Joint letter from European associations calling for the United Patent Court to pause establishment of new panels in German Local Divisions.

4 November 2026

Dear Members of the UPC Administrative Committee, / Chairman of the UPC Advisory Committee,

The undersigned organisations respectfully call on the Administrative Committee to pause the establishment of further panels within the German Local Divisions of the Unified Patent Court pending a thorough assessment of their compatibility with the Agreement on a Unified Patent Court (UPCA).

As explained in analysis by Professor Sikorski's published this week, the establishment of additional panels raises fundamental questions regarding conformity with the UPCA's institutional framework. Arrangements that effectively circumvent the limits and structural safeguards laid down in the UPCA cannot be justified solely on grounds of administrative convenience or caseload.

In the interests of legal certainty, the integrity of the UPC system and respect for the UPCA as concluded by the Contracting Member States, we urge the Administrative Committee to refrain from authorising further panels until these concerns have been fully examined and transparently addressed. We respectfully request that this matter be addressed as a priority.

Yours sincerely,

ACEA

ACT

CCIA Europe

FSA

IP2Innovate