



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF INVENTORS' ASSOCIATIONS

Established in 1968 ♦ Members from 88 countries (2012)

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Mr. Martin Schulz
President of the European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60
1047 Bruxelles

Dear Mr. President,

Let me advance the warmest greetings from the International Federation of Inventors' Associations – IFIA, with best wishes for your birthday.

IFIA collects member organizations from 88 countries, and is a true promoter of inventors' interests worldwide. One key interest to us is affordable, simple, and strong legal protection for our inventions. IFIA joined the battle – with its modest means – for the European Union Patent System, a system that fits our key interest. Thus we were pleased to hear that the European Parliament approved the motion to establish EU unitary patent rules on its plenary session of 10-13 December 2012.

We are well aware of the long and difficult path to achieve the EU patent: "*Tantae molis erat....*" I wish I could faithfully convey the joy and thanks that our members express. We are thankful for your work and the work of the European Parliament in preparing and establishing the EU patent.

All inventors, and specifically all patent applicants within and outside the EU, will benefit from the EU unitary patent rules. We believe that this system will support inventors, and it will especially boost innovation at small and medium sized businesses by reducing costs. Ultimately the decision of the EP will serve growth in the EU economy, and add to global prosperity. Indeed, the approval of the EU patent is a step towards a better world.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. András Vedres President