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## 1. Introduction

The main provisions governing evidence, the means and taking of evidence and the conservation of evidence are Art. 117 EPC, Art. 131(2) EPC, R. 117 EPC (R. 117 and 118 EPC were amended by decision CA/D 12/20 of the Administrative Council of 15 December 2020, OJ 2020, A132, which entered into force on 1 January 2021) to 124 EPC (the last rule as amended by decision CA/D 6/14 of the Administrative Council (OJ 2015, A17), which entered into force on 1 April 2015) and R. 150 EPC. R. 117 and 118 EPC as amended in 2020 relate to means of taking evidence by videoconference; compare with new Art. 15a RPBA, which entered into force in 2021 (OJ 2021, A19), and G 1/21 of 16 July 2021 (OJ 2022, A49).

In the revised EPC 2000, the content of Art. 117(2) to (6) EPC 1973 was rephrased in the new Art. 117(2) EPC. The procedural aspects concerning the taking of evidence were transferred to the Implementing Regulations (see OJ SE 5/2007, Part II, pp. 176-192). Furthermore, the revised Art. 117(1) EPC no longer lists the EPO departments which may