Patrícia Paias

PARTNER TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND REGULATORY

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Patrícia Paias leads the Life Sciences and IP Litigation practice at MFA Legal & Tech. Her work focuses on the intersection of legal rigor and scientific vanguard, integrating the firm's technological vision into one of the global economy's most innovative sectors.

Specialising in high-complexity projects, Patrícia provides daily support to clients across the Life Sciences & Healthcare, Energy, and Mobility industries. Her practice centers on comprehensive product development strategies, from R&D to market launch, as well as resolving critical regulatory disputes and patent litigation.

With over 20 years of experience, Patrícia's career is marked by international leadership roles and a robust background in Intellectual Property and Regulatory Law. Before joining MFA, she held strategic in-house positions at leading pharmaceutical multinationals, including Lead IP Litigation Counsel at Sandoz International GmbH (Munich) and Director International IP, ACE at Gilead Sciences Inc. (Dublin). She also gained professional experience at the European Patent Office (Directorate 5.2.5, International and Legal PCT Affairs) in Munich. Domestically, she developed her practice at prestigious firms such as Vieira de Almeida (VdA), DLA Piper, and Antas da Cunha ECIJA.

In Portugal, her practice focuses on patent and regulatory litigation, international transactions, and regulatory affairs, covering Market Access, Regulatory Compliance, Data Exclusivity, and

Pricing and Reimbursement strategies. She provides specialised counsel in niche areas such as Post-Approval Extensions (PTEs), Supplementary Protection Certificates (SPCs), Biosimilars, and Orphan Drugs, with a focus on defining and defending strategies for the protection and valuation of innovation assets.

Publications

She has authored several articles and co-authored several books on various Life Sciences and IP Litigation topics, including the following publications:

Beyond patent expiry: injunctive relief and resulting damages before the UPC, in The Patent Lawyer, 2026

Trends and Developments, Global Practice Guides Life Sciences, Chambers and Partners, 2026

"Continuará a Saúde no topo da agenda política europeia?", in *Jornal Económico*, 2024

Will Europe become the global hub for FRAND rate setting? - An analysis of the European Commission's proposal for a Regulation on SEPs, in Lexology, 2023

"*O novo Tribunal Unificado de Patentes, qual o papel da divisão local de Lisboa?*", in *Jornal Económico*, 2022

Awards and Recommendations

Chambers and Partners | Legal 500

Academic Qualifications

- Law Degree, University of Lisbon School of Law
- Master's Degree in Intellectual Property, pre-Bologna, Faculty of Law, University of Lisbon (coursework phase)
- Executive Education Healthcare Compliance Implementation Leadership Programme, INSEAD (Fontainebleau)

Professional Associations

MFA Legal & Tech

Admitted to the Portuguese Bar Association

Member of EPLIT (European Patent Litigators Association)

Member of ChIPs Advancing Women Tech Law Policy