

# Procedural Harmonisation

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# Harmonising what?

- “Forms follow function”
- Can we harmonise examination without further harmonising substantive law?
- *'Laws should be as harmonised as much as possible, but not more so'*
  - (what Einstein would have said?)

# Harmonisation of law

It would be nice if we could agree on:

- 'First (inventor) to file'
- Grace period
- What counts as prior art
- Computer-implemented inventions
- Approach to 'obviousness'

The more we can agree on, the more POs can accept each others' work

# Procedural harmonisation

But even where laws differ, we can work together better if we use the same procedures. For example:

- common classification systems

- common databases

- common search tools (software)

- common ideas on unity of invention

etc,...

# It's not rocket science!

Quite simply, the more similar the work, the easier to share it, and the faster it can get done

Equally important: similar working practices encourage empathy and trust