

Abstract**Process for preparing carboxylic acids or salts thereof from hydrocarbons**

- 5 The invention relates to a process for preparing carboxylic acids or salts thereof by hydrolysis or saponification of an ester, which is obtained by alkoxycarbonylation of a C₂ to C₂₀ hydrocarbon having at least one multiple bond, preferably having at least one olefinic double bond, in which the homogeneous catalyst system used is separated from the product mixture by means of membrane separation. In a development of the present invention, the ester thus formed is converted into
- 10 another ester by transesterification and then hydrolysed or saponified.

[No figure]