

## All European Academies (ALLEA)

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ALLEA (All European Academies) is association of 53 national academies in 40 European countries. Standing Committee for Intellectual Property Rights of All European Academies, The Federation of National Academies of Sciences and Humanities (SC IPR, ALLEA) is responsible for preparation of consensus statements (position non-papers) concerning the critical issues related to the future of intellectual property rights on selected hot topics. The SC IPR focuses the attention on patenting of processes and products related to stem cells and pan-European and community patent system, digitization of data bases and free access library (ownerships and financing).

Intellectual property rights comprise patents, trademarks, design and geographical locations and copyrights. All these topics concern our every day live: from a song in a supermarket to production of multinational pharmaceutical company. EU Commission estimated that in 2006 about 1.4 mln of SMEs and 8.5 mln jobs was related to the IPR. Knowledge-based industry increased by 24% from 1996 to 2006 (other industry by 6%).

SC IPR activities based on consensus of Committee' members and associated academies. The preparation of documents is slow and laborious but the final statements are balanced and high quality. However the position non-

papers are not the winding documents and don't have the legislative position. All the final documents are in free access system available on ALLEA Web page ([www.allea.org](http://www.allea.org)). Independently these documents are delivered to all interested European and international organisations.

In 2010 SC IPR ALLEA, prof. Joseph Straus is a chairman presently, elaborated two documents of critical value for modern biotechnology:

- 1) ALLEA Statement on the Future Patent System of the European Union (appendix 1).
- 2) ALLEA Statement on Patenting of Inventions Involving Human Embryonic Pluripotent Stem Cells In Europe (appendix 2).

These two "position non-papers" will significantly influence the future formation of European as well as national legislation.

See as well a very recent open letter of European scientists concerning the patenting of human embryonic stem cells ([www.eurostemcell.org/commentanalysis/open-letter-stem-cell-patent-case-could-have-far-reaching-impact](http://www.eurostemcell.org/commentanalysis/open-letter-stem-cell-patent-case-could-have-far-reaching-impact)).

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