

Darts-IP, NPE Litigation in the European Union, February 2018

This report provides a factual overview of non-practicing entity (NPE) related litigation and patent enforcement activities across the EU, Member States, including opposition and nullity actions filed before the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Bundespatentgericht. Studies on the activities of NPEs have predominantly focused on the United States. Conversely, studies on NPEs in Europe have been limited, mostly using anecdotal evidence or samples of litigation data limited to specific courts or parties, without a comprehensive overview of the EU as a whole. In this context, Darts-ip has contributed additional, invaluable data with the most comprehensive EU-wide report specific to NPE litigation to date. Darts-ip's coverage of all major jurisdictions on a global scale allowed for unparalleled data gathering and analysis. IP specialists extracted, compiled and analyzed, quantitatively and qualitatively, all available information from case documents.