

Panel 3: ‘Collective marks and GIs, what’s wrong?’

Katarina Kompari, LD, EUIPO, ES

Katarina currently works at the EUIPO as an Intellectual Property legal specialist in the Legal Department. She is a Team Leader of the Knowledge Circle Geographical Indications and Collective Rights (Traditional Terms for Wine, Traditional Specialities Guaranteed, Plant Variety Denominations, Collective and Certification trade marks), involved in developing the respective legal practice of the Office. She also leads the Geographical Indications Reform Team following closely the new legislative proposals for the revision of the agricultural GI scheme and the new GI scheme for craft and industrial products in the EU.

Just before taking up her post at the EUIPO, she worked for the European Commission, at the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Unit for Geographical Indications, where she obtained first-hand experience in examining GI applications from all over the world.

During her career she has served as a Member of the Boards of Appeal of the Croatian State Intellectual Property Office, after working for over 10 years in the private sector. She worked both as an in-house counsel and as a trade mark and patent agent, advising on strategy and the management of IPRs and representing clients in various IP-related matters.

Aitor Pomares, Berenguer & Pomares, ES

Mr. Pomares has an extensive experience in the field of Geographical Indications. He regularly advises the groups of producers in charge of some of the most relevant Geographical Indications, either from Europe (Queso Manchego, Turrón de Alicante y Jijona, Parmigiano-Reggiano, Cava, Vinos de La Mancha, etc.) or abroad (Café de Colombia, Pisco, Tequila, Ron de Cuba etc.). His professional experience covers the enforcement of these rights before the competent authorities, but also the drafting of GI specifications or the internal regulations for the group of producers. He has also performed as a consultant for the development of Public Policies in this field and has participated in a number of international projects.

Aitor Pomares is a Law graduate of the Miguel Hernández University of Elche (Spain) and holds a Master’s Degree in Intellectual Property and Information Society Law (Magister Lvcentinvs) from the University of Alicante (Spain). He practices Law since 2006.