

## B. Exceptions to patentability

1.	Introduction	37
1.1.	Amendments made to Article 53 EPC as part of the EPC 2000 revision	37
1.2.	Basic principles	38
2.	Breaches of "ordre public" or morality	38
2.1.	Rule 28 EPC	39
2.1.1	Scope of exception under Rule 28(c) EPC	39
2.1.2	Scope of exception under Rule 28(d) EPC	41
2.1.3	Test date	41
2.2.	Article 53(a) EPC	42
2.2.1	Test date	42
2.2.2	Assessment of an objection according to Article 53(a) EPC	42
a)	Difference from test under Rule 28(d) EPC	42
b)	Concept of "morality" and "ordre public"	43
c)	Donor consent	44
3.	Patentability of biological inventions	45
3.1.	Plants and plant varieties	45
3.1.1	Definition of the term "plant varieties"	45
3.1.2	Limits to patentability	46
3.2.	Animals and animal varieties	47
3.3.	Essentially biological processes	47
3.3.1	Essentially biological processes for the production of animals	47
3.3.2	Essentially biological processes for the production of plants	48
a)	G 2/07 and G 1/08	48
b)	Patentable technical processes	50
3.3.3	Product claims for plants or plant material	51
a)	G 2/12 and G 2/13	51
b)	G 3/19 – dynamic interpretation of Article 53(b) EPC	53
3.4.	Microbiological processes and the products thereof	55
3.4.1	The concept of "microbiological processes"	55
3.4.2	Difference between microbiological and genetic-engineering processes	55
4.	Medical methods	56
4.1.	Introduction	56
4.2.	Differences and similarities in approaches to establishing whether a method for treatment by surgery or therapy or a diagnostic method involved	56
4.3.	No need for practitioner involvement	57
4.4.	Surgical methods	57
4.4.1	One surgical step in a multi-step method	58
4.4.2	Treatment by surgery not limited to surgery for a therapeutic purpose	58
4.4.3	Towards a new concept of "treatment by surgery"	58
4.4.4	"Treatment by surgery" in the case law since G 1/07	59
a)	Surgical nature of a method step	59
b)	Assessment of "substantial health risks"	59
c)	Surgical step part of claimed method or simply a preparatory measure?	60
d)	Surgical step not in the claim but covered by it?	61