

Francis Leyder

Analytical chemist by training, he obtained his PhD before joining Labofina, Research Centre of the Petrofina Group. He qualified as European Patent Attorney in 1988 and dealt mainly with patents for catalysis, petrochemicals, oleochemistry, paints and composites. After the merger into the Total Group and subsequent reorganisations, he became head of the Patents Department of Total Research & Technology Feluy, until end 2015. He has been a guest lecturer at the Université catholique de Louvain since 1999. In 2005, he joined the European Patent Practice Committee of **epi**, which he has been chairing since 2008. In this context, he has been closely following the developments concerning the Unitary Patent. He frequently represents **epi** as observer at meetings of the Select Committee in charge of the implementation at the EPO.