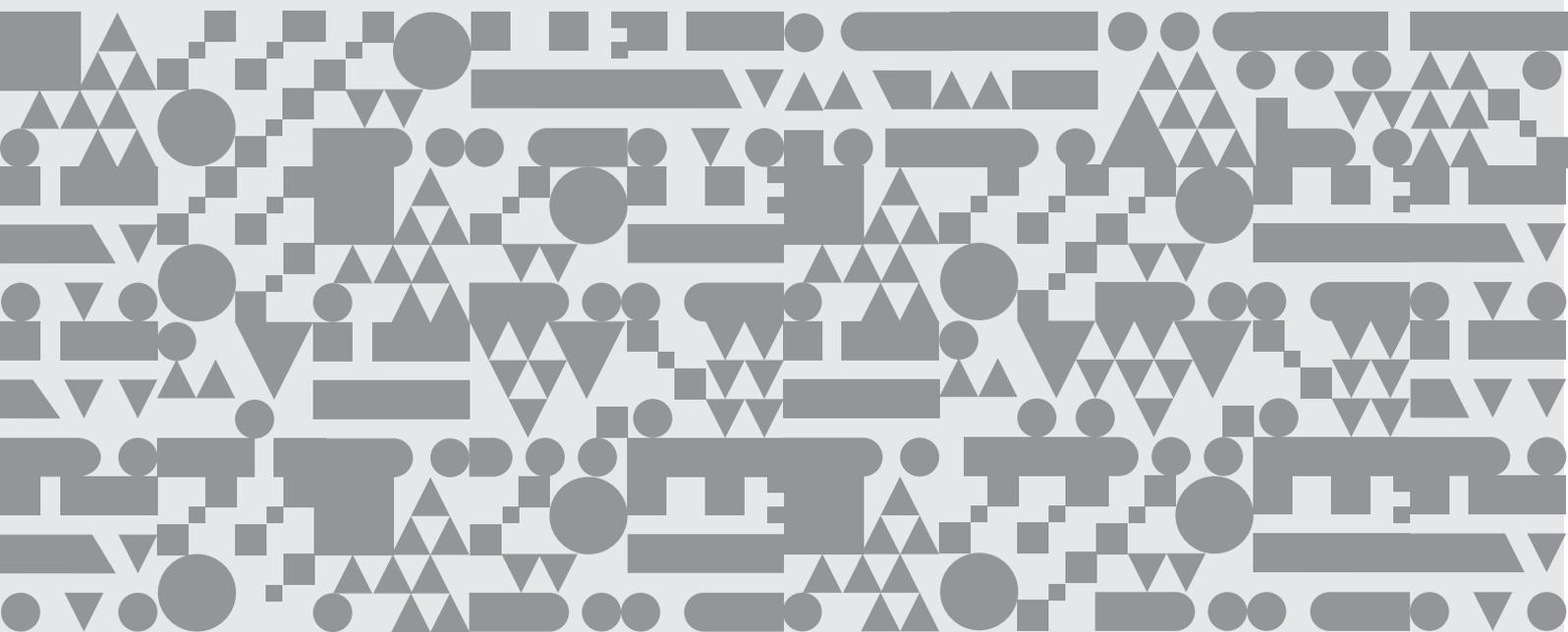
**Nikoloz Gogilidze - Chairman**

LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia  
Sakpatenti





LT,



# Events



# Events/ 2017

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## January

1



Chief Specialist of the Department of Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Design, of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti Ms. Ana Dalakishvili was sent on a mission to participate in the Madrid Fellowship Program 2017 of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). She began to work at WIPO Madrid Department, International Marks Section where she conducts formal examinations according to the WIPO standards. The program will last for two years, aiming to build capacity and train trademark examiners of national IP offices by international standards, which is significant for the development of trademark national formal examination. (Geneva, Switzerland).

## February

27



For the first time delegation of Georgia participated at the session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore in the capacity of the Central European and Baltic States Group (CEBS) coordinator for 2017. The Committee's objective is to tighten WIPO member states position and reach agreement on an international legal text which will ensure the effective protection of traditional cultural expressions (TCEs).

27



The National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti was a supporter of the Millennium Innovation Competition, organized by the Millennium Challenge Foundation. The competition purpose is to support youth in creating innovations and new technologies. Traditionally, Sakpatenti awarded the team on the third place - "Brothers Butbaias" - Kosta and Giorgi Butbaias, pupils of the Komarov Public School No 199 and School-Lyceum "Mtsignobartukhutsesi" for the Project "Optimized Parking System – Smart Parking" and handed them a 300 GEL voucher from an electronics store.

28



On the invitation of the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of U.S. Department of Commerce, examiners of The National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti visited the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to share experience. Georgian specialists completed a course of 10 lectures on trademark examination, also familiarized with the experience of their American counterparts concerning registration of non-traditional marks, such as colour, sound and olfactory marks (Alexandria, Virginia, USA).

# March

2



Istanbul International Inventions Fair was held, in which National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti participated, along with 264 organizations from 24 countries. The event was organized under the patronage of the Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology of Turkey, International Federation of Inventors Associations (IFIA), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent). The objective of Sakpatenti's participation in the Fair was to facilitate increase of patent applications number from Turkey, as the major importer country for Georgia.

2



A bilateral meeting was held between the heads of the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office and Sakpatenti. Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze and Mr. Habip Asan discussed the ongoing projects in the framework of the Action Plan and future cooperation plans. On the meeting heads also discussed Turkish patent and trademark examiners visit at Sakpatenti to share experience with Georgian examiners, holding of a sub-regional symposium on geographical indications and an exhibition of GI products protected by Turkey and Georgia in Trabzon, to facilitate raising awareness of these products and increase import potential, also participation of a Georgian examiner in the WIPO/Turkpatent joint master's program (Istanbul, Turkey).

2



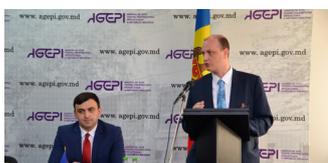
Within the Istanbul International Inventions Fair, by the joint effort of Turkpatent and Sakpatenti, a meeting of Georgian and Turkish patent attorneys was held. Meeting objective was to familiarize audience with Georgian and Turkish intellectual property systems and strengthen cooperation, which will facilitate increasing the number of applications between two countries (Istanbul, Turkey).

6



Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, visited State Agency on Intellectual Property of Republic of Moldova (AGEPI). The visit purpose was to strengthen cooperation between Moldova and Georgia in the IP field. Partnership between Georgia and Moldova is directed towards development of the intellectual property system, defending the interests of the two countries on the international level and approximation of the national legislation to the international standards, which can be achieved more effectively with joint efforts. At the meeting, the parties also discussed practical issues related to the protection of industrial property subject-matters. The current state of the cooperation between Sakpatenti and AGEPI was assessed and priority directions of cooperation between the two offices were identified (Chisinau, Moldova).

7



Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze had meetings with Mr. Eduard Grama, Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry of Republic of Moldova, and Mr. Gheorghe Arpentin, Director of the National Office of Wine and Vine of Republic of Moldova. At the meeting the prospects of signing an agreement on mutual recognition and protection of geographical indications between Moldova and Georgia were considered (Chisinau, Moldova).

13

To familiarize with modern approaches and tendencies of legal protection of designs, a representative of National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in the Conference “Innovation and Creativity for Economy: in Good Form”. At the meeting, organized by WIPO and the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland, successful projects with the use of designs in various industries were discussed (Warsaw, Poland).

15



To make available the WIPO General Course on Intellectual Property (DL-101) in the Georgian language, training of Georgian trainers on methodologies of customization and teaching of the DL101 course, was held. The invited expert from WIPO discussed with the participants aspects of determination of the course objectives and customization of the topics, taking into account the peculiarities of the Georgian legislation and practice. After elaboration of the Georgian version of the WIPO Academy General Course on IP DL-101 it will be published on WIPO Academy platform and any interested party will be able to pass the course in the Georgian language free of charge.

15



An examiner of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti attended the Seminar “Absolute Grounds for Refusal of Registration and Design”, organized by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). The seminar aim was to familiarize participants with the trademark and design system, current developments, European Union IP practice and capacity building of the trademark and design examiner (Alicante, Spain).

19

To raise qualification, a representative of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti attended training, organized by WIPO and Israel Patent Office. On the training information technologies processes, Israel Patent Office, WIPO, EPO and USPTO approaches on defining a patentable subject-matter was discussed. (Jerusalem, Israel).

**April**

4

The conference “Copyright in the Digital Age” took place, where Deputy Chairperson of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti Mrs. Sophio Mujiri delivered a presentation. The conference, organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO), aimed to deepen knowledge on copyright in the digital age and introduce economic equivalency of the subject to the interested persons. (Budapest, Hungary).

10

Deputy Chairperson of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti Mrs. Sophio Mujiri delivered a presentation at the conference “Intellectual Property and Education”, organized by the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania. The conference objective was to inform the public about the skills and knowledge to be received by the young generation at school or on additional lessons, to familiarize the youth with the importance of IP protection and build respect for their own and others’ IP rights. The participants of the conference also familiarized with the educational projects implemented by the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, in particular, supplementary reading materials and special lessons on IP subject-matters, prepared for pupils of elementary schools (Vilnius, Lithuania)

# 12



In the framework of the cooperation between the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti and the Georgian Bar Association, a meeting was held between Sakpatenti Chairman and members of the Georgian Bar Association. A package of draft amendments to the “Trademark Law” of Georgia was introduced to the Association members, which was aimed at hearing views of lawyers regarding the planned amendments.

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# 17



Representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in the work of the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference “AGEPI Readings”, organized by the State Agency on Intellectual Property of Republic of Moldova (AGEPI), which is held annually and represents a platform for debates on issues related to the IP field. Georgian delegate introduced to the conference participants the Government of Georgia’s policy in supporting innovations (Chisinau, Moldova).

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# 20



Sakpatenti representatives participated in the seminar “IP Pre-Diagnosis”, organized by the European Patent Office (EPO). Aim of the seminar was to share experience on IP assessment methodology for small and medium enterprises. During the event the following topics were discussed: the essence and meaning of IP pre-diagnosis, as well as cases, role play, quality and process control, assessment, etc. After the seminar the representatives of the EPO assisted Georgian small and medium enterprises in effective implementation of IP pre-diagnosis (Vienna, Austria).

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# 21



For raising awareness in the IP field among schoolchildren, training “Innovation – Improving Lives” took place at the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti for representatives of the “Young Scientists Club”. Sakpatenti Chairman introduced to 15-16-year pupils the role and significance of intellectual property in the modern world. Issues of legal protection of inventions and trademarks were also discussed.

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# 24



Within the Memorandum of Understanding with the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent), for sharing experience, a group of Turkpatent examiners visited Georgia. During the meeting the guests introduced to the Georgian colleagues trademark examination and protection mechanisms.

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# 24



A delegation of the Turkish Patent Attorneys Association visited Georgia, the visit purpose was to familiarize Turkish businessmen’s who operate in Georgia with the issues of protection intellectual property rights in Georgia. During the meeting held at Sakpatenti the guests, together with the members of the Association of Georgian Patent Attorneys, discussed the challenges of the Turkish business sector in Georgia.

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25



A new system of electronic filing was launched at the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia (online. sakpatenti.ge). The new system enables applicants to manage their pending applications electronically.

26



On the occasion of April 26 - the World Intellectual Property Day - special lessons were delivered for around 2000 pupils of elementary grades of public schools throughout Georgia, the objective of which was to raise awareness on the principles and importance of intellectual property rights among pupils. In cooperation with USAID Georgia Primary Education Project (USAID/G-PriEd) and with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, every year a special lesson plan is drafted for the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades and the recommendation on delivering the above-mentioned lesson is sent to public schools.

26



On the occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day – April 26, the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, as the defining body of the IP policy in the country, carried out a campaign, aimed to inform the public that innovations help to turn problems to progress, is making our lives healthier, safer, and more comfortable, whereas protection of intellectual property in its turn facilitates attracting innovators and investors.

May

1



World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) expert Mr. Pascal Bernardoni visited Georgia, who offered Module 3 Training for Trainers of the Georgian Intellectual Property (IP) Academy, set up at the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti. The training objective was to teach trainers how to develop the course on trademarks and geographical indications.

2



The State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC) has taken a preliminary decision on registration of appellation of origin of Georgian mineral water “Nabeghlavi” in the name of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia.

The Georgian mineral water “Nabeghlavi” was already registered in bad faith in China on two Chinese company names, due to which Sakpatenti filed appeals with the dispute hearing body of the Trademark Office of China and demanded invalidation of the above-mentioned registrations.

# 5



Representatives of Sakpatenti participated in the annual employment and internship forum, organized by San Diego State University (SDSU-Georgia) and Millennium Challenge Foundation-Georgia (MCA-Georgia), where they met with successful students and introduced to them education and internship opportunities at Sakpatenti.

# 11



Within the Project “Value of Intellectual Property for SME” – (VIP4SME), funded by Program for Research and Innovations “Horizon 2020”, Sakpatenti top officials held an information meeting with representatives of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The aim of the meeting was to assist entrepreneurs in drafting and managing an IP strategy, which will facilitate increasing competitiveness of Georgian companies and creating their economic value.

# 12



To share experience, representatives of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti attended working meeting for IP field officials, organized by the State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China (SIPO). During the meeting the IP protection system and legislation of the organizing country were discussed.

# 15



Sakpatenti examiner participated in the Seminar on Intellectual Property, organized by the State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China (SIPO). The People’s Republic of China’s patent system, patent applications and examination procedures were introduced at the seminar (People’s Republic of China).

# 24



The Global IP Case Law Database Darts-ip has become available to Sakpatenti examiners. Sakpatenti and Darts-ip will exchange information on practices in the field of intellectual property rights. In particular, Sakpatenti employees became authorized of having a free and unlimited access to the database published on the Darts ip website. In its turn, Sakpatenti systematically will share with Darts ip the decisions of the Chamber of Appeals functioning at Sakpatenti, which are published on the Sakpatenti website in the division of the Chamber of Appeals decisions archives, whereas Darts ip will ensure publishing the provided documents in its database.

# 31



Deputy Chairperson of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti Mrs. Sophio Mujiri delivered a presentation at the annual conference “IPMACT 2017”. She participated in the discussion concerning the IPR and its importance on financing the creative activities (Warsaw, Poland).

1



Nationals and residents of Georgia will have the possibility to file international patent applications (PCT applications) online at Sakpatenti, using ePCT platform. Sakpatenti as a Receiving Office (RO) of the PCT system has already joined this platform. The ePCT system enables filing and processing of PCT applications, exchange of documents between authorities and communications with the applicant, all in electronic form.

5



Intellectual Property Law School took place, organized by the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and European Law Students Association, with the financial support of the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Within the IP Law School, Sakpatenti representatives introduced to the Georgian various university law faculty students IP subject-matters protection and enforcement mechanisms (Borjomi, Georgia).

9



Moot courts on intellectual property topics took place at Tbilisi Court of Appeals. The participants of the imitated trials were the best students of the Faculty of Law of various universities of Georgia. The cases of the imitated trials dealt with the related grounds of refusal of trademark registration. The event objective was to reveal winners, who will be given an opportunity to have three-month internship at the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti.

12



The National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in the project "Innovations Camp", aimed at developing innovative thinking among 15-18 year-old schoolchildren and raising their awareness on entrepreneurial issues. More than 100 pupils from various regions of Georgia participated in the "Innovations Camp". The event took place at Saint Andrew the First-Called Georgian University of Patriarchate of Georgia, on the initiative of USAID project – "Promoting Education on Entrepreneurship in Eastern Europe" and organization "Junior Achievement".

12



For capacity building purposes, representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia participated in the seminar "Absolute Grounds for Refusal of Registration and Design", organized by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). During the meeting the European Union trademark system, current developments, and peculiarities of registration of non-traditional marks were discussed (Alicante, Spain).

13



Deputy Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Mr. John Sandage, paid a two-day official visit to Georgia. Mr. Sandage held a meeting with Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, Chairman of Sakpatenti. The parties discussed the role of WIPO in the development of innovations and technologies in Sakpatenti activities and future plans.

# 14



On the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, International Conference on the Use of intellectual Property (IP) for Economic Growth was held at Biltmore Hotel, Tbilisi. During the conference, the increasing role of innovations and intellectual property in the modern knowledge-based economy and the necessity of supporting innovation for strengthening economic potential of countries were discussed.

# 14

The Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation was signed between the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC) and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti. The Memorandum, aimed at strengthening cooperation in the intellectual property field, was signed by Ms. Gan Lin, Vice Minister of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC), and Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, Chairman of Sakpatenti.

# 14



On occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti a reception took place at Tbilisi City Assembly Hall. According to the information over the 25 years, inventors owning the largest quantity of local patents, Georgian companies, being on the leading position in terms of filing applications for IP subject-matters, and patent attorneys were awarded at the reception.

# 17

Representative of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti attended the Forty-Sixth Session of the UPOV Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops, among the topics discussed were: drafting TGP documents and guidelines for various crops, defining the criteria of uniformity, minimum difference between varieties and number of growth cycles during DUS testing (Hanover, Germany).

# 19

Representative of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti attended the session of Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System, organized by WIPO. At the session, recommendations were drafted concerning amendments to certain articles (Geneva, Switzerland).

# 20



The National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in the Second Championship of Georgian Creative Start-ups - Creative Business Cup Georgia (CBC) 2017. In addition to participating in the work of the Jury, for the preliminary assessment of the projects, Sakpatenti carried out preliminary patent search for 40 applications, of which, award-winners were revealed.

# 29



WIPO representatives delivered at the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti two-day training on the use of ePCT (Patent Cooperation Treaty) platform, which enables filing and processing of PCT applications, exchange of documents between authorities and communications with the applicant, all in electronic form. On the first day of the event, examiners of the Formal Examination Division of the Sakpatenti Department of Inventions and New Varieties and Breeds received extensive information on the ePCT platform, and on the second day the WIPO representative introduced the electronic system to interested persons, patent attorneys and applicants.

30



A top official of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti offered an overview on the importance of the development of the geographical indications protection system to the participants of Worldwide Symposium on Geographical indications. The Symposium was organized by WIPO and SAIC and was aimed to serve as a forum for issues related with GI protection and use, as well as to ensure technical access and sharing information on recent developments in the field of GIs (Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province, P. R. of China).

July

6



The winners of the moot court in intellectual property law were revealed at Tbilisi State University, who acquired the right to pass three-month internship at the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti. The moot court was organized by Sakpatenti and European Law Students Association (ELSA) and its objective was to deepen the knowledge of future lawyers in intellectual property law, namely, to introduce to students legal aspects of protection of IP subject-matters and mechanisms for enforcement of IP rights.

7



Representatives of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti held a meeting with Georgian entrepreneurs to introduce to them the importance of intellectual property for small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The meeting was aimed to assist entrepreneurs in drafting an intellectual property management portfolio, which will facilitate increasing competitiveness of Georgian companies and creating economic value in the form of intangible assets. The meeting is held within the Project “Value of Intellectual Property for SME” – (VIP4SME), funded by European Union Program for Research and Innovations “Horizon 2020”. It envisages organization of information meetings, workshops and face-to-face meetings for representatives of small and medium enterprises.

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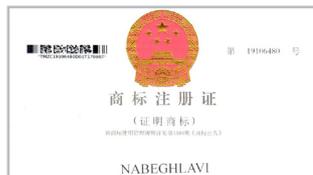
A technical visit of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti delegation to the European Union Intellectual Property Office took place. The visit objective was to develop EUIPO and Sakpatenti electronic management system and next stage of integration. Successful integration of three components (TM View, TM Class and DS View) has allowed integration of additional tools of seven different types. The delegation will familiarize with the technical details of new tools and will draft an action plan on the spot (Alicante, Spain).

# 10

Deputy Chairperson of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti Mrs. Sophio Mujiri participated in the IP Executive Week. During 5 days, the executives discussed future prospects of protection of IP rights and implementation of the legal reform, and also familiarized with the recent developments in the European patent system. The IP Executive Week is an annual meeting, organized by the European Patent Office (EPO) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) (Alicante, Spain).

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# 13



The Trademark Office of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC) registered the appellation of origin of Georgian mineral water "Nabeghlavi". Upon the completion of relevant procedures, appellation of origin "Nabeghlavi" was entered in the Register of the Trademark Office of the People's Republic of China. The exclusive right on the appellation of origin of "Nabeghlavi" in the P.R. of China was granted to the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia. Protection of appellations of origin in China as well as other countries will have a favourable impact on the development of agriculture of Georgia and will facilitate combatting unlawful use of well-known appellations of Georgian mineral waters.

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# 13



Representative of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in the session "Association Agreement and Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area: Future of Georgia", held within the 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference "Georgia's European Way – Ensuring Regional Stability". During the session main priorities of the Association Agreement between the European Union and Georgia, as well as achievements of Georgia in implementing obligations under the DCFTA were discussed (Batumi, Georgia).

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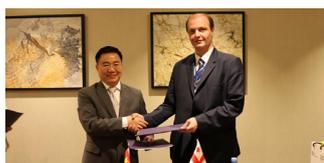
# 20



The third International Conference "Georgia Against Counterfeiting and Piracy" took place, aimed to strengthen the dialogue between the public and private sectors for fighting against counterfeiting. Ensuring effective interagency coordination on IPR enforcement mechanisms and development of the effective IP protection system based on the experience of foreign countries is one of the priorities of the Government of Georgia for the economic growth and development of the country (Batumi, Georgia).

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# 20



Meeting of Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze and Deputy Commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO) Dr. He Zhimin took place. The parties discussed the issues of cooperation between the two offices, outlined the future plans and prospects. At the end of the meeting, within the Memorandum concluded between the Offices, a biennial action plan (2017-2018) was signed. Close Relations with this major IP Office will facilitate better implementation of Sakpatenti activities and development of the Georgian patent system (Batumi, Georgia).

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24



The Summer School on Intellectual Property Law opened, organized by the European Law Students Association (ELSA) and Sakpatenti, during which 40 students from 14 European Union countries attended a one-week academic study course on "Intellectual property Law". During the period of the course, students of the European and Georgian universities listened to lectures delivered by Sakpatenti top officials and sectoral specialists on mechanisms of legal protection of intellectual property subject-matters and their international registration.

28



Participants of European Law Students Association (ELSA) summer school visited Sakpatenti Head office. They listened to the lecture of Sakpatenti Chairman Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze on the activities and functions of the entity. Summer school participants also attended the formal examination process at Sakpatenti and acquire information on the specificity of work of the office on the basis of practical examples.

31



Exhibition "Georgia – Cradle of Wine" opened at the "Wine Civilization Centre", co-organized and co-funded by the National Intellectual Property Centre of the Georgia Sakpatenti. Mrs. Sophio Mujiri, Deputy Chairperson of Sakpatenti and Mrs. Natia Popkhadze, Head of Public Relations and Mass Media Section, attended the opening of the exhibition (Bordeaux, France).

## August

2



Within the Literature and Art Competition "Tbilisi", the Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, Georgian Copyright Association and Tbilisi City Municipal Assembly. The Memorandum aims to facilitate participation of any interested person working in the field of literature, music, painting, architecture and art, their involvement, and creation of a healthy competitive environment, as well as raising public awareness on copyright and related rights and supporting art in general.

8

At the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti a meeting of the top officials of Sakpatenti and H.E. Ihor Dolhov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine in Georgia took place. The Ambassador familiarized with the specificity of work of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, current projects and programs. The parties discussed the prospects for cooperation in the IP field between Ukraine and Georgia and implementation of joint projects.

# 17



LEPL National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti applied to the European Commission Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development and requested prevention of unauthorized use of the appellation of origin of Georgian wine “Kakheti” (Kakhuri) as well as the geographical indication of Georgian cheese “Sulguni”. As a result of the contacts established with the Polish and the Latvian parties, in accordance with Article 175 of the Association Agreement between Georgia and the European Union, the relevant bodies of these countries carried out appropriate administrative measures. Namely, in case of the cheese the labeling was changed, whereas the wine batch was withdrawn from the network of commerce.

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## September

# 6



Representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti attended Regional Conference “Copyright and Collective Management”, organized on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State Agency on Intellectual Property of Republic of Moldova (AGEPI). The meeting objective was to familiarize with the legislative amendments, carried out in accordance with the EU Directive (Chisinau, Moldova).

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# 6



Representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Advisory Committee on Enforcement of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and delivered a presentation “Building Respect for Intellectual Property and Raising Awareness among Pupils: Education Priority in Georgia”. The presentation covered information about the supplementary reading material prepared for elementary grades pupils and special lessons on various IP subject-matters. In parallel with the session, an exhibition was held at WIPO, where various projects implemented by the Member States for raising awareness among youth were presented. Sakpatenti demonstrated supplementary reading literature created in cooperation with the Georgian Primary Education Project: “Compass”, “Umbrella”, “Washing-machine”, “Star Candles” and “Doremus Solasi” (Geneva, Switzerland).

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# 7



To share knowledge and experience on various issues related to intellectual property, representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in XIII International Symposium “Industrial Property in Innovative Economy. Startups and What’s Next?” The event was organized by the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland, WIPO, Embassies of Israel and USA in Poland and universities of Poland. The Symposium was devoted to innovations management, attention was focused on startups development and the special importance of IP in this direction was noted (Krakow, Poland).

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12



Sub-Regional Symposium on Geographical Indications was organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent). At the event, issues of legal protection of origin-based products were considered. During two days, the participants of the Symposium discussed strategies of development of geographical indications and socio-economic impact of GI protection, familiarized with the GI protection systems of Turkey and Georgia and shared the experience of the European Union on control of geographical indications and enforcement of GI protection in the EU (Trabzon, Turkey).

12



An exhibition and tasting of products protected by Georgian and Turkish geographical indications took place, where goods of appellations of origin and geographical indications, registered in Turkey and Georgia were shown. Among these were Georgian wines of various appellations, mineral waters, varieties of cheese, chacha, matsoni, churchkhela, Akhalkalaki potato, Kutaisi greens, Tqibuli mountain tea and Machakhela honey. The exhibition facilitated popularization of Georgian geographical indications and export of Georgian products (Trabzon, Turkey).

14



At the “La Cité du Vin” Museum, wine jar “kvevri” was displaced in the permanent exhibition, the event was co-organized and co-funded by the National Intellectual Property Centre of the Georgia Sakpatenti. Georgia was the first invited country which opened the cycle of exhibitions on viticulture and winemaking, which confirmed once again that Georgia is the cradle of wine (Bordeaux, France).

17



At the meeting of the General Assembly of OriGIn – the global alliance of geographical indications, Mr. David Gabunia, Advisor to Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and Director of “OriGIn – Georgia” delivered a presentation on the activity of “OriGIn – Georgia” and peculiarities of geographical indications protection and rights enforcement in Georgia. The meeting was attended by the representatives of up to 500 members of OriGIn – the global alliance of geographical indications, including producers of goods protected by geographical indications and other interested parties in this sector, with whom meetings took place and future projects were discussed (Treviso, Italy).

18



An English-language “Training Course on Geographical Indications” was held at Sakpatenti Training Centre, organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Academy and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti. During the course, the participants listened to lectures on geographical indications delivered by Sakpatenti top officials and specialists of relevant fields, familiarized with mechanisms of legal protection, various protection systems for GIs and international practice. The course, was intended for officials from intellectual property offices of various countries and relevant ministries, aimed to enhance the skills of field specialists.

# 23



The Workshop on Adjudication of Civil Intellectual Property Infringement Cases took place in Batumi with the participation of Georgian judges, sponsored by the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of U.S. Department of Commerce and the Embassy of the United States of America to Georgia. At the event, American judges shared with their Georgian colleagues the experience of the courts of the United States of America on disputes related to intellectual property subject-matters. Sharing the US experience in the field of intellectual property protection will assist Georgian judges in implementation of the IP legislation of Georgia in accordance with international standards (Batumi, Georgia).

# 24



“Science and Innovations Festival 2017” took place, organized by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, during which the scientific and innovative potential of the country, achievements of Georgian and foreign researchers were presented. In Tbilisi and the regions a scientific picnic was offered for pupils, with entertaining lessons about intellectual property. To boost interest in inventions, various games and interesting activities took place. Through cognitive and entertaining methods teenagers received information on the significance of creation of inventions and innovative products for the progress and development of the country.

## October

# 2



57<sup>th</sup> Series of Meetings at General Assembly of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) took place, which was attended by the delegation of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, headed by Chairman Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze. During the General Assembly, Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze was elected as the Chair of the Special Union for the International Registration of Marks (Madrid Union). He was nominated for the position of the Chair of the Union by the Central European and Baltic States Group (CEBS). It is noteworthy that a representative of Georgia is heading a WIPO Union for the first time (Geneva, Switzerland).

# 3



An official meeting of the Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti with Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General of WIPO, took place. At the meeting the parties discussed the current and future projects. Highly was evaluated activities of the Intellectual Property Training Centre and the process of drafting the national IP strategy of Georgia (Geneva, Switzerland).

# 4

The Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti met with Ms. Binying Wang, WIPO Deputy Director General. During the meeting it was decided that Georgia will be the third country in the world where the Madrid E-filing system will be introduced. It was also noted that WIPO will continue to support Sakpatenti in integration into the Madrid Goods and Services (MGS) program (Geneva, Switzerland).

5



Within the 57<sup>th</sup> Series of Meetings at General Assembly of the Member States of the WIPO, a reception “Follow Georgia” was held on behalf of Georgia, where the delegates had an opportunity to familiarize with the work of Georgian musical Band “Shin” and oeuvres of modern artist Ms. Tamar Kvesitadze (Geneva, Switzerland).

6

Practical issues of integration of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti into the WIPO program – “WIPO Match” were discussed during the meeting of Sakpatenti delegation with Mr. Mario Matus, Deputy Director General of WIPO (Geneva, Switzerland).

6

The delegation of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti held meetings with the Director of WIPO Academy and heads of various structural units, during which the significance of the training programs, offered at Sakpatenti Intellectual Property Training Centre, including the advanced “Training Course on Geographical Indications”, and the necessity of their repetition in 2018 were noted (Geneva, Switzerland).

7

The Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti held a meeting with Mr. Christian Archambeau, Deputy Executive Director of the European Union Intellectual Property (EUIPO), during which the ongoing and future projects of Sakpatenti-EUIPO cooperation were discussed, in particular, along with the EUIPO intellectual property tools (TMview, DesignView and Tmclass), already introduced into Sakpatenti, moreover, introducing additional tools, approved by EUIPO, such as CESTO, Forecasting, Quality, etc. (Geneva, Switzerland).

8



A meeting of the Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze with his Turkish counterpart Mr. Habip Asan took place. During the meeting issues of mutual cooperation between the two offices were considered, and future plans and prospects were outlined. It was planned to hold the Regional Seminar on Geographical Indications, organized by the two parties, in 2018 in Georgia, it was also decided that participation of Georgian students in the Master’s Program on intellectual property in Turkey will be supported in future as well.

9



The Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti held a meeting with Ms. Gunel Sevdimaliyeva, Acting Director General of Patent and Trademarks Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan. On the meeting the significance of cooperation between the offices of the two countries was stressed and, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed (Geneva, Switzerland).

10

Mr. Mykhailo Titarchuk, Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, and Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze signed a Memorandum “Regarding the Recognition of the State Enterprise “Ukrainian Intellectual Property Institute” as the Authority Competent for Carrying out an International Search and International Preliminary Examination” (Geneva, Switzerland).

16



Within the International Project for Cooperation on the Copyright and Related Rights, Workshop on Digital and Physical Piracy and Struggle Methods of Countries took place. A representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti delivered a presentation on recent legislative amendments related with piracy in the digital area in Georgia. The meeting was organized and financed by the Ministry of Culture of Turkey and Turkic World Foundation (Almaty, Kazakhstan).

16



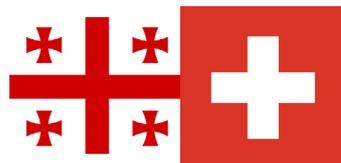
To expand knowledge and share experience, representatives of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti attended Advanced Training Course on Copyright and Related Rights, organized by WIPO and the British Copyright Council (BCC). The advanced training course was offered for representatives of the developing countries and countries with economies in transition, who familiarized with the British, regional and international standards of copyright and related rights protection, history of development and copyright and related rights enforcement system (London, Great Britain).

16



Every interested person was offered an opportunity to use the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti's Patent Information Service – Preliminary Patent Search. This service covers a patent search in international commercial and public sector patent databases, as well as in non-patent (e.g. scientific) literature databases. The searched documents and reports will assist the inventors to get an overview on the state of the art in their fields of technology, to be able to assess patentability of their inventions prior to drafting a patent application.

25



The second round of negotiations between the Georgian and the Swiss parties on drafting the text of the "Agreement on the mutual recognition and protection of geographical indications and appellations of origin between Georgia and the Swiss Confederation" took place. At the meeting the parties finalized the text of the Draft Agreement, which, in case of its adoption, will ensure protection of Georgian geographical indications and appellations of origin, according to the principle of reciprocity, on the territory of Switzerland (Bern, Switzerland).

30

The National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti was integrated with the User Satisfaction Survey (USS) tool, which is a strategic objective within SP2020 LoA4 and thus part of the extension of the EUIPN tools to IP Offices outside the European Union. This tool allows for a common approach to carry out surveys among the participating IP offices.

1

The workshop on Geographical Indications: Application examination, control and certification took place at The National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti. The workshop, organized within the project “Support to Sustainable Value Chains through the Development of Geographical Indications in the Dairy Sector”, funded by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), was aimed at discussing the GI applications, certification and control system together with relevant government organizations and certifications bodies.

3



The final stage and the awards ceremony of the young inventors’ competition “Leonardo da Vinci”, organized by Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia took place. The objective of the competition was to provoke teenagers interest in innovations and technical progress, to facilitate raising the level of education, reveal teenagers endowed with an inventor’s talent and stimulate the development of pupils’ creative thinking and practical skills. The competition is held since 2010. Every year Sakpatenti is involved in the work of the competition commission and participates actively in the evaluation process of the submitted projects.

6



The representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti attended ceremony of awarding best inventors of the year, which is an excellent platform for popularization of inventive activity and raising public awareness in the IP field (Sofia, Bulgaria).

7



A meeting between Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, and Mr. Loran Siniore, Director, Central and Eastern European Software Assets Management and Compliance, Microsoft, took place. At the meeting a new initiative of Microsoft was considered which implies offering users a service for protection against cyber threats, which will facilitate raising the level of awareness of the public on the importance of licensed products. In addition, users will receive information on main advantages of using legal products.

13



For capacity building, a representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti attended training on trademark examination. The training covered familiarization with the trademark system of the Republic of Korea, necessary requirements for registration and service issues (Daejeon, Republic of Korea).

14



The first round of negotiations took place between Georgia and the Republic of Moldova, to adopt the text of the Agreement on Mutual Recognition and Protection of Geographical Indications between the parties. The draft document provides agreement between parties on recognition of their geographical indications and appellations of origin, and also covers the issues related with protection and use of rights on geographical indications and appellations of origin in accordance to the principle of reciprocity and ensuring protection under the national legislations. (Chisinau, Moldova).

# 17



On the invitation of the Japan Patent Office, a representative of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti attended training on trademark registration procedures and peculiarities of substantive examination (Tokyo, Japan).

# 18



National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, together with other private and public organizations, participated in the exhibition “Start-In-Georgia” – “Everything for My Start-up”, organized by the Georgian Start-up Association and Start Business Solutions. At the most large-scale exhibition for start-ups, where up to 30 companies were represented, sectoral specialists of IP introduced to beginner entrepreneurs the importance and role of intellectual property protection for business development.

## December

# 3

On the invitation of WIPO, Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, attended the 4<sup>th</sup> World Internet Conference (Wuzhen Summit) and participated as a panelist in the Sub-forum on Global Digital Economy – Innovation and Cooperation. The event was attended by top officials of major companies working in the Internet area (Wuzhen, People’s Republic of China).

# 10



To share experience, representatives of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti attended the Asian Regional High-Level Seminar on IP Management and Utilization, organized by the State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China (SIPO). The seminar was attended by up to 60 representatives of 16 Asian countries (Beijing, China).

# 12

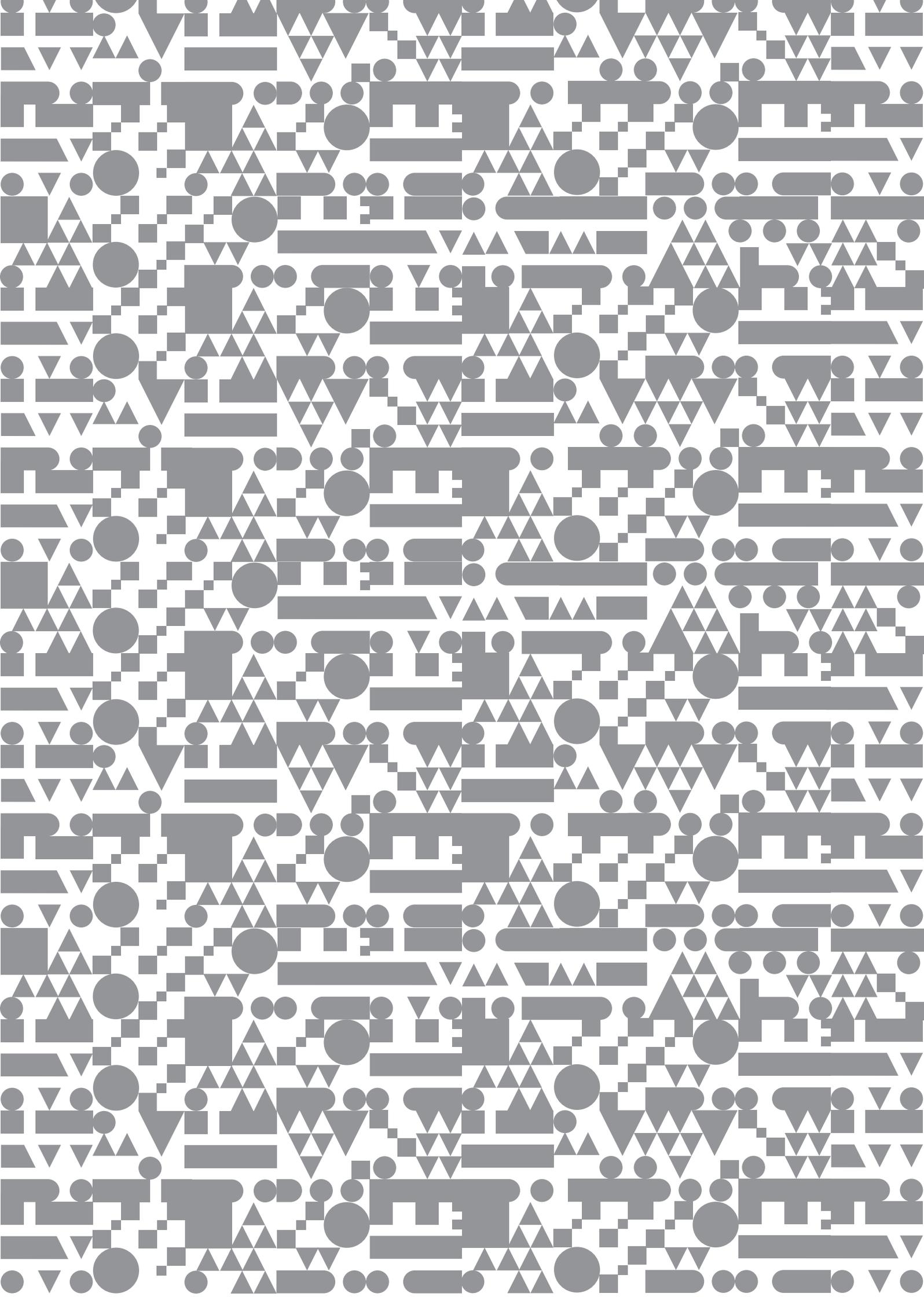


Workshop on IP Enforcement took place at the National Intellectual Property Centre Sakpatenti for officials of the customs and investigation services and judges. During the meeting practical aspects of investigation and criminal prosecution of trademark counterfeiting and copyright piracy and current challenges were discussed. Especially for the given Workshop Sakpatenti translated and published into the Georgian language the WIPO manual for law enforcement authorities and prosecutors “Investigating and Prosecuting IP Crime”, which will assist prosecutors and representatives of law enforcement bodies in criminal prosecution of IP crime.

# 15

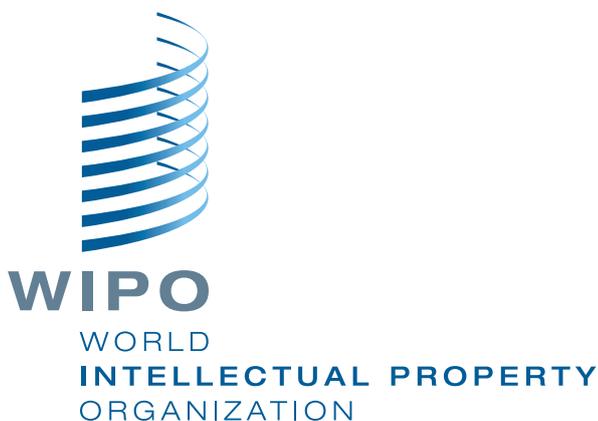


A hackathon took place at the National Intellectual Property Centre Sakpatenti. During the 48-hour marathon the participants must implement an idea related to the topic of intellectual property rights protection. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) announced the slogan of the year 2017: “Innovation – Improving Lives” and Intellectual Property Offices of the Member States were recommended to organize a competition on the above-mentioned topic. Within this recommendation, Sakpatenti organized a competition of a hackathon format, which facilitated raising awareness on the importance of respect for IP among the young generation.



# International Affairs/ 2017

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## **Cooperation with World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is a constant partner of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia in terms of protection of intellectual property and enhancement of national institutional and human resources, as well as development of the relevant infrastructure in Georgia. In 2017, to achieve the above-mentioned objectives, a number of joint projects were implemented:

- Mr. John Sandage, Deputy Director General of WIPO, visited Georgia for the first time, he delivered a welcoming speech at the International Conference on the “Use of Intellectual Property (IP) for Economic Growth”, organized on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti. In the framework of the two-day visit, Mr. John Sandage visited the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and held a meeting with the Chairman of Sakpatenti Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze. At the meeting the parties discussed the ongoing processes at Sakpatenti, the role of WIPO in the development of innovations and technologies in Sakpatenti activities and outlined future plans.
- Deputy Director General of WIPO also met with Mr. Teimuraz Murgulia, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. They discussed the necessity of developing appropriate reforms in the education system, which covers introducing the importance of protection of intellectual property rights to pupils. On behalf of WIPO, Mr. Sandage expressed readiness to support implementation of priority projects in Georgia, which will raise the public awareness on IPR protection and will facilitate the development of the system in Georgia.
- Sakpatenti hosted the WIPO delegation headed by Ms. Tamara Nanayakkara, Counsellor, SMEs and Entrepreneurship Support Division. The delegation held working meetings with the different public and private organizations and institutions operating in agro-food sector in Georgia. As a result, the delegation evaluated the availability and expenditure of the IP system in the agro-food sector of Georgia, also the level of IP awareness among the persons occupied in the field. The evaluation also covered issues related to the protection of IP objects, including geographical indications, and revealing possible obstacles in the process of integrating IP into the existing agro-food system. Based on the preliminary evaluation, the delegation developed recommendations to facilitate strengthening the role of the intellectual property system in the development of the agro-food sector.
- The National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti’s delegation, headed by its Chairman, Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, participated in the Fifty-Seventh Series of General Assemblies of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). During the session of the Assembly, the Chairman of the Sakpatenti was elected as Chair of the Special Union for the International Registration of Marks (Madrid Union), who was nominated on the position of the Chair of the Union by the Central European and Baltic States Group (CEBS). It is noteworthy that for the first time Georgia’s representative headed WIPO Union. In the framework of the General Assembly, an official meeting was held between Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze and the Director General of WIPO - Mr. Francis Gurry. The parties discussed the current and future projects. The high evaluation was given to the activities of the Intellectual Property Training Centre, established under the Sakpatenti, and the process of drafting the national IP strategy of Georgia. Mr. Francis Gurry stressed out the significant achievements of Georgia in further development and protection of the intellectual property system.
- Sakpatenti Chairman also met with the WIPO Deputy Director General, Ms. Binying Wang. On the meeting it was decided that Georgia will be the third country in the world where the Madrid e-filing system will be implemented. It was also noted that WIPO will continue supporting Sakpatenti in integration into the Madrid Goods and Services (MGS) program.
- Practical issues of integration of Sakpatenti into the WIPO program – “WIPO Match” were discussed during the meeting of Sakpatenti delegation with Mr. Mario Matus, Deputy Director General of WIPO. Sakpatenti delegation also held meetings with the Director of WIPO Academy and heads of various structural units, during which the significance of the training programs, offered at Sakpatenti Intellectual

Property Training Centre, including the advanced “Training Course on Geographical Indications” and the necessity of their repetition in 2018 were noted (Geneva, Switzerland).

- Center’s one-year temporary task as a coordinator of the WIPO’s CEBS Regional Group was successfully completed. The work carried out by Georgia in the capacity of the Regional Group Coordinator received high assessment from the delegations as well as the Director General, that enhanced Georgian delegation activities on the qualitatively new stage and into an advanced category at WIPO. The functions of the Regional Group Coordinator were fulfilled by a special representative of Sakpatenti - Mrs. Ana Gobechia, Head of International Affairs and Project Management Division (Geneva, Switzerland).
- In 2017, Georgia in the capacity of the CEBS Group Coordinator, drafted, agreed and voiced the positions of the Member States of the Group. In addition, it defended the interests of the member countries at WIPO and introduced the Group from the best aspect, which has been repeatedly noted by the Member States, WIPO Secretariat and Director General. It is noteworthy that as a result of effective and constructive work of the Regional Coordinator, it became possible to achieve progress on a number of controversial issues at WIPO, including: reaching a consensus on the Working Agenda of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents, coordination of the Working Agenda of the WIPO Advisory Committee on Enforcement, agreement of the Working Agenda of Geographical Indications at the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT), reaching a consensus on a number of controversial issues during the 57<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the WIPO Members States (adoption of the Program and Budget, continuation of the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (ICG), consensus on the Lisbon Union budget, etc.).
- Georgia appeared in the capacity of the Group Coordinator at 15 sessions, participated in preparatory meetings of all committees and carried out coordination work to agree positions on issues related with the committees, by means of electronic communication as well as coordination meetings. In the coordination period, Georgia on behalf of the CEBS Group made up to 150 statements, which were worked out and agreed during the coordination meetings with the Member States. Moreover, on the position of WIPO communication officers, group submitted and Assembly approved 11 member state candidates, who coordinated relevant committee sessions. On the basis of the consensus achieved as a result of the active consultations and constructive work within the CEBS Group, 6 Member States of the CEBS Group were elected with a two-year term as the members of WIPO Coordination Committee (CoCo), and 7 Member States as the members of the Program and Budget Committee (PBC).
- In addition, for better presentation of the CEBS Group, the Group nominated candidates of Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Georgia for the positions of WIPO Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs, whose election was supported by the Members States. Taking into account the growing interest of the delegations in terms of coordination, Georgia, started revision of working methods of the CEBS Group and commenced work on the development of election principles and criteria’s for the PBC/CoCo enforcement committees membership.
- WIPO General Course on Intellectual Property (DL-101) will become available in the Georgian Language as well. For this reason at the beginning of 2017, the Training on “WIPO Academy General Course on IP (DL-101) Customization and Tutoring” was held for trainers of Sakpatenti Training Centre. The WIPO invited expert discussed aspects of determining course objectives and customization of the topics, based on the peculiarities of the Georgian legislation and practice. Training was offered to pre-selected Georgian trainers, who will receive WIPO accredited trainer certificates and will be authorized to teach this course in Georgia. After elaboration of the Georgian version of the WIPO Academy General Course on IP DL-101 this course will be published on WIPO Academy platform and any interested person will be able to pass the course in the Georgian language free of charge.
- In future, similar to this project, preparation of the Georgian versions of WIPO Academy specialized distance learning courses on various intellectual property subject-matters (trademarks, copyright, inventions, etc.) is also envisioned. To implement envisioned plan, WIPO expert Mr. Pascal Bernardoni, visited Georgia in 2017. He delivered training for trainers on development of the course on trademarks and geographical indications.



### Cooperation with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

Within the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and the EUIPO, in 2017 the following activities were carried out:

- In addition to Sakpatenti already implemented EUIPO intellectual property tools TMview, Design View and TMclass, agreement was achieved between the two offices to integrate tools developed by the EUIPO, such as CESTO, Forecasting, Quality, etc. The agreement was achieved on the meeting of heads in the framework of the WIPO General Assembly (Geneva, Switzerland);
- The delegation of Sakpatenti visited EUIPO, aimed at implementation of the next stage of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti's electronic management system development and integration. As a result of successful integration of three components (TM View, TM Class and DS View), created an opportunity to integrate addition seven different types of tools. The delegation familiarized with the technical details of the new tools and drafted a working plan on the spot (Alicante, Spain).

In 2017 Deputy Chairperson of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti Mrs. Sophio Mujiri was sent on a mission to EUIPO as a Seconded National Expert. During her 2 year mission, she will work at the EUIPO Boards of Appeal, and also oversee the ongoing projects of Sakpatenti with the EUIPO. The EUIPO Boards of Appeal is an independent body which hears decisions taken by the EUIPO on the trademark and design registration. Decisions of the Board of Appeals can be appealed against at the General Court of the European Union and then at the European Union Court of Justice (Alicante, Spain).



### Cooperation with the Government of the United States of America

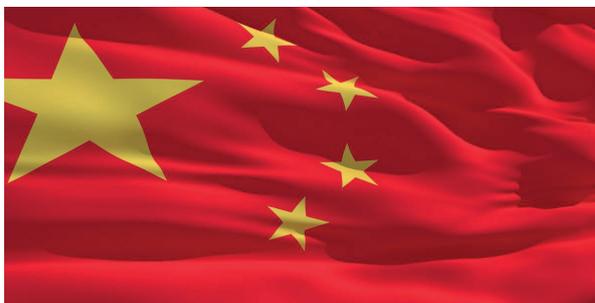
In 2017 cooperation continued with the Government of the United States of America. To implement the Action Plan of Sakpatenti, with the support of the Embassy of the United States of America to Georgia, United States

Agency for International Development (USAID), US Primary Education Project in Georgia (G-PriEd) and the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the following meetings and activities took place:

- Workshops were held for Georgian judges and journalists. American judges shared US experience on IP related court disputes with the Georgian colleagues. Together with Sakpatenti representatives, they also discussed the practice of the Sakpatenti Chamber of Appeals and courts of Georgia and offered their views and recommendations in this respect. Sharing the US experience in the field of intellectual property protection will assist Georgian judges in implementation of the IP legislation of Georgia in accordance with international standards.
- On the occasion of April 26 - the World Intellectual Property Day - special lessons were delivered to up to 2000 elementary grade pupils of public schools throughout Georgia. The objective of the lessons were to raise awareness on the principles and importance of intellectual property rights. In cooperation with the USAID Georgia Primary Education Project (USAID/G-PriEd) and with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, for last two year a special lessons plans were prepared and the recommendation on delivering the above-mentioned lessons were sent to public schools for the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades pupils. Reading books on innovations "Umbrella", "Washing-machine" and "Compass" (author: Irma Malatsidze), created by cooperation of G-PriEd and Sakpatenti, are used for special lessons. The lessons delivered at Tbilisi public school No. 133 were attended by officials of National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti an USAID/G-PriEd representatives. Pupils were acquainted on innovation and patents, familiarized with the main functions of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, and the essence of April 26. The pupils were handed over reading books on inventions and general intellectual property matters, which were published in cooperation between Sakpatenti and G-PriEd.
- In 2017, Sakpatenti planned and implemented several projects for development of electronic management and proceedings. In April, USAID-funded e-Governance project was completed and launched, it includes: creation of a totally new database and electronic proceedings, a new website, which is also integrated with the new database and a module of electronic document circulation. As a result, Sakpatenti is able to receive and process filed applications for all IP Objects electronically, and applicants will be able to monitor filed applications proceeding online.
- Within the project's funded by USAID, cooperation continued with HICD 2020 (Human and Institutional Capacity Development). Sakpatenti human resources development and main processes assessment report which was prepared in 2016 revealed main directions which require further development and improvement. In 2017, implementation of relevant activities started. After completion of the project, Sakpatenti will have

an improved standard operation procedures, effective staff assessment, management and development tools and indicators, as well as diagrams for refined processes of electronic document circulation.

## International Cooperation with Intellectual Property Offices



In 2017, to overcome common challenges and strengthen cooperation in the IP field, the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti conducted negotiations and held the following meetings:

- The Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation was signed between the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC) and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti. The Memorandum, aiming to strengthen cooperation in the intellectual property field, was signed by Ms. Gan Lin, Vice Minister of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC), and Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, Chairman of Sakpatenti.
- At the Worldwide Symposium on Geographical Indications, which was held in Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province, People's Republic of China, Mrs. Sophio Mujiri, Deputy Chairperson of National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, delivered a presentation on "Management of Geographical Indications of Wines". The Symposium was organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC). The Symposium is a major event in the field of geographical indications worldwide and is held biennially. The purpose of the Symposium is to serve as a forum of exchanging ideas and discussions related to protection and use of GIs. The event also provides technical access and sharing information on recent developments in the field of geographical indications.
- Within the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti and the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO), in 2017 a meeting took place between Dr. He Zhimin, Deputy Commissioner of SIPO and Nikoloz Gogilidze, the parties discussed the issues of cooperation between the two offices, outlined the future plans and prospects. A biennial action plan (2017-2018) was signed, which foresees participation

of the Georgian party in the "One Belt, One Road" Project, as well as Georgian student's to join the Master Program on IP Law under China Governmental Scholarship. In addition, the SIPO's "Patent Search and Analysis System" will be used as the cooperation platform and tool. Within the visit, Dr. He Zhimin met with Mr. Genadi Arveladze, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, and participated in the International Conference "Georgia Against Counterfeiting and Piracy". SIPO is the largest national IP Office in the world, and together with the IP Offices of Europe, USA, Japan and Korea, is a member of the largest IP Offices IP5 union. Relations with the powerful IP Office will facilitate better implementation of Sakpatenti activities.



## Cooperation with the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent)

Within the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent), in 2017 the following activities were carried out:

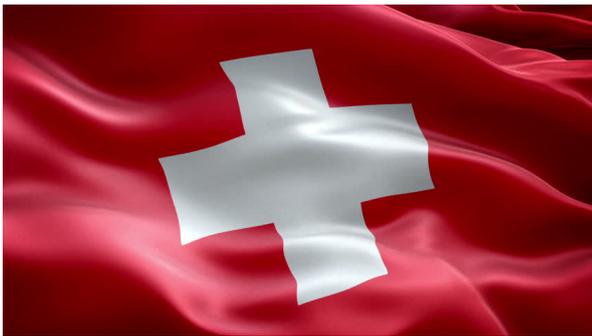
- During the WIPO General Assembly an official meeting of Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze with his Turkish counterpart took place, issues of mutual cooperation between the two offices were considered, future plans and prospects were outlined. It was decided to hold the Regional Seminar on Geographical Indications, organized by the two parties, in 2018 in Georgia. Besides, it was decided that Turkpatent will continue supporting participation of Georgian students at the LLM Program on IP in Turkey (Geneva, Switzerland).
- A delegation of the Turkish Patent Attorneys Association visited Georgia. Within the visit, Turkish patent attorneys met with their Georgian colleagues and the Association of Turkish Businessmen. The visit was aimed at familiarizing representatives of the Turkish business sector working in Georgia with the issues of protection intellectual property rights. On the meeting the challenges of the Turkish business sector in Georgia were also discussed.
- A group of examiners from Turkpatent visited Georgia and shared their experience with the Georgian colleagues and conducted training on trademark examination and protection mechanisms.
- With the support of Turkpatent, a representative of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti successfully completed a one-year program (Master of Laws in Intellectual Property) at Ankara University.

**For the purpose of further strengthening cooperation, in 2017 Sakpatenti continued cooperation with other IP Offices:**



**PATENT VƏ ƏMTƏƏ NİŞANLARI MƏRKƏZİ**

- In 2017 a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between Sakpatenti and the Patent and Trademarks Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The official ceremony took place during the WIPO General Assembly. At the meeting Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, Chairman of Sakpatenti, and Ms. Gunel Sevdimaliyeva, Acting Director General of Patent and Trademarks Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan stressed the significance of cooperation between the offices of the two countries and outlined future plans (Geneva, Switzerland).



- The second round of negotiations between the Georgian and the Swiss parties on drafting the text of the “Agreement on the mutual recognition and protection of geographical indications and appellations of origin between Georgia and the Swiss Confederation” took place. At the meeting the parties finalized the text of the Draft Agreement, which, after its adoption, will ensure protection of Georgian geographical indications and appellations of origin, according to the principle of reciprocity, on the territory of Switzerland. The Agreement will also regulate issues concerning the protection and use of geographical indications. On behalf of Switzerland, representatives of the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property participated in the negotiations, and on behalf of Georgia – Sakpatenti Chairman Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, as well as representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia participated in the negotiations (Bern, Switzerland).



- A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the Global IP Case Law Database Darts-ip. Darts ip is the large-scale commercial company which collects and publishes on its website various patent offices and courts decisions in the intellectual property field. According to the memorandum, Sakpatenti and Darts-ip will exchange information on practices in the field of intellectual property rights. In particular, Sakpatenti employees will be authorized to a free and unlimited access to the database published on the Darts ip website. In its turn, Sakpatenti will systematically share the Chamber of Appeals decisions which are published on the Sakpatenti website in the “Appeals Decision Archive” block with Darts ip, from their side, Darts ip will ensure publishing the provided documents in its database. Along with this, Darts ip undertakes to conduct trainings for Georgian users and provide the training material on the use of the Darts ip database in the Georgian language. All this will facilitate Sakpatenti employees to better familiarize with the global practice in the field of intellectual property rights and will also enable Sakpatenti to share the Georgian practice on IPRs worldwide (Barcelona, Spain).
- Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine Mr. Mykhailo Titarchuk and Sakpatenti Chairman Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze signed a Memorandum “Regarding the Recognition of the State Enterprise “Ukrainian Intellectual Property Institute” as the Authority Competent for Carrying out an International Search and International Preliminary Examination”.



- Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti held meetings with Mr. Octavian Apostol, Director General of the State Agency on Intellectual Property (AGEPI) of Republic of Moldova and other representatives of the Agency. During the meeting it was noted that partnership between Georgia and Moldova is directed towards

development of the intellectual property system, defending the interests of the two countries on the international level and approximation of the national legislation to the international standards, which can be achieved more effectively with joint efforts. At the meeting, the parties also discussed practical issues related to the protection of industrial property subject-matters. The current state of the cooperation between Sakpatenti and AGEPI was assessed and priority directions of cooperation between the two offices were identified. Within the visit Sakpatenti Chairman had meetings with Mr. Eduard Grama, Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry, and Mr. Gheorghe Arpentin, Director of the National Office of Wine and Vine. At the meeting the prospects of signing an agreement on mutual recognition and protection of geographical indications between Moldova and Georgia were considered.



- Sakpatenti drafted the Agreement text on “Mutual Recognition and Protection of Geographical Indications between Georgia and Republic of Moldova” and for the purpose of adopting the text first round of negotiation took place between parties. On behalf of Georgia, the delegation was led by the Chairman of Sakpatenti Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze, as well as representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, LEPL National Wine Agency and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia participated in the negotiations. On behalf of the Republic of Moldova, the meeting was attended by Ms. Lilia Bolocan, Director General of State Agency on Intellectual Property of Republic of Moldova (AGEPI), representatives of AGEPI, as well as representatives of various state agencies of the Republic of Moldova. The draft Agreement provides recognition of the geographical indications, appellations of origin and indications of source by the Parties according to the principle of reciprocity and ensuring protection under the national legislations. The Agreement is also aimed to regulate the issues related with protection and use of rights on

geographical indications and appellations of origin.

- In 2017, representatives of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in the work sessions of intergovernmental economic commission and interagency working groups between Georgia and Republics of Ukraine, Greece, Turkmenistan and Czech Republic.

# Conferences/ 2017



Title: **Sub-Regional Symposium on Geographical Indications**

Date and Venue: September 12-13, 2017, Trabzon, Turkey

Organized by: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia (Sakpatenti) and Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent).

The Sub-Regional Symposium on Geographical Indications of Georgia and Turkey was held. The event aimed to facilitate popularization of two countries goods protected as geographical indications and to accelerate products import and export. At the Symposium, issues of legal protection of origin-based products, strategies of development of geographical indications and socio-economic impact of GI protection were discussed. The participants also familiarized with the GI protection systems of Turkey and Georgia and shared the experience of the European Union on control of geographical indications and enforcement of GI protection in the EU. As a side event of the Symposium, an exhibition and tasting of products protected by Georgian and Turkish geographical indications took place, where goods of appellations of origin and geographical indications, registered in Turkey and Georgia were shown, including Georgian wines of various appellations, mineral waters, varieties of cheese, chacha, matsoni, churchkhela, Akhalkalaki potato, Kutaisi greens, Tkibuli mountain tea and Machakhela honey.



Title: **International Conference - Use of Intellectual Property (IP) for Economic Growth**

Date and Venue: June 14-15, 2017, Tbilisi, Georgia

Organized by: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia (Sakpatenti)

On occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of foundation of National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, the International Conference on the "Use of Intellectual Property (IP) for Economic Growth" was organized at the hotel Biltmore. The anniversary conference was attended by members of the Government of Georgia, representatives of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), European Patent Office (EPO) and IP offices of various countries, as well as patent attorneys of Georgia and representatives of the private sector.

During the conference, the increasing role of intellectual property in the modern knowledge-based economy and necessity of innovation promotion for strengthening the economic potential of the country were discussed.





**Title: International Conference “Georgia Against Counterfeiting and Piracy”**

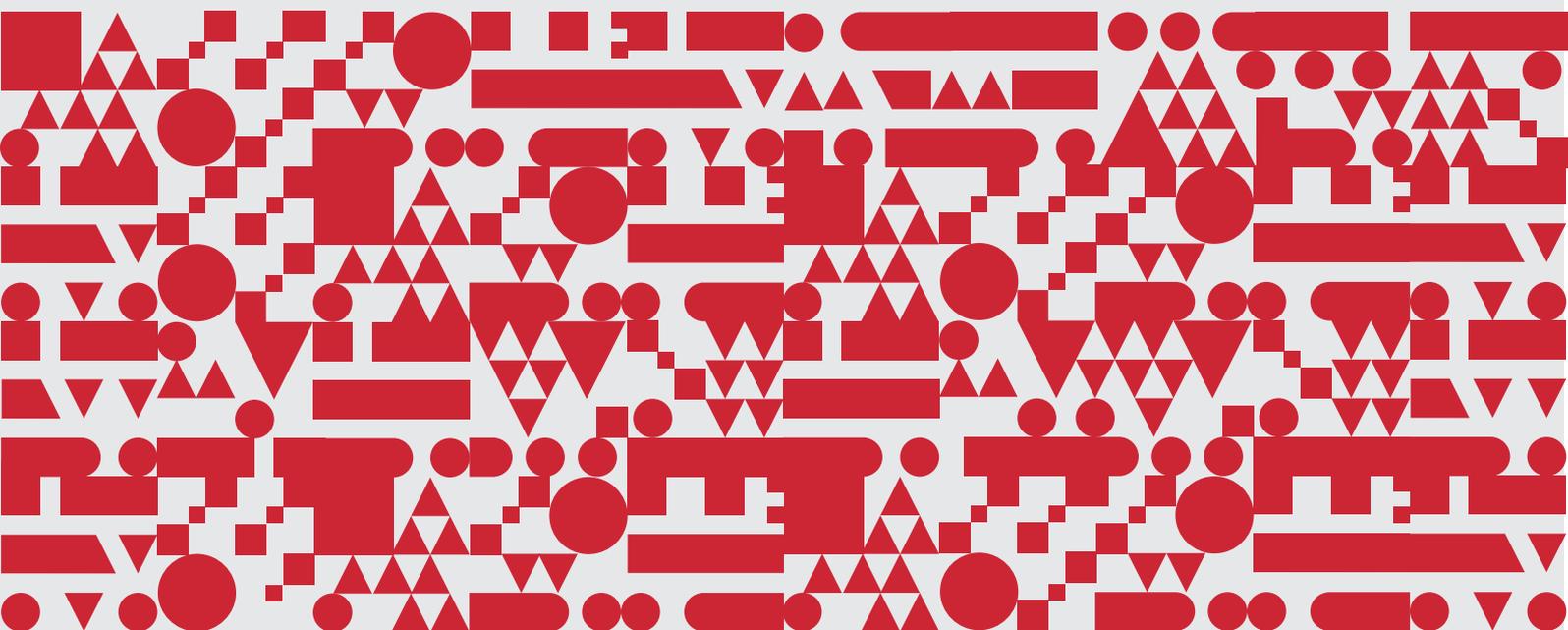
Date and Venue: July 20-21, 2017, Batumi, Georgia

Organized by: National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, United States Department of Commerce, Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP), International Chamber of Commerce Georgia (ICC Georgia)

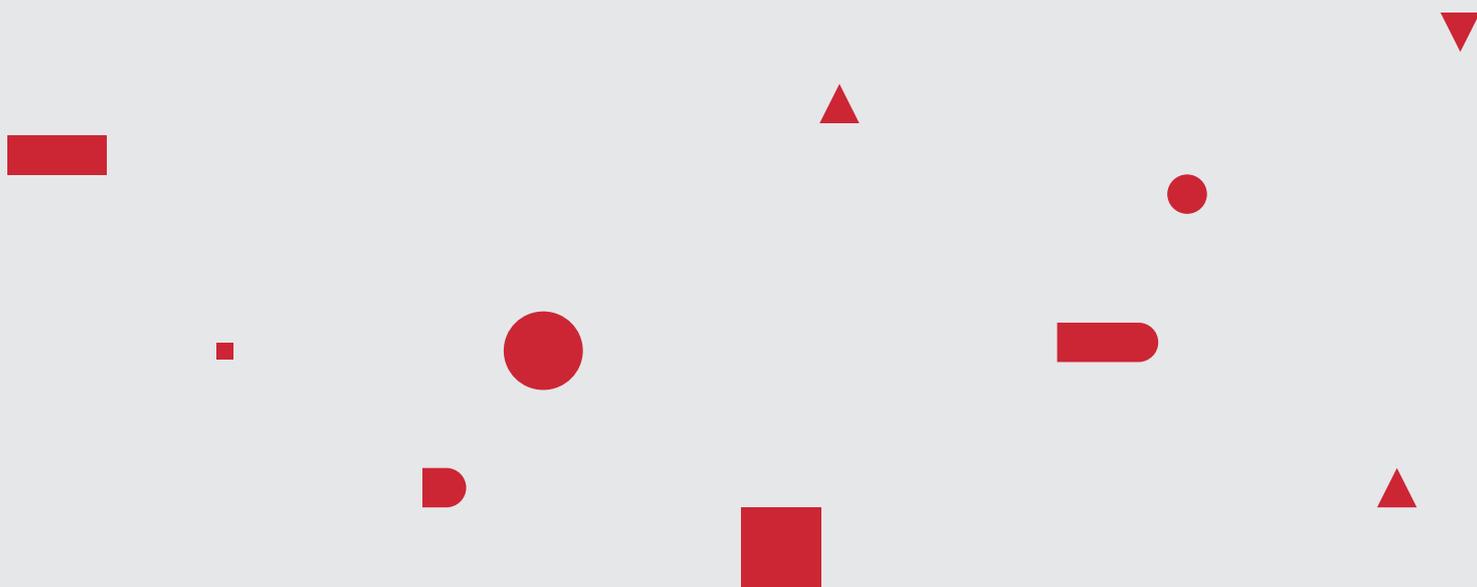
The 3rd International Conference “Georgia Against Counterfeiting and Piracy” was held, aiming to enhance a dialog against counterfeiting between public and private sector, ensure effective coordination amongst different agencies towards IPR enforcement mechanisms and share experience of foreign countries. The event was attended by representatives of the private and public sectors, and guests from various countries, who discussed various measures taken for combatting counterfeiting, familiarized with the amendments to be made to the Georgian legislation, which are aimed to improve IPR enforcement mechanisms, including copyright protection in digital world. During the conference, special emphasis was on the links between terrorism in organized crimes and international cooperation against counterfeiting and piracy. The conference is a platform for representatives of the private and public sectors to establish the effective IP protection system in Georgia, which plays a significant role in the economic growth and development of the country.



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**Trademark**



# Trademark

In order to improve trademark examination procedure, to facilitate conducting additional actions related to the application filing and processing and to introduce in the work of the Office the international standards, Sakpatenti in 2017 carried out the following activities::

- Sakpatenti was integrated with the EUIPO's User Satisfaction Survey (USS) tool. Georgia is the fifth country non-member state of the European Union to introduce this tool, which will assist the Office in improving its services.
- Procedures were carried out to introduce supplementary tools approved by EUIPO, such as HDB, CESTO, Forecasting, Quality, etc., which will render the proceedings more flexible and faster both for examiners and applicants.
- Negotiations continued for the integration of Sakpatenti's databases into the WIPO administered program Madrid Goods and Services (MGS) Database, by means of which trademark registration procedure in Georgia and countries of the Madrid Union will be simplified both for foreign and Georgian applicants.
- Work was continued on the drafting of amendments to be made to the "Trademark Law" of Georgia and Trademark Instruction to ensure their harmonization with modern requirements as well as further improvement of examination procedure.
- A new trademark database was launched, which will make the working process more flexible for examiners and applicants. To assist applicants, the instruction for filing an electronic application was prepared.
- Negotiations started for integration of Sakpatenti into the WIPO administered program e-Filing, by means of which Georgian users will be given an opportunity to file applications electronically, which will simplify for them the trademark extension procedure in the member states of the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks. Sakpatenti will become the WIPO's third member country where the Madrid e-Filing system will be introduced.
- To communicate with WIPO, the using of a new tool MOP has been started, which simplifies the process of identification of documents at WIPO and

facilitates fast and effective communication with the International Bureau.

As a result of the implemented activities, in 2017 the total number of filed applications increased by 9%, whereas international applications number increased by 14%. The number of applications filed by the national procedure increased by 3%. The increase by 3% was also recorded in the number of local applications.

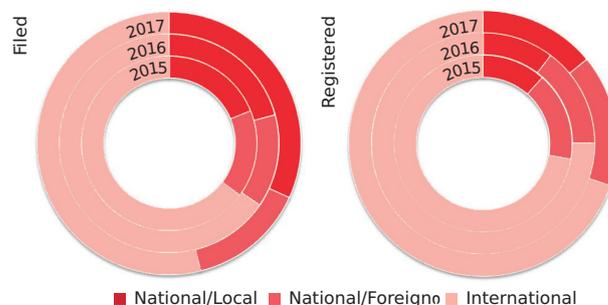
In 2017, as in the previous year, in the national as well as the international trademark applications for pharmaceutical products predominated (1218), followed by applications for advertising and office functions (847).

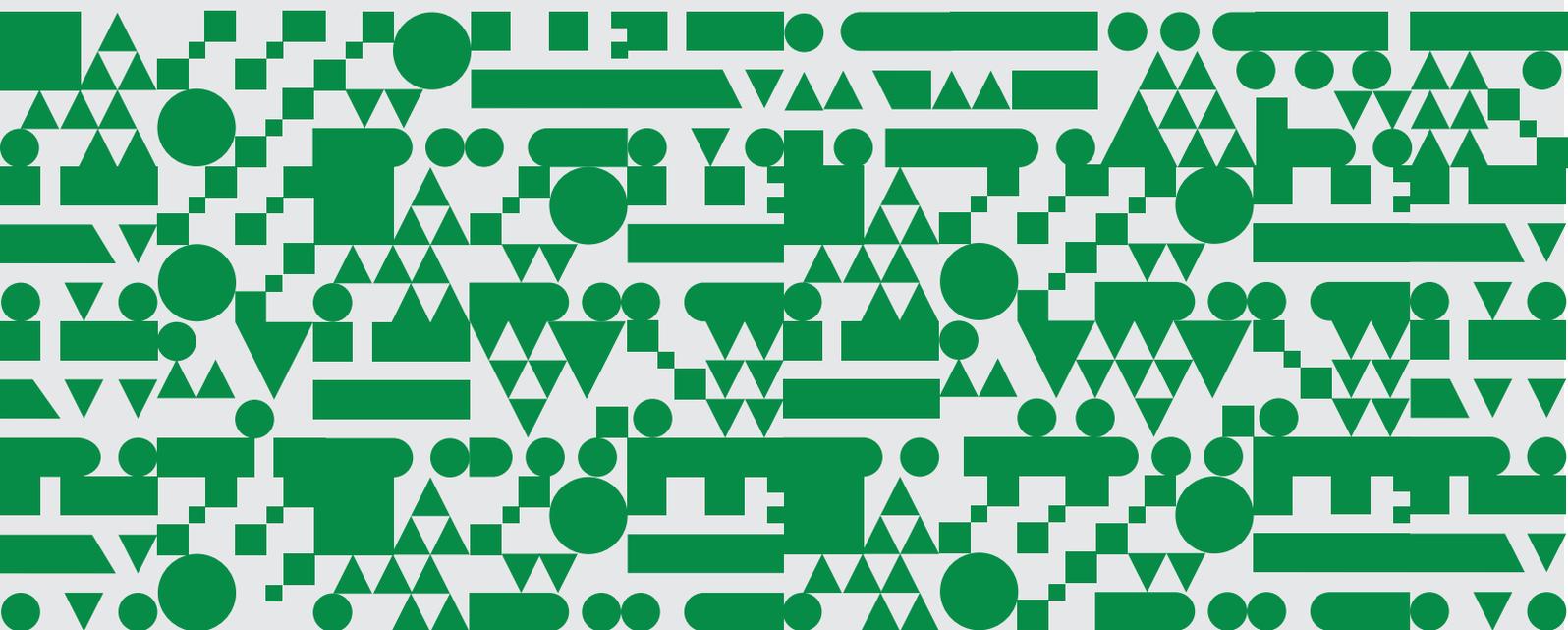
According to countries a great number of applications were filed from the USA (390), Russian Federation (381) and Federal Republic of Germany (328). In 2017, 27 applications were sent from Georgia to the International Bureau under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks.

The leading classes according to the number of local trademark applications are as follows:

- Class 5: Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations, etc. – 627 applications;
  - Class 33: Alcoholic beverages (except beers) – 343 applications;
  - Class 35: Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions – 387 applications.
- The leading classes according to the number of local and international trademark applications are:
- Class 5: Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations, etc. - 591 applications;
  - Class 35: Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions – 460 applications;
  - Class 9: Data processing equipment, computers; computer software, etc. – 607 applications.

Trademark		Filed Applications			Registered Applications		
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
National Procedure	Local	1092	1478	1664	452	656	630
	Foreign	722	669	768	639	745	548
International Procedure		3437	2504	3145	3278	3248	2407
<b>Total</b>		<b>5251</b>	<b>4651</b>	<b>5577</b>	<b>4369</b>	<b>4649</b>	<b>3585</b>





**Geographical**

**Indication and**

**Appellation of Origin**

# Geographical Indication and Appellation of Origin

To ensure protecting of Georgian appellations of origin of goods and geographical indications abroad and enforcement rights on them, revealing new appellations of origin of goods and geographical indications, improving and updating specifications of registered AOs and GIs, In 2017 Sakpatenti implemented following measures:

- Negotiations were continued for signing the Agreement on Amending Annexes XVII-C and XVII-D to the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, on the other part, which implies updating of the lists of geographical indications protected on the basis of the principle of reciprocity. As a result of signing the Agreement, in addition four Georgian geographical indications, in particular: “Tkibuli Tea”, “Machakhela Honey”, “Kutaisi Greens” and “Akhalkalaki Potato” will be protected on the territory of the European Union;
- The production specifications of the registered appellation of origin of wine “Khvanchkara” were amended. The amendments were made due to the amendments entered in the Law of Georgia on “Vine and Wine” in 2017, as well as due to the necessity of their harmonization with the modern European standards.
- The registration procedure for appellation of origin “Khashmi Saperavi” was started. The aim of the protection of this appellation of origin is to underline the special quality and high reputation of “Khashmi Saperavi”;

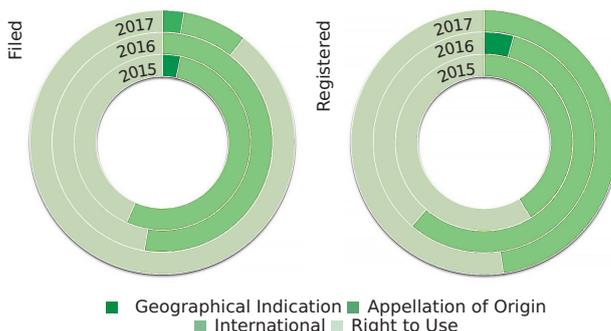
- A legal dispute ended successfully in the People’s Republic of China. The State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People’s Republic of China (SAIC) took a preliminary decision on registration of Georgian appellation of origin - mineral water “Nabeghlavi”;
- Two rounds of negotiations with the Swiss Confederation took place, aimed to adopt the text of “the Agreement on Mutual Recognition and Protection of Geographical Indications and Indications of Source between Georgia and the Swiss Confederation.” Negotiations to adopt similar agreement were also conducted with the Republic of Moldova.

As a result of the above-mentioned activities, Sakpatenti granted rights to the use of geographical indications for the following objects, among which traditionally appellations of origin of wine predominate:

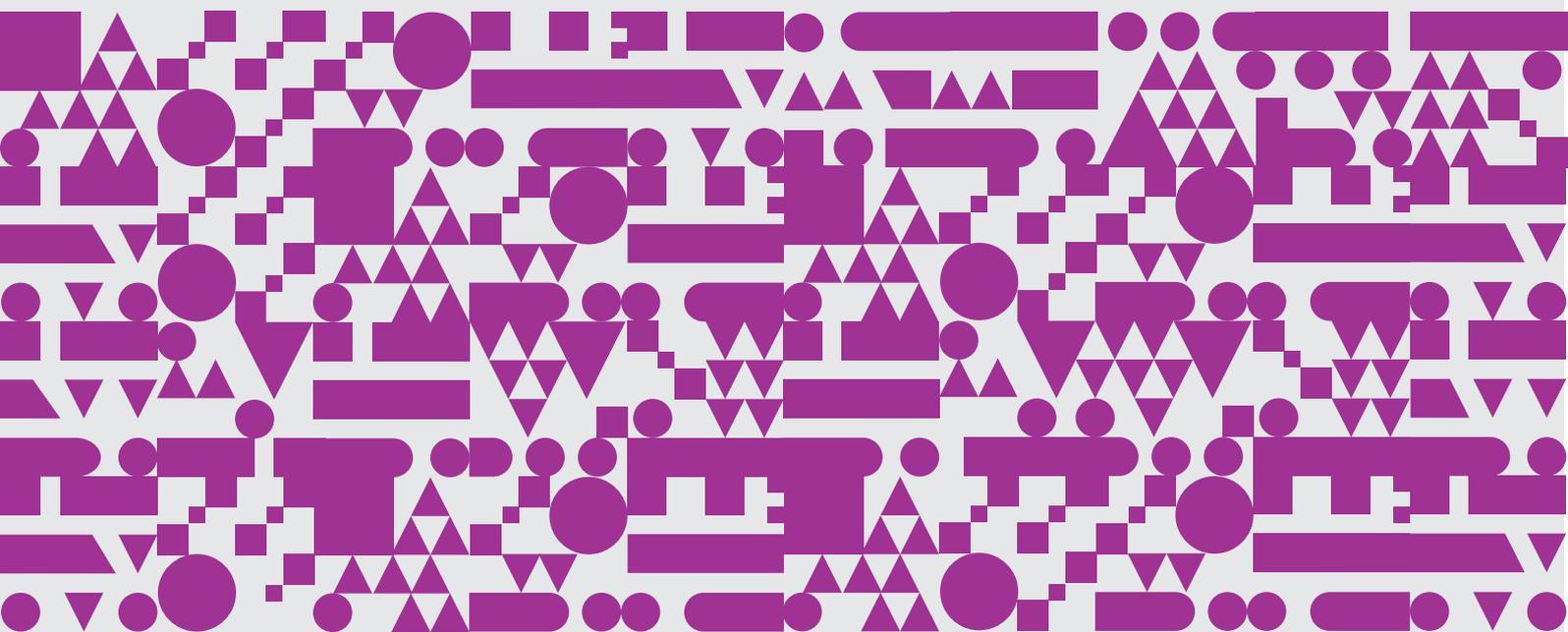
- “Kindzmarauli”, “Mukuzani”, “Akhasheni”, “Tsinandali” and “Khvanchkara” – 3 certificates for each;
- “Vazisubani”, “Kakheti”, “Napareuli White”, “Napareuli Red” and “Gurjaani” – 2 certificates for each;
- “Mitarbi”, “Borjomi”, “Manavi”, “Tvishi”, “Kvareli”, “Chacha”, “Nabeghlavi”, “Sairme” and “Sulguni” – 1 certificate for each.

In 2017, only 3 applications requesting extension to Georgia under the “Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration” were filed from the Slovak Republic (Class 14: Precious stones), Republic of Italy (Class 33: Wine) and Mexico (Class 31: Cocoa).

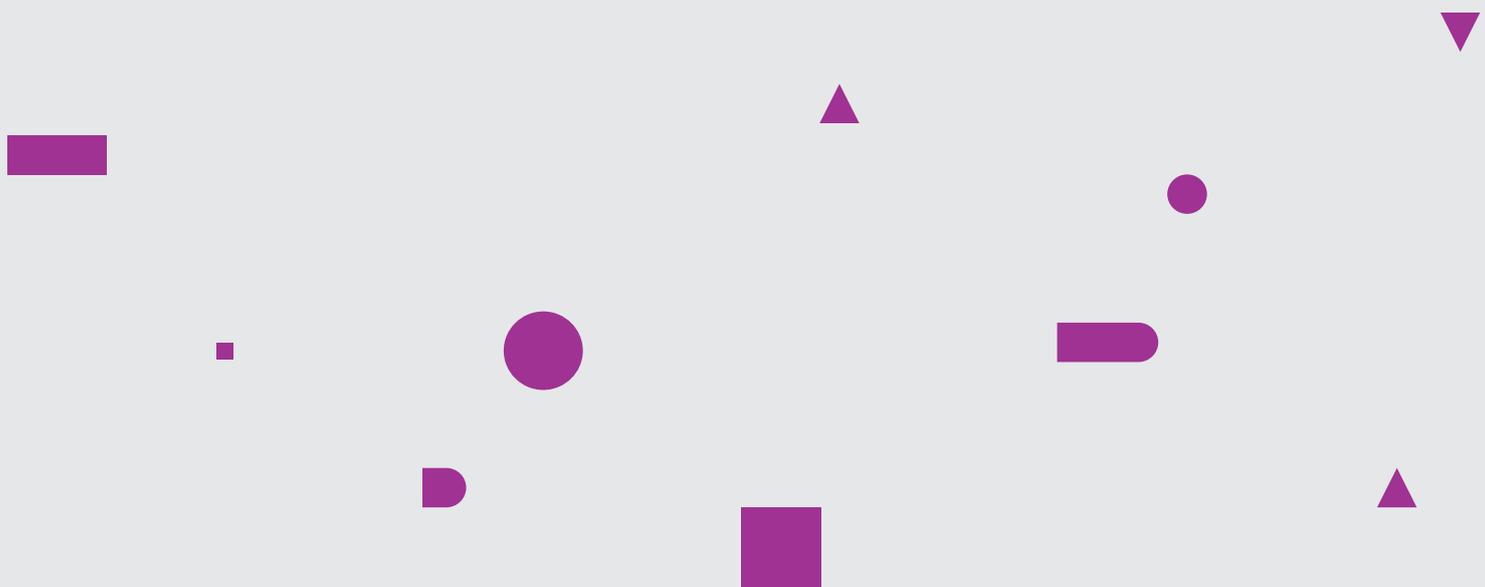
geographical indication and appellation of origin		Filed applications			Registered appellations		
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
National Procedure	Geographical Indication	4	0	0	4	4	0
	Appellation of Origin	0	0	1	5	0	0
International Procedure (Lisbon Agreement)		64	50	3	33	53	31
Right to Use Appellation		52	45	34	47	36	34



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**Design**



To raise the level of public awareness on the legal protection of design, to improve and harmonize the procedures related to filing and registration of design applications with the international standards, in 2017 Sakpatenti carried out the following activities:

- A new database was launched, by means of which electronic filing of design applications was introduced. Moreover, it provides for applicants simplified procedure of application filing and communication with Sakpatenti, and for examiners more flexible and improved working process.
- Work was continued on the draft amendments to the “Law of Georgia on Design” and the Design Instruction in order to harmonize them with modern requirements and to improve further examination procedure.

In 2017, a sharp increase (90%) of the number of applications filed by the national procedure was fixed, which indicates the increase of the interest of population of Georgia in the given subject-matter of Intellectual Property. The increase of the number of applications was also determined by the possibility of electronic filing, which became available through the new program launched in May 2017. It should be noted that 48% of the applications received after launching

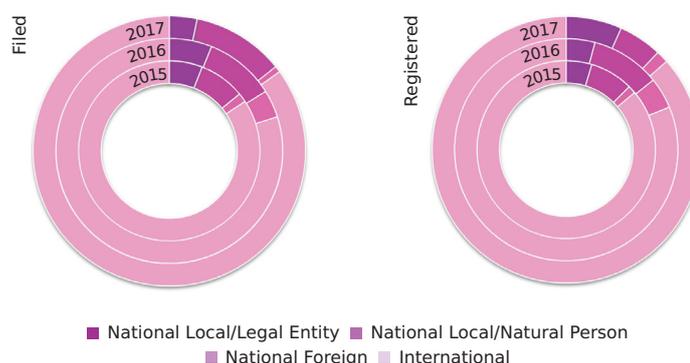
this program were filed electronically. The number of designs included in each application also increased. 78 applications, filed in the reporting year, in total contains 501 designs, which at average rate means up to seven designs per application, unlike previous years, when one application at average included three designs.

Among the applications filed under the national procedure, with regard to the quantity of leading classes according to the International Classification for Designs are as follows:

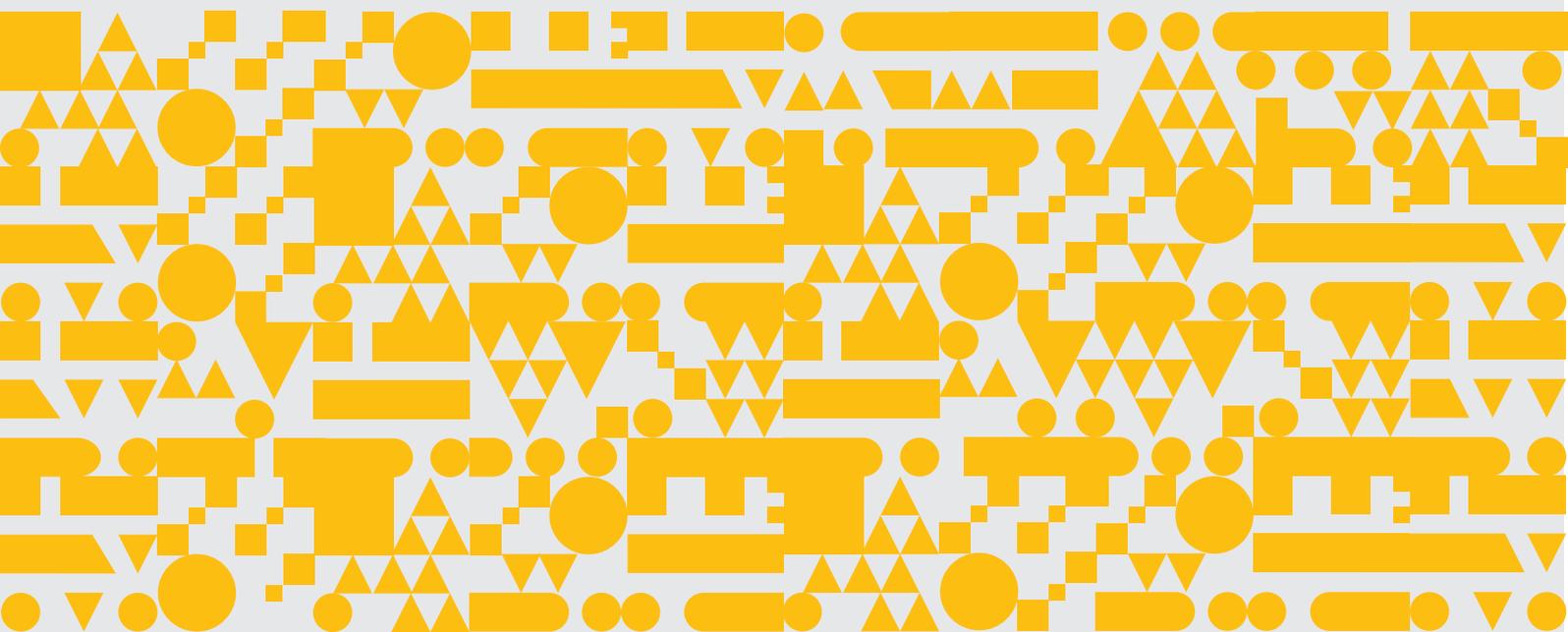
- Class 9: Packages and containers;
- Class 7: Household goods;
- Class 32: Graphic symbols;
- Class 11: Articles of adornment;
- Class 19: Stationery and office equipment.

In 2017, 174 international applications were filed, containing 642 designs in total. Mostly claimed objects for protection out of these applications are again: clocks, watches and packages, containers; Although the number of designs of clothes, means of transportation and their parts also increased. Applicants from the Swiss Confederation (66), France (32) and Italy (20) are still leading. 6 applications per each country were filed from Japan and the USA.

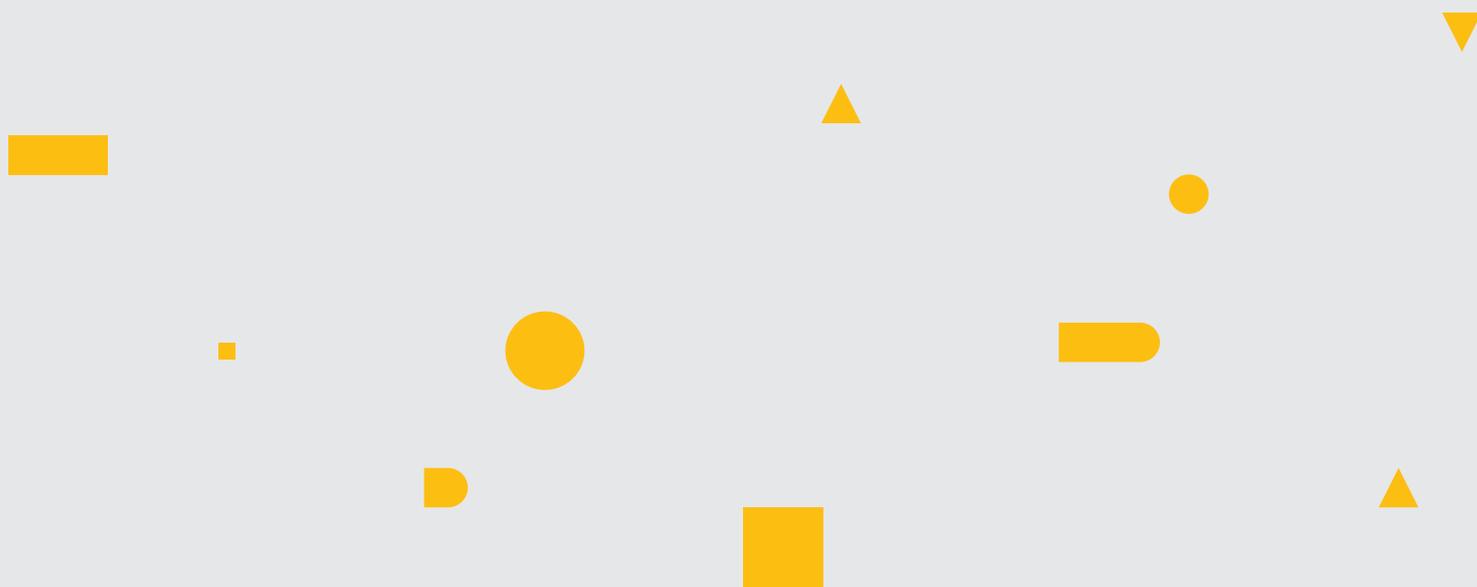
Design			Filed Applications			Registered Design Applications		
			2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
National Procedure	Local	Legal Entity	20	9	16	12	18	9
		Natural Person	33	30	51	29	14	32
	Foreign		13	2	11	13	4	4
International Procedure			262	232	174	234	231	121
Total			328	273	252	288	267	166



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# Invention



In order to raise public awareness on the importance of legal protection of inventions and utility models, to elaborate, improve and harmonize the procedures related with filing and registration of applications with the international standards, Sakpatenti carried out in 2017 the following activities:

- A new system of receiving and processing applications was launched, which allows online filing of applications for inventions, utility models and preliminary patent search.
- Sakpatenti as a Receiving Office (RO) of the PCT system joined the ePCT platform, as a result of which nationals and residents of Georgia were given the possibility to file international patent applications (PCT applications) at Sakpatenti online using ePCT platform. The ePCT system enables filing and processing of PCT applications, exchange of documents between authorities and communications with the applicant, all in electronic form.
- It became possible for every interested person to use the Patent Information Service – Preliminary Patent Search. This service covers a patent search in worldwide commercial and public sector patent databases, as well as in non-patent (e.g. scientific) literature databases. The searched documents and reports assist the inventors to get an overview on the state of the art in their fields of technology, to be able to assess patentability of their inventions prior to drafting a patent application and to better plan further steps, e.g. drafting a patent application and filing it at Sakpatenti. In 2017, in total 25 preliminary searches were carried out.
- The cooperation of Sakpatenti with Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation continued. The Office participated in the consideration of the renewed concept of the grant competition for applied research

and in the work of Commission of the competition of young inventors and researchers “Leonardo da Vinci”.

- The cooperation of Sakpatenti with Georgia’s Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA) also continued. The Office took part in the work of the Competition Commission for financing small grants and on a regular basis carried out preliminary patent search for projects received from the Innovation and Technology Agency.
- Sakpatenti participated in the work of the Commission of the start-up competition - Creative Business Cup Georgia (CBC) in the reporting year too.

In 2017 the majority of both national as well as foreign applications for inventions and utility models were filed in human necessities (Section A), and chemistry; metallurgy (Section C). In the reporting year, the largest number of foreign applications was filed from the USA (44), Turkey (16) and Italy (13).

The leading sections according to the number of national applications for inventions are:

- Section A: human necessities – 21 applications;
- Section C: chemistry; metallurgy – 16 applications.
- Section B: performing operations; transporting – 12 applications.

The leading sections according to the number of foreign applications for inventions are as follows:

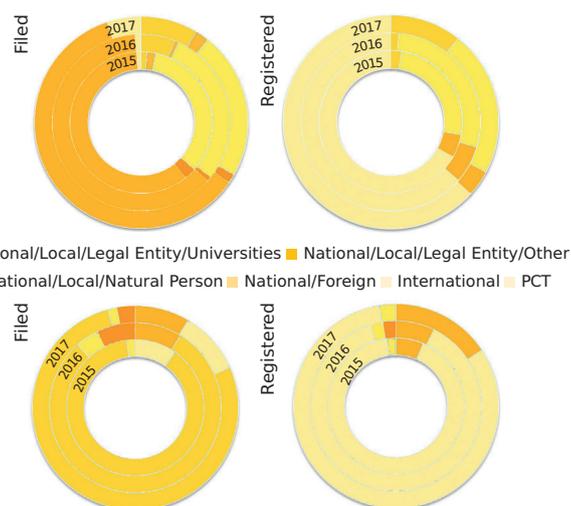
- Section A: human necessities – 74 applications;
- Section C: chemistry, metallurgy - 57 applications;
- Section B: performing operations - 13 applications.

The leading sections according to the number of national applications for utility models are as follows:

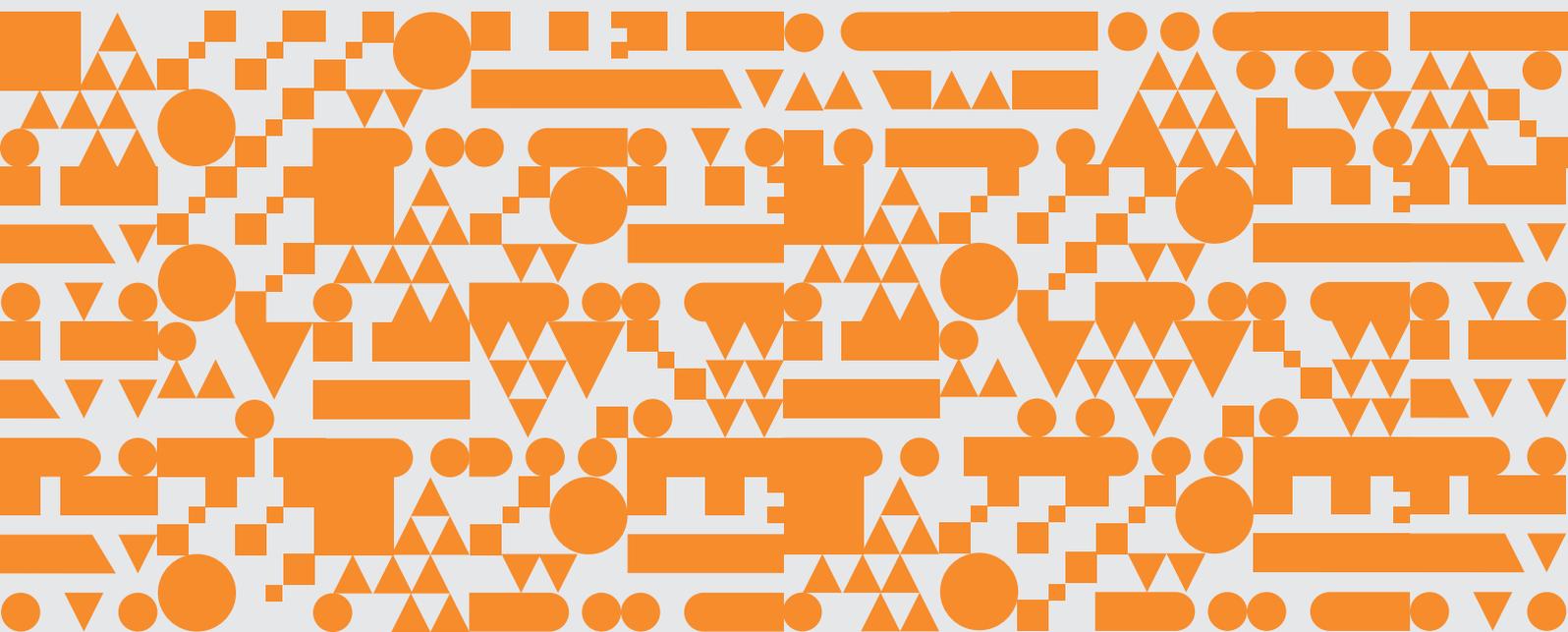
- Section A: human necessities - 34 applications;
- Section C: chemistry, metallurgy - 7 applications;
- Section G: physics - 4 applications.

Invention				Filed Applications			Registered Patents		
				2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
National Procedure	Local	Legal Entity	17	25	12	3	19	9	
		Universities	2	6	5				
	Natural Person		79	65	58	58	39	28	
	Foreign		2	4	10	14	7	6	
International Procedure				171	174	147	131	112	163
Total				271	274	232	206	177	206
PCT Applications filed with Sakpatenti as a Receiving Office				3	15	10			

Utility Model				Filed Applications			Registered Patents		
				2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
National Procedure	Local	Legal Entity	6	6	1	3	6	3	
		Universities	0	7	4				
	Natural Person		54	54	49	36	31	31	
	Foreign		3	1	3	1	1	1	
International Procedure				5	2	0	1	0	2
Total				68	70	57	41	38	37



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# **New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds**



# New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds

For the purpose of improving the mechanisms of protection of new plant varieties and animal breeds, in 2017 Sakpatenti carried out the following activities:

- The Office joined a new electronic system of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) – “UPOV PRISMA”, which is intended for drafting applications for new plant varieties and their electronic filing with relevant offices of desired countries. By means of this system it will be possible to file with National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti applications for new plant varieties electronically from 2018;
- Representative of Sakpatenti attended the Forty-Sixth Session of the UPOV Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops.

In 2017, 17 applications were filed for new plant varieties

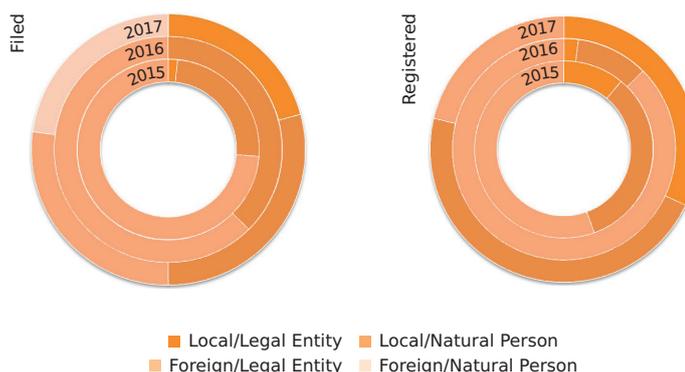
and animal breeds. Of these, 16 applications were filed by foreign applicants, and 1 - by a local applicant. The number of applications according to crops is as follows:

- New variety of peach – 3 applications;
- New variety of apple – 6 applications;
- New variety of plum – 3 applications;
- New variety of blueberry – 2 applications;
- New variety of raspberry – 2 applications;
- New variety of walnut – 1 application;

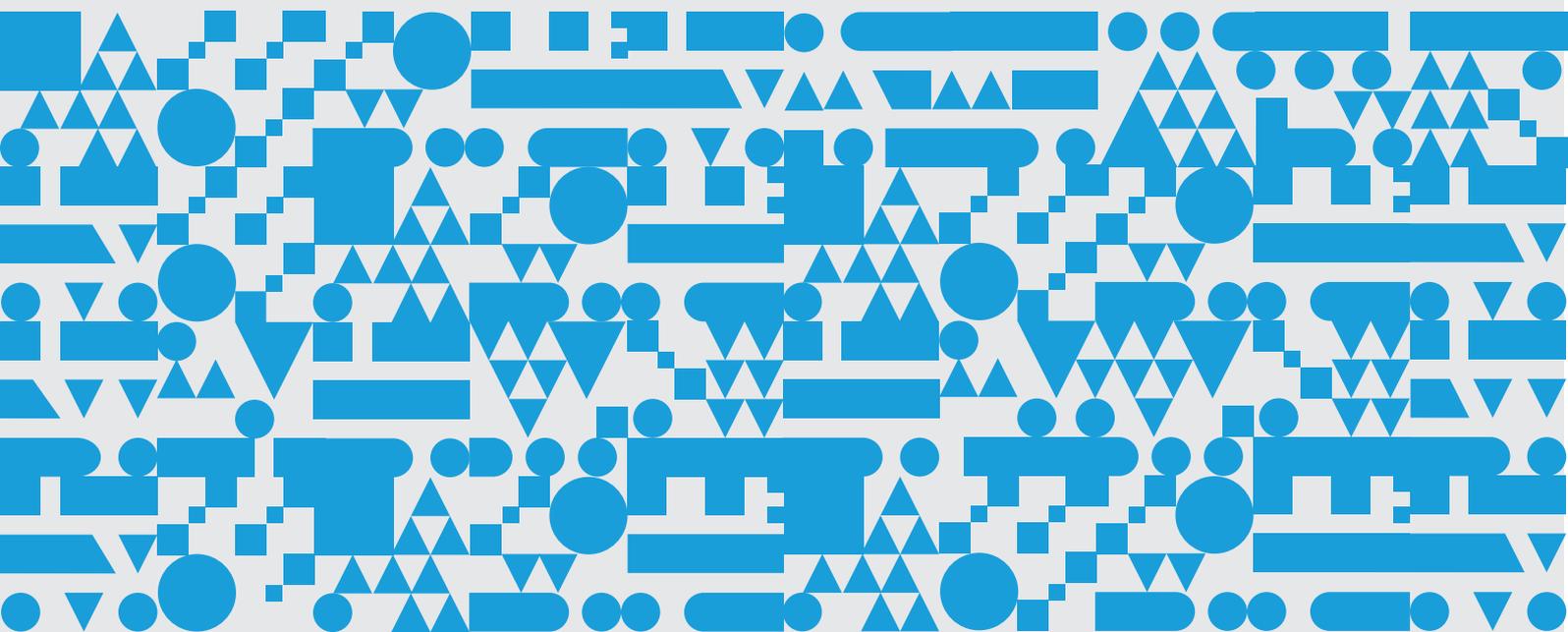
In the reporting year, 57 new plant varieties and 1 animal breed were registered and certificates confirming the breeder’s rights were issued for 24 foreign and 11 local legal entities, as well as 12 foreign and 11 local natural persons.

13 issues of Official Bulletin for the Protection of New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds were published.

New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds		Filed Applications			Registered Varieties/Breeds		
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Local	Legal Entity	0	10	0	1	15	11
	Natural Person	9	14	1	5	22	11
Foreign	Legal Entity	15	13	15	42	10	24
	Natural Person	0	11	1	0	0	12
Total		24	48	17	48	47	58



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**Copyright**

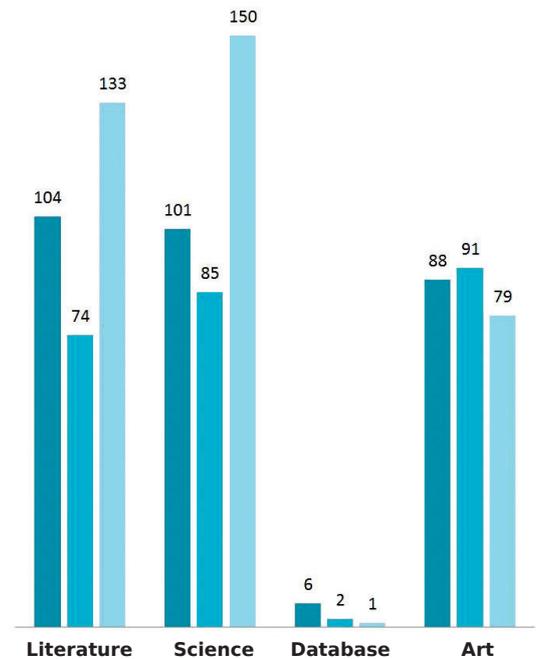


In 2017 Sakpatenti carried out a number of activities in order to raise public awareness on the importance of legal protection of copyright and related rights in Georgia.

In the reporting year a new database was launched, by means of which system for electronic filing of requests for depositing works protected by copyright was introduced. As a result, the procedures of filing requests for depositing works created by applicants and proceedings on them were simplified.

In 2017 the number of deposited works increased by about 29%. As in 2016, the majority of deposited works were related to literature. It is noteworthy that in the reporting year, the number of deposited computer programs increased considerably.

კატეგორია	List of Works	2015	2016	2017	
Literature	Anthology	1	-	-	
	Description	-	1	-	
	Dramatic Work	1	-	2	
	Translation	3	5	3	
	Collection	4	4	4	
	Literary Work	33	52	50	
	Monograph	-	1	-	
	Musico-dramatic Work	-	-	2	
	Synopsis	5	9	9	
	Scenario	23	49	38	
	Compiled Work	4	12	5	
Science	Book	-	-	9	
	Computer Program	11	9	28	
	Collection	-	-	4	
	Methodological Work	13	46	29	
	Overview	1	-	-	
	Monograph	-	-	2	
	Map	-	-	6	
	Scientific Work	27	48	31	
	Scientific Article	9	6	13	
	Scientific-Methodological Work	14	25	5	
	Textbook	4	16	10	
Database	Compiled Work	6	-	5	
	Book	-	-	1	
	Database	2	1	1	
	Reference	-	-	-	
	Adaptation	-	-	-	
	Art	Architectural Project	16	4	5
		Audio-Visual Work	5	13	3
		Description	-	-	-
		Graphics	-	-	3
		Decorative-Applied Art	-	4	10
		Design	8	9	10
Dramatic Work		-	1	-	
Sketch		4	1	4	
Video commercial		-	-	1	
Theatrical-Decorative Art		4	1	-	
Illustration		-	-	4	
Collection		-	-	-	
Logo		4	6	5	
Multimedia Work		1	19	-	
Musical Arrangement		-	-	-	
Musical Work		12	-	9	
Musical Work with Words		15	14	11	
Garden and Park Art		-	-	1	
Work of Fine Arts		16	2	8	
Telefilm		-	-	-	
Painting		1	-	-	
Photography		5	2	4	
Sculpture		-	1	1	
Book	-	2	-		
<b>Total</b>		<b>252</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>337</b>	



# Lawmaking and Litigation/ 2017

On December 23, 2017, the Parliament of Georgia enacted the legislative amendments drafted by the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, which were prepared in order to fulfill the obligations under Chapter 9 (Intellectual Property Rights) of Section IV of the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part, and are aimed at harmonizing the Georgian legislation in the field of intellectual property with the above-mentioned Agreement.

The amendments were made to the following legislative acts regulating intellectual property: the “Patent Law of Georgia”, the “Law of Georgia on Copyright and Related Rights”, the “Law of Georgia on Design”, the “Trademark Law of Georgia”, the “Civil Procedure Code of Georgia”, the “Law of Georgia on Pesticides and Agrochemicals”, the “Law of Georgia on Medicines and Pharmaceutical Activities”.

The legislative amendments are mostly related to the thorough definition of legal mechanisms for carrying out adequate sanctions, prevention and suppression of infringements of rights in IP objects, which are not provided for by the current procedural legislation and which will facilitate effective enforcement of rights from the civil and legal view points.

During the reporting year, active work was conducted at the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti for further elaboration of the legislation regulating the field of IP and its harmonization with international standards, namely, the following legislative amendments were prepared:

- On Making Amendments to the “Trademark Law of

Georgia”;

- On Making Amendments to the “Law of Georgia on Appellations of Origin of Goods and Geographical Indications”;
- On Making Amendments to the “Patent Law of Georgia”;
- On Making Amendments to the “Law of Georgia on Copyright and Related Rights”.

In the preparation process of the above-mentioned draft amendments meetings were held between the members of the working groups for legislative amendments and patent attorneys, as well as members of the Georgian Bar Association.

As compared with the previous years, in 2017, the tendency of decreasing the number of appeals filed with the Chamber of Appeals continued. This fact indicates to a certain extent to the improvement of the quality of examination carried out at the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and further raising of the examiners’ qualification, which in its turn determined establishment of higher standards for examination.

In 2017, 134 appeals were filed with the Chamber of Appeal functioning at the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, the majority of which (131) were related to the decisions of the examination on trademarks. It is noteworthy that in 2017, 35 appeals were filed with the court against the Office with respect to the decisions of examination of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti and the Chamber of Appeal. Of these, 1 appeal was related with an invention. From the disputes heard, 10 disputes were settled in favour of Sakpatenti, 2 – in favour of the plaintiff.

Subject-matter		2015					2016					2017				
		Filed	Heard	Upheild fully	Upheild partially	Rejected	Filed	Heard	Upheild fully	Upheild partially	Rejected	Filed	Heard	Upheild fully	Upheild partially	Rejected
Invention	Applicant	1	1			1	1	1			1	1	1			1
	Third Party															
Utility Model	Applicant	1	1			1										
	Third Party						1	1	1							
Design	Applicant	-	-			1				1						
	Third Party	4	-								1	1				1
Trademark	Applicant	132	138	82	11	54	127	113	48	11	53	103	107	32	6	65
	Third Party	28	23	4	5	14	22	22	6	1	17	16	12	1	-	11
<b>Total</b>		<b>176</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>77</b>

# Publishing and Information Activities/ 2017

For the purpose of development of publishing activities and promotion of publishing of specialist literature, define by the Action Plan for 2014-2018, aimed to raise public awareness, in 2017 Sakpatenti carried out the following activities:

- Book I “European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) Examination Guidelines and Practice of Georgia” (author – Elene Sekhniashvili) from the series “Absolute Grounds for Refusal of Trademark Registration” was prepared for publication;
- Booklets were published and disseminated: “Design”, “Trademark”, “Invention and Utility Model”, “Geographical Indication and Appellation of Origin”, “New Plant Variety and Animal Breed”, “Enforcement of intellectual Property Rights”, “Protection of Your Trademark Abroad” and “Trademark for Your Success”, as well as “Georgian Grade of Wine” – in total 5300 copies;
- Information flyers were published for the five IP subject-matters and their registration procedures – in total 4000 copies;
- Home reading materials for schoolchildren were published: “Umbrella”, “Washing-machine”, “Compass”, “Star-candles” and “Doremus-Solasi – in total 3000 copies;
- 4 types of maps of Georgian appellations of origin and geographical indications were published – in total 800 copies;
- Various visual aids and study materials – in total 5000 pages;
- In cooperation with the Guild of Cheese Producers of Georgia, table and wall calendars for 2017 – “80 Centuries of Georgian Cheese” were published – total 500 copies.

In 2017 Sakpatenti also published the following regular editions:

- 24 issues (№№1(461)-24(484) of the Official Bulletin of Industrial Property in Georgian and English, including one special edition;
- 6 issues of bilingual publication – the Official Bulletin for the Protection of New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds (№№1(41)-13(53), which were sent to sectoral scientific-research institutions;
- “Sakpatenti Report/2016” in the Georgian and English languages – in total 830 copies;
- In the Publishing Section specifications and abstracts of applications for inventions and utility models were prepared, including those to be published on CD ROMs. In 2017, in total 362 patent specifications were prepared.

In order to replenish the patent information collection, the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti carried out the following activities:

- Subscription to periodical editions “IP World”, “WIPR World Intellectual Property Review” and “Managing IP” was continued;
- Work continued on patent libraries project PATLIB, which envisages free of charge access to commercial databases and non-patent literature for visitors of Sakpatenti library.
- Free of charge consultations were offered to up to 1500 potential applicants.

To ensure effective management and improvement of services for users, in 2017 the following activities were carried out:

- Work started on the project “TM Vision”, which will enable users as well as Sakpatenti examiners to conduct trademark search by the advanced technology of visual comparison, by means of artificial intellect. Noteworthy, National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti will be one of the first in the world which will use this search technology for examination. In 2017, negotiations process was completed with the provider company and the first stage of implementation started.
- Within the cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), work started on three projects: MGS (Madrid Goods and Services), which will enable users to conduct search in the list of goods and services (as well as list of exceptions) on the WIPO website in various languages, including the Georgian language. Implementation of this project will affect directly the improvement of quality of filling out applications and will allow harmonization of the list of goods and services of applications filed from abroad with the current terms of Sakpatenti. The other two projects will give an opportunity of simple extension of local applications abroad and extension of international applications to Georgia. It is noteworthy that part of the projects is already ready and elimination of technical deficiencies, testing and launching are planned for 2018.
- Work started on the integration of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) trademark and design systems. In 2017 work on the quality management and user survey modules was completed and integration of other modules is carried out according to the Action Plan.

In 2017, 5952 applications for inventions, utility models, designs, trademarks, geographical indications, new plant varieties and animal breeds as well as for depositing of copyright and related rights were filed with Sakpatenti. During the reporting year the filing team processed 14687 items of various correspondence, filed with Sakpatenti. In the reporting period in total 20639 documents were processed.

Subject-matter	2015	2016	2017	
<b>Invention</b>	285	273	209	
<b>Utility Model</b>	54	70	52	
<b>Design</b>	National Procedure	66	41	74
	International Procedure	262	232	161
<b>Trademark</b>	National Procedure	1814	2149	2199
	International Procedure	3437	2460	2855
<b>Geographical Indication and Appellation of Origin</b>	International Procedure	64	50	3
	Copyright	52	45	37
<b>New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds</b>	24	48	16	
<b>Deposition of Copyright works</b>	252	363	337	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6313</b>	<b>5746</b>	<b>5952</b>	
<b>Correspondence</b>	<b>10986</b>	<b>11436</b>	<b>14687</b>	

# Public Relations/ 2017

According to the Action Plan of Sakpatenti, to raise awareness in intellectual property field and disseminate information on the activity of the Office in Georgia and abroad the following activities were carried out in 2017:

facilitated raising awareness on the importance of respect for intellectual property among the young generation.



- Within the campaign on occasion of the World IP Day 2017, which was celebrated under the slogan: “Innovation – Improving Lives”, video commercials with the participation of famous persons were created and disseminated via the social networks. They spoke about the usefulness of one or another innovation for the society (Kindle, DNA, Online banking, 4G, 3D printer, MRI, ipod, smartphone, YouTube, Tesla, Selfie stick, HD, Smartwatch), which stressed the importance of protection of IP for facilitating progress. The above-mentioned campaign was aimed to demonstrate the role of intellectual property in the stimulation and development of innovation activity in the modern world.

- The National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti participated in the Istanbul International Inventions Fair, in which 264 organizations from 24 countries participated. The 4207 registered visitors of the Fair were given an opportunity to familiarize with 324 inventions. The event was organized under the patronage of the Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology of Turkey, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent). Participation of Sakpatent in the Fair was aimed to facilitate increase of the number of patent applications from Turkey, the major importer country for Georgia.



- A hackathon took place at the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti. During the 48-hour marathon the participants transformed idea to reality which reflected the topic of the World Intellectual Property Day 2017: “Innovation – Improving Lives”. Within this campaign, the Office organized a competition of a hackathon format, which

- The Office participated in the Annual Meeting of International Trademark Association (INTA), held in Barcelona, Spain, which represents the major event in the field of trademarks worldwide. Representatives of more than 10000 various well-known brands, law firms and IP offices from 140 countries familiarized with the activities of the National Intellectual Property

Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and the current system and procedures of IP rights protection in Georgia. During the INTA exhibition, information brochures were disseminated on the protection of intellectual property subject-matters in Georgia.

- The Office participated in the exhibition, held at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), where member states shown projects concerning raising awareness on intellectual property among youth. The National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia presented at the exhibition supplementary reading material, created within the US Primary Education Project in Georgia (G-PriEd): “Compass”, “Umbrella”, “Washing-machine”, “Star-candles” and “Doremus Solasi”.



- A reception took place on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti. During the event, companies, owning the largest quantity of local registrations on designs and trademarks were awarded. Diplomas of honour were handed over to inventors with the greatest quantity of patents and patent attorneys leading in filing applications for IP subject-matters. For the audience an overview of the 25-year activities of the Office was presented. Over this period, 8621 patents were granted, more than 60000 trademarks, 2254 applications for designs, 208 new varieties and breeds were registered. By



the status of June 14, 2017, National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti deposited 6993 copyright works and registered 46 Georgian geographical indications and appellations of origin.

- On occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, an event was held at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), during the General

Assembly. Up to 1000 delegates from 189 countries attended the concert of Georgian musical Band “Shin” and oeuvres of Georgian sculptor Ms.Tamar Kvesitadze. At the end of the event, a reception was offered to guests to popularize Georgian geographical indications and appellations of origin, delegates had an opportunity to taste Georgian dishes and wine.



- Sakpatenti was a co-organizer of the event “Georgia – Cradle of Wine”, held at the Wine Civilization Centre in Bordeaux, France. The event opened the cycle of exhibitions on viticulture and winemaking, which was determined, on the one hand, by the centuries-old tradition of planting vineyards and viticulture in Georgia, and, on the other one, carried out state policy which facilitates popularization and demonstration of Georgian wine on the international level.



- The Office participated in the “Science and Innovations Festival 2017”, organized by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, during which the scientific and innovative potential of the country, achievements of Georgian and foreign researchers were presented. During the scientific picnics, organized in various regions of Georgia, entertaining





lessons about intellectual property were delivered. To boost interest in inventions, various games and interesting activities were held. Through cognitive and entertaining methods teenagers received information on the significance of creation of inventions and innovative products for the progress and development of the country. At the festival Sakpatenti arranged a presentation area where, publications, books, and brochures were exhibited, entity disseminated fairy tales on the IP topic. In addition, Sakpatenti representatives delivered qualified consultations for interested persons.



- Sub-Regional Symposium on Geographical Indications was held in Trabzon, Turkey, organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia (Sakpatenti) and Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent). At the event, issues of legal protection of origin-based products were considered.



- To facilitate popularization of Georgian geographical indications and export of Georgian products, an exhibition and tasting of products protected by Georgian geographical indications took place in Trabzon, Turkey. The participants had an opportunity of tasting goods protected by geographical indications and appellations of origin registered in Georgia, including Georgian wines of various appellations, mineral waters, varieties of cheese, as well as chacha, matsoni, churchkhela, Akhalkalaki potato, Kutaisi greens, Tqibuli mountain tea and Machakhela honey.



In order to manage resources and the budget process of the Office, as well as to organize purchases effectively, The Finance Department of National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti carried out the following activities:

- The received cash incomes, as compared with the relevant figures of the previous year, increased by 13.1%, which is mainly explained by the activities carried out in order to raise awareness in the IP field. In the expenditure of financial resources, as compared with the plan defined the budget, economy of 7.7% was achieved, at the expense of economy of the budget paragraphs: "Goods and Services" and "Increase of Non-financial Assets", which in its turn was determined by effective expenditure of resources.
- In the reporting year the tendency towards the increase of incomes in the foreign currency continued.
- By means of the purchases carried out during the year, economy of 21027 GEL was achieved. In accordance with the requirements of the Law on Public Purchases, simplified purchases were carried out with the value of 1139744 GEL (314 contracts were concluded), simplified electronic tenders with the value of 161042 GEL (16 contracts were concluded) and consolidated tenders with the value of 125683 GEL (16 contracts).
- From the financial resources 49790 GEL were directed to funding the Non-Profit (Non-Commercial) Legal Entity "OriGIn Georgia", the activities of which provides for revealing potential goods eligible for GI protection in Georgia, their inventory, establishing the specifications and ensuring legal protection.

### Budget Incomes (Cash Figures)

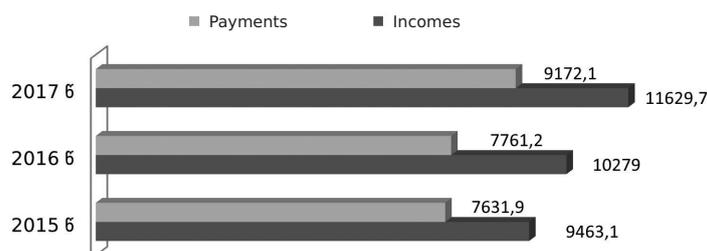
Thousand GEL

#	Economic Classification Code	Specified Plan	Cash Incomes	Budget Resources	Total Income	Result +/-
<b>1</b>	<b>Incomes from basic activities</b>	<b>10000,0</b>	<b>11515,1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11515,1</b>	<b>1515,1</b>
1,1	From services rendered to non-resident natural persons and legal entities	5800,0	6397,0	0	6397,0	597,0
1,2	From services rendered to resident natural persons and legal entities	4200,0	5118,1	0	5118,1	918,1
<b>2</b>	<b>Incomes from non-basic activities</b>	<b>132,1</b>	<b>114,6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>114,6</b>	<b>-17,5</b>
2,1	Grants to be received	127,1	104,7	0	104,7	-22,4
2,2	Positive exchange difference		9,5	0	9,5	9,5
	<b>Sum Total of Incomes</b>	<b>10132,1</b>	<b>11629,7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11629,7</b>	<b>1497,6</b>

### Budget Payments (Cash Figures)

Thousand GEL

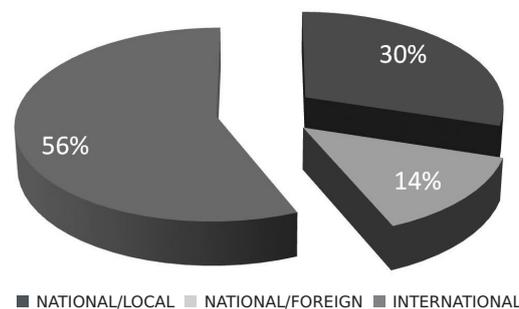
Economic Classification Code	Title	Specified Plan	Own Resources	Budget Resources	Total Income	Result +/-
<b>2,1</b>	<b>Payment for work</b>	<b>3039,8</b>	<b>3039,8</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>3039,0</b>	<b>-0,8</b>
2.1.1.1	Salary	2493,6	2493,6	0,0	2492,8	-0,8
2.1.1.1.3	Bonus	346,2	346,2	0,0	346,2	0,0
2.1.1.1.4	Allowance	200,0	200,0	0,0	200,0	<b>0,0</b>
<b>2,2</b>	<b>Goods and Services</b>	<b>2738,8</b>	<b>2738,8</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>2334,8</b>	<b>-404,0</b>
<b>2,6</b>	<b>Grants</b>	<b>324,8</b>	<b>324,8</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>182,6</b>	<b>-142,2</b>
<b>2,7</b>	<b>Social welfare</b>	<b>70,0</b>	<b>70,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>46,7</b>	<b>-23,3</b>
<b>2,8</b>	<b>Other expenses</b>	<b>3116,6</b>	<b>3116,6</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>3116,6</b>	<b>0,0</b>
2.8.2.1.15	Payments (to the budget, according to the legislation)			0,0	3032,9	
<b>31</b>	<b>Increase of non-financial assets</b>	<b>610,4</b>	<b>610,4</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>440,1</b>	<b>-170,3</b>
<b>33</b>	<b>Decrease of obligations</b>	<b>40,0</b>	<b>40,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>12,3</b>	<b>-27,7</b>
	<b>Sum Total of Payments</b>	<b>9940,4</b>	<b>9940,4</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>9172,1</b>	<b>-768,3</b>



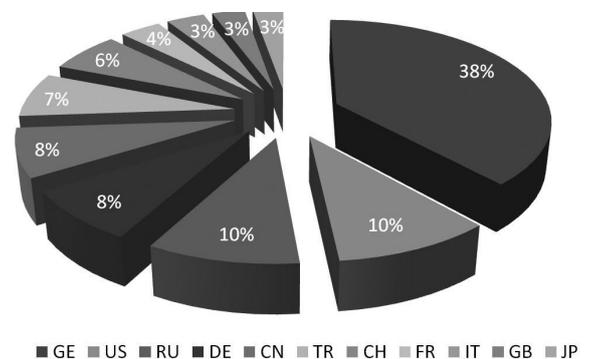
# Statistics / 2017

## Trademark

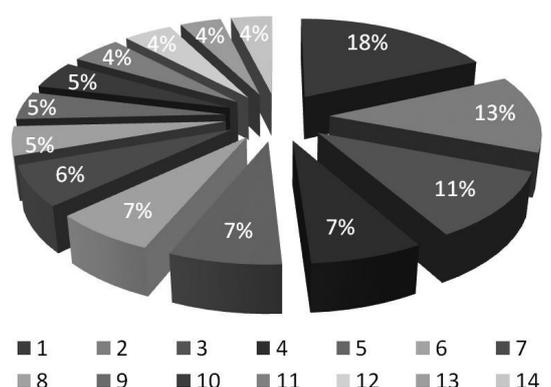
NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL	1664
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	768
INTERNATIONAL	3145
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5577</b>



NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES	
CODE	QTY
GE	1664
US	435
RU	415
DE	354
CN	334
TR	306
CH	279
FR	158
IT	146
GB	126
JP	118
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4335</b>

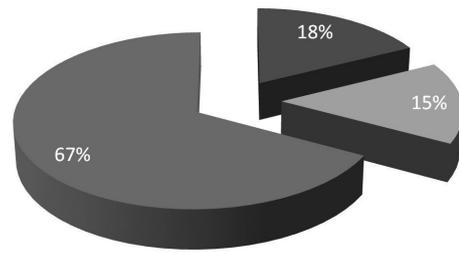


NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO CLASSES	
CLASS	QTY
5	1363
35	955
9	816
30	542
3	541
33	503
41	491
29	353
42	345
43	345
25	343
32	333
16	283
36	283



## NUMBER OF MARKS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER

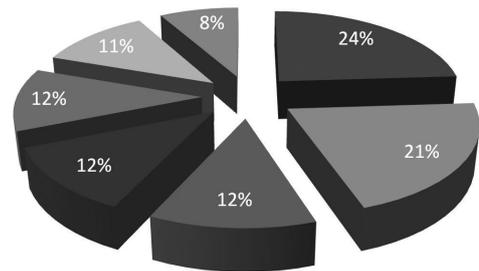
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL	630
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	548
INTERNATIONAL	2407
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3585</b>



■ NATIONAL/LOCAL ■ NATIONAL/FOREIGN ■ INTERNATIONAL

## NUMBER OF MARKS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

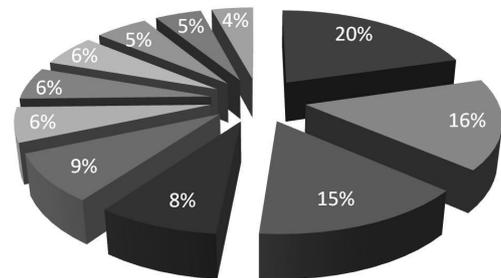
CODE	QTY
GE	630
US	361
DE	306
TR	260
CH	218
CN	185
RU	178
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2138</b>



■ GE ■ US ■ DE ■ TR ■ CH ■ CN ■ RU

## NUMBER OF LOCAL TRADEMARKS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO CLASSES

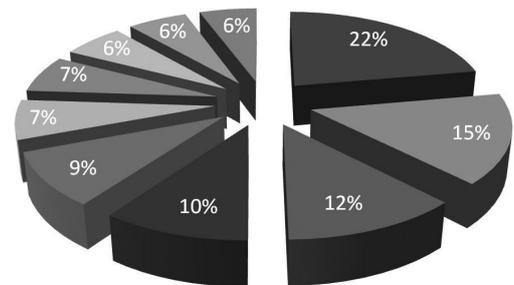
CLASS	QTY
5	456
35	346
33	330
43	174
32	152
41	147
30	104
36	104
29	94
37	85
44	85



■ 1 ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 ■ 6 ■ 7 ■ 8 ■ 9 ■ 10 ■ 11

## NUMBER OF MARKS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO CLASSES

CLASS	QTY
5	853
35	596
9	467
30	388
3	356
41	263
33	251
12	230
35	223
32	215



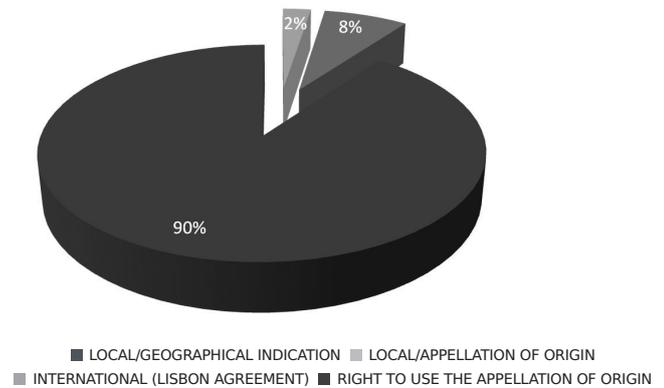
■ 1 ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 ■ 6 ■ 7 ■ 8 ■ 9 ■ 10

**LOCAL MARKS EXTENDED BY INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION (MADRID PROTOCOL)**

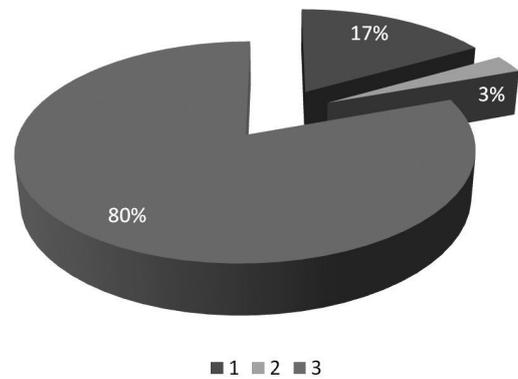
<b>N</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Owner/Applicant</b>
1359128	რაჭული მარანი RACHULI MARANI РАЧУЛИ МАРАНИ	GEORGIAN WINE HOUSE LTD
-----	მწირი MTSIRI МЦЫРИ	GEORGIAN WINE HOUSE LTD
1363319	ძველი საქართველო OLD GEORGIA СТАРАЯ ГРУЗИЯ	GEORGIAN WINE HOUSE LTD
-----	ბერიკა	TELIANI VALLEY JSC
1294526	Device mark	GEORGE ZAUTASHVILI
-----	Naniko	GEORGE PHARULAVA
-----	T A G A L I	TELIANI VALLEY JSC
-----	გუგული ГУГУЛИ GUGULI	TIFLIS LTD
-----	Device mark	PARK GIDA LTD
1365670	Device mark	BADAGONI LTD
1349997	Device mark	BADAGONI LTD
-----	Device mark	BADAGONI LTD
-----	Device mark	BADAGONI LTD
1347904	Device mark	BADAGONI LTD
-----	NEOS Technology to life	NEOS LTD
1327655	Device mark	GEORGIAN WINES AND SPIRITS COMPANY LTD
-----	Travelphage თრეველფაგი Тревелфаг	PHAGE NUTRACEUTICALS LLC
1347316	Device mark	KAMRAN PARIZADMASHHADI
-----	აისი АИСИ AISI	TELIANI VALLEY JSC
-----	Сагандзури Sagandzuri	ALEXANDR LEVAKOV
-----	Georgian Sun	VAZISUBANI MAMULI LTD
-----	ВЕРХОВНЫЙ	ALEXANDR LEVAKOV
1365131	Device mark	TIFLIS LTD
-----	Crux d'Or	ALEXANDR LEVAKOV
1364552	Device mark	VINAGORA LTD
-----	Device mark	SYNERGY CAPITAL JSC
-----	Device mark	FAST PLUS SOLUTIONS LTD

# Geographical Indication and Appellation of Origin

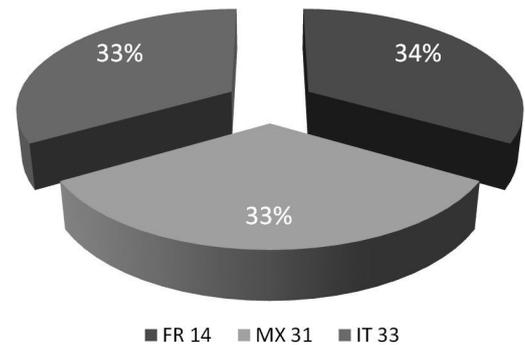
NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
LOCAL/GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION	0
LOCAL/APPELLATION OF ORIGIN	1
INTERNATIONAL (LISBON AGREEMENT)	3
RIGHT TO USE THE APPELLATION OF ORIGIN	36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>



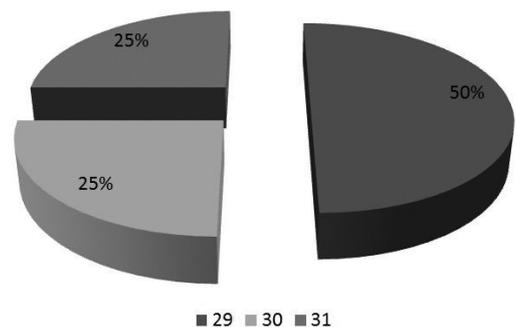
NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO CLASSES	
CLASS	QTY
32	6
29	1
33	29



NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FILED UNDER INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURE (LISBON AGREEMENT) ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES AND CLASSES		
CODE	CLASS	QTY
FR	14	1
MX	31	1
IT	33	1

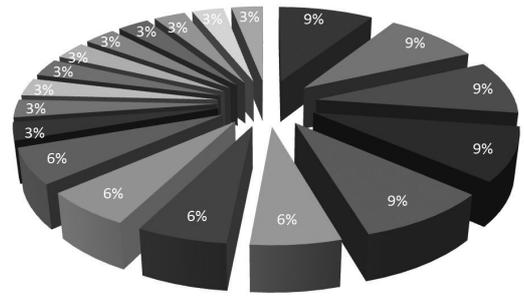


NUMBER OF GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS AND APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN ACCORDING TO CLASSES	
CLASS	QTY
29	2
30	1
31	1



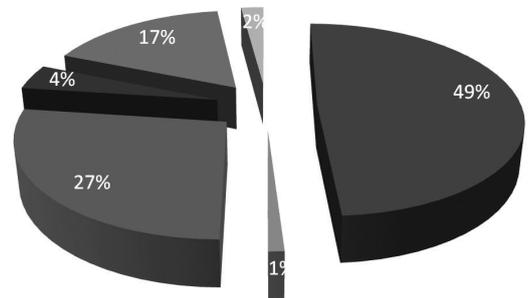
**NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE RIGHT OF USE ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO APPELLATIONS**

AO & GI	QTY
KINDZMARAULI	3
MUKUZANI	3
AKHASHENI	3
TSINANDALI	3
KHVANCHKARA	3
VAZISUBANI	2
KAKHETI	2
NAPAREULI (WHITE)	2
NAPAREULI (RED)	2
GURJAANI	1
MITARBI	1
BORJOMI	1
MANAVI	1
TVISHI	1
KVARELI	1
CHACHA	1
NABEGLAVI	1
SAIRME	1
SULGUNI	1



**NUMBER OF APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER UNDER INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURE (LISBON AGREEMENT) ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES AND CLASSES**

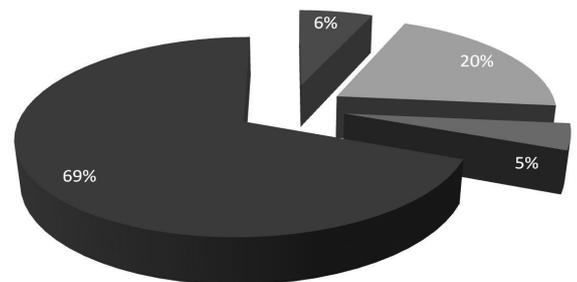
CODE	CLASS	QTY
IR	27	47
IT	30	1
IT	33	26
IT	31	4
IT	29	16
IR	31	2



# Design

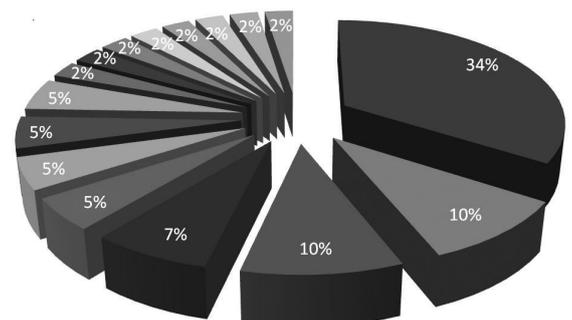
**NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATIONS REQUESTING EXTENSION OF PROTECTION TO GEORGIA**

PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	16
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	51
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	11
INTERNATIONAL	174
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>252</b>



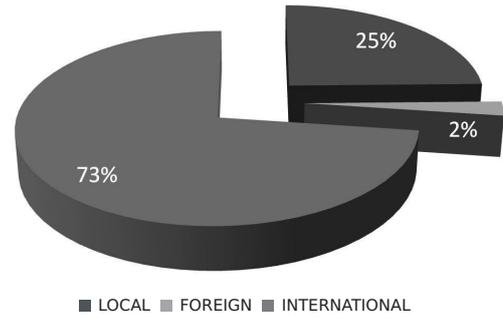
**NUMBER OF FILED LOCAL APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO CLASSES**

CLASS	QTY
9	14
7	4
32	4
11	3
19	2
25	2
3	2
21	2
26	1
14	1
2	1
1	1
6	1
10	1
18	1
27	1



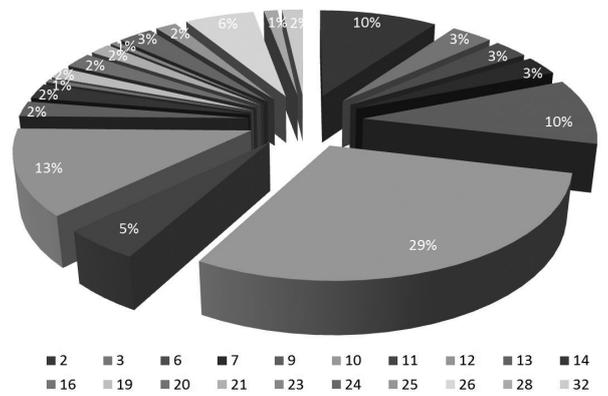
### NUMBER OF DESIGNS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER

PROCEDURE	QTY
LOCAL	41
FOREIGN	4
INTERNATIONAL	121
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>166</b>



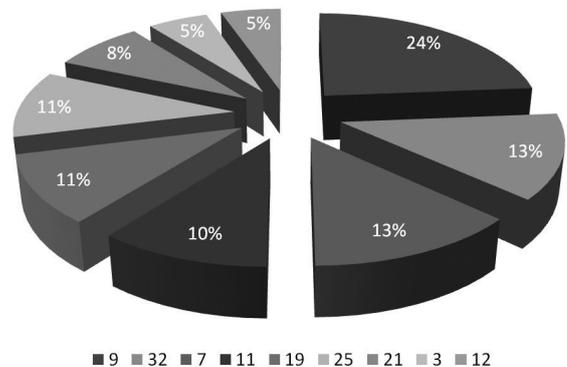
### NUMBER OF FILED INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO CLASSES

CLASS	QTY
2	17
3	6
6	5
7	5
9	17
10	51
11	8
12	22
13	4
14	4
16	1
19	3
20	4
21	3
23	1
24	5
25	3
26	10
28	2
32	3



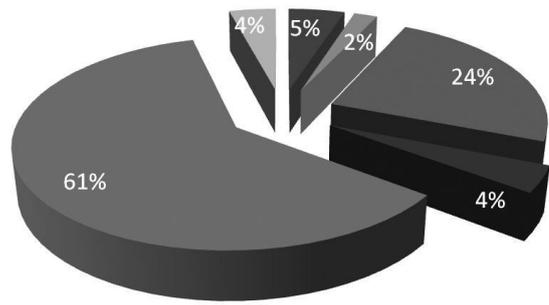
### NUMBER OF FILED LOCAL APPLICATIONS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO CLASSES

CLASS	QTY
9	9
32	5
7	5
11	4
19	4
25	4
21	3
3	2
12	2



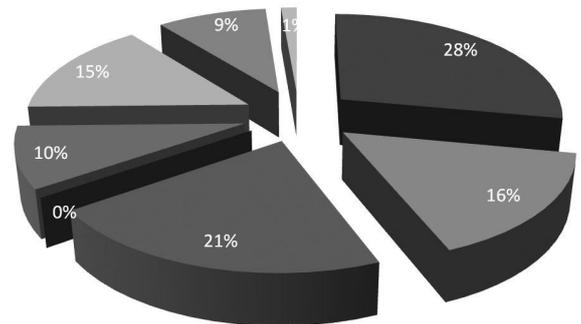
# Invention

NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY/UNIVERSITIES	12
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY/OTHER	5
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	58
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	10
INTERNATIONAL	147
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>232</b>
<b>PCT APPLICATIONS/ SAKPATENTI - RECEIVING OFFICE</b>	<b>10</b>



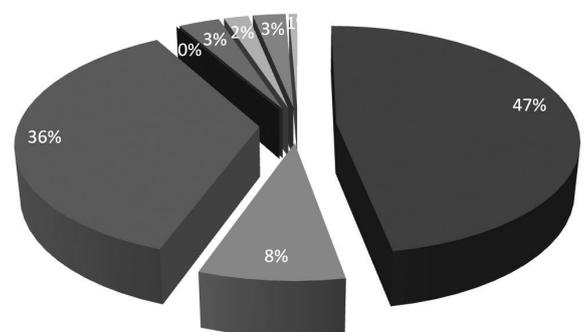
- NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY/UNIVERSITIES
- NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY/OTHER
- NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON
- NATIONAL/FOREIGN
- INTERNATIONAL

NUMBER OF FILED LOCAL APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO BRANCHES	
BRANCH	QTY
A	21
B	12
C	16
D	0
E	7
F	11
G	7
H	1



- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G
- H

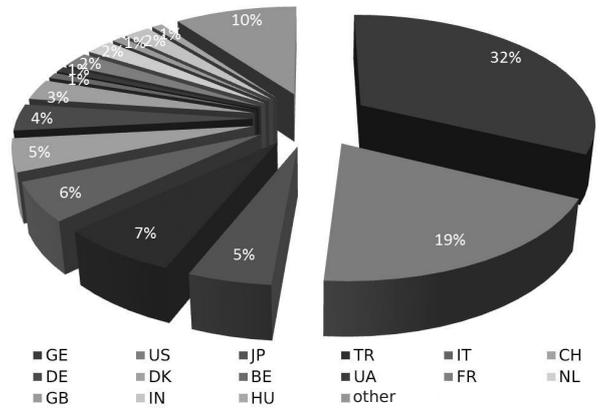
NUMBER OF FILED FOREIGN APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO BRANCHES	
BRANCH	QTY
A	74
B	13
C	57
D	0
E	5
F	3
G	4
H	1



- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G
- H

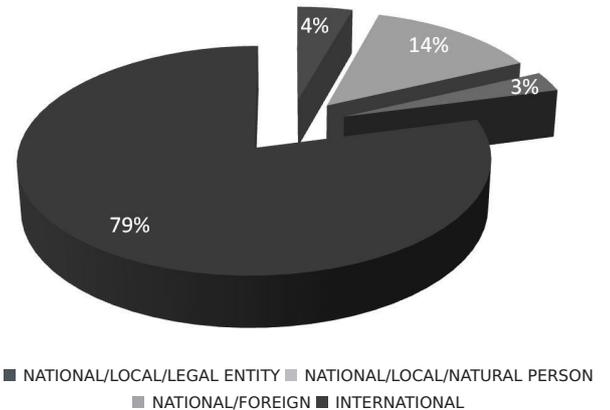
## NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

CODE	QTY
GE	75
US	44
JP	11
TR	16
IT	13
CH	11
DE	9
DK	7
BE	2
UA	2
FR	5
NL	5
GB	2
IN	5
HU	2
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>232</b>



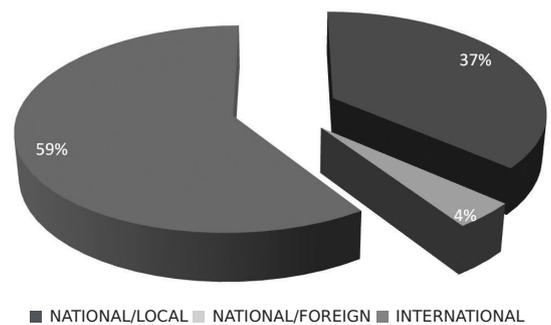
## NUMBER OF PATENTS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER

PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	9
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	28
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	6
INTERNATIONAL	163
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>206</b>



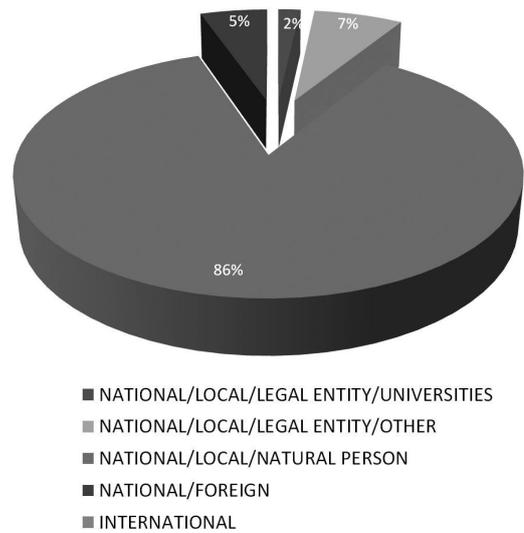
## NUMBER OF CANCELED PATENTS

PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL	35
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	4
INTERNATIONAL	57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96</b>

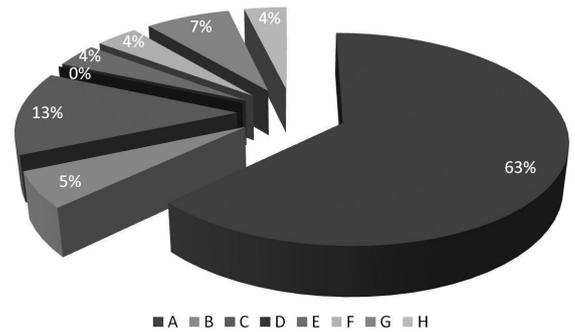


# Utility Model

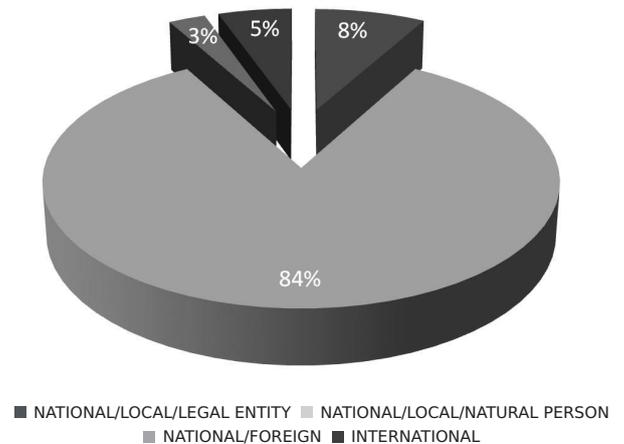
NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS	
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY/UNIVERSITIES	1
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY/OTHER	4
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	49
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	3
INTERNATIONAL	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>



NUMBER OF FILED LOCAL APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO BRANCHES	
BRANCH	QTY
A	34
B	3
C	7
D	0
E	2
F	2
G	4
H	2



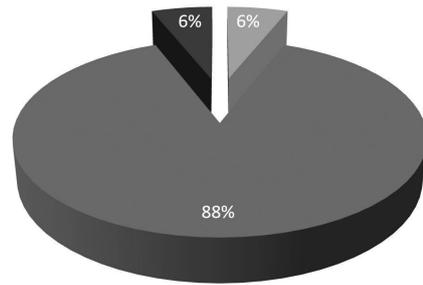
NUMBER OF PATENTS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER	
PROCEDURE	QTY
NATIONAL/LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	3
NATIONAL/LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	31
NATIONAL/FOREIGN	1
INTERNATIONAL	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>



## New Varieties and Breeds

### NUMBER OF FILED APPLICATIONS

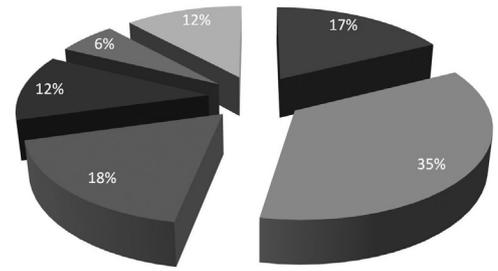
APPLICANT	QTY
LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	0
LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	1
FOREIGN/LEGAL ENTITY	15
FOREIGN/NATURAL PERSON	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>



■ LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY ■ LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON  
■ FOREIGN/LEGAL ENTITY ■ FOREIGN/NATURAL PERSON

### NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FILED ACCORDING TO CROPS

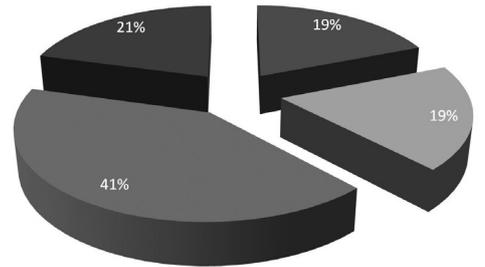
CROP	QTY
PEACH	3
APPLE	6
PLUM	3
BLUEBERRY	2
WALNUT	1
RASPBERRY	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>



■ PEACH ■ APPLE ■ PLUM  
■ BLUEBERRY ■ WALNUT ■ RASPBERRY

### NUMBER OF VARIETIES ENTERED IN THE REGISTER

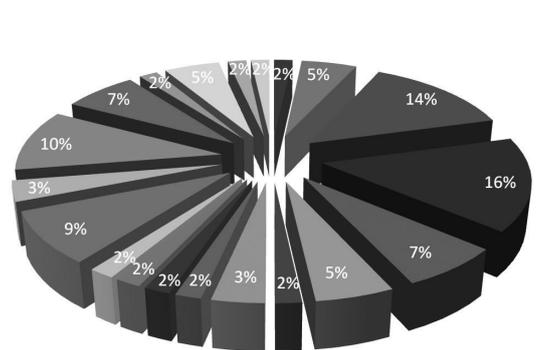
APPLICANT	QTY
LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY	11
LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON	11
FOREIGN/LEGAL ENTITY	24
FOREIGN/NATURAL PERSON	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58</b>



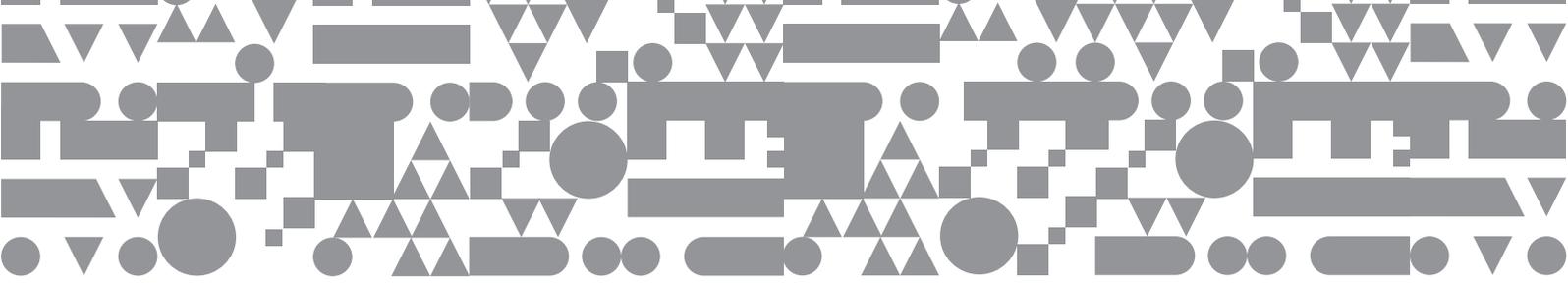
■ LOCAL/LEGAL ENTITY ■ LOCAL/NATURAL PERSON  
■ FOREIGN/LEGAL ENTITY ■ FOREIGN/NATURAL PERSON

### NUMBER OF VARIETIES ENTERED IN THE REGISTER ACCORDING TO CROPS

CROP	QTY
WORM	1
MAIZE	3
APPLE	8
PEACH	9
CHERRY	4
PLUM	3
OAT	1
WHEAT	2
TRITICALE	1
TOMATO	1
LENTIL	1
GARLIC	1
NECTARINE	5
CHICKPEA	2
PEAR	6
BEAN	4
POTATO	1
MULBERRY	3
ONION	1
APRICOT	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58</b>



■ WORM ■ MAIZE ■ APPLE ■ PEACH  
■ CHERRY ■ PLUM ■ OAT ■ WHEAT  
■ TRITICALE ■ TOMATO ■ LENTIL ■ GARLIC  
■ NECTARINE ■ CHICKPEA ■ PEAR ■ BEAN  
■ POTATO ■ MULBERRY ■ ONION ■ APRICOT

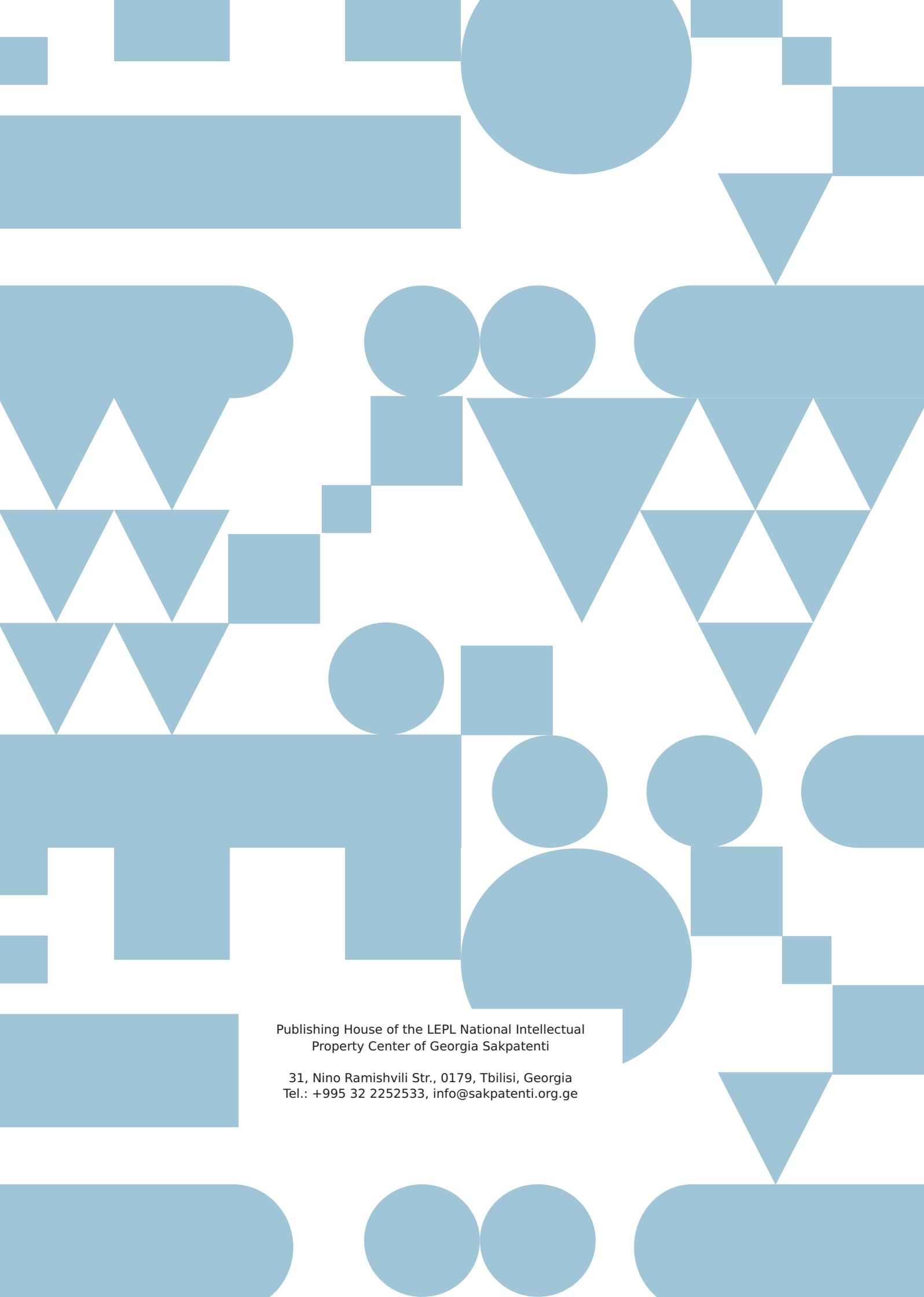


# Action Plan / 2018

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- Capacity building for examiners (EUIPO, EPO, USPTO/CLDP)
- Translation of distance learning course (DL-101 – General Course on Intellectual Property) in the Georgian language and offering it to Georgian-speaking users (WIPO)
- Organization of a regional professional development program on geographical indications (WIPO)
- Training of teachers in teaching innovation (WIPO)
- Organization of international conference “Intellectual Property and Education” (WIPO)
- Presentation at the session of WIPO Rights Enforcement Committee on “Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in Georgia”
- With the assistance of EUIPO drafting new guidelines for trademarks and designs
- Cooperation with EUIPO Dispute Hearing Council
- Negotiations with EPO on the Validation Agreement
- Bilateral meetings with EPO member countries
- Delivering an IP course for SMEs, researchers, scientists, lawyers, patent attorneys, pupils and staff members
- Negotiations on concluding agreements on mutual protection of geographical indications with EFTA member countries
- Organization of a regional symposium on geographical indications
- Organization of a conference “Georgia against Counterfeiting”
- Publishing books by Georgian and foreign authors in IP field in the Georgian language
- Working on legislative amendments
- Participation in the annual meeting of the International Trademark Association (INTA)
- Promotion of raising awareness on issues of geographical indications protection among farmers, producers and representatives of Government structures (OriGIn – Georgia)
- Revealing in Georgian regions potential geographical indications and promotion of their legal protection (OriGIn – Georgia)
- Participation in developing a multi-level control system of correspondence of GI products with the established specifications (OriGIn – Georgia)
- Participating in creation of associations of farmers and producers around geographical indications and supporting introducing modern forms of branding in their activities (OriGIn Georgia)



The background of the page is a white canvas filled with a repeating pattern of abstract, geometric shapes in a muted blue color. These shapes include circles of various sizes, squares, triangles, and rounded rectangles, some of which are arranged to suggest stylized human figures or faces. The overall effect is a modern, minimalist, and rhythmic design.

Publishing House of the LEPL National Intellectual  
Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti

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