

PUBLIC POLICY

# Introducing PAX: the Android Networked Cross-License Agreement

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## ≡ The Keyword

In Latin, the word pax means “peace.” In the world of intellectual property, patent peace often coincides with innovation and healthy competition that benefit consumers. It is with a hope for such benefits that we are announcing our newest patent licensing initiative focusing on patent peace, which we call PAX.

Under PAX, members grant each other royalty-free patent licenses covering Android and Google Applications on qualified devices. This community-driven clearinghouse, developed together with our Android partners, ensures that innovation and consumer choice—not patent threats—will continue to be key drivers of our Android ecosystem. PAX is free to join and open to anyone.

Already, [Android](#) is distributed under [open-source licenses](#) that allow anyone to use it for free. This openness has resulted in enormous choice for manufacturers and users. The Android ecosystem has grown to include more than 400 partner manufacturers and 500 carriers who have produced more than 4,000 major devices in the last year alone with an astounding 1.6 billion active users. We believe PAX will further expand the openness of Android for its members, promoting patent peace that will free up time and money for members, who can then dedicate those resources to creating new ideas.

PAX members currently include [Google](#), [Samsung Electronics](#), [LG Electronics](#), [Foxconn Technology Group](#), [HMD Global](#), [HTC](#), [Coolpad](#), [BQ](#), and [Allview](#). The members collectively own more than 230,000 patents worldwide. As more companies join, PAX will bring even more patent peace and value to its members through more freedom to innovate.

PAX is the latest innovative licensing effort that Google has helped develop in order to provide balanced patent solutions. Other efforts include the [LOT Network](#) and the [Open Patent Non-assertion Pledge](#), as well as our participation in such initiatives as the [Open Invention Network](#) and IP3 run by [Allied Security Trust](#). Initiatives like these—and PAX—are among the many ways Google contributes to fair and balanced patent systems across an interconnected world.

We encourage interested companies, large and small, around the world to join us in PAX and enjoy patent peace. To learn more, please visit the [PAX website](#).

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## ≡ The Keyword

Presenting search app and browser options to Android users in Europe

USMCA: A trade framework for the digital age

Supporting choice and competition in Europe

Doing our part to share open data responsibly

To help fight the opioid crisis, a new tool from Maps and Search

Smart regulation for combating illegal content

