



SEMINAR - FREEDOM TO OPERATE

Wednesday, 17 June 2026 | 09.00h – 17.00h WEST

AGENDA

- 08:30 *Registration*
- 09:00 *Welcome*
- 09:10 Introduction, what is an FTO?
- 10:30 *Coffee break*
- 11:00 Defining the FTO search and the search phase
- 12:30 *Lunch break*
- 13:30 The FTO analysis and the consequences
- 15:00 *Coffee break*
- 15:30 Strategic considerations and next steps
- 16:30 *Question and answer session*
- 17:00 *End of the seminar*

VENUE

Sana Malhoa Hotel Lisbon
Av. José Malhoa, 8
Lisbon
Portugal

CONTACT

epi Education and
Training department
Bayerstraße 83
DE-80335 Munich
+49 89 242052 250
education@patentepi.org
www.patentepi.org
www.patentepi.org/en/
education-and-training/

Wednesday, 17 June 2026 | 09.00 – 17.00 WEST

SPEAKERS



Bart van Wezenbeek (NL)

- Background in life sciences
- Master in civil law
- Registered QPIP
- Experience in private practice and in-house



Pascal van Troost (NL)

- holds Master degrees in Engineering and IP law & Management
- started his career as industrial design engineer
- practiced as patent information specialist
- patent attorney and IP leader in private practice and several industries

MODERATOR



Rui Gomes (PT)

- Practices as an attorney since 2014, and previously was a patent examiner at the Portuguese IPO
- is a Portuguese IP Official Agent and a European Patent Attorney – a **epi** member since 2017 –, as well as a Unified Patent Court Representative
- is an Invited Assistant Professor on IP at the Universidade Lusófona Lisbon
- has a degree in Physics Engineering and a PhD in Technological Physics
- is part of **epi**'s Professional Education Committee since 2020