How the EU patent law is breached by granting patents on plants

A perspective from the Nordic countries

The European Patent Organisation's practice of granting patents is undermining free access and free use of all plants for further breeding. This development is contrary to the intentions of the European Patent Convention and a large majority in the European Parliament. These patents are a threat to food safety, small plant breeding companies and the dynamism of plant breeding. The illegal granting of patents on non-GM plants must be stopped and our workshop aims to discuss how to make this happen.

When and where?

Monday, 27 November, 10.30h – 12.00h CET / Online via Zoom

Registration: Please write a short email to johanna.eckhardt@no-patents-on-seeds.org to register. We will then send you the link to participate shortly before the event.

Politicians, experts and media are invited.
Most of the workshop will be in English

Program

10.30h	Welcome
10.35h	Johanna Eckhardt, *No Patents on Seeds!* – Recent findings on patents applied and granted on conventional breeding in Europe
10.45h	Dr. Christoph Then, *No Patents on Seeds!* – The legal situation regarding patents on plants and our political demands
10.55h	Questions
11.00h	Thor Gunnar Kofoed, Vice-chairman, Agriculture & Food and Seed Growers – How the EPO's granting of patents on conventionally bred plants and on GM-plants have a negative impact on seed producers that have bred other plants with similar traits
11.15h	Mads Vinther, Økologisk Landsforening - The problems for organic growers and seed producers as a consequence of the growing number of patents on conventionally bred plants
11.30h	Erling Frederiksen, *No Patents on Seeds!* & Frøsamlerne - What is the Ministry of Business and Industry and the Patent and Trademark Agency doing? How can we make Denmark take initiative regarding EPO's illegal granting of patents on conventionally bred plants?
11.40h	How to go on and what we can do
12.00h	Goodbye

Morten Rasmussen, NIBIO, Norge and former chief of the plant section of NordGen will attend the meeting and be available for questions.

Background material

Research report *No Patents on Seeds!*: "*The future of plant breeding is under threat in Europe*" (July 2023)
The report is as well available in Danish: "*Planteavlens frie beslutningsret er truet i EU*"
https://www.no-patents-on-seeds.org/en/report2023

Contact

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