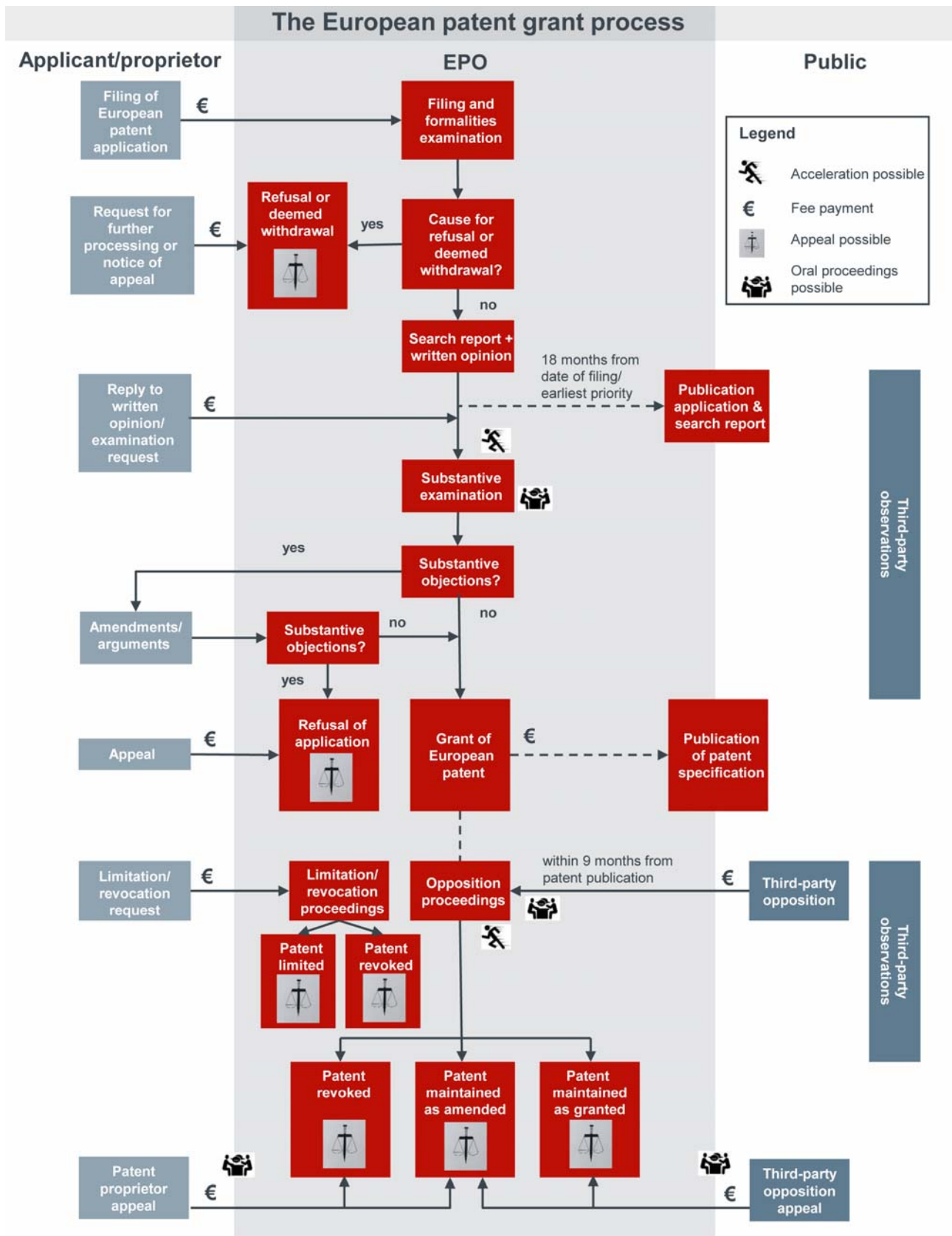


Annex I.

Overview of the procedure for the grant of a European patent



Schematic overview of the main procedural steps in the EP direct proceedings. For a complete guide to every stage of the grant procedure, please consult the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO.