


European Patent Application Timeline

Time (months)	
0	File UK "priority founding" patent application
12	File European application
18	Application published (usually without search report)
18-24	Search report and Written Opinion Issued. Search report published.
24-30	File responses to Written Opinion and File request for substantive examination (due 6m after publication of search)
36	First renewal fee due (whilst the application is pending)
36 - 48	The application enters substantive examination, First examination report issued, Response filed within (typically) 4 month period
	
48	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> Examiner issues decision to grant </div> <div style="width: 10%; text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">OR</div> <div style="width: 45%;"> Second examination report issued. Examination continues until refusal or grant. </div> </div>
	Grant fees and claims translations into FR & DE due
60+	Grant date starts the 9 month opposition period
	National validation due within 3 months of grant in any of:

Austria	Denmark	Hungary	Monaco	Romania	"Extension" states: Bosnia and Hz. Montenegro
Albania	Estonia	Ireland	Malta	San Marino	
Belgium	Spain	Iceland	Macedonia	Serbia	
Bulgaria	Finland	Italy	Netherlands	Sweden	
Switzerland	France	Liechtenstein	Norway	Slovenia	
Cyprus	UK	Lithuania	Poland	Slovakia	
Czech Rep	Greece	Luxembourg	Portugal	Turkey	
Germany	Croatia	Latvia			

This timeline is for guidance only, and the actual deadlines will vary from case to case.