

PROPRIETATEA INTELECTUALĂ CA FACTOR DE RECUPERARE A ECONOMIEI EUROPENE DUPĂ PRIMUL RĂZBOI MONDIAL

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AS A FACTOR OF THE RECOVERY OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMY AFTER THE FIRST WORLD WAR

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Rezumat: *Proprietatea intelectuală (PI) a jucat un rol crucial în promovarea inovației după Primul Război Mondial. Patentele și drepturile de autor au oferit inventatorilor motivația necesară pentru dezvoltarea de noi produse și tehnologii, contribuind la creșterea economică. Această protecție legală a permis întreprinderilor mici și mijlocii să concureze cu companiile mai mari, securizând pozițiile pe piață și stimulând diversificarea și crearea de locuri de muncă. Protecția puternică a PI a atras, de asemenea, investiții atât interne, cât și străine, asigurând investitorii că inovațiile lor sunt protejate împotriva utilizării neautorizate, stimulând cercetarea și dezvoltarea. Comerțul internațional a beneficiat de legi robuste privind PI, facilitând exportul de noi tehnologii și produse, sprijinind recuperarea economică și integrarea globală. Guvernele au adoptat legi pentru protejarea PI, creând un mediu propice inovației. Drepturile de autor au promovat dezvoltarea culturală și științifică asigurându-le autorilor și cercetătorilor recompensele cuvenite, încurajând noi proiecte. Experiența istorică a recuperării economice post-Primul Război Mondial din Europa oferă lecții valoroase pentru Ucraina modernă, demonstrând cum PI poate stimula inovația, atrage investiții și susține antreprenoriatul în perioada de recuperare post-conflict.*

Cuvinte-cheie: *Proprietate intelectuală, Patente, Inovații, Tehnologii, Primul Război Mondial*

Abstract: *Intellectual property (IP) played a crucial role in fostering innovation after World War I. Patents and copyrights provided inventors with motivation to develop new products and technologies, contributing to economic growth. This legal protection enabled small and medium enterprises to compete with larger companies by securing market positions and stimulating diversification and job creation. Strong IP protection also attracted both domestic and foreign investments, as investors were assured their innovations were safeguarded from unauthorized use, spurring research and development. International trade benefited from robust IP laws, facilitating the export of new technologies and products, aiding economic recovery, and global integration. Governments enacted laws to protect IP, fostering an environment conducive to innovation. Copyrights promoted cultural and scientific development by ensuring authors and researchers were rewarded, encouraging further projects. The historical experience of Europe's post-WWI economic recovery offers valuable lessons for modern Ukraine, demonstrating how IP can drive innovation, attract investments, and support entrepreneurship in post-conflict recovery.*

Keywords: *Intellectual property, Patents, Innovations, Technologies, World War I*

Introduction

The study of successful economic recovery models following large-scale conflicts, such as World War I, allows for the identification of effective strategies and mechanisms that can be applied in the current conditions of Ukraine.

Analyzing the role of intellectual property in the recovery of European economies provides a deeper understanding of how innovations and legal protection of inventions contributed to economic growth and recovery.

The topic of intellectual property encompasses various scientific disciplines: economics, law, history, sociology, and technology. This stimulates interdisciplinary research that can reveal comprehensive solutions for Ukraine's recovery.

Intellectual property protection fosters the development of new technologies and startups, which can become a key factor for Ukraine's economic growth. Innovative enterprises can create new jobs and enhance the competitiveness of the economy. A reliable intellectual property protection mechanism is crucial for attracting both domestic and foreign investments. Investors need assurance that their innovations and

developments will be protected from unauthorized use.

Supporting intellectual property rights enables small and medium-sized enterprises to protect their innovations and ensure stable development, which is important for economic diversification and job creation. International intellectual property protection promotes the development of Ukraine's export potential, increases the trust of international partners, and facilitates integration into the global economy. Copyrights stimulate the development of culture, science, and education, which is essential for social stability and the cultural revival of the country.

Thus, scientific and practical research on the role of intellectual property in economic recovery after World War I is of great importance for modern Ukraine, which faces similar challenges after the war. Using historical experience and modern approaches can contribute to effective recovery and sustainable development of the country.

Research Methodology

An analysis was conducted on historical examples of the use of intellectual property in the recovery of the European economy after World War I. This included the analysis of scientific articles, books, dissertations, and other academic sources. A review of legislative acts and policies regulating intellectual property in the post-war period was also performed.

The study involved the systematization and comparison of different approaches and perspectives on the role of intellectual property in economic recovery. The researcher conducted a comparative analysis of the economic, social, and political conditions in Europe after World War I. Cases of successful use of intellectual property for economic recovery in other countries were examined.

Policies and strategies that could contribute to the effective use of intellectual property for economic recovery were identified. An analysis of national legislation and international agreements in the field of intellectual property was conducted, successful examples of policies and programs from other countries were studied, and specific recommendations and strategies were developed based on the obtained data and research results.

Findings

World War I (1914-1918) was a global conflict that engulfed most of Europe and other regions of the world. This war left significant wounds on the bodies and souls of people and had a substantial impact on the subsequent development of the world. It had an enormous economic impact on Europe, leaving behind considerable destruction and changes in the economic structure of many countries. There were significant destructions of cities, villages, factories, and transport networks (railways, bridges, roads). France and Belgium suffered the most damage due to the hostilities on their territories. The destruction of residential buildings, enterprises, and warehouses led to economic paralysis.

The enormous costs of weapons, ammunition, food, and military uniforms significantly increased national debts. The economies of many countries were reoriented towards war production, affecting the civilian sector. To finance the war efforts, countries took out significant loans, leading to a massive increase in national debts. Great Britain, France, Germany, and other countries owed both domestic and foreign creditors.

Under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, Germany had to pay substantial reparations to the victorious countries, further burdening its economy. The mass printing of money to finance war expenses led to hyperinflation, particularly in Germany, where the value of the mark plummeted catastrophically. After the war, many European currencies were significantly devalued due to economic difficulties and the loss of trust in financial systems. The war led to significant population losses. Many workers were lost, affecting labor productivity and economic development. The death and injury of many skilled workers created shortages in various economic sectors. During the war, women actively entered the workforce, taking men's places in factories and other sectors. This contributed to social changes that affected economic relations in the post-war period.

Economic difficulties led to social instability and revolutionary movements in many countries (for example, the revolution in the Russian Empire). The reconstruction of destroyed territories required substantial financial investments, adding an extra burden on state budgets. The USA provided significant economic aid to Europe in the form of loans and goods, contributing to the gradual recovery of the countries' economies. World War I left European countries with enormous economic losses, affecting their ability to quickly restore economic growth. This led to social and political changes that transformed the face of

Europe for decades to come.

Intellectual property (IP) is the right to the result of human creative activity. This can be an invention, a work of art, a literary work, a design, a trademark, or even a unique business model. IP includes various types of rights that protect owners from the unauthorized use of their creations and inventions by others. IP owners have the right to control the use of their creations, including the right to reproduction, distribution, display, performance, and more. IP rights are usually granted for a limited time, after which the works enter the public domain. IP rights generally operate within the specific country or region where they were registered. Thus, intellectual property plays a crucial role in stimulating innovation and creativity, providing owners the opportunity to benefit from their creations and investments in research and development.

Intellectual property in Europe has developed over centuries, reflecting changes in economic, social, and political conditions. The Industrial Revolution led to a significant increase in inventions and technical innovations, stimulating the development of patent laws. In 1883, the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property was adopted, establishing international norms for the protection of patents, trademarks, and industrial designs. The Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, adopted in 1886, became the primary international treaty in the field of copyright. After World War I, the need for international cooperation to protect intellectual property grew. This led to the strengthening of international organizations and the conclusion of new agreements.

Before World War I, the development of IP legislation was based on national laws and early international agreements such as the Paris and Berne Conventions. After the war, international coordination intensified, leading to the creation of international structures and the further development of legislation at national and international levels. European countries continued to develop their IP protection systems, ensuring more effective protection of rights holders and adapting legislation to new challenges.

After World War I, the need for international cooperation to protect intellectual property increased. This led to the strengthening of international organizations and the conclusion of new agreements.

The Paris Convention (1925 revision). In 1925, the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property was revised at the Hague Conference, strengthening international cooperation and improving legal mechanisms for IP protection. In 1928, the Berne Convention was revised in Rome, enhancing copyright protection and expanding its standards. Additionally, legislative changes were made in individual countries.

International organizations, such as the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), founded in 1897, were created. AIPPI continued its activities during the interwar period, promoting international cooperation and the harmonization of legislation. The International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property) – an organ of the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property in Brussels in 1897. The statute was adopted on December 10, 1927. The association is an international non-governmental organization dealing with the legal protection of inventions, industrial designs, and trademarks.

The creation of international organizations, such as the Intellectual Cooperation Organization of the League of Nations. The Intellectual Cooperation Organization (ICO) was created in 1922 under the aegis of the League of Nations, which was founded in 1920 as a result of the Treaty of Versailles, ending World War I. The ICO aimed to promote intellectual exchange and cooperation between nations, promoting peace and understanding through cultural and educational means.

With the development of the film industry, the need for new forms of copyright protection arose. Many European countries adopted laws regulating the rights of filmmakers and protecting their works. With the spread of radio broadcasting, new challenges for copyright protection emerged. In 1936, the International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations was signed in Rome. During the interwar period, attention to the protection of industrial designs increased. Many countries adopted laws that provided protection for the design and appearance of products.

The development of intellectual property legislation before and after World War I occurred against a backdrop of significant social, economic, and technological changes. Before the war, the main focus was on national laws and early international agreements such as the Paris and Berne Conventions. After the war, the need for international cooperation and legislative harmonization increased, leading to the conclusion of new agreements, the revision of existing conventions, and the creation of new forms of IP protection.

The war stimulated the development of new technologies and inventions due to the needs on the battlefields. This included the development of new weapons, communication methods, medical technologies, and other important innovations. Many of these inventions became the subjects of patent

applications, contributing to the growth of patent protection. The war conditions also stimulated the demand for military products and services. This led to an increase in the importance of trademarks as a means of advertising and distinguishing the products of one manufacturer from another. Trademark protection became an important element of market competition.

The war conditions also activated the demand for information, including newspapers, books, music, and films. This led to increased interest in copyright and the protection of authors' intellectual rights. Many military documents, photographs, and other materials were created and protected under copyright law.

World War I also contributed to the development of international standards in the field of intellectual property. For example, after the war, several international agreements were concluded that standardized IP protection among member countries.

The war also contributed to the development of measures for confidentiality and the protection of military secrets. This included the development and implementation of special laws and rules regulating access to and the use of confidential information.

Thus, World War I had a significant impact on the development of intellectual property, stimulating innovations, trademark and copyright protection, the development of international standards, and the protection of military secrets.

The Impact of Intellectual Property (IP) on the German Economy from 1919 to 1939

After World War I, Germany faced severe economic conditions, including hyperinflation, debt obligations, and territorial losses as stipulated by the Treaty of Versailles. However, the 1920s saw a gradual recovery of industry, largely driven by the active implementation of innovations and technologies.

The Dawes Plan (1924) provided financial aid to Germany and restructured its debts. A significant portion of these funds was directed towards industrial modernization. Major companies such as Siemens, IG Farben, and Krupp actively invested in research and development and technological innovations, which allowed Germany to remain competitive in the global market. Technological advancements became a key factor in the recovery of the German economy, especially in the chemical industry, automobile manufacturing, and electrical engineering.

Germany became one of the leaders in automobile production. Companies such as Mercedes-Benz and BMW introduced new manufacturing technologies and engineering solutions.

IG Farben was a pioneer in the production of synthetic materials, such as synthetic rubber and pharmaceuticals. Siemens and AEG made significant contributions to the development of electrical engineering by introducing new technologies in the production of electrical equipment and household appliances. The patent system played an important role in stimulating innovation and economic growth. Patents provided legal protection for new inventions, encouraging investment in research and development. German companies actively patented their inventions not only in Germany but also abroad, promoting the spread of German technologies to international markets. The sale of licenses for the use of German technologies to foreign companies generated additional income and fostered international cooperation.

IG Farben and its patent portfolios covered innovations in chemistry and pharmaceuticals, allowing it to dominate the global chemical market. Siemens' patents for electrical engineering inventions, such as new types of electric motors and generators, provided the company with competitive advantages and promoted its growth. Krupp's patents for new methods of steel and weapon production made the company a key player in the heavy industry and defense sector.

Overall, the patent system provided the necessary legal framework to stimulate innovative activities, contributing to the recovery and growth of the German economy during the interwar period.

The Impact of Intellectual Property (IP) on the Economy of the United Kingdom from 1919 to 1939

The period between 1919 and 1939 was a time of significant changes in the UK's legislation regarding intellectual property. The Patents and Designs Act 1932 updated previous laws on patents and industrial designs, simplifying the procedures for patenting and granting industrial designs. This act made the patenting process more accessible and efficient for inventors and companies.

The Trademarks Act 1938 was an important step in the standardization and protection of trademarks. The act provided for the registration of trademarks and ensured their legal protection, which encouraged companies to create and promote their own brands.

The British economy, like the German economy, suffered significant losses during World War I. The introduction of new technologies and automation in production significantly increased productivity and product quality. The government and private companies established numerous research institutions

dedicated to developing new technologies and materials. Many large British companies actively used patents and other forms of intellectual property to stimulate their growth and competitiveness.

Rolls-Royce utilized patents for new engine designs, ensuring their leadership in the production of both automotive and aviation engines. The company continually implemented new technologies, allowing them to remain competitive in the international market. Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) actively patented new chemical compounds and production processes, enabling it to become one of the world's leading producers of chemical products. The sale of licenses for the use of its patents provided the company with significant income and facilitated the spread of British technologies abroad.

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) invested in developing new technologies for broadcasting and information transmission, patenting its inventions in radio and television. The active use of copyrights to protect its programs and broadcasts ensured the BBC stable income and growth.

Intellectual property played a key role in the recovery and growth of the British economy during the interwar period. Thanks to legislative reforms and the active use of patents and trademarks, British companies were able to secure competitive advantages in the global market and contribute to scientific and technological progress.

The Impact of Intellectual Property on the Economy of France from 1919 to 1939

The period between 1919 and 1939 was crucial for the development of intellectual property legislation in France. The Patents Act of 1920 improved the procedure for filing and protecting patents, providing inventors with better conditions for safeguarding their innovations. The Industrial Designs Act of 1931 established a legal framework for protecting industrial designs, which was particularly important for sectors such as fashion and design, traditionally strong in France. In the 1920s and 1930s, France also strengthened copyright protection, adapting legislation to the new conditions created by technological and media developments.

France made a significant contribution to the development of telecommunications during the interwar period. Compagnie Générale des Télégraphes et Téléphones (CGTT) actively patented new technologies in telecommunications, allowing it to become a leader in the field.

The French automotive industry was one of the world's leading sectors during the interwar period. Citroën became renowned for its innovations in automobile manufacturing. Citroën actively used patents to protect its technical solutions, such as suspension and transmission systems. Renault also invested heavily in developing new technologies and actively patented its inventions. This allowed it to remain competitive and expand its presence in international markets.

Intellectual property played a crucial role in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in France during the interwar period. The patent system enabled SMEs to protect their innovations from being copied by larger competitors, encouraging further research and development. Having patents could help small businesses attract investments and secure funding. Since patents acted as a guarantee of a company's innovative potential, these companies could license their patents to larger firms, providing additional income and promoting the spread of their technologies.

Léon Bollée Automobiles was a small car company that actively used patents to protect its technological innovations in automobile manufacturing and was acquired by a British firm after the war. Télémécanique, a small company specializing in the development of electrical devices and automation systems, used patents to help the company grow and expand its market. Its development began when Michel le Goullec purchased an electrical equipment manufacturing business near Paris in 1924. In 1928, this business became Télémécanique Electrique. In 1931, the company initiated an innovative social policy that offered many benefits to employees long before such benefits were officially mandated by French law.

Intellectual property significantly contributed to the recovery and development of the French economy during the interwar period. Legislative reforms created favorable conditions for protecting innovations, stimulating technological progress in sectors such as telecommunications and the automotive industry. Small and medium-sized enterprises also benefited significantly from the patent system, enabling them to compete with larger players and fostering their growth.

The Impact of Intellectual Property on the Economy of Romania from 1919 to 1939

During the period from 1919 to 1939, Romania established a legislative framework for the development of intellectual property (IP) that conformed to international standards. Romania joined the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works as early as 1887, granting authors the right to international protection of their works. During the interwar period, Romania continued to adhere to the provisions of this convention. Romania was also a participant in the Paris Convention for the Protection

of Industrial Property, which covered patents, trademarks, industrial designs, and other aspects of industrial property.

Romania had national laws protecting the rights of authors over literary, artistic, and scientific works. The copyright law was designed in accordance with international standards to ensure proper protection and remuneration for authors. In Romania, patent offices were responsible for the registration and protection of patents, trademarks, and other intellectual property objects, ensuring proper administration of IP rights. The Romanian judicial system provided protection of intellectual property rights through the possibility of legal proceedings for IP violations. This allowed authors and inventors to defend their interests in court.

Romania in the period from 1919 to 1939 had a developed legislative base for the protection of intellectual property, which included international agreements and national laws covering copyrights, patents, trademarks, and industrial designs. This base provided authors, inventors, and companies with adequate protection of their rights and stimulated innovation and creativity in the country.

Intellectual Property in the Soviet Union from 1919 to 1939

Following the October Revolution of 1917, the Soviet Union radically changed its approach to intellectual property. Bolshevik ideology emphasized public ownership and the common good, which was reflected in the corresponding legislation and practice.

In 1918, decrees were issued that nationalized many industries, including publishing. Intellectual property was perceived as public property rather than an individual right. The legislation introduced the concept of "author's rights," but the main goal was to ensure state control over the distribution of intellectual products. This law formalized the patent system in the USSR, introducing the concept of an author's certificate. Inventors received certain rewards, but the rights to the invention belonged to the state. All inventions and scientific discoveries automatically became the property of the state. Inventors received moral and material rewards but did not own their inventions. The state actively encouraged innovation through a system of state awards and incentives, including prizes, honorary titles, and other forms of encouragement. The lack of private ownership of intellectual products meant that commercial exploitation of intellectual property was not a priority. Instead, the focus was on overall development and raising the scientific and technical level of the country.

In the Soviet Union from 1919 to 1939, intellectual property developed under conditions of state control and a planned economy. Despite the lack of private ownership of inventions and other intellectual products, the state stimulated scientific and technical progress through a system of rewards and incentives. However, there was insufficient respect for intellectual property rights. An example of innovation is the situation with Bakelite. Bakelite is an insoluble, non-flammable, ultra-light plastic invented by Belgian chemist Leo Baekeland in 1909. He later patented his invention and began manufacturing it under the brand "Bakelite Corporation" with the 1926 patent CH124533A. Initially, it was used to make telephone sets, sockets, and incandescent lamps. Later, jewelers started making inexpensive jewelry and accessories from Bakelite, such as bracelets, necklaces, brooches, and belt buckles. Due to its light weight and durability, it was an excellent material for making jewelry. Bakelite items were lightweight to wear: they didn't weigh down the ear or press on the neck. In 1927, Leo Baekeland's patent for Bakelite expired. Brands around the world began producing Bakelite and similar materials. They were also used in costume jewelry but weighed much more, so Bakelite jewelry was valued higher.

The Espacenet database contains 1,343,040 patents from 1919-1939, with the US Patent Office being the undisputed leader at 816,517. The UK accounts for 20,178, France for 17,076, Germany for 9,929, Belgium for 4,503, the Netherlands for 4,142, and Czechoslovakia for 1,926 patents. All other countries account for more than a thousand, but not all European patents are included.

Romania actively participated in international intellectual property agreements. For example, Romania was a participant in the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, guaranteeing the protection of copyright internationally. In the 1920s and 1930s, Romania adopted domestic laws regulating various aspects of intellectual property, including patents, trademarks, and copyrights.

Romania had a market economy that encouraged innovation and private sector development. This created conditions for the active use and protection of intellectual property. During the interwar period, Romania experienced a certain cultural and scientific revival, stimulating the development of literature, art, and scientific research, which in turn required effective IP protection.

The Soviet economy was centralized and planned, meaning the state controlled most production and creative processes. Intellectual property was subordinated to state interests. Inventions and technologies

also belonged to the state, and inventors usually received fixed rewards but could not claim commercial benefits from their inventions. Scientific research and cultural projects were state-funded and aimed at achieving ideological and economic goals. This limited individual initiative and commercial use of intellectual achievements. There was a system of state control and censorship that restricted freedom of creativity and the implementation of new ideas. In Romania, there was a developed system for protecting intellectual property that met international standards. In the Soviet Union, legal protection of IP was limited and subordinated to state interests. Romania had a market economy that stimulated innovation and commercial use of IP, while the USSR had a planned and centralized economy where IP belonged to the state. In Romania, intellectual property was an important aspect of cultural and scientific development, whereas in the USSR, creativity and science were subordinated to state ideology and control. Thus, the status of intellectual property in Romania and the Soviet Union from 1919 to 1939 was significantly different, reflecting the different political, economic, and social realities of these countries.

Germany had a developed patent system that promoted active patenting of inventions. This helped companies protect their technologies and gain market advantages. Legislation encouraged innovation and investment in research and development. German companies actively used patents to protect their developments in industries such as chemicals and engineering. In the 1920s and 1930s, several reforms in the UK aimed to simplify patent procedures and improve trademark protection. France had an effective system for protecting intellectual property, which promoted the development of industries such as telecommunications and the automotive industry. French companies actively used patents to protect their technologies, contributing to their growth and development. All inventions and discoveries in the Soviet Union became state property, which was fundamentally different from the Western model of private ownership of intellectual property. Inventors received rewards and state honors but did not own their inventions. Differences in the implementation of intellectual property legislation in Europe from 1919-1939 had a significant impact on the economic development of countries and their companies. Strong patent systems encouraged innovation and economic growth but also raised concerns about the creation of monopolies and market abuses. Finding a balance between encouraging innovation and preventing monopolies was a significant task.

Discussions

There are many works where in one way or another certain issues of this issue are outlined. Mark Spoerer's book, with translations by Jefferson Chase, Patricia C. Sutcliffe, and Patricia Szobar, provides a detailed history of C&A, focusing on its expansion from the Netherlands to Germany and the UK. The book examines the company's strategies during the Third Reich, post-war recovery, and the consumer boom, highlighting its adaptability and internal leadership. M. Flüngen's article in "Zeitschrift für Unternehmensgeschichte" explores the equity profitability of German industrial corporations in the late 1920s. This study uses historical data to analyze financial performance and its implications before the Great Depression, providing insights into the economic conditions of the era.

These works highlight the significance of historical and financial analysis in understanding business evolution and economic conditions. Spoerer's narrative on C&A's resilience complements Flüngen's quantitative analysis of industrial profitability, offering a comprehensive view of economic history.

Conclusions

Intellectual property, particularly patents and copyrights, played a crucial role in stimulating innovation after World War I. The protection of inventions and new technologies provided inventors with the motivation to develop new products and technologies, which contributed to economic growth.

The protection of intellectual property allowed small and medium-sized enterprises to compete with larger companies, giving them the opportunity to establish their market positions and grow. This contributed to the diversification of the economy and the creation of new jobs.

Reliable intellectual property protection attracted both domestic and foreign investments. Investors were confident that their innovations would be protected from unauthorized use, which encouraged investment in research and development.

Intellectual property fostered the development of international trade by creating favorable conditions for exporting new technologies and products. This enabled countries to recover their economies more quickly and integrate into the global economic system.

The recovery of the European economy after the war required active government policies in the field

of intellectual property. Governments implemented laws and regulations that ensured the protection of intellectual property and created favorable conditions for innovative activities.

Copyrights supported the development of culture and science by providing rewards to authors and researchers. This stimulated further research and cultural projects, having a positive impact on society as a whole.

The historical experience of rebuilding the European economy after World War I offers valuable lessons for modern Ukraine. Using intellectual property as a tool for economic recovery can promote innovation, attract investments, and develop entrepreneurship in Ukraine after the war.

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