

# Kluwer Trademark Blog

## Entering the post-Brexit domain

Julius Stobbs (Stobbs IP) and Cameron Malone-Brown (Potter Clarkson LLP) · Friday, May 18th, 2018

In a recent [statement](#), the European Commission has confirmed that institutions and individuals based in the UK will no longer be able to register domains using the .eu TLD, as of the UK's withdrawal date from the EU (which currently stands at 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019\*). For those institutions or individuals who currently own such a domain, they will not be permitted to renew.

Plenty of larger brands, which may benefit from additional European bases of commerce and the ability to meet geographical requirements, will not lose their domains to this development. Small to medium sized brands, however, which cannot demonstrate such a base in one of the 27 remaining member states will stand to lose their domains. This presents an interesting situation, however, since there will almost certainly be parties waiting for the conclusion of the transition period, with countless snap backs in place, hoping to catch the .eu domains of brand owners who are no longer permitted to renew. Whilst there are domain dispute mechanisms which may assist these parties, these processes carry with them a further administrative and financial burden.

The company responsible for management and administration of the .eu TLD is EURID, who appear to have been caught [unawares](#) in much the same manner as the general public, as they received the communication with no prior warning or consultation. As a company based in an EU27 member state (Belgium), this lack of consultation or prior warning highlights the degree of uncertainty overseas, as well as the UK, due to the pending extrication of the UK from the EU.

This development is somewhat reminiscent of the [doomsday scenario](#) presented by the Commission at the tail end of 2017, whereby they highlighted possible ramifications for the UK leaving the EU with *no deal*. Certainly the negotiations governing the exit process, whilst involved and convoluted, are vital in order that the interests of brand owners both domestic and community based remain protected.

\* at 11pm GMT, if you must know.

To make sure you do not miss out on regular updates from the Kluwer Trademark Blog, please [subscribe here](#).

## Kluwer IP Law

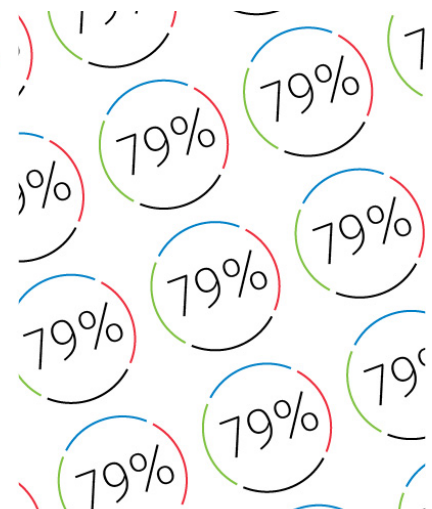
The **2022 Future Ready Lawyer survey** showed that 79% of lawyers think that the importance of legal technology will increase for next year. With Kluwer IP Law you can navigate the increasingly global practice of IP law with specialized, local and cross-border information and tools from every preferred location. Are you, as an IP professional, ready for the future?

Learn how **Kluwer IP Law** can support you.

79% of the lawyers think that the importance of legal technology will increase for next year.

**Drive change with Kluwer IP Law.**

The master resource for Intellectual Property rights and registration.

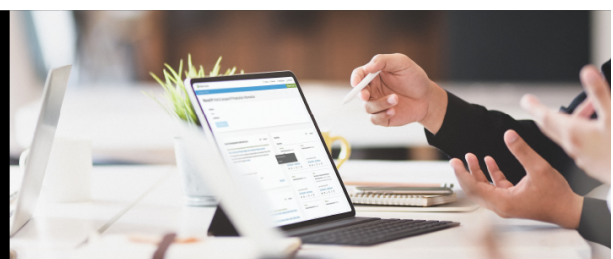


2022 SURVEY REPORT  
The Wolters Kluwer Future Ready Lawyer  
Leading change

Experience how the renewed **Manual IP** enables you to work more efficiently



[Learn more →](#)



---

This entry was posted on Friday, May 18th, 2018 at 9:33 am and is filed under [Brexit](#), [Domain name](#), [Domains](#)

You can follow any responses to this entry through the [Comments \(RSS\)](#) feed. You can leave a response, or [trackback](#) from your own site.