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2015 HIGHLIGHTS **FOREWORD**

Celebrated the 10th anniversary of the THEMIS Competition. With great pleasure I present the EJTN's 2015 key achievements and developments. As with earlier years, 2015 was also another exceptional year for our Network. Last year witnessed the continued growth of the number of participants of our training activities, an increase in the quality of training, broadened networking and a venerated response to one of the most pressing needs of our times: countering terrorism.

Held a record number of 24,726 training days.

In 2015, EJTN trained **5,032** judges, prosecutors, trainers and trainees, representing all EU Member States, through 1,815 exchanges, 84 seminars and 216 Catalogue activities. These figures represented a pronounced growth of 18.13% of the number of participants and 14.38% of the number of training days offered compared to the previous year's figures. The EJTN operating grant implementation level reached 98.4%.

It is important to acknowledge the **unwavering commitment** of EJTN Members, Observers and Partners, supported by a devoted Secretariat, in the implementation of EJTN's annual programme of activities. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the steadfast backing and financial support of the European Commission. These collaborative efforts contributed to the successful achievements detailed in the present report.

We proudly celebrated the 10th anniversary of two EJTN projects - the Exchange Programme and the THEMIS Competition. These were a momentous occasions not only to recount such remarkable achievements, but also opportunities to chart the future development of these activities.

The EJTN Exchange Programme has witnessed important developments over the past year. New formats of exchanges were offered (specialised and bilateral group exchanges as well as exchanges for judges and prosecutors handling counter terrorism-related cases) and the study visits offering was broadened.

Last year also opened new possibilities to cooperate with the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission - continuing EJTN's proud standing as a body entrusted with the development of cross-border training offers for judges and prosecutors at the EU level.

EJTN proved its responsiveness to the most pressing needs of our times: countering terrorism by developing seminars, exchanges and expertise sharing - and supporting the judicial response to this challenge. Helping Europe's judiciary to respond to changing needs and realities through training continues to be a cornerstone of EJTN's activities.

Furthermore, EJTN is honoured to continue working with the European Commission and Europe's judicial training stakeholders in providing quality training and a comprehensive set of best training practices and supporting resources as well as with assisting in compiling needed annual progress statistics and reports, hence helping to achieve the European Commission's judicial training goals.

The year 2016 will witness a further increase in the quantity and quality of the EJTN training offering, also within the areas related to the current migration and security challenges.

I invite you to review this Annual Report, which attests to the remarkable accomplishments achieved together. I also look forward to strengthening our fruitful cooperation in the future.

Celebrated the 10th anniversary of the **EJTN Exchange** Programme.

Provided an unprecedented 5,032 training places for Europe's magistracy.

Judge Wojciech Postulski

EJTN Secretary General

Forged key programme and project partnerships.

2014

Secretary General: Judge W. Postulski [2014-2017].

EJTN's fundamental importance within the sphere of European judicial training is recognised by the Council of the European Union.*

EJTN signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with 12 European networks and associations for future

cooperation in the area

of judicial training.

HISTORY

2013

Regulation (EU) 1382/2013 grants EJTN an operating grant for the period 2014-2020 under the new EU Justice Programme.

EJTN Strategic Plan 2014-2020 unveiled.

European Commission lauds EJTN's achievements, confirming its paramount role in judicial training.**

2010

Criminal I training and eLearning programmes

2011

Secretary General: L. Pereira. Senior Public Prosecutor (2011-2014).

Linguistics and Civil Law training programmes launched.

Administrative Law Sub-Working Group formed

2012

Civil Law Sub-Working Group formed.

Criminal II programme launched.

launched.

2008

Secretary General: Judge V. Hall (2008-2011).

Working Groups Exchange Programme and **Technologies** established.

2007

Council's Decision of 12/02/2007 recognises EJTN as pursuing an aim of genuine European interest in the field of training of the EU judiciary.

Linguistics Sub-Working Group formed.

2006

In 2006, the European Commission entrusted EJTN for the implementation of the exchanges between judicial authorities, which became EJTN's flagship activity.



EJTN's first logo

2000

Programmes, External Relations and Website Working Groups established.

Creation of EJTN -Charter of Bordeaux.

2002

The Catalogue is EJTN's first cross-border training activity.

2001

EJTN's first website launched.

2003

EJTN acquires legal status.

Secretary General: A. D'Alterio, Prosecutor (2003-2005)

2005

EJTN establishes a permanent Secretariat in Brussels.

Secretary General: Judge G. Charbonnier (2005-2008)

EJTN's acclaimed **Exchange Programme** launched.

THEMIS programme launched.



EJTN's first home in Brussels in 2005

^{*} Council Conclusions 'Training of legal practitioners: an essential tool to consolidate the EU acquis' (2014/C 443/04).

^{**} Mrs. Viviane Reding, Vice-President of the European Commission, EU Justice Commissioner, opening speech, workshop of Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, November 28, 2013.

EJTN IN BRIEF

The European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) is an international non-profit association governed by the provisions of Belgian law relating to such associations.

EJTN is a unique association gathering the 35 Member training institutions for the judiciary from all EU Member States. EJTN promotes training programmes with a genuine European dimension for members of the European judiciary.

While celebrating over a decade of ever-increasing growth based upon solid gains over the past years, EJTN continues to improve and widen its field of work. Indeed, EJTN brings value and innovation to judicial training through its network of Members, Observers and Partners, distinctive training methodologies and steadfast cooperation with the European Commission as well as other EU institutions, judicial networks and associations.

EJTN keeps sight of the objectives of offering 1,200 exchanges in courts per year as well as to enable half of the legal practitioners in the European Union to participate in European judicial training activities by 2020, as set in the Communication "Building trust in EU-wide Justice, a new dimension to European judicial training" (COM (2011) 551).

The capacity of EJTN to play an active role and to coordinate its programme of activities is made possible thanks to several driving forces. Based on a proven and

The merger of these factors along with the increasing trust placed in EJTN as a major and entrusted partner of the construction of a European legal area, enables EJTN's target audience, the EU judiciary, to share common values, exchange new experiences and discuss new perspectives in areas of common interest, thus instilling amongst participants the feeling of belonging to a common judicial culture from the very beginning of their careers and helping in the building of the identity of a European judge amongst the future judiciary.

The implementation and results of EJTN's annual programme of training activities have been closely scrutinised, and it is with great pleasure that several key achievements have been obtained, including:

- Further **strengthening** of the Network, with reference to the objectives set in the 2011 EC Communication and in the EU Justice Agenda for 2020;
- Improving coordination and assistance to national training institutions, Members and Observers, so as to facilitate and enhance their training offers; and,

• Increasing **performance** across existing financial and methodological means as well providing expertise and know-how through EJTN's networking.



VISION, MISSION AND GOALS

VISION

EJTN is an institution pursuing an aim of general European interest in the field of training of the judiciary.

EJTN is a recognised and respected player operating at the European level.

EJTN is fully autonomous in defining its own priorities and European judiciary training needs, while simultaneously retaining judicial independence, taking into account priorities set by the European institutions.

EJTN respects the different capacities, missions and structures as well as the different needs of individual Member institutions that have an impact on their possible involvement in EJTN's activities.

EJTN's role in European judicial training in the foreseeable future will remain EJTN's raison d'être, i.e. the initial and continuous training of EU judges and prosecutors and combining forces to achieve better and stronger results in judicial training in the European area of justice.

EJTN shall continue its drive to offer quality, innovative training activities that give added value to the training offered at the national level, whilst appreciating that the first and main responsibility for the provision of such training activities lies with national training institutes.

EJTN's Members have a legitimate interest in using the Network as their forum for networking. Therefore, it is considered fundamental that EJTN continues to provide the platform and tools adequate to allow an exchange of concepts and best practices, which should have a wider scope than only European law.

MISSION

On 13 October 2000, the first Charter of the European Judicial Training Network was presented to the Network's founding Members. This Charter defined the Network's mission as the promotion of "a training programme with a genuine European dimension for Members of the European judiciary".

GOALS

The European Judicial Training Network Strategic Plan 2014-2020 defines EJTN's strategic goals for this period as the following:

- To continue to foster mutual trust between judges and prosecutors from different European legal systems.
- To increase the level of knowledge of EU law among the European judiciary.
- To assure high standards of quality of European judicial training and promote high standards of quality for national judicial training.
- To foster the early development of a judge's and prosecutor's European profile.
- To strive towards an increased networking function of EJTN.
- To strive towards a more effective external cooperation.
- In the interest of maintaining judicial independence, to reinforce as far as possible, the primacy of the role of EJTN in all areas of judicial training at the EU level.



EJTN MEMBERS



AUSTRIA FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

REFORMS/CHANGES:

Formerly supervised by an external institution, the Austrian penal system was integrated into the Federal Ministry of Justice by the 1st of July 2015. As a result, by the 1st of December 2015, two Directorates General have had to be merged. Additionally, a centre for communication & public relations was created.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

With EJTN, HELP and ERA.



BELGIUM BELGIAN JUDICIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

Mr. Raf Van Ransbeeck, Judge at the Brussels Court of Appeal, was appointed as the new director of the Belgian Judicial Training Institute (IGO-IFJ) for a term of six years. He was appointed by Royal Decree of 27 October 2015.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Partnership in an EU project with ENG (Ecole nationale des greffes) and other partners concerning Common EU law and language training for Court Staff.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Visit of a representative of the European Commissioner for Justice Věra Jourová to IGO-IFJ; visit of international delegations from Senegal, Kosovo, Albania and Bulgaria; celebration of the 10th anniversary of EJTN's Exchange Programme for Judicial Authorities in Bordeaux; and, hosting of the Steering Committee of EJTN in Bruges.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Second session of the seminar on insolvency proceedings in France and ebook, different seminars in the framework of a European project to enhance the international cooperation of court staff in Europe, EJTN's AIAKOS and THEMIS programmes and hosting of and active support for the different EJTN activities.



BULGARIA NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

1 November 2015 was the 10th Anniversary of the National Institute of Justice.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

In the period 2011-2015, NIJ has implemented 7 projects related to the qualification of magistrates and court clerks, which were implemented with the financial support of the Operational Program «Administrative capacity». 13 of EJTN's Member institutions cooperated with NIJ within these projects.



CROATIA JUDICIAL ACADEMY

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

1 September 2015 (see below in relation to amendments to the Judicial Academy Act).

REFORMS/CHANGES:

With the amendments to the Judicial Academy Act, which entered into force on 1 September 2015, the Judicial Academy has been put in charge of the training of administrative employees within the judiciary as its new target group.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

With the Law Institute of Lithuania and the Forensic Science Centre of Lithuania (IPA 2011 project on the use of expert witnessing in judicial proceedings). Also with ERA (projects financed from the Civil Justice and Fundamental Rights Programmes) and with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Regional seminar on anti-corruption).

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Visit of a delegation of the Judicial Academy (JA) representatives and Croatian judicial officials to the Justice Academy of Turkey. Also, a two-week visit of a delegation of nine judicial officials from Kosovo along with participation of the JA's Director in the 32nd session of the Permanent Croatian-Bavarian Commission in Munich.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Seminars on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and on Child-friendly Justice (within the projects financed from the Fundamental Rights Programme). Also, a seminar on using EU Civil Justice Instruments (within the project funded from the Civil Justice Programme).



CYPRUS SUPREME COURT OF CYPRUS

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

The Independence Day of Cyprus, 1 October 1960, sees the establishment of the Supreme Court of Cyprus.



CZECH REPUBLIC THE CZECH JUDICIAL ACADEMY

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

20th anniversary of judicial training in the Czech Republic.

REFORMS/CHANGES:

Increase in the number of training events: 882 training events in legal- and law-related disciplines were offered to the judiciary in 2015.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

The Judicial Academy (JA) has many contacts in Europe and worldwide. In 2015, JA continued to be an active member of the EJTN, actively cooperated with the ERA and with European judicial training institutions, in particular with judicial training institutions of V4 countries.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Meeting of Directors of judicial training institutions of V4 Countries under the auspices of the Czech Presidency of the Visegrad Group 2015/16, on 2 November 2015.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Three big projects, one focusing on the new codification of private law, one focusing on training in economic and managerial knowledge and skills and one aimed at the systematic training of middle professional staff in the judiciary.



DENMARK THE DANISH COURT ADMINISTRATION

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

ERA, EJTN, EIPA and SEND (a partnership between the judicial training academies of Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Finland and Denmark).

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Conference for court presidents organised by SEND and Denmark focusing on leadership in June 2015.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

In 2015 a special effort was made to encourage Danish judges to participate in international training activities. This effort has resulted in a significant increase in Danish participants in international training activities and study visits organised by EJTN and ERA.



ACADEMY OF EUROPEAN LAW (ERA)

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

ERA worked together with EJTN and research consultancy Ecorys to produce a study for the European Commission on judges' training needs in the field of EU competition law. The study, which maps the competent courts, analyses judges' needs and evaluates past programmes, will be published in 2016.



ESTONIA SUPREME COURT OF ESTONIA

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

As of 01.07.2016, a bill becomes the law regulating the new system of becoming a judge (abolishing preparatory service for judges).

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Competition Law (02-03.06.2016) and Catalogue+ training.



FINLAND MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

With the Courts, Public aid offices, Prosecutors, the National administrative office for enforcement and universities

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Scandinavian working meeting 19-20.11.2015

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

EU law seminar on 19.8.2015 where trainers were Finnish judges from the Court of Justice of the European communities and the General court of the EU. Human rights training 30.9.-2.10.2015 where one of the trainers was the Finnish judge from the ECHR.



FRANCE THE FRENCH NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE JUDICIARY (ENM)

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

In September the launching of the first real e-learning of the ENM.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Apart from the EU countries, which are members of EJTN, the ENM strengthened its partnership in 2015 with the Council of Europe, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Mongolia.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS

On behalf of EJTN a meeting with the Commissioner of the DG Justice.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Final conference on a series of training courses dedicated to the judicial response to terrorism in Paris. This international conference was held in the premises of the Senate and hosted nearly 200 participants from 22 countries (among them 13 EU countries).



GERMANY FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND **CONSUMER PROTECTION**

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

On the 1st of June, Dr. Stefan Tratz succeeded Dr. Rainer Hornung as the director of the German Judicial Academy.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

On demand of the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, the German Judicial Academy hosted, from 2-11 November 2015, a very successful EJTN Linguistic seminar on "Language Training on the Vocabulary of Human Rights' European Law". Furthermore, the Higher Administrative Court of Saxony, located in Bautzen and representing the Federal Land Saxony, hosted a very successful EJTN Administrative Seminar on "Alternative Dispute Resolution in Administrative Law".



GREECE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF JUDGES

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

The National School of Judges (ESDi) is established in Thessaloniki in August 1995, under the 2236/1994 Act. This year marks 20 years of the functioning of our School, since the graduation of the first training series.

REFORMS/CHANGES:

ESDi placed emphasis on scientific subjects such as psychiatry, criminology and sociology, which are necessary in the exercise of judicial activity.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Collaboration with the HELP Network on the topic of labour rights. Collaboration also with ERA on the topic of trafficking in human beings as well as with ENA (through a study visit to the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in France).

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Conference on Leadership held in Thessaloniki 30.6-1.7.2015. A further conference on Labour Law - Social Insurance and economic crisis, in cooperation with the Federal Labour Cassation Court of Germany and the Faculty Law of Cologne held in Thessaloniki, 14-15.5.2015.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

HERCULES III «Fraud against the EU by illegal agricultural products and tobacco smuggling.»



HUNGARY NATIONAL OFFICE FOR THE JUDICIARY

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

The Tenth Anniversary Conference of the Balkan and Euro-Mediterranean Network of Councils for the Judiciary was held in Tirana, Albania between May 27 and 29. Also, the third International Conference on Courts and Communication was held in Budapest, Hungary, 15-16 October.

REFORMS/CHANGES:

The new training system of the National Office for the Judiciary (NOJ) commenced use during the first half of 2015, the basis of which is on the trainings conducted at the Hungarian Academy of Justice (MIA). Nevertheless, the systematic organisation of local and regional trainings were considered novel.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

EJTN, ERA, Visegrad Four Judicial Academies, Balkan and Euro-Mediterranean Network of Councils for the Judiciary. Also, the NOJ provides internships for judges and judicial employees to share their knowledge and experience and integrate it into the organisation (Court of Justice of the European Union and ERA). Key partnerships concerning the following projects: ERA Civil Justice project, 'Using EU Civil Justice Instruments in Cross-Border Civil Litigation'; the EU civil law training - a consortium jointly with Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic; the EU civil law ESP training - the NOJ applied as a member of the consortium established under the lead of ERA; and, the cybercrime project - NOJ applied jointly with Spanish, Portuguese and Polish partners.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Conferences included the III International Conference on Courts and Communication, 15-16 October, in Budapest, Hungary as well as the International conference on remote audition, visual and audio recordings in the courtroom, 30 November - 1 December, in Budapest. Delegations included with Věra Jourová, EU Commissioner for Justice, and FIDH (International Federation for Human Rights).

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

NOJ hosted a total of 3 international trainings: the International cooperation in criminal matters - EAW and MLA simulations, 13-15 April, in Budapest; the seminar on language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in civil matters, 20-24 April, Budapest; and, an ERA seminar, Using EU Civil Justice Instruments, 10-11, March, in Budapest.



HUNGARY OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

The Hungarian Austrian Prosecutor Generals' meeting, 25-27 March 2015, the Hungarian Vietnamese Prosecutor Generals' meeting, 19-23 April 2015 as well as the Hungarian Chinese Prosecutor Generals' meeting, 25-27 August 2015.



IRFI AND COMMITTEE FOR JUDICIAL STUDIES

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

UK and Ireland Judicial Studies Board, ENCJ, ERA, European Law Institute, ACA and GEMME.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Network of Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union meetings, on the 18th and 19th of June 2015 and the 26th and 27th of November 2015.



ITALY HIGH COUNCIL FOR THE JUDICIARY



ITALY THE SCHOOL FOR THE JUDICIARY

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Italian Ministry of Justice, ENM, the Spanish Ministry of Justice, ANAC (Italian Authority for the prevention of the corruption) in the context of twinning projects in the field of judicial training and the judicial reforms and prevention of corruption in Tunisia and Serbia.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Several seminars on EU law, participating in cooperation with several training institutions and universities from

different EU countries in research projects funded by the EU (family law in the EU - two projects addressing victims and corporations as well as consumers and migrants) and participation in EJTN activities.



I ATVIA LATVIAN JUDICIAL TRAINING CENTRE

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

LJTC was founded in 1995, however, the actual celebration took place in April 2016.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

EJTN and ERA on the international level. LJTC, as a nongovernmental institution, always appreciates the interest of national governmental and other institutions for being interested in a close partnership with our training centre, like the General Prosecutor's office, Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates and others.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS

LJTC hosted the EJTN General Assembly (GA) in the mid-June 2015. The event took place at the Latvian Library called the Castle of Light. The GA was one of the events of the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the EU.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Training events as part of the EJTN activities along with meetings with EC committees on different topics.



LITHUANIA NATIONAL COURTS ADMINISTRATION

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

European Judicial Training Network (EJTN), European Law Academy (ERA), European Networks of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ) and Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ).



LUXEMBOURG PARQUET GÉNÉRAL



MALTA JUDICIAL STUDIES COMMITTEE

REFORMS/CHANGES:

The Judicial Studies Committee saw the appointment of a new Chairman in October 2015. Judge Joseph David Camilleri, former Chairman, stepped down from his seat and Judge Michael Mallia was appointed in his place.



THE NETHERLANDS TRAINING AND STUDY CENTRE FOR THE **JUDICIARY**

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

SSR received the American Innovation Video Awards 2015 for its development on Digital Learning. The MediaSite Enterprise Award is awarded yearly by Sonicfoundry to organisations for their practical and creative use of video in their activities.

REFORMS/CHANGES:

«Credits system» for trainee judges in the advanced stage of their education: trainees formulate their own learning objectives to improve their judicial skills and develop - with the assistance from SSR - their own learning activities to reach these goals.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Council of the Judiciary, Courts, Public Prosecution Service, Dutch Police Academy, Centre for International Legal Cooperation, Netherlands Helsinki Committee, European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) and Council of Europe.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

A large part of the 1400 SSR activities is marked with an EU flag, which means that these are activities on European Law and offer EU added value (Integration of EU Law and ECHR in regular courses). New web lectures on EU Law and on EU succession Regulation.





POLAND THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF JUDICIARY AND **PUBLIC PROSECUTION**

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

18th June 2015 - the official opening of the new seat of the Center for Continuous Training and International Cooperation of the National School of Judiciary and Prosecution in Lublin. The school's premises located in Lublin have been already officially reopened after the 4-year renovation process.

REFORMS/CHANGES:

Change of the internal structure of the Center for Continuous Training and International Cooperation. The Civil Department, Criminal Department and Probation officers' and officials' training Department have been replaced by the Trainings' Planning Department and the Trainings' Realization Department.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Academy of European Law (ERA), European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) and V4 Partnership (Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Hungary).

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Judicial Authorities, the EJTN Exchange Programme for Foreign Trainers, the AIAKOS Programme, the qualification of the Polish Team for the Grand Final of the THEMIS Competition and the "Motivations of judicial decisions and the European Court of Human Rights - how to avoid violation judgments" event, 28-29 September 2015.



PORTUGAL CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL STUDIES

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

36th anniversary of CEJ Portugal.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

International key partnerships with EJTN and ERA.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Several high-level encounters at the European and African level.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

On-going training devoted to the jurisprudence of the ECHR.

ROMANIA ROMANIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF **MAGISTRACY**

REFORMS/CHANGES:

In 2015, Mr. Nelu Ciobanu, prosecutor, was elected as the new deputy director responsible for the Continuous Training Department of the Romanian National Institute of Magistracy (NIM) for a 3-year mandate, which began in July last year. Also, in 2015, NIM's Training of Trainers Department recruited one more full time trainer.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

In 2015. NIM renewed one partnership and signed 5 new ones with: the National Probation Service: the National Union of Bailiffs in Romania; the Mediation Council; the National University of Theatre and Film; the Romanian Notarial Institute; and, the National Administration of Penitentiaries

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

The E.A.J.T.N General Assembly and the «Financial crime» working session in Alger. Also, the CoE's International Conference «Bringing human rights home: commitments, challenges and cooperation» in Chisinău as well as the annual Conference of the CoE's HELP Programme, «Help in the 28», in Strasbourg.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

15 international seminars and 2 conferences organised within the following projects: «Procedural rights in EU criminal law»; «Social reintegration of sentenced persons: a comprehensive European approach»; and, «Practical exercises in implementing the judicial cooperation instruments in civil and commercial matters.»



SLOVAK REPUBLIC JUDICIAL ACADEMY OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

On 28 April 2015, JUDr. Peter Hulla was re-appointed as Director of the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic for a five-year term in accordance with the Act. 548/2003 Coll. on Judicial Academy.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Visegrad academies prepared a project on Judiciary and Protection of Victims, co-founded by the European Commission.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

29-30 June: Protection of most vulnerable victims in the criminal proceedings - assessing the special needs of vulnerable victims, addressing their needs, respect for human rights - ECHR Case Law, applying of EU tools, representation of the minor victims in criminal proceeding, comparative approach.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

9-10 March 2015: EU Family Law - Core topic: Cross-border divorce within the EU, Hearing of the child and taking of evidence. Additionally, the 11-12 May 2015 seminar: Professional ethics of judges and prosecutors, realised with cooperation of experts from Visegrad Academies and ENM.



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA MINISTRY OF JUSTICE JUDICAL TRAINING CENTRE

SLOVENIA THE JUDICIAL TRAINING CENTRE

REFORMS/CHANGES:

The new Director of Judicial Training Centre, High Court judge Tadeja Jelovšek, PhD, started performing her function in September 2015.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Cooperation with the ERA in the framework of the project «Using EU civil justice instruments» and Council of Europe (HELP program).

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

Meeting of the Minister of Justice, Goran Klemenčič, LL.M., with EJTN Secretary General, Mr. Wojciech Postulski on the occasion of EJTN Working Group's Exchange Programme meeting in Liubliana (in October 2015).

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Training course on EU Family Law (Brussels IIa), a project cofinanced by the EU.



SPAIN CENTRE FOR LEGAL STUDIES

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

23.06.2015 was the closing ceremony of the prosecutors training period, presided over by the Minister of Justice, the General Prosecutor of the State and the Director of CEJ. 20-22.04.2015 marked the celebration of the 10th General Assembly of RECAMPI (Network for the Training of Iberoamerican Public Ministries).

REFORMS/CHANGES:

Design and development of the Action Plan 2015 to establish the guidelines of action in all the working areas.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS.

Key partnerships within networks include EJTN, REAFJ (Euro-Arab Network of Judicial Training), RECAMPI and HELP program. With Bulgaria's NIJ, the EU Project «Increasing capacity and efficiency of jurisdiction via training». With ENG-France, the EU Project «European Judicial Training for Court Staff and Bailiffs». Other partnerships include with ERA and the Spanish Judicial School of Spain.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

15-17.04.2015, the conference of counter-terrorism. 26-27.05.2015, the General Assembly of REAFJ. 12.12.2015, the ERA Governing board. 29-30.12.2015, the EC Conference «European Judicial Training for Court Staff and Bailiffs». Additionally, the reception of delegations from Albania, Egypt, France, Austria, Uzbekistan and Mozambique.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

Specialised «Focusing on counter terrorism» study visit in the Audiencia Nacional, an exchange among CEJ-EJ of trainee judges and prosecutors and various EJTN seminars (criminal justice, linguistics, counter-terrorism and Catalogue+).



SPAIN THE SPANISH JUDICIAL SCHOOL

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

The most important date for the Judicial School is the date at which trainee judges officially finish their training period and are invested with the power to adjudicate in an official ceremony presided by his Majesty the King of Spain, the Minister of Justice and the President of the Spanish Supreme Court and President of the General Council for the Judiciary, which was on July 14, 2015.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

EJTN, Network of Latin-American Judicial Schools (RIAEJ), International Organization for Judicial Training (IOJT) and Réseau Euro-Arabe de Formation Judiciaire. The Spanish Judicial School is presently chairing this organisation.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

The Final Conference of "Euromed justice III".



SWFDFN COURTS OF SWEDEN JUDICIAL TRAINING **ACADEMY**

SWEDISH PROSECUTION SERVICE



UK ENGLAND AND WALES - THE JUDICIAL COLLEGE

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

The Judicial College has executed its first 3-year Strategic Plan. The College Board has approved the next 3-year plan.

REFORMS/CHANGES:

The core reforms planned for the next period are to create a College Faculty, to invest extensively in e-Learning and to increase our international work in particular in the Western Balkans and the Far East.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

The College will be a core partner in the training programme for members of the new European Patents Court and the EU sponsored Training Programme on Counter-Terrorism and Radicalization. The College will also continue to run its highly-successful, distinguished speakers programme at locations across the United Kingdom.



UK NORTHERN IRELAND – JUDICIAL STUDIES BOARD



UK SCOTLAND - JUDICIAL INSTITUTE FOR SCOTLAND

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

By the end of 2015 the Judicial Institute, which replaced the Judicial Studies Committee, will have been operating for three years. We have made great progress.

REFORMS/CHANGES:

During 2015 we have developed and radically improved our online learning and communications platform, the Judicial Hub. We have also made progress towards developing a blended learning programme.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS:

Our key partners remain those institutions with whom we work on a daily basis - the Scottish Court and Tribunal Service, Judicial Office and the Scottish Government. In 2010 a partnership was agreed with the National Judicial Institute of Canada allowing an exchange of information and experience.

HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS:

In October 2015 the Director travelled to Bosnia to receive the Crystal Scales of Justice Prize for innovation, presented by the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ). The innovation which won the Prize was the Judicial Hub.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITY WITH EU ADDED VALUE:

In December the Director travelled to Strasbourg to make a presentation to a full meeting of CEPEJ in relation to the Judicial Hub.

EJTN OBSERVERS

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA PUBLIC INSTITUTION CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL AND PROSECUTORIAL TRAINING OF THE FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL AND PROSECUTORIAL TRAINING OF REPUBLIKA **SRPSKA**



FSTONIA OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL

The Office of the Prosecutor General is actively participating in international cooperation in fighting against crime. In everyday work, the most frequent cooperation is with The European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit (Eurojust).

Estonian prosecutors participate in different high-level meetings. The Prosecutor General of the Republic of Estonia actively participates in Eurojust's Consultative Forum, Network of Public Prosecutors or equivalent institutions at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union and in the Network of the Prosecutors General of the Baltic Sea States. Besides that, the Prosecutor General also takes part in the annual meeting of IAP (International Association of Prosecutors).

Regarding the regional cooperation, the Estonian Prosecutor's office is also a member of ENPRO Network (Network of Prosecutors on Environmental Crime in the Baltic Sea Region). The Estonian Prosecutor's office is the member of the European Judicial Network and participates in the working groups of OHIM (Office for Harmonization of the Internal Market).

In everyday work, the Estonian Prosecutor's office actively cooperates with its neighbouring countries and organises meetings between different specialised groups of prosecutors (for example, regular round tables between Estonian and Finnish prosecutors dealing with drug crimes and organised crime). In 2015, the Estonian Prosecutor's office held a meeting between the Prosecutor Generals of the Baltic States. Regarding drug crimes, the Estonian Prosecutor's office also regularly takes part in the POMPIDOU group (Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs) meetings.

In 2015, the Estonian Prosecutor's office organised a study visit to the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Ireland to contribute to the cooperation between the two countries.

LITHUANIA PROSECUTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE



FYROM - MACEDONIA ACADEMY FOR JUDGES AND PUBLIC **PROSECUTORS**

The Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors "Pavel Satev" commenced with operations on 22.11.2016. On 22.11.2016, the Academy will mark 10 years of its successful operation and efficient realization of the legally foreseen competences. Other important dates throughout the year 2015 are the following:

- 12.02.2015 adoption of new Law on the Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors:
- 05.11.2015 and 31.12.2015 adoption of modifications and amendments to the Law on Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors:
- 09.11.2015 published announcement for admission of candidates in the VI generation of initial training; and,
- 18, 22 and 24.12.2015 final exam of the V generation of the initial training.

With the new Law on Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors ("Official Gazette of RM" number 20/2015, 192/2015, 231/2015), modifications were made with regards to the terms for selecting the president of the Academy, whereas the exam for the director position was introduced, applying accordingly to the members of the Management Board and the Program Council of the Academy. The novelty regarding the aforementioned bodies is the obligation for passing psychological and integrity tests and possessing a certificate for knowledge of one of the EU languages. The same term is introduced for the Academy lecturers as well. The training focus throughout the year 2015 was put on the practical part of the trainings, via presentations accompanied with simultaneous discussion, analysis of cases of the court practice and resolving case studies.

The key partners with whom the Academy cooperated throughout the year 2015 are the following: Embassy and Judicial Academy of France; Judicial Academy of Turkey; British Embassy; Council of Europe; OSCE Monitoring Mission in Skopje - Rule of Law Department; German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; European Centre for Judges and Lawyers; European Institute of Public Administration; German Corporation for International Cooperation; Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs in the US Embassy in the Republic; USAID; UNHCR; UNDOC; WIPO; and, others.

With reference to the issue regarding EU-supported activities, throughout the year 2015, the Academy took part in the following projects. In cooperation with EIPA, the project for strengthening the judiciary was implemented within which trainings were realised for the court and public prosecution office of EU law area. The IPA 2010 Project was implemented in order to strengthen the judiciary capacities, with special focus, inter alia, on the Academy for efficient performance of the tasks related to the implementation of the adopted novelties within the legal frame. Within the aforementioned, the Academy was included in the part for improvement of the trainings via assessment of the needs for conducting the trainings, preparation of lecturing plans and programmes and performance of other activities in that respect.

Two consultations and two workshops were realised so far within this project. The second IPA Project 2013-2015 was implemented for the realisation of two components: strengthening the capacities of the public prosecution, judiciary police and other bodies taking part in the criminal procedure in the direction of the implementation of the new law on criminal procedure; and, increasing the efficiency in the implementation of the criminal-legal frame via assessment of its impact and ensuring coherence between the new laws.

9 consultations in total were organised within this project. With the financial support of TAIEX instrument, 6 consultations were realised throughout the year 2015. Within the Twinning Project with Croatia and Latvia, whose purpose is strengthening the rule of law, the Academy is included in Component 2, whereby in November 2015 the director of the Academy realised a meeting with the representatives of Latvia and Croatia, on which it was agreed that trainings from the area of the EU and ECHR law area are to be realized throughout the year 2016.

Throughout the year 2015, the Academy organised 5 trainings within the WINPRO II EU Project whose purpose is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the competent institutions in dealing with transnational organised crime and corruption.

MONTENEGRO JUDICIAL TRAINING CENTRE / CENTRE FOR TRAINING IN JUDICIARY AND STATE PROSECUTION SERVICE

In the course of 2015, (not counting the month of August, in which activities are not carried out due to the annual leave season of the judiciary and collective vacation of the Centre's staff), the Centre conducted 97 activities, which were implemented as follows:

- 65 activities related to continuing training of Montenegrin judges and prosecutors (conferences, seminars, round tables, workshops, e-learning courses, etc.);
- 11 two-day long modules of a programme on training judges and prosecutors with experience of less than 3 vears (implemented as follows: V modules on civil law area; V modules on criminal law and module on ethics and judicial skills);
- 6 three-day long modules of a programme on training skills - Train the trainers (TOT) (through IPA EUROL Project "Rule of Law" finansed by EU, and implemented by the Northern Ireland Cooperation Overseas (NI-CO) from UK, in partnership with the T.M.C. Asser Institute from The Netherlands);
- 15 activities related to international cooperation (8 activities on representing the Centre at the international and regional level, as well as the participation of our judges and prosecutors in Montenegro-external activities of international and regional character);
- A ceremony of delivering certificates to the participants of the 8th generation on an initial training programme held during 2014;
- Continuing on with the distribution of the quarterly Legal Bulletins - Human Rights in Europe to all Montenegrin courts and prosecutors' offices. The Bulletin is a source of abstracts of the latest decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, including comments.

The Centre conducted activities in the course of 2015 by using the funds approved from the budget of the Supreme Court of Montenegro, and in cooperation and within the support of relevant international organisations.

Continuing Training Programmes were conducted mainly with the cooperation and support of domestic and international organisations that have recognised the Centre as one of its strategic partners. These are as follows: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) - Mission to Montenegro, U.S. Embassy in Podgorica - Office of the Resident Legal Adviser; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Office Montenegro; UNICEF Montenegro; European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) from Luxembourg; German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation (IRZ Foundation); AIRE Centre from London (Advice on Individual Rights in Europe); GIZ (Regional Fund for South East Europe): HELP Programme CoE: EBRD: IDLO from Rome; U.K. Embassy in Montenegro; The Netherlands

Embassy in Montenegro; UNDOC; TAIEX; Centre for Democracy and Human Rights (CEDEM); Ministry of Justice of Montenegro; Human Resources Management Authority of Montenegro; Department for Gender Equality of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights; Police academy; Association of judges; and, others.

As a conducted analysis showed, the organisational position of the Judicial Training Centre as a part of the Supreme Court was not appropriate, the strategic objective of the Judicial Reform Strategy 2014-2018 and Action Plan for Chapter 23 were aimed at amending the existing legal framework and the transformation of the Centre into an independent and self-sustaining institution.

Having that in mind, entering into force of the Law on the Centre for training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service (17.10.2015), the Centre became an independent organisation, as a legal entity named the Centre for training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service. The Minister of Justice announced the composition of the Steering Committee of the Centre on 16 November 2015, and the first constitutive session of the Committee was held on 30 November 2015. The composition of the Program Council of the Centre was established at the session of the Steering Committee held on 14 December 2015. With this, bodies of the Centre are established in terms proscribed in Art. 55 of the Law.

The procedure of the selection of the Director of the Secretariat of the Centre, as made by public announcement, which the Human Resources Management Authority published on 19 December 2015, is underway.

Pursuant to Article 60 of the Centre, the Centre's Steering Committee is obliged, within 30 days from the election of the Director of the Secretariat of the Centre, to pass the act on internal organisation and jobs description.

According to the Art. 29, The Secretariat of the Centre has organisational units for:

- 1. Initial training;
- 2. Continuous training;
- 3. Finance and logistics; and,
- 4. International cooperation.

This change shall bring the need for providing the adequate spatial and technical pre-conditions for the operation of the Centre, a strong human resources policy with increasing number of employees, improvement of administrative and human resources at the Centre and the provision of necessary funds for the implementation of programmes of initial and continuous education

The transformation of the Centre into a financiallyindependent and self-sustaining institution should lead to and secure continuous training of the judiciary (especially on new legislation and EU law), but also have capacities to support future judges and prosecutors, and preparing materials for education and scientific publications.

Further capacity building programmes to ensure the sustainability of reforms of such an institution would be needed.

NORWAY NORWEGIAN COURTS ADMINISTRATION



SERBIA JUDICIAL ACADEMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF **SERBIA**

February 2001 witnessed the establishment of the Judicial Training Center, and January 1, 2010, saw the transformation of the JTC into the Judicial Academy.

The transformation into the Judicial Academy brought new competences to the Academy's tasks, including the selection and training of future judges and prosecutors, training for new legal professions and training for judicial

The Academy maintains key partnerships with the following: the Delegation of the EU; numerous international organisations (OSCE, USAID, UN organisations, AIRE center London, CoE, Asser Institute The Hague, EIPA Luxemburg, etc.); and, various embassies, professional associations and relevant governmental bodies.

Several high-level meetings were held. In spring 2015, there was the meeting with directors of regional judicial training institutions, with the aim to strengthen cooperation. In November 2015, there was a reception on the occasion of amendments to the Law on the Judicial Academy, which drew the presence of the highest governmental and international officials. In November 2015, there was the visit of the Academy delegation to the EJTN with a view to enhance methodology and evaluation of ToT.

A flagship activity with EU added value was the participation of the Academy in negotiations on opening of the Chapter 23 and 24 with relation to the EU association

SWITZERLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE CONTINUOUS TRAINING OF SWISS JUDGES

TURKFY **ACADEMY OF JUSTICE**

EJTN PARTNERS



European Commission

- Implementation of the grant
- Training Offer on Countering Terrorism and Radicalisation to Violent Extremism
- Study visits (Brussels)



Court of Justice of the European Union

- Long Term Exchanges
- Study Visits



European Court of Human Rights

- Long Term Exchanges
- Study Visits
- Seminar on Human Rights



Council of Europe

- Study Visits
- Help in 28



European Police College

• EJTN-CEPOL-JIT Network Secretariat Cooperation on Joint Investigation Team Seminars



European Asylum Support Office (EASO)

• Cooperation within Court and Tribunal Network



Eurojust

- Long Term Exchanges
- Study Visits
- International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters in Practice: EAW and MLA simulations project



Genocide Network - European Network for investigation and prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes

• Seminar entitled Prosecuting and judging core international crimes within the EU. Combating impunity.



Joint Investigation Teams (JIT) Network

• EJTN-CEPOL-JIT Network Secretariat Cooperation on Joint **Investigation Team Seminars**



Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)

- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4
- Conference on Leadership



Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union (ACA-Europe)

• Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4



European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters (EJN-Civil)

• Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4



European Judicial Network

- International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters in Practice: EAW and MLA simulations project
- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4
- Cooperation on linguistic training for EJN contact points



International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ)

- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4
- Seminar on EU Asylum Law
- Specialised judicial exchanges



Association of European Competition Law Judges (AECJL)

- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4
- Specialised judicial exchanges



European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME)

- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4
- Cooperation on seminar on mediation in administrative law



The European Association of Labour Court **Judges**

- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4
- Specialised judicial exchanges



European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE)

- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4
- Specialised judicial exchanges



European Network of Prosecutors for the **Environment (ENPE)**

- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4
- Specialised judicial exchanges

Network of Public Prosecutors or equivalent institutions at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the **European Union (NADAL)**

• Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot Project Lot 4



Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)

- Cooperation on Judicial Training on Alternative Dispute Resolution in Administrative Law
- Cooperation on Judicial Training in Conflicts of Norms in the Application of Fundamental Rights



International Association for European Cooperation on Justice and Home Affairs (EUCOJUST)

• Cooperation on Pharmacrime 4 project

Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology on Cultural Diversity and Judiciary Practice in Europe

- Cooperation on a study on Cultural Diversity and Judiciary Practice in Europe
- Survey on National Training Courses for Judges on Cultural Diversity

EJTN GOVERNANCE

DECENTRALISED PLANNING AND **EXECUTION PRINCIPLES**

Based on a decentralised planning and execution of its activities, EJTN relies on its Members, Observers and Partners to facilitate and enhance its training offering.

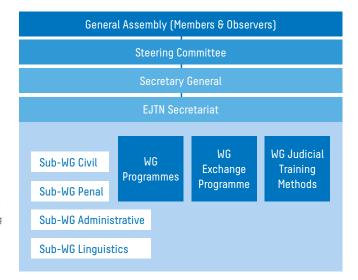
The decentralised planning concept means that every activity to be carried out within the EJTN annual training programme should firstly be identified as corresponding to an actual training need of the European judiciary by EJTN Members of the appropriate Working Group or Sub-Working Group. In addition, it also signifies that the activity in question will be soundly designed and structured, relying on the expertise provided by several EJTN Members.

The decentralised execution concept envisages ensuring that every EJTN Member is entitled to present its candidacy to host any of the training activities or any other EJTN event included in its programme, if it so wishes. This concept encourages a favourable, widespread distribution of training within the EJTN framework among all EU countries.

EJTN'S STATUTORY BODIES AND **GOVERNANCE**

EJTN's statutory bodies and governance promote internal democracy and stimulate cooperation.

- The General Assembly comprises representatives from all Member institutions, and meets annually
- The Steering Committee comprises 9 elected Members and meets five times annually
- The Secretary General, a seconded judge or prosecutor, directs daily operations
- The Working Groups (WG) and Sub Working-Groups (Sub-WG) plan and implement programmes within their fields
- EJTN works with 35 Member institutions from the 28 EU Member States as well as numerous Observer and Partner institutions



EJTN's Steering Committee, Working Groups and Sub-Working Groups are made up of the below EJTN Members.

EJTN'S STEERING COMMITTEE

The French National School for the Judiciary (ENM) (France) - Chair



Members:

- Federal Ministry of Justice (Austria)
- Belgian Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
- Academy of European Law (ERA)
- Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
- Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (The Netherlands)
- Centre For Judicial Studies (Portugal)
- Romanian National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
- Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)

EJTN'S WORKING GROUP JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS

Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (The Netherlands) - Convener



Members:

- Judicial Academy (Croatia)
- The Danish Court Administration (Denmark)
- Academy of European Law (ERA)
- The French National School for the Judiciary (ENM) (France)
- Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
- The School for the Judiciary (Italy)
- Latvian Judicial Training Centre (Latvia)
- Norwegian Courts Administration (Norway) Observer
- Centre for Judicial Studies (Portugal)
- Romanian National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
- The Judicial Training Centre (Slovenia)
- Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)
- The Judicial College (UK England & Wales)

EJTN'S WORKING GROUP EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Belgian Judicial Training Institute (Belgium) - Convener



Members:

- Federal Ministry of Justice (Austria)
- National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
- Supreme Court (Estonia)
- The French National School for the Judiciary (ENM) (France)
- Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
- The School for the Judiciary (Italy)
- The National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland)
- Centre for Judicial Studies (Portugal)
- Romanian National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
- The Judicial Training Centre (Slovenia)
- Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)
- The Spanish Judicial School (Spain)

EJTN'S WORKING GROUP PROGRAMMES

Academy of European Law (ERA) - Convener



Members:

- Federal Ministry of Justice (Austria)
- Belgian Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
- The Czech Judicial Academy (Czech Republic)
- Ministry of Justice (Finland)
- The French National School for the Judiciary (France)
- Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
- The School for the Judiciary (Italy)
- Latvian Judicial Training Centre (Latvia)
- National Courts Administration (Lithuania)
- Judicial Studies Committee (Malta)
- Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (The Netherlands)
- National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland)
- Centre for Judicial Studies (Portugal)
- Romanian National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
- The Judicial Training Centre (Slovenia)
- Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)
- The Spanish Judicial School (Spain)

EJTN'S SUB-WORKING GROUP PENAL

National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland) - Convener



Members:

- Federal Ministry of Justice (Austria)
- Belgian Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
- The French National School for the Judiciary (France)
- Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection in coordination with the Bavarian Ministry of Justice (Germany)
- National Courts Administration (Lithuania)
- Judicial Studies Committee (Malta)
- Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)

EJTN'S SUB-WORKING GROUP CIVIL

The Spanish Judicial School (Spain) - Convener



Members:

- Belgian Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
- The Czech Judicial Academy (Czech Republic)
- Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
- Academy of European Law (ERA)
- The School for the Judiciary (Italy)
- National Courts Administration (Lithuania)
- Judicial Studies Committee (Malta)
- Centre for Judicial Studies (Portugal)
- Romanian National Institute for the Magistracy (Romania)

EJTN'S SUB-WORKING GROUP LINGUISTICS

The Spanish Judicial School (Spain) - Convener



Members:

- The Czech Judicial Academy (Czech Republic)
- The French National School for the Judiciary (France)
- Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
- The School for the Judiciary (Italy)
- Latvian Judicial Training Centre (Latvia)
- Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (The Netherlands)
- Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)

EJTN'S SUB-WORKING GROUP ADMINISTRATIVE

Romanian Institute of Magistracy (Romania) - Convener



Members:

- Federal Ministry of Justice (Austria)
- Academy of European Law (ERA)
- Ministry of Justice (Finland)
- The Judicial Training Centre (Slovenia)
- National Courts Administration (Lithuania)
- The National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland)
- Centre for Judicial Studies (Portugal)

EJTN TEAM

Secretary General

Judge Wojciech Postulski

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EJTN TEAM



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Quentin Balthazart Head of Office

Giacomo Dozzo Junior Project Manager



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EXCHANGE PROGRAMME FOR JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES





OVERVIEW

By enhancing the European judges' and prosecutors' practical knowledge of other judicial systems, European Union law and fundamental rights standards, the EJTN Exchange Programme for Judicial Authorities aims at developing a European judicial culture based on mutual trust between judicial authorities belonging to a common area of justice.

The Exchange Programme for Judicial Authorities is the EJTN's flagship activity. It offers short-term exchanges (one or two weeks) in the courts/prosecution offices and judicial training institutions of the EU Member States as well as study visits and long-term training periods in European courts, EU institutions and agencies. It is a unique, handson training experience that allows judges and prosecutors to directly witness the daily work of their European counterparts, to exchange best practices, to enhance their professional network and to improve their language skills.

A PROUD 10-YEAR LEGACY OF JUDICIAL **EXCHANGES!**

In 2015, EJTN proudly celebrated 10 years of the Exchange Programme for Judicial Authorities. This 10th anniversary was an occasion to gather all of the Exchange Programme's key players - national contact points and partners, previous programme participants, Presidents of national courts and representatives from hosting institutions - at a two-day event to take stock of the past decade's achievements and chart the course for the future. Building on 10 years of practice and experience, the participants reflected on how to continue to further enhance and diversify the training activities made available to the European judiciary through the Exchange Programme.

AN INCREASED AND DIVERSIFIED OFFERING

The number of beneficiaries and participating countries as well as the types of activities offered continued to grow in 2015. Alongside the general short-term exchanges hosted in the courts and prosecutors' offices of the EU Member States, the EU judiciary was offered an array of new exchanges: specialised exchanges in the areas of labour law, environmental law, competition law and refugee law; bilateral exchanges between courts; and, professional exchanges and study visits focusing on counter-terrorism issues.

RESULTS

The number of participants in the EJTN Exchange Programme increased by 12% in 2015 compared to the corresponding figure of the previous year. A total of 1815 judges, prosecutors, judicial trainers as well as future judges and prosecutors from 26 EU Member States benefited from the programme.

of participants



of exchanges/study visits



of Member States



DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

The EJTN Exchange Programme continued its expansion in 2015 with the implementation of an ever-growing number of judicial exchanges and study visits. New, more specialised exchanges were also developed for the first time to better meet the needs of the judiciary of the EU Member States.

In 2015, participation in the general **short-term exchanges** - the core activity of the Exchange Programme - hosted in the courts and prosecutors' offices of the EU Member States continued to increase with a record-breaking number of 863 participants. Depending on the language of the host country and the linguistic skills of participants, these exchanges are organised either as individual exchanges, where the visiting judge/prosecutor shadows a counterpart in his/her daily work, or as group exchanges, where a group of judges and/or prosecutors from several countries receives an introductory course to the judicial system of the host country followed by a practical programme in a court/prosecutor's office. The average length of these exchanges is two weeks, but some are also organised as one-week exchanges.

To complement general exchanges and better meet the needs of the EU judiciary, EJTN introduced new types of exchanges in the courts/prosecution offices of the EU Member States in 2015.

Specialised exchanges were developed in the areas of environmental law, refugee law, labour law and competition law in close cooperation with the EJTN partner networks/ associations that have signed a memorandum of understanding with the EJTN in the framework of the pilot project on European judicial training. These specialised exchanges proved to be extremely popular and are due to be repeated and extended in 2016.

In the framework of the EJTN training programme on Counter Terrorism and Radicalisation, professional exchanges for experienced counter-terrorism judges and prosecutors as well as study visits for non-specialised criminal judges/prosecutors were organised for the first time in 2015 in the specialised counter-terrorism units of 6 EU Member States (Austria, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden and the UK).

Another first in 2015 was the implementation of bilateral exchanges between courts/prosecutors' offices of the EU Member States. These exchanges involved groups of judges/prosecutors from the same court visiting a court of another EU Member State for one week on the basis of a bilateral agreement between both courts. A total of 10 EU Member States took part in this pilot experience, which will be repeated and enhanced in 2016.

Furthermore, the EJTN Exchange Programme continued offering short-term exchanges specifically dedicated to judicial trainers. These exchanges were an opportunity for the beneficiaries to learn more about the best practices in the training of judges and prosecutors identified by EJTN in the framework of the pilot project on European judicial training.

Altogether, a total of 982 judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers took part in the short-term exchanges organised by EJTN in 2015.

Training activities offered in European courts, EU institutions and agencies also continued to grow in 2015.

Judges and prosecutors from an ever-increasing number of Member States (16) took part in long-term training periods at the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) and Eurojust, which allowed them to benefit from an in-depth immersion into the work of the host institution.

In parallel, the number of participants in the 2-5-day **study** visits organised by EJTN in the above institutions as well as in the European Union institutions in Brussels (specifically the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Anti-Fraud Office) surged by 50% with a total of 396 participants in 2015. The aim of the study visits is to provide beneficiaries with an insight into the host institution's functioning and procedures. The study visit at Eurojust was resumed in 2015 for a wider range of criminal judges and prosecutors.

Finally, future and early-career judges/prosecutors from the EU Member States could again benefit in 2015 from a unique training experience by participating in the AIAKOS Programme, a specific programme dedicated to the European future judiciary. Launched as a pilot programme in 2013, the AIAKOS Programme allows future and early career judges and prosecutors to take part in judicial exchanges for two weeks: one week in another EU Member State and one week at home with foreign trainees. In 2015, the AIAKOS Programme allowed 401 participants from 17 EU Member States to benefit from an exchange experience in another country.

The training activities offered under the Exchange Programme 2015 were highly appreciated by the participants - who all wanted the continuation of this programme.

EJTN's Exchange Programme team and its national contact points in 32 participating institutions across Europe look forward to further boosting participation in the various exchanges and study visits offered in the framework of the EJTN Exchange Programme for the benefit of the judiciary of the EU Member States.

TOPIC TABLE

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
Short-term exchanges in the courts/prosecution offices and judicial training institutions of the EU Member States	Federal Ministry of Justice, Austria	
	Association of administrative judges, Austria	
	Belgian Judicial Training Institute, Belgium	
	National Institute of Justice, Bulgaria	
	Judicial Academy, Croatia	
	The Czech Judicial Academy, Czech Republic	
	Supreme Court of Estonia, Estonia	
	Office of the Prosecutor General, Estonia	
	Ministry of Justice, Finland	
	The French National School for the Judiciary (ENM), France	
	Council of State, France	
	Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, Germany	
	National Office for the Judiciary, Hungary	
	Office of the Prosecutor General, Hungary	
	The School for the Judiciary, Italy	
	Presidency Council of Administrative Justice, Italy	Throughout the year
	Latvian Judicial Training Centre, Latvia	
	National Courts Administration, Lithuania	
	General Prosecutor's Office, Luxembourg	
	Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary, The Netherlands	
	The National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution, Poland	
	Center for Judicial Studies, Portugal	
	Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, Romania	
	Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic	
	The Judicial Training Centre, Slovenia	
	The Spanish Judicial School, Spain	
	Center for Legal Studies, Spain	
	Courts of Sweden Judicial Training Academy, Sweden	
	The Judicial College, England and Wales, UK	
	Judicial Institute for Scotland, Scotland, UK	
	Academy of European Law (ERA)	
ong-term training periods	Court of Justice of the European Union, Luxembourg	
t the CJEU, the ECHR and Eurojust	European Court of Human Rights, France	Throughout the year
arojast	Eurojust, The Netherlands	
Study visits at the CJEU	Court of Justice of the European Union, Luxembourg	25-26 March 2015 11-12 June 2015 14-15 September 2015 18-19 November 2015

Study visits at the ECHR	European Court of Human Rights, France	30 March-1 April 2015 1-3 June 2015 14-16 September 2015 2-4 November 2015 30 November - 2 December 2015
Study visits at Eurojust	Eurojust, The Netherlands	16-20 March 2015
Study visits in EU institutions	European Commission, Council of the EU, EU Parliament and OLAF	4-6 May 2015 12-14 October 2015
AIAKOS Programme	Federal Ministry of Justice, Austria	
	Belgian Judicial Training Institute, Belgium	
	National Institute for Justice, Bulgaria	
	Judicial Academy, Croatia	
	The Czech Judicial Academy, Czech Republic	
	Ministry of Justice, Finland	
	The French National School for the Judiciary (ENM), France	
	Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, Germany	
	National School of Judges, Greece	16-20 November 2015 30 November -
	National Office for the Judiciary, Hungary	4 December 2015
	Office of the Prosecutor General, Hungary	
	The School for the Judiciary, Italy	
	Training and Study Center for the Judiciary, The Netherlands	
	The National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution, Poland	
	Center for Judicial Studies, Portugal	
	Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, Romania	
	Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic	
	The Judicial Training Centre, Slovenia	



LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME





OVERVIEW

EJTN is focusing special attention to designing linguistic projects for the training of the EU judiciary in legal English and legal French. EU judges and prosecutors benefit from EJTN's high-quality training programmes, which are supported by the European Commission and the various European national training institutions.

Each year since 2011, several legal language seminars on judicial cooperation in criminal/civil matters have been organised in various EU Member States.

The courses aim at developing both the legal and linguistics skills of the participants by combining legal information and language exercises in a practical and dynamic way.

They aim also at creating the conditions for establishing direct contacts between legal practitioners of the different EU Member States in order to promote a common European legal culture.

INNOVATIVE FIRSTS IN 2015: NEW SEMINARS. TRAINING RESOURCES AND LEARNING METHODS

EJTN's 2015 Linguistics Programme offered a rich array of training opportunities for Europe's judiciary. This offering included, besides the highly acclaimed linguistic training on judicial cooperation in criminal/civil matters, linguistics training in human rights and eLearning training modules.

In 2015, the Linguistics Programme developed, for the first time, two legal language seminars on the vocabulary of human rights in EU law, based on the successful methodology and training formula of previous linguistics courses.

Also a "blended" learning approach for its criminal law seminar series was designed, in order to supplement the seminars with pre-classroom learning activities, offered on EJTN's virtual learning platform. The modules offered participants a genuinely interactive learning experience with creative learning activities.

In addition to the seminars, the Linguistics Programme delivered an updated Handbook addressing both the English and French vocabulary associated with criminal law. The Handbook, produced under the auspices of foremost criminal law experts and linguists, is a comprehensive look at language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in criminal matters. Definitions, exercises and examinations of real cases make the Handbook an invaluable, hands-on resource for any judge, prosecutor or trainer involved within linguistics endeavours. It is available in pdf format from EJTN's website, within the Methodologies & Resources section

RESULTS

More than 300 European legal practitioners from over 20 EU Member States received training in 2015 under the auspices of EJTN's Linguistics Programme within the civil, criminal and human rights fields.

of participants 325

of events



A NEW EDITION OF THE LINGUISTICS CONFERENCE

The second edition of the *Linguistics conference for the* European Judiciary - Breaking down language barriers II took place in December 2015. Coordinators of legal language training programmes and EU legal and linguistics experts met and discussed the benefits and needs of learning a foreign language and ways of dissemination and sharing of good practices on legal language training.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

EJTN constantly strives to widen its linguistics portfolio of training opportunities and introduce new resources and methods for the benefit of Europe's judiciary.

A record number of 6 face-to-face linguistics seminars of a duration of 4.5 days each have been implemented by EJTN in 2015. Each seminar has gathered together some 50 judges and prosecutors from 16 to 20 EU Member States.

The milestone of 1000 judges and prosecutors trained in linguistics activities since the implementation of the first linguistic seminar (that took place in February 2011) was reached in 2015.

The objectives of the seminars have been established as follows:

- To improve participants' linguistic skills (oral and written) in order to facilitate direct contacts and communication between judicial authorities and to enhance mutual trust
- To master the specialised vocabulary related to the field addressed
- To familiarise participants with the various legal instruments in the field of judicial cooperation in civil

matters, criminal matters and human rights in Europe, as well as to provide familiarisation with the online tools available on the Internet

• To develop the general knowledge of legal systems in the EU Member States

As in previous years, participants in the 2015 seminars were divided into four small groups, three held in English and one carried out in French. Each group was trained for the entire week's seminar by a team composed of a linguistics expert and a legal expert acting simultaneously.

The courses combined theoretical and practical sessions of the four basic language skills: reading; writing; speaking; and, listening - all within legal terminology.

The following legal topics constituted the basis of the discussion and training of the two face-to-face seminars entitled Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in civil matters:

- Jurisdiction, recognition and execution of judgments in civil and commercial matters and the Judicial Atlas
- The European order for payment procedure
- Service of documents and the taking of evidence
- Legal aid and family law and minors

The following legal topics constituted the basis of the discussion and training of the two face-to-face seminars entitled Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in criminal matters:

- Mutual legal assistance on the gathering of evidence and the seizing of the assets of the crime
- The European Arrest Warrant
- Freezing of assets and evidence
- Execution of judicial sentences



The pre-face-to-face "blended" learning modules were prepared by linguistics experts for the participants in the two face-to-face seminars entitled *Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in criminal matters.*These modules were developed to allow participants to prepare for the face-to-face seminars by getting familiar, in an interactive way, with the level of the course and relevant elements of its content.

Parts of one of the seminars on Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in criminal matters have been turned into on-demand podcasts and are available from EJTN's website at: http://www.ejtn.eu/About/Linguistics-Project/

The following legal topics constituted the basis of the discussion and training of the two face-to-face seminars entitled *Vocabulary of Human Rights' EU Law*:

- Recent relevant jurisprudence on Article 6 of ECHR
- Rights to a fair trial in the European Convention of Human Rights and in the EU
- Conflicting rights: freedom of expression, private life, freedom of religion. Hate speech
- Conflicting rights in the specific context of the Internet
- Current challenges of immigration and asylum. Scope of protection provided by EU law and ECHR. Migratory flows, Dublin regulation and detention conditions

The handbook is a compilation of the most relevant training materials, in English and French, used in EJTN courses. It is addressed not only to participants, but also to all European judges and public prosecutors interested in developing their linguistic skills.

The practical, useful tool is available in pdf format from EJTN's website, within the *Methodologies & Resources* section.

Furthermore, a printed version of the new handbook has been mailed to each of EJTN's Members.

A second edition of the *Linguistics Conference for the European judiciary - Breaking down language barriers II* was arranged at the end of the year, and coordinators of legal language training programmes and EU legal and linguistics experts were invited to:

- Disseminate and share good practices
- Discuss benefits and needs of learning a foreign language
- · Analyse needs for the future.



NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
Linguistics seminar Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in civil matters	Belgian Judicial Training Institute, Belgium	23-27 March 2015
Linguistics seminar Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in civil matters	Hungarian Academy of Justice, Hungary	20-24 April 2015
Linguistics seminar Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in criminal matters	French National School for the Judiciary (ENM), France	18-22 May 2015
Linguistics seminar Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in criminal matters	The Czech Judicial Academy, Czech Republic	17-21 August 2015
Linguistics seminar Language training on the vocabulary of Human Rights' EU Law	Centre for Legal Studies, Spain	5-9 October 2015
Linguistics seminar Language training on the vocabulary of Human Rights' EU Law	German Judicial Academy, Germany	2-6 November 2015
Linguistics Conference for the European judiciary – Breaking down language barriers II	The Spanish Judicial School, Spain	3-4 December 2015



First EJTN Linguistics Human Rights seminar in Madrid, Spain

CRIMINAL LAW SEMINARS





OVERVIEW

Mutual trust and confidence form the foundation of an effective application of criminal law within the European Union area. Judicial training within the criminal law field ensures smooth cross-border cooperation, recognition of judgments in criminal matters as well as practitioners' confidence in each other's Criminal justice systems.

CONSOLIDATING TRAINING OF THE PRACTITIONERS IN AN EU AREA OF CRIMINAL LAW

Through the promotion of innovative training models (learn by doing), the Criminal Law Seminars aim at reinforcing a better understanding about the current EU legal framework of criminal law to enable practitioners to cooperate with each other across borders.

Within this context, consolidating training is a major goal that requires providing knowledge, exchanging best practices and promoting mutual confidence between the judicial authorities from all the Member States.

The attendance of participants from several Member States at each of EJTN's Criminal Law Seminars, where good practices are promoted, strengthen trust between judicial authorities and raise awareness of the different criminal legal systems of the Member States.

BUILDING-UP AND REINFORCING PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER EU BODIES AND NETWORKS

The reinforcement of the cooperation between different European bodies and EJTN is the bedrock of projects developed by EJTN in the field of criminal law.

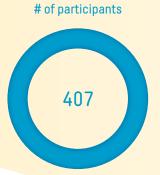
The role of EJN and Eurojust at EJTN seminars is that of main actors that foster judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

The cooperative JITs seminars with CEPOL, and in collaboration with the JITs Network, enable judicial and law enforcement officials to improve cross-border cooperation in complex investigations through a unique training format.

In addition, EJTN and the European Network for investigation and prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes (The Genocide Network) implemented together a successful training programme on core international crimes and its impact in the EU.

RESULTS

The trends in number of judges and prosecutors attending the Criminal Law Seminars reflect the consolidation of the different training events in the EU judicial panorama. Judicial cooperation in criminal matters continues to be an area of interest for practitioners willing to enhance knowledge through a practical and interactive approach in order to improve a common understanding while dealing with cross-border cases in daily praxes.









The different projects implemented in the field of criminal law address those main issues which judges and prosecutors should have to face in daily praxis when working on criminal cases with a cross border dimension. In this regard, each seminar implemented by the Criminal Law Seminars is complementary to the others.

INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL COOPERATION IN CRIMINAL MATTERS: SERIES OF EAWS AND MLA **SIMULATIONS SEMINARS**

The success of the series of seminars implemented by EJTN in previous years allowed its continuity in 2015 where the EU judiciary from 18 Member States acted and compared their criminal legal systems within the framework of EU judicial cooperation, mutual recognition and legal assistance.

The seminars recreated a real environment of judicial cooperation in criminal matters that involved strong interactivity and significant participation with contributions of 3 groups of judges and prosecutors composed of 12-15 practitioners, representing 3 Member States. Practitioners were assisted by representatives from Eurojust and EJN as well as by international experts.

The simulations have been considered by the European Commission as an example of best practice advertised on the e-justice portal.

EU CROSS-BORDER EVIDENCE IN PRACTICE **SEMINARS**

The question of the use and gathering of evidence abroad as well as the problem of its subsequent admissibility in another Member State raised considerable interest

among judges and prosecutors dealing with cross-border investigations and prosecutions.

Problems and legal discussions stressed the differences between national legal systems in terms of admissibility of evidence obtained abroad. However, through judicial training activities, it was considered that, besides the existing differences in legal systems, common principles applying to EU Member States could be reached in order to improve judicial cooperation.

JITS SEMINARS - LEADERSHIP AND **IMPLEMENTATION**

In the framework of a longstanding cooperation with CEPOL since 2010 and in collaboration with the JITs Network Secretariat, EJTN funded the participation of judges and prosecutors from the different Member States to seminars on JITs, aiming at fostering a greater cooperation and information-exchange between judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officials at the EU level.

PROSECUTING AND JUDGING CORE INTERNATIONAL CRIMES WITHIN THE **EU - COMBATING IMPUNITY CONFERENCE**

An international training conference was organised in the framework of cooperation between the European Network for investigation and prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes (The Genocide Network) and the EJTN.

The conference Prosecuting and judging core international crimes within the EU - combating impunity encompassed a comprehensive programme on core international crimes and its impact in the EU.



NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters: series of EAWs and MLA simulations	Centre for Legal Studies, Spain	4-6 March 2015
EU Cross-border evidence in practice	The National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution, Poland	17-18 March 2015
International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters: series of EAWs and MLA simulations	Academy of Justice, Hungary	16-15 April 2015
EU Cross-border evidence in practice	The Spanish Judicial School, Spain	11-12 May 2015
International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters: series of EAWs and MLA simulations	Judicial Training Academy, Sweden	15-17 June 2015
Joint Investigation Teams: Leadership	National Police College, France	15-19 June 2015
International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters: series of EAWs and MLA simulations	Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, Romania	30 September - 2 October 2015
International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters: series of EAWs and MLA simulations	National Institute of Justice, Bulgaria	21-23 October 2015
Joint Investigation Teams: Implementation	Police University College, Finland	5-9 November 2015
EU Cross-border evidence in practice	The School for the Judiciary, Italy	17-18 November 2015
International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters: series of EAWs and MLA simulations	Centre for Judicial Studies, Portugal	23-25 November 2015
Prosecuting and judging core international crimes within the EU. Combating impunity	The Hague Institute for Global Justice, The Netherlands	30 November - 2 December 2015

CIVIL LAW SEMINARS





(îLaw



The EJTN Civil Law Seminars aim to strengthen judicial training in civil justice cooperation among EU professionals. The Civil Law Seminars, launched in 2011, cover a wide range of targeted trainings in a variety of legal fields in civil justice matters.

The Civil Law Seminars aim to improve judicial cooperation in civil law matters and focus on the development of the participating countries' legal systems and judicial culture as well as the main aspects of EU law.

THE CIVIL LAW SUB-WORKING GROUP SEMINARS

The Civil Law Sub-Working Group (SWG) trainings are the result of the expertise and commitment of nine EJTN Member institutions to the development of judicial training in civil law matters across the EU Member States.

The key topics of these seminars are family law, company law, European procedural law and commercial law.

The Civil Law Seminars offer day-and-a-half and two-daylong training activities aimed at judges and prosecutors from across the 28 EU Member States.

RESULTS

The Civil Law Sub-Working Group seminars are an effective way of training EU magistrates and also provide for an excellent platform and opportunity for knowledge exchange.







In 2015, the Civil Law SWG organised a total of five seminars, varying in length between a day-and-a-half and two-days. The group identified key areas as requiring judicial training at the EU level. The trainings were open to magistrates from all 28 EU Member States.

The seminars were attended by a total of 194 EU justice professionals. This number also included the 18 expert speakers selected on the basis of their expertise in the subject matter.

The first Civil Law seminar on European Civil Procedure in Family Law matters (March 2015), held at the Detached Centre of the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic in Omšenie, counted the presence of a total of 46 participants originating from 13 different EU Member States. The training was led by a panel of three expert speakers.

The second event of 2015 was held at The Spanish Judicial School in Barcelona. This seminar was a repetition of the previous successfully implemented *Recast of the Brussels I Regulation* civil law seminar. The event saw the participation of a total of 50 judges and prosecutors, representing 18 EU Member States. The training was led by a panel of 6 expert speakers, including a representative (*Référendaire*) from the Court of Justice of the EU.

The third seminar, run for the first time, concerned the topic of Intellectual Property Law. The training was held at the Romanian National Institute of Magistracy in Bucharest and attracted 46 participants, representing 14 EU Member States.

The fourth seminar on Tort Law was held 22-23 September, 2015 at the Italian School for the Judiciary, in Scandicci, Italy. A total of 48 judges and prosecutors were selected from 13 FU Member States to attend this event.

Finally, the last event of 2015 focused on European Company law and was held at the Judicial Studies Centre in Lisbon and offered a total of 49 magistrates, representing 14 EU Member States, the possibility to attend the training session. In addition, this training was made available online in podcast format, allowing for direct access and download for all interested EU magistrates.

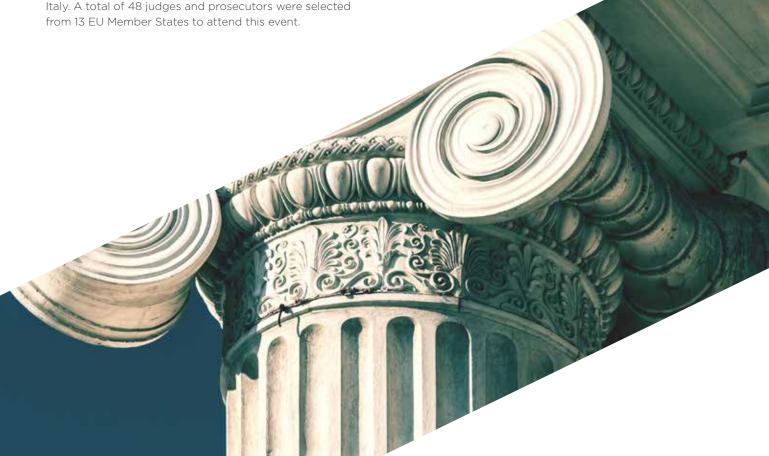
FUTURE ACTIONS

Within the scope of the Civil Law seminars, future actions will involve pursuing a broader spectrum of fields, so as to give a more complete offering for the training needs of EU justice professionals.

Building on the positive results of the seminars as well as the growing demand for workshop sessions in 2015, all Civil Law training activities in 2016 will be extended to two days in length, and the number of training events will rise from 5 to 6 per annum.

The EJTN Civil Law SWG will implement further podcast-based seminars in 2016 as well, granting all interested EU professionals free access to the training programmes.

Under both the framework of cooperation with EJTN project partners and the spirit of seeking new training challenges, in 2016 the Civil Law SWG plans to cooperate with the European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME) in implementing the successfully repeated training event on European Civil Procedure in Family Law matters.



NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
European Civil Procedure in Family Law matters seminar	Detached Centre of the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic	9-10 March 2015
Brussels I regulation – jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgements in civil matters seminar	The Spanish Judicial School, Spain	7-8 May 2015
Intellectual Property Law seminar	Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, Romania	4-5 June 2015
Tort Law seminar	The School for the Judiciary, Italy	22-23 September 2015
European Company Law seminar	Centre for Judicial Studies, Portugal	12-13 October 2015



ADMINISTRATIVE LAW SEMINARS





OVERVIEW

From public procurement to human rights, access to justice, alternative dispute resolution and asylum law, the Administrative Law Seminars offer innovative and interactive trainings, joining forces with new partners to enrich the quality and variety of the European judiciary's continuous training portfolio.

A DIVERSE TRAINING OFFER

Created in 2011, the EJTN Administrative Law Sub-Working Group (SWG) is the expression of EJTN's commitment to addressing the training needs of all judicial practitioners across Europe, offering a rich set of trainings in fields as diverse as EU public procurement, asylum law, alternative dispute resolution (ADR), human rights and access to justice, tax law, and much more. In this project's day-and-ahalf trainings, judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers from all EU Member States gather to discuss the most recent developments in their respective fields of legal practice, going beyond a mere lecture-based approach to a focus on the exchange of knowledge and experiences, active workshop sessions, and practice-based exercises. At these trainings, participants learn more about their counterparts across Europe while discussing key legal issues with leading experts in the corresponding fields. In addition, EJTN's

training at the European Court of Human Rights offers participants the opportunity to attend a Grand Chamber (ECtHR) hearing and discuss the outcome of different proceedings with current and former court officials.

JOINING FORCES WITH KEY PARTNERS FOR GREATER QUALITY AND RESOURCES

In 2015, the Administrative Law SWG joined forces with key partners – from the Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME), the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ) and the International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ) – to organise high-quality trainings in human rights, ADR, and asylum law. The project also received the support of current and former European Commission, ECtHR and CJEU officials, as well as the Council of Europe's HELP Programme, to deliver innovative trainings based on peer-exchanges and practical exercises.

With a view to increasing the outreach of its activities, the Administrative Law SWG remains committed to annually podcasting at least two of its trainings. 2015 brought with it both a podcast on public procurement and EU asylum law training.

RESULTS

In 2015, over 200 judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers from across the EU took part in the 5 trainings offered under the EJTN Administrative Law Seminars.

of participants





In 2015, over 200 judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers from across the EU took part in the five trainings offered under the EJTN Administrative Law Seminars.

The project's judicial training EU Public Procurement (March 2015) gathered 31 magistrates from 15 different EU Member States, as well as an observer from the European Commission's Directorate-General for the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW). The training was led by a panel of five renowned expert speakers and included sessions on the most recent CJEU case law, the new Public Procurement Directives, procurements falling outside the scope of the EU directives, enforcement challenges and means of redress at the national level. It served as a platform for the discussion and comparison of different approaches to the same European problems, with case study-based workshops focused on cross-border procurement contracts and the exchange of national reports between the participants on their domestic legislations and their views of the way forward.

The group's annual training Human Rights and Access to Justice in the EU (May 2015) funded 48 magistrates from 23 EU Member States to a day-and-a-half set of workshops and plenary discussions in Lithuania. The training was led by a panel of six renowned speakers, including a representative from the CJEU and the former judge elected in respect of Lithuania to the ECtHR. The training's programme included an overview of the CJEU and ECtHR case law on the right to a fair trial and the Charter of Fundamental Rights, the notion of effective remedies as a fundamental right, and the role of the principle of equality of arms. Interactive workshops complemented these panel discussions by focusing on the evidence standards in light of Article 6 of the ECHR, the concept of reasonable length of judicial proceedings, the conduct of judges and lawyers in the courtroom, and the role of uniform practice in shaping the right to a fair trial across

Still in the field of human rights, the *EJTN-ECtHR Training* on *Human Rights for EU Judicial Trainers event* (July 2015), organised in cooperation with the European Court of Human Rights, brought 39 magistrates from 16 EU Member States to Strasbourg to discuss the most pressing developments

in the court's jurisprudence with current and former court officials. The programme included sessions on the application procedure before the court, the department of execution of judgments, the use of the Court's HUDOC database, the tension between freedom of expression and hate speech in the Court's case law and the role of the Convention in times of economic crisis. Former ECtHR Vice President and judge elected in respect of Belgium, Professor Françoise Tulkens, led two of the sessions as well as an open discussion with the participants concerning the Grand Chamber hearing in the case of Karácsony and Others v. Hungary and Szél and Others v. Hungary (freedom of expression and right to an effective remedy).

Adding to the group's diverse portfolio, the first ever EJTN seminar *Alternative Dispute Resolution in Administrative Law* was held in October 2015 at the Higher Administrative Court of Saxony in Germany. 40 judges and prosecutors from 18 EU Member States gathered in Bautzen to engage in lively debates and practical workshops led by seven renowned experts in this field, including representatives from two EJTN partner institutions: the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ); and, the European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME). The day-and-a-half event included sessions on the advantages of mediation vis-à-vis regular judicial proceedings, the role of ADR in the European context, the certification of mediators, best practices in ADR across the EU, the notion of mandatory mediation and a simulation of a mediation session.

Finally, keeping up with the challenges faced by the European judiciary, the group reinstituted its annual training EU Asylum Law, this time held in Lisbon in November of 2015. Nearly 90 applications were received to this event, which brought together 45 judicial professionals from 24 EU Member States. The training was led by practitioners from across Europe and received development support from the International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ), the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), and the Council of Europe's HELP Programme. This event included sessions on the role of the ECHR in asylum cases, the state of the CEAS and the Dublin regulations, the gathering and assessment of country of origin (COI) information, the evaluation of the credibility of asylum claims, and practical workshops on the assessment of asylum accounts relating to a fear of persecution on grounds of sexual orientation or religious belief.

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
Judicial Training on EU Public Procurement	Academy of European Law (ERA), Germany	5-6 March 2015
Human Rights and Access to Justice in the EU	National Courts Administration, Lithuania	14-15 May 2015
EJTN-ECtHR Training on Human Rights for EU Judicial Trainers	European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), France	7-8 July 2015
Alternative Dispute Resolution in Administrative Law	Higher Administrative Court of Saxony, Germany	8-9 October 2015
Judicial Training on EU Asylum Law	Centre for Judicial Studies, Portugal	5-6 November 2015

THEMIS COMPETITION





OVERVIEW

The highly acclaimed THEMIS Competition, open to future EU magistrates undergoing entry-level training, is an event for debating topics, sharing common values, exchanging new experiences, discussing new perspectives and practicing judicial skills.

A COMPETITION WITH A UNIQUE FORMAT

EJTN is organising each year the THEMIS Competition, open to judicial trainees from all training institutions that are Members or Observers of EJTN. Teams of three judicial trainees, accompanied by one teacher/tutor, may enrol in the Competition which consists of four semi-final rounds and a grand final. The official language of the competition is English.

The maximum number of teams participating in a semi-final is eleven. The winner and runner up of each semi-final will enter the grand final, consequently resulting in eight teams in the grand final. The prize for the winning team is a oneweek study visit, organised and financed by EJTN, in any European judicial institution.

DEVELOPING NEW APPROACHES ON CURRENT ISSUES

The topics of the semi-finals and the grand final are different. In 2015, the topics addressed were the following:

- International Cooperation in Criminal Matters
- International Judicial Cooperation in Civil Matters -European Family law
- International Judicial Cooperation in Civil Matters -European Civil procedure
- · Judicial Ethics and Professional Conduct
- Right to a Fair Trial (Art 47 EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and Art 6 ECHR)

The Competition benefits from an experienced and highly professional jury panel, coming from different European countries, with different legal background (judges, prosecutors and law professors).

The main objective of the THEMIS Competition is to bring together future magistrates from different European countries in order to enable them to share common values, exchange new experiences and discuss new perspectives in areas of common interest.

The THEMIS Competition is another project through which EJTN helps to build mutual trust between national legal systems.

RESULTS

In 2015, 44 teams from more than half of the EU Member States and one team from Republic of Moldova entered the THEMIS Competition (37 teams in the four semi-final rounds and 8 teams in the grand final).







The EJTN THEMIS Competition employs a unique format. It is open to judicial trainees from across Europe and aims to foster an exchange of views and develop new approaches on topics related to international civil and criminal cooperation, human rights and judicial deontology.

The THEMIS Competition is designed to develop critical thinking and communication skills of future magistrates from different European countries. The Competition is a forum of discussion on different European law topics, including international judicial cooperation in criminal and civil matters, judicial deontology and human rights.

The jury of the competition is chosen from a pool of experts appointed by EJTN Members, who are well-regarded professionals in the associated topic of each given semi-final or grand final round. As a general rule, experts must not have the same nationality as the competing team they will have to assess.

A genuine enthusiasm exists for the THEMIS Competition. In total, 37 teams competed in the last year's four semi-finals. Each semi-final had three stages: preparing a written paper on a topic relevant for the subject of the semi-final; an oral presentation of that paper; and, a discussion with the jury.

The jury members assess each team in terms of overall quality and originality, critical thinking and the anticipation of future solutions, references to relevant case law and also communication skills and consistency.

The winner and the runner up from each semi-final enter the grand final, meaning 8 teams in total. In 2015, three teams from France, two from Italy, two from Romania and one from Poland participated in the grand final. The 2015 grand final had a special format: a written report exercise on a common legal question was given to the teams in the first morning of the Competition, to be drafted by 18:00 the same day. An oral debate with another team in front of the jury was also undertaken (with 100 minutes for each pair of teams), based

on a topic sent to them for preparation two weeks before the Competition.

In 2015, the grand final of the THEMIS Competition was organised, at the Romanian National Institute of Magistracy in Bucharest. The debates were all at a very high level. "Each and every of the finalist teams had been well up to the subject and represented brilliantly their professional and also personal view concerning the tasks they had to solve \dots . All the jurors had a rather difficult duty to evaluate the written and oral work of those young competing team members, the future magistrates," stated the chair of the jury, Mr. Peter Tamas Horvath, judge and expert in criminal law and human rights law.

The winner of the Competition was a team from France. The prize for winning this Competition is a one-week study visit organised and financed by EJTN. Also, the winning team's country is offered the opportunity to host the THEMIS grand final in the following year. Accordingly, the grand final of 2016 THEMIS Competition will be hosted by the French Superior School of Magistracy in Paris, France.

The added value of the THEMIS Competition is appreciated by the participants and also by the jury members. Speaking to the teams at the grand final, the distinguished jury member Professor Françoise Tulkens, Judge and Former Vice-President of the European Court of Human Rights outlined the significance of the competition. "I realise that EJTN's Themis Competition is a unique opportunity to create a network between you, which is indispensable in your future professional life. North and South, East and West, you are coming from different parts of Europe, you have different traditions, cultures, religions, legal systems, but you have a common language: human rights I was profoundly impressed by your excellent knowledge of the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Court of Human Rights' case law. Later, as judges or prosecutors, I am convinced that you will at all times be attentive to the respect of human rights."

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
Semi-final A International Cooperation in Criminal Matters	Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic	7-10 April 2015
Semi-final B International Judicial Cooperation in Civil Matters – European Family Law	Belgian Judicial Training Institute, Belgium	19-22 May 2015
Semi-final C International Judicial Cooperation in Civil Matters – European Civil Procedure	General Prosecutor's Office, Luxembourg	9-12 June 2015
Semi-final D Judicial Ethics and Professional Conduct	The Czech Judicial Academy, Czech Republic	23-26 June 2015
Grand final – Right to a fair trial (Art 47 EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and Art 6 ECHR)	Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, Romania	26-28 October 2015

COUNTER-TERRORISM SEMINARS



OVERVIEW

Committed to addressing the challenges faced by the European judiciary in the areas of freedom, security and justice, the EJTN launched in 2015 a comprehensive training programme on Countering Terrorism and Radicalisation to Violent Extremism.

ADDRESSING NEW CHALLENGES

With its staunch commitment to quality judicial training and the promotion of a genuine European judicial culture in the areas of freedom, security and justice, the EJTN has been expanding for over a decade to meet the challenges facing the European judiciary. One such challenge is the growing threat of terrorism and radicalisation to violent extremism in Europe.

The pressing need for joint and coordinated action and training programmes focused on the root causes of violent extremism and the prevention of radicalisation, as well as judicial and law enforcement cooperation in the fight against terrorism and the exchange of best practices on the investigation, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of terrorist offenders, have been repeatedly stressed by a number of recent high-level statements, and, unfortunately, highlighted by recent events across Europe.

It was in this context that the European Commission Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) entrusted the EJTN, together with its Members and partners, with the development of a comprehensive training programme on Countering Terrorism and Radicalisation to Violent Extremism, to be implemented between September 2015 and May 2016 and tailored to the needs of the relevant stakeholders and practitioners across the EU.

This project provides judges, prosecutors and other justice sector professionals with a unique forum to exchange experiences and best practices with their counterparts across Europe, to discuss the most recent legal developments and challenges in the prosecution and adjudication of cases involving foreign terrorist fighters and other violent extremist offenders, and to address issues of radicalisation and the mechanisms for its prevention and detection.

RESULTS

Between October and December 2015, EJTN's new Counter-Terrorism Seminars brought together over 100 judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers from across the EU to discuss the new challenges facing the European judiciary in the fight against terrorism and the understanding of the processes of radicalisation to violent extremism.

of participants 105





Between October and December 2015, EJTN's new Counter-Terrorism Seminars brought together over 100 judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers from across the EU to discuss the new challenges facing the European judiciary in the fight against terrorism and the understanding of the processes of radicalisation to violent extremism.

At the beginning of 2015, the European Commission Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) invited the EJTN, as the best placed actor to deliver EU-wide judicial training through its Members, to implement a multiphased and cross-sector Training Programme on Countering Terrorism and Radicalisation to Violent Extremism. The project was developed by a group of 7 EJTN Members. The project received direct support from DG JUST officials.

In order to adequately address the challenges faced by the European judiciary in this field, this project was built on three main pillars. The first pillar included a set of four trainings on issues of radicalisation, on the one hand, and the procedural and substantive law challenges and best practices identified by practitioners dealing with terrorism-related cases, on the other hand. Two day-and-a-half-trainings were successfully implemented in 2015. The second pillar of this project comprised a set of professional exchanges between specialised and non-specialised judges and prosecutors to counter-terrorism units within prosecution offices and tribunals in their counterpart EU Member States. Finally, the project's third pillar sought to equip national training institutions with a framework of reference to develop adequate training programmes for members of their judiciary in the field of counter-terrorism, by creating a database of national training programmes already developed by their counterpart EJTN members across Europe.

The first judicial training organised under this project was devoted to the Prevention and Detection of Radicalisation. The event was both coordinated by and organised at the French National School of Magistracy in Paris, France, on 22 and 23 of October, 2015. 57 participants from 15 EU Member States attended this event. The training's programme included an opening session on the judicial and policybased responses to radicalisation and the way ahead and a roundtable on understanding the processes of radicalisation, comprising presentations on both the clinical and sociological approaches to the phenomenon. Also included were panel discussions on real-life cases of radicalisation and the warning signs therein, the role of the Radicalisation

Awareness Network (RAN), and a final roundtable on a comparative overview of different EU Member States' responses to radicalisation. This was led by representatives from Sweden, Belgium, France and Denmark. A total of 14 experts and institutional representatives contributed to this event.

The second of the four trainings being organised between 2015 and 2016 under this project was held on 10 and 11 December, 2015 at the Spanish Centre for Legal Studies, in Madrid. The event was focused on the procedural and legal challenges faced by judges and prosecutors dealing with terrorism-related cases; in particular, a comparative analysis of the domestic approaches followed by the different EU Member States in tackling this phenomenon.

A total of 85 applications were received and 48 participants from 18 EU Member States attended this event, carried out under the coordination of the German Judicial Academy. in representation of EJTN's Member, the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection of Germany. The training's programme included sessions on the historical and sociological background of religiously inspired terrorism, the understanding of terrorist offences across Europe, and a roundtable on the constitutive elements of criminal behaviour, led by judicial practitioners from the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Ensuring the practical added value of this event, participants were divided into three workshop groups in the afternoon of the first day of training, focusing on evidentiary issues in counter-terrorism proceedings, including the admissibility of evidence gathered abroad, evidence gathered through social media or in (potential) violation of fundamental rights, and the admissibility and use of evidence gathered by intelligence agencies and state security services.

The second day of training provided an overview of real cases of Islamist terrorism in Syria and the judicial treatment therein, and an interactive panel discussion on the procedural position of victims in terrorism cases, comprised of contributions from expert speakers from France, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
Radicalisation: Prevention and Detection	The French National School for the Judiciary (ENM), France	22-23 October 2015
Tackling Terrorism: Procedural and Substantive Law Challenges and Best Practices (Module 1: Comparative Analysis of Domestic Approaches to Tackling Terrorism)	Centre for Legal Studies, Spain	10-11 December 2015

JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS





OVERVIEW

The activities of the Working Group Judicial Training Methods (WG JTM) were officially inaugurated in 2015.

The opportunities leading to the creation of the Working Group Judicial Training Methods (WG JTM) replied to the following needs:

- Sharing good judicial training practices among EU justice professionals, while setting up new approaches towards knowledge and training delivery
- The need to combine judicial training with the quality of justice

The WG JTM could be seen as a fil rouge with EJTN's two other Working Groups, the Working Group Exchange Programme and the Working Group Programmes. This is because the aims of the WG JTM consist of proposing the most efficient and concrete training methodologies as well as strengthening the dissemination of best practices, which are essential requirements for any judicial training action.

In 2015, the works of the WG JTM were arranged according to three topical themes and three main fields of action: Evaluation/assessment; Craftsmanship; and, Leadership. The EJTN Handbook on Judicial Training Methodology in Europe was updated (formerly known as the Training the Trainers Handbook - published in 2013). A questionnaire together with a manual on training assessment were drafted. Finally, within the training practices context, but out of the aegis of the WG JTM, EJTN organised a meeting entitled Exchange of EJTN Members practices on organising training projects with the external funding.

RESULTS

In 2015, 131 participants took part in the events organised by the WG JTM as well as in the special meeting on projects with external funding.









In 2015, the WG JTM realised three seminars, one conference and two experts' meetings. There were two key factors inspiring the implementation of these actions.

Firstly, an innovative approach guided each action. Each one of the implemented actions had been realised for the first time by EJTN - all with new topics, new methodologies and new concepts. Secondly, the long-term perspective was considered with each action. The outcomes of the first WG JTM events will be developed along the future years to allow for a deeper specialisation and even more refined training results, which will be made accessible to all EU judicial training institutions.

The first 2015 seminar of the WG JTM was devoted to evaluation and assessment practices, focused on Level 1 of the Kirkpatrick model. The seminar's outcomes were concrete and reliable also because these were based on the results of targeted surveys and on the participation of highly qualified experts. 26 participants, representing 19 EU Member States, took part in this training event. A postseminar questionnaire and a model tool (Draft Manual on Evaluation and Assessment) were prepared and, together with the seminar's outcomes, constituted valuable and practical tools, which were made accessible to all training practitioners. In 2016, this topic will be further developed on Levels 2 to 4 of the Kirkpatrick model.

The second WG JTM seminar concerned "judgecraft" and it was an extremely interactive event: professional actors involved the audience in court case simulations and mock trials; and, highly focused presentations were delivered on many topics, including assessing credibility, judicial resilience, ethics, assessing reliability and stress management. The novelty of the topics combined with the innovative approach lead to very satisfactory outcomes, which may be interpreted in a pan-European perspective with the presented techniques and practices applying to all EU Member States. 31 participants took part in this second seminar and 15 EU nationalities were represented. The complexity of this seminar's structure required a preparatory meeting, held in London and attended by 6 experts.

Debates within the WG JTM revealed that training methodologies for leaders might not be easily accessible nor recognisable, despite their extreme importance. Hence, the organisation of a conference entitled *Leadership*, which allowed a first assessment on the existing training practices applicable to leaders across Europe. The conference was attended by 50 participants and 19 EU nationalities were represented. This event contributed to marking a significant step towards meeting new challenges in judicial training practices. Consequently, in 2016, two additional training events will be devoted to this topic.

With specific reference to tools, the WG JTM was in charge of updating the Training the Trainers Handbook (former version, released in 2013), now rebranded as the EJTN Handbook on Judicial Training Methodology in Europe. The Handbook is freely available to all interested parties on EJTN's website, within the Methodologies & Resources section

The Handbook aims to assist Europe's judicial training organisers with a proper conceptual planning of comprehensive training programmes, modern training methods and design and organising training events and evaluations as well as the need for a thorough knowledge of modern judicial training methodology. The European Commission, recognising the Handbook's uniqueness and value, decided to translate it into all EU languages, to make it accessible to the widest possible EU audience.

Finally, in the context of training practices, but outside of the aegis of the WG JTM, in 2015 EJTN organised a meeting entitled "Exchange of EJTN Members practices on organising training projects with the external funding". This pioneering action replied to the need to widen the information, among EJTN Members, about the EU grants published by the European Commission and the related application procedures. This meeting allowed for a gettogether among EJTN Members, EU officials and offered a concrete exchange of best practices, information and updates. 45 participants attended this meeting and 22 EU nationalities were represented. Due to the demonstrated success of this meeting, it will be repeated in 2016.

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
JTM seminar entitled Measuring Learning Results and Training Effects – The Challenge of Proper Evaluation and Assessment at the Reactionary Level	Judicial Academy, Croatia	5-6 May 2015
JTM conference entitled <i>Leadership</i>	National School of Judges, Greece	30 June - 1 July 2015
Exchange of EJTN Members practices on organising training projects with external funding meeting	EJTN, Belgium	7 July 2015
JTM Seminar entitled Judgecraft across Europe	Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic	12-13 October 2015

CATALOGUE+





OVERVIEW

Since 2011, the EJTN Catalogue+ project has been a great success. The purpose of this project is to give European magistrates the opportunity to attend a training course organised by the judicial training institutions that are Members of EJTN.

In 2015, 17 judicial institutions participated in the project, each of them organising a seminar on a topic of law. In total, 280 places were offered to foreign participants.

As a measure of success of the programme, there was a 72% rate of uptake of the total number of training places being offered, reaching 206 foreign participants. Additionally, 1251 national participants took part in the Catalogue+ seminars offered by their respective national training institutions. For the year 2015, a total of 1457 magistrates received training.

Participants very much appreciated the organisation of the seminars, the quality of speakers and the rich information provided during the seminars.

EJTN thanks the judicial institutions for their support and cooperation with this programme. As with each year, EJTN looks forward to new seminars being added to the programme.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

EJTN's Catalogue+ project upgrades existing training courses of EJTN's Members and finances international participation in these. The courses are available for Europe's judiciary, and cover various fields of law, including criminal and civil law and human rights.

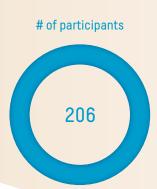
The purpose of Catalogue+ is to give European magistrates the opportunity to attend a training course organised by the judicial training institutions that are Members of EJTN.

Each Member is entitled to upgrade national training activity(ies). Through this promotion, the national training activity will become an international one and will attract the presence of 10 foreign magistrates. Each institution that organises seminars relating to European law in their own country has the right to designate one or more seminars in order to host foreign European judges and prosecutors.

The judicial institutions participating in this project will have the possibility of sending an equal number of participants to the seminars organised by other Members of EJTN within the context of this project.

RESULTS

The Catalogue+ project has been very well received by participants.







NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE
Competition Law	Centre for Judicial Studies, Portugal	29-30 January 2015
Protection of Human Rights and the Case-Law of the European Court of Human Rights in Criminal Mattes	The National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution, Poland	16-17 February 2015
Criminal Justice systems in comparison	School for the Judiciary, Italy	18-20 March 2015
Seen Form the in-and outside: the image of the Judge in Germany and in European neighbouring countries	German Judicial Academy, Germany	22-27 March 2015
"Saisies et confiscations"	Belgian Judicial Training Institute, Belgium	23-24 March 2015
Public Procurement	Latvian Judicial Training Centre, Latvia	27 March 2015
Second Forum form justice and Human Rights	National Institute of Justice, Bulgaria	20-22 April 2015
Jurisdiction, recognition, enforcement of judgements and law applicable in contract tort matters	Centre for Legal Studies, Spain	13-15 April 2015
Cross-border family disputes: what solutions the EU offers?	Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, Romania	4-5 May 2015
Organised crime and cybercrime	Latvian Judicial Training Centre, Latvia	11-12 May 2015
The role of the CJEU in the areas of Criminal Law and criminal proceedings	Supreme Court of Estonia, Estonia	15 May 2015
Countering radicalization to terrorism and violent extremism: main challenges and opportunities ahead	The Academy of European Law (ERA), Germany	21-22 May 2015
European payment order, European small claims procedure	Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic	25-26 May 2015
Human Rights protection in the EU: Court of Justice of the European Union and European Court of Human Rights	The Centre for Legal Studies, Spain	25-26 May 2015
Organised Crime	The Czech Judicial Academy, Czech Republic	17-19 June 2015
Protecting fundamental rights in the European Union, where do we stand?	The Academy of European Law (ERA), Germany	18-19 June 2015
Direct Application of European Convention of Human Rights by domestic courts in cases brought before them (criminal matters)	Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, Romania	29-30 June 2015
Consumer Law: Decree-Law n°24/2014 of 14 February (Transposing European Directive n°2011/EU)	Centre for Judicial Studies, Portugal	3 July 2015
The European Convention of Human Rights Instructions for use	School for the Judiciary, Italy	13-15 July 2015
Economic operators in Courts proceedings	The Judicial Training Centre, Slovenia	22-23 September 2015
Judicial cooperation in criminal matters: finding common ground legal English	Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, Romania	5-6 October 2015
Human Trafficking	Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary, The Netherlands	5-6 October 2015
European Law and criminal legality	School for the Judiciary, Italy	12-14 October 2015
Annual Conference on Criminal Justice	The Academy of European Law (ERA), Germany	22-23 October 2015
"Formation spécialisée pour futurs magistrats de la famille et de la jeunesse-Module Famille"	Belgian Judicial Training Institute, Belgium	26-27 October 2015
International Protection of Human Right	The Academy of European Law (ERA), Germany	23-27 November 2015
Corruption, detection, prevention, suppression	The French National School for the Judiciary (ENM), France	23-27 November 2015

CATALOGUE



OVERVIEW

The EJTN General Catalogue has existed since 2003. It is a catalogue of training activities organised and selected by EJTN's Members and offered to the entire judiciary of the EU Member States.

In 2015, 16 judicial institutions offered 216 seminars for the General Catalogue of the EJTN. The main topics covered by the General Catalogue included professional practices, societal issues, linguistics, judicial skills, human rights, forensics, European international law, criminal law, civil law and administrative law.

The total number of foreign participants in the 2015 General Catalogue programme was 1407.

Judges and prosecutors expressed a continued interest to follow the various seminars organised by the judicial institutions as it represented an added value for their professional life.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

EJTN offers its General Catalogue of training activities each year. This essential engine promotes various judicial training within the European Union countries, integrating the activities organised by EJTN's judicial institution members.

There are over 200 seminars offered by the judicial institutions as well as those co-financed by the European Union, which are all aimed at European judges and prosecutors.

The activities are all EU law-related and touch upon:

- · Administrative Law
- EU Civil Law (judicial cooperation, national law, civil procedure, intellectual property, labour law, commercial law and consumer law)
- EU Criminal Law (judicial cooperation, criminal procedure, police cooperation, human rights, national law)
- European (general) and international law
- Forensics
- · Human rights
- Judicial skills
- Linguistics
- Professional practice
- Society issues
- · Teaching methods

RESULTS

As with each year, the General Catalogue was very much appreciated by participants.







SCHOLARSHIP FUND

EJTN put in place a Scholarship Fund in 2015, allowing individual judges and prosecutors to participate in training abroad, to be able to master the knowledge of EU law and acquire knowledge of national law useful to perform professional tasks.

As always, all applications are submitted through the candidates' national EJTN Member institutions, which run their internal national selection processes.

Each year, EJTN's Scholarship Fund covers the costs of 7 participants per EU Member State and the Academy of European Law (ERA).



eTOOLS

OVERVIEW

EJTN invests in developing various eTools in order to broaden the reach of judicial training opportunities as well as to provide necessary resources to those who manage judicial training programmes and content.

CATERING TO NEEDS

EJTN continues to focus on the provision of various eTools in order to meet several aims. There is an ever-present need to disseminate judicial training and knowledge across a wider reach. There is also a need to improve the administrative efficiency of managing judicial programmes and their participants. Equally important, those parties planning or producing judicial training opportunities need access to information and contacts in order to work effectively. eTools cater to all of these needs.

EJTN has made available many types of eTools. These include various online platforms, an online programme application system, eLearning and blended learning courses, podcasts and webinars and a collection of virtual resources.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

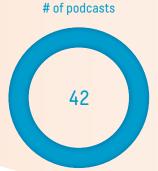
EJTN's eTools are powerful systems and resources designed to increase the reach of EJTN's judicial training programmes and resources, maximise administrative efficiencies and assist those who design and manage judicial training programmes.

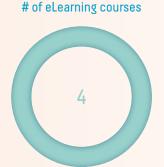
ONLINE PLATFORMS

EJTN maintains an information- and resource-rich website accessible to all. The website also continues to feature the searchable course database, offering users an easy and convenient way to find available judicial training events from across Europe. A Networking platform is also provided, which forms an essential virtual collaboration space for those working on EJTN's projects. The Networking platform also houses several essential tools such as the expertise database (designed to facilitate locating expertise in given fields) and the Exchange of information on EC calls platform (where open calls may be discussed and projects formed). EJTN is actively present on many social media platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube, for example), and has also provided for a custom-built platform for the alumni of the THEMIS Competition.

RESULTS

Europe's judiciary can benefit from EJTN's robust collection of podcasts as well as eLearning courses and innovative pre-classroom blended learning modules.







of blended learning modules

ONLINE PROGRAMME APPLICATION SYSTEM

Representing a significant investment during 2015, EJTN provided for a new online application system for its Exchange Programme. This system was designed to handle the many thousands of applications received for the programme annually, covering all phases of the process: initial application submission; selection; and, post-exchange evaluations and participant certificate issuance. The ambition is to provide for such a system for all of EJTN's training applications.

ELEARNING AND BLENDED LEARNING COURSES

EJTN maintains 4 eLearning courses, which are freely open to all:

- Understanding References for a Preliminary Ruling of the Court of Justice of the EU
- Parental Responsibility and the Brussels II bis Regulation
- The European Order for Payment Procedure
- Creating a European Order for Uncontested Claims

Additionally, as a first in 2015, EJTN created two "blended" learning modules (one in English and one in French) within the field of linguistics. These modules were mandatory pre-classroom learning components, which were to be completed by participants before attending the classroombased component of the courses.

PODCASTS AND WEBINARS

EJTN's podcasts, totalling 42 individual speakers, are from judicial training seminars held across Europe. In 2015, EJTN provided another three sets of podcasts within the topics of EU asylum law (with 10 individual speakers), European company law (with 9 individual speakers) and EU public procurement law for judges (with 6 individual speakers). Earlier-produced podcast sets cover the fields of EU institutional law and access to court in environmental law matters. As a first in 2015, EJTN also provided a webinar event with the help of its Portuguese Member, the Centre for Judicial Studies.

VIRTUAL RESOURCES

EJTN offers a myriad of virtual judicial training-related resources on its website to complement its other eTools. Freely available, and housed within the Methodologies and Resources section of the EJTN website, these virtual resources include:

- Best judicial training practices compilations
- Acclaimed training curricula
- Authoritative scientific reports
- Links to vital portals

A particularly well-received resource has been the set of best judicial training practices. In total, 65 best training practices are available, arranged under five themes and collected from 23 judicial training organisations across Europe such as national judicial training institutions, the Academy of European Law (ERA), the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) and EJTN.

KEY PUBLICATIONS

EJTN has produced or co-produced many acclaimed publications.

All publications are available from the Methodologies & Resources section of EJTN's website at www.ejtn.eu

- eBook Linguistics Civil Matters
- eBook Linguistics Criminal Matters second edition
- Guidelines on linguistic training second edition
- EJTN Handbook on Judicial Training Methodology updated version (January 2016)
- Best judicial training practices 65 best practices in 5 themes from across the EU

- ERA/EJTN Study Judicial Training in the European Union Member States
- EJTN European Civil Forum Handbook
- EJTN Criminal Guidelines
- EJTN Administrative Law Training Guidelines
- EJTN Handbook on European Civil and Procedural Law
- EJTN Handbook on European Labour Law third edition
- EJTN Handbook on European Commercial Law second edition
- EJTN Handbook on European Consumer Law third edition



STATISTICAL DATA

The following statistics tables and charts were produced in order to reach four major objectives.

Firstly, to determine how many EU judges and public prosecutors have attended training activities abroad during 2015. Secondly, to establish a comparison between that number and the corresponding figures achieved over the past years. Thirdly, to present the evolution in time of how many EU judges and public prosecutors have attended cross-border training activities organised by EJTN on one side, and by its Members on the other. Finally, to show how EJTN has been performing under the efficiency and costto-serve ratio.

Tables I, II and III illustrate, respectively, how many EU judges and public prosecutors have attended EJTN's own training activities and the EJTN Catalogue training activities abroad during 2015, participants' nationalities and the growth in yearly attendance levels of participants.

Table I shows how many foreign judges and public prosecutors each EJTN Member has hosted in 2015 under the EJTN activities framework.

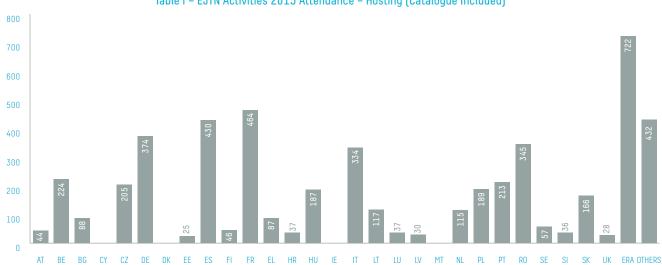


Table I - EJTN Activities 2015 Attendance - Hosting (Catalogue Included)

Table II illustrates a breakdown of attendees' nationalities:

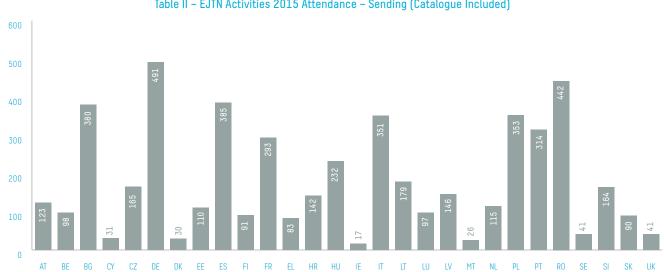


Table II - EJTN Activities 2015 Attendance - Sending (Catalogue Included)

Table III provides a graphical comparison of the yearly attendance levels obtained with EJTN's own training activities.

6000 5032 5000 4256 3882 4000 3336 2671 3000 1802 1000 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

Table III - Yearly Attendance at EJTN Training Activities 2015 (Catalogue Included)

Tables IV, V and VI illustrate, respectively, a graphical comparison of the yearly attendance levels obtained with EJTN's own training activities and the EJTN Catalogue

training activities.

Table IV provides a graphical comparison of the yearly attendance growth in EJTN's flagship training activity, the **Exchange Programme for Judicial Authorities.**

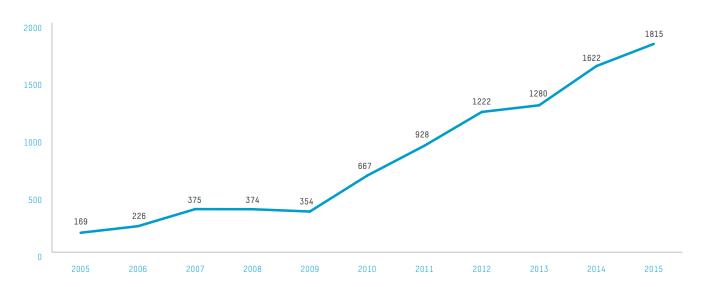


Table IV - Yearly Attendance Growth - Exchange Programme for Judicial Authorities

Table V provides a graphical comparison of the yearly attendance growth in EJTN's training activities.



Table V - Yearly Attendance Growth - EJTN Training Activities (EJTN Catalogue Excluded)

Table VI provides a graphical comparison of the yearly attendance growth in the EJTN Catalogue training activities.



Table VI - Yearly Attendance Growth - EJTN Catalogue Training Activities

Tables VII, VIII and IX were created on the basis of the data provided by EJTN Members, and give an accurate image of the attendance of foreign judges and public prosecutors in international training activities organised by EJTN's Members outside of the EJTN framework.

Table VII, produced on the perspective of the hosting institution, reveals how many foreign colleagues, from an overall number of 1,644, each EJTN Member had hosted in 2015.

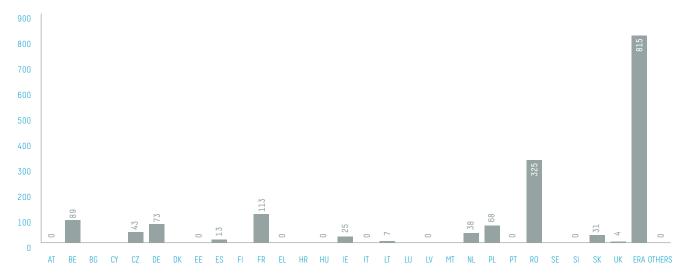
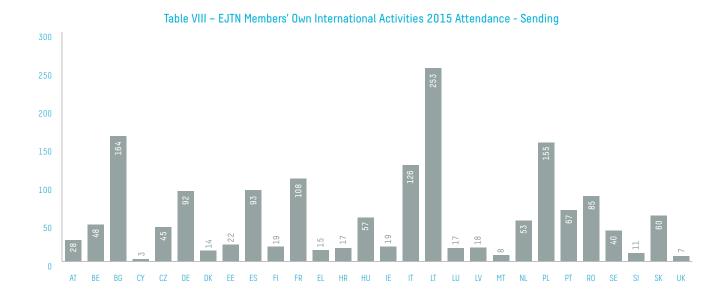


Table VII - Members' Own International Activities 2015 Attendance - Hosting¹

Table VIII provides information on participants' nationalities through a national breakdown of the total figure of 1,644 training attendees.



¹ No data available for the following Member States: BG; CY; DK; FI; HR; LU; MT; and, SE.

Table IX takes into consideration the figures obtained as a result of a similar request for data issued by EJTN for the 2010-2015 period. The data resulted in the following chart:

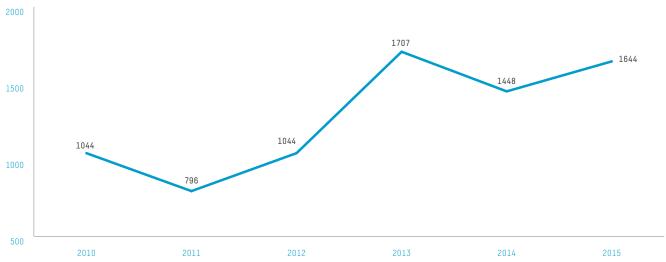


Table IX - EJTN Members' Own International Activities - Yearly Comparison

Table X presents a yearly comparison of how many EU judges and public prosecutors have attended cross-border

training activities organised by EJTN on one side, and by its Members on the other.



Table X - Cross-border Training Activities Organised in the EU

The last two tables intend to provide a closer look at EJTN's 2015 activities while providing a comparison to the corresponding data of previous years.

As EJTN offers a wide range of training activities, differing considerably in length, the operational costs and administrative efforts involved with a single participant may vary significantly (e.g. if he or she is attending either a 1.5 day seminar or if he or she is undertaking a three-month exchange at EUROJUST).

Table XI refers to the **number of effective training days** offered between 2006 and 2015 considering the ratio of one person being served for one day, as well as the repartition between EJTN's various activities in 2015.

Exchange Programme Administrative Judicial Training Methods **THEMIS** 24,726 Criminal 2015 21,618 Catalogue+ Scholarship Linguistic 17,180 15.702 Civil Counter-Terrorism 10,686 7 928 6,567 4 624 3.819 2,289 2006 2010 2011 2014 2015 2008

Table XI – EJTN Individual Training Days Offered – Yearly Comparison and 2015 Close Up

Total number of individual training days offered each year from 2006 to 2015 across all topics

Table XII presents **EJTN's performance** by establishing a graphic yearly evolution of the cost-to-serve ratio, which involves determining how much it costs, yearly, to offer training for one day to one person.

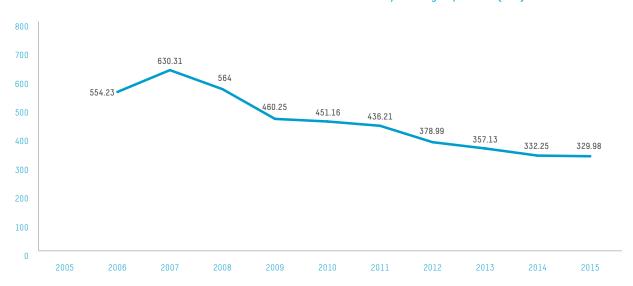


Table XII - Performance Based on Cost-to-Serve Ratio: Price / Training Day Offered (EUR)









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