



SUMMARIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE TREATIES

The summaries available hereunder are designed to meet a practical need, that of supplying the public at large with concise descriptions of the Council of Europe treaties. The summaries are necessarily short and can therefore only give a first introduction to the main features of each treaty.

Subject-matter: **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

European Convention relating to the Formalities required for Patent Applications ([ETS No. 16](#)), open for signature, in Paris, on 11 December 1953.

Entry into force: 1 June 1955.

The aim of the Convention is to simplify and unify, as far as it is possible, the formalities required by the various national legislations for patent applications.

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European Convention on the International Classification of Patents for Invention ([ETS No. 17](#)), open for signature, in Paris, on 19 December 1954.

Entry into force: 1 August 1955.

The aim of the Convention is to promote a uniform system of classification of patents for inventions likely to contribute to the harmonisation of national legislation.

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Convention on the Unification of Certain Points of Substantive Law on Patents for Invention ([ETS No. 47](#)), open for signature, in Strasbourg, on 27 November 1963.

Entry into force: 1 August 1980.

The Convention aims to unify the conditions required in order that a patent could be granted for an invention in each of the Parties, and to lay down the criteria to be applied by courts in defining the extent of the protection conferred by a patent.

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European Convention relating to questions on Copyright Law and Neighbouring Rights in the Framework of Transfrontier Broadcasting by Satellite ([ETS No. 153](#)), open for signature, in Strasbourg, on 11 May 1994.

Entry into force: The Convention will enter into force following 7 ratifications, including 5 member States of the Council of Europe.

The Convention intends to safeguard the rights and interests of authors (and other contributors) as regard their works (contributions) broadcasted by satellite. It aims to promote the harmonisation of the law of the member States, and the other States Parties to the European Cultural Convention.

It defines the notion and act of broadcasting, the applicable law, and the field of application.

The Parties undertake to hold multilateral consultations within the Council of Europe to examine the application of this Convention and the advisability of revising it or extending any of its provisions.

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Convention on Cybercrime ([ETS No. 185](#)), open for signature, in Budapest, on 23 November 2001.

Entry into force: 1 July 2004.

The Convention is the first international treaty on crimes committed via the Internet and other computer networks, dealing particularly with infringements of copyright, computer-related fraud, child pornography and violations of network security. It also contains a series of powers and procedures such as the search of computer networks and interception.

Its main objective, set out in the preamble, is to pursue a common criminal policy aimed at the protection of society against cybercrime, especially by adopting appropriate legislation and fostering international co-operation.