

European Publication Server - Web Service Access -

1. Introduction

A pilot version of a web service providing access to the data contained in the European Publication Server is now available, and the corresponding WSDL file can be found at:

<https://data.epo.org/publication-server/soap/Server.jws?wsdl>

Please contact the publication department at the EPO (publications@epo.org) should you have any further questions.

2. Data provided

The web service provides 5 different methods. However, the availability of the diverse data formats varies according to the publication date of the document concerned:

- `getPdfPatentPublication`
- `getXmlPatentPublication`
- `getXmlPatentPublicationWithImages`
- `getSgmlPatentPublication`
- `getSgmlPatentPublicationWithImages`

The formats are available according to the following schema:

	SGML ST32	XML ST36	PDF Text	PDF image via Espacenet	Register
2006 onwards		X	X	X	X
2000-2005	X	in process	X	X	X
1999		in process	X	X	X
1978-1998		in process		X	X

3. Technical details of SOAP request

Each of the available methods takes 3 arguments:

- The country code (EP)
- The document number (the server automatically adds leading zeros to the right to match the number length used by the supporting database)
- The kind code (A1, A2, A3, A8, A9, B1, B2, B8, B9)

An example of a correctly formatted SOAP request is given below:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<soapenv:Envelope xmlns:soapenv="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">

  <soapenv:Body>
    <getSgmlPatentPublication
      soapenv:encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/">

      <countrycode xsi:type="xsd:string">EP</countrycode>
      <documentnumber xsi:type="xsd:string">1557426</documentnumber>
      <kindcode xsi:type="xsd:string">A8</kindcode>

    </getSgmlPatentPublication>
  </soapenv:Body>
</soapenv:Envelope>
```

4. Technical details of the SOAP response

The response takes the form SOAP with attachments.

For example:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?><soapenv:Envelope
xmlns:soapenv="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"><soapenv:Body>
<getSgmlPatentPublicationResponse
soapenv:encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/"><getS
gmlPatentPublicationReturn href="cid:8A1FE58AB1B14CF79494C3A0E6603707"
xsi:type="ns1:DataHandler" xmlns:ns1="http://xml.apache.org/xml-soap"/>
</getSgmlPatentPublicationResponse></soapenv:Body></soapenv:Envelope>
-----=_Part_94_21433924.1138980781992
Content-Type: application/octet-stream
Content-Transfer-Encoding: binary
Content-Id: <8A1FE58AB1B14CF79494C3A0E6603707>
```

```
<PATDOC CY="EP" DNUM="1000000" DATE="20000517" FILE="99203729.1"
KIND="A1" STATUS="N"><SDOBI
LA="E"><B000><EPTAGS><B001EP>.....</PATDOC>
-----=_Part_94_21433924.1138980781992--
```

5. Error messages

The following error messages are currently managed by the web service:

For the following services

- getXmlPatentPublication
- getXmlPatentPublicationWithImages

In case document is not available

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<soapenv:Envelope
xmlns:soapenv="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">

<soapenv:Body>
<soapenv:Fault><faultcode>soapenv:Server.generalException</faultcode>
<faultstring>XML file not found on the server</faultstring>
<detail>
<ns1:hostname
xmlns:ns1="http://xml.apache.org/axis/">data.epo.org</ns1:hostname>
</detail>
</soapenv:Fault>
</soapenv:Body>
</soapenv:Envelope>
```

For the following services

- getSgmlPatentPublication
- getSgmlPatentPublicationWithImages

In case document is not available

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<soapenv:Envelope
xmlns:soapenv="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">

<soapenv:Body>
<soapenv:Fault><faultcode>soapenv:Server.generalException</faultcode>
<faultstring>SGML file not found on the server</faultstring>
<detail>
<ns1:hostname
xmlns:ns1="http://xml.apache.org/axis/">data.epo.org</ns1:hostname>
</detail>
</soapenv:Fault>
</soapenv:Body>
</soapenv:Envelope>
```

For the following service

- getPdfPatentPublication

In case document is not available

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<soapenv:Envelope
xmlns:soapenv="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">

<soapenv:Body>
<soapenv:Fault><faultcode>soapenv:Server.generalException</faultcode>
<faultstring>PDF file not found on the server</faultstring>
<detail>
<ns1:hostname
xmlns:ns1="http://xml.apache.org/axis/">data.epo.org</ns1:hostname>
</detail>
</soapenv:Fault>
</soapenv:Body>
</soapenv:Envelope>
```