

Rules 82 and 82~~quater~~ do not apply to the priority period, but they do apply to the time limit for submission of a request for restoration of the right of priority under Rule 26~~bis~~.3 (see GL/PCT-EPO A-VI, 1.5).

1.2.2 Filing of applications by fax

An international application may be filed by fax with one of the EPO's filing offices in Munich, The Hague or Berlin. All EPO filing offices are based in the Central European Time (CET) zone.

If an international application is filed by fax, the date on which the application documents are received in full is accorded as the date of filing, provided that the requirements under Art. 11 are fulfilled (see GL/PCT-EPO A-II, 4.1).

If an international application is filed by fax, the original, i.e. the confirmation copy, must be filed, preferably simultaneously, and the fax should state that the confirmation copy has been filed separately on paper at the same time. The confirmation copy should be a single copy of each document making up the application and each accompanying document. The first page of the PCT request form (PCT/RO/101) sent as a confirmation copy should be marked "CONFIRMATION COPY", followed by the date of the fax transmission. It is recommended that the confirmation copy be accompanied by EPO Form 1032, which is available on the EPO website.

If the confirmation copy has not been received within 14 days of receipt of the application, the EPO as receiving Office will despatch an invitation to submit it within a month (Form PCT/RO/141). If the confirmation copy is not provided within this time limit, the international application will be considered withdrawn (Form PCT/RO/117).

If an international application filed by fax is illegible or incomplete, or the fax transmission has failed, the application will be treated as not having been received and the sender must be notified as soon as possible using Form PCT/RO/140.

1.2.3 Filing of applications electronically

An international application may be filed electronically with the EPO as receiving Office.

The EPO offers the following free-of-charge electronic filing tools:

- Online Filing (OLF), a software application
- Web-Form Filing
- Online Filing 2.0

In addition, applicants may use ePCT, an electronic filing tool offered by WIPO.

R. 92.4

R. 29.1

OJ EPO 2019, A18

AI 331

R. 89bis

OJ EPO 2021, A42

OJ EPO 2021, A43

OJ EPO 2018, A25

OJ EPO 2020, A105

OJ EPO 2021, A21

OJ EPO 2014, A107