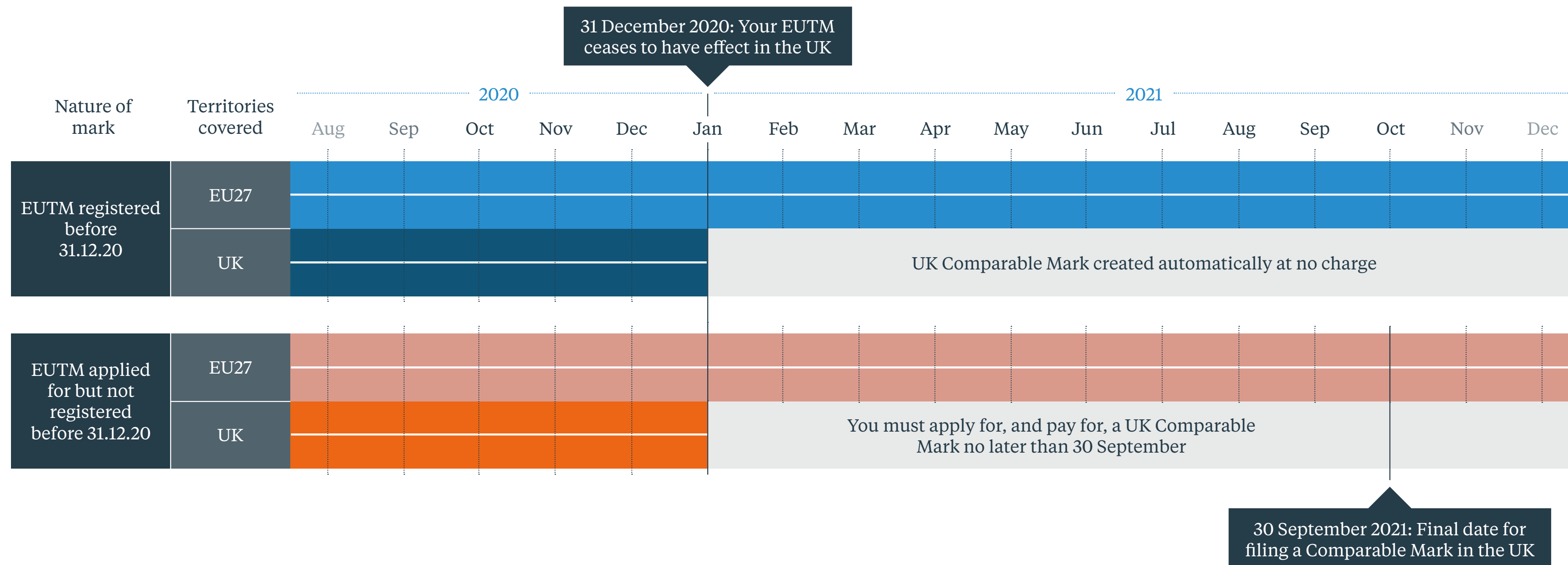


EU Trade Marks and Brexit

At the end of 2020, your EU trade marks (“EUTMs”) ceased having effect in the UK.

If an EUTM was registered at that time, a new registration for a “Comparable Mark” in the UK was automatically created. If your EU mark was not yet registered at the end of the year, and you want protection in the UK, you can file for a Comparable Mark. A Comparable Mark enjoys the same filing or priority date as the EU mark.



International Registrations: If your IR designates the EU and was protected there as at 31 December 2020, a Comparable Mark was created in the UK - note though that it is independent of the IR.



Renewal: If you renewed an EUTM that had a renewal date prior to 31 December 2020, the UK component will also be renewed automatically, even if you renew the EUTM late. If the EUTM is due for renewal after 31 December, you must renew the UK Comparable Mark separately, even if you renew early.



Non-Use: After 31 December 2020, use of an EUTM in the UK will no longer be able to qualify as use in the EU. This means registered EU marks that have not been used in the EU27 may become vulnerable to cancellation on the grounds of non-use.



Licences: A licence of an EUTM that authorised its use in the UK should automatically include any Comparable Mark that is created in the UK.



Security: Any security over an EUTM will cover the Comparable Mark that is created in the UK.