

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 from 1999 to 2021. In 2005, he joined the European Patent Practice Committee of the Institute of Professional Representatives before the EPO (epi), which he has been chairing from 2008 to 2017. He has been elected President of epi in 2017. In this context, he has been closely following the developments concerning the Unitary Patent. He has been part of the epi delegation attending as observer the meetings of the Select Committee in charge of the implementation at the EPO.