



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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Council amends the recast "Brussels I" regulation

The Council adopted today¹ a regulation amending regulation 1215/2012 on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters (a recast version of the so-called "Brussels I" regulation) ([PE-CONS 30/14](#)).

The aim of the amended regulation is to allow the rules of regulation 1215/2012 to be applied also by two courts common to several member states: the Unified Patent Court and the Benelux Court of Justice.

On 19 February 2013, 25 member states signed an Agreement on a Unified Patent Court (UPC) ([see press release](#)). The creation of such a court was made necessary by the adoption of two regulations with a view to implementing enhanced cooperation in the area of the creation of unitary patent protection and its translation arrangements ([see press release](#)).

Article 31 of the UPC Agreement states that the international jurisdiction of the Court is to be established in accordance with regulation 1215/2012, or, where applicable, the 2007 Lugano Convention. Article 89 of the UPC Agreement links the entry into force of that Agreement to the entry into force of the amendments to regulation 1215/2012 concerning the relationship between those two instruments. It was therefore necessary to amend regulation 1215/2012, in particular to insert provisions which determine how the Unified Patent Court can exercise its international jurisdiction.

On 15 October 2012, three member states (Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands), party to the Treaty of 31 March 1965 concerning the establishment and statute of a Benelux Court of Justice, signed a Protocol amending that Treaty to make it possible to transfer jurisdiction to the Benelux Court of Justice in specific matters falling within the scope of regulation 1215/2012.

¹ At a meeting of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council.

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