

AIAKOS PROGRAMME - DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY



JUDICIAL ACADEMY and PROSECUTION OFFICE

- **Brief description of the AIAKOS Programme (current description in EJTN brochure):**

The programme is addressed specifically to future and early-career judges/ prosecutors, giving them the opportunity to learn about other judicial systems and training curricula, enhance their knowledge of EU law and judicial cooperation instruments as well as meet with their counterparts and develop useful contacts for their future professional life.

- **General objectives of the AIAKOS programme:**

- To bring together future or newly appointed judges and prosecutors from different EU Member States.
- To foster mutual understanding of different European judicial cultures and systems.
- To raise awareness of the European dimension of their (future work).

- **Specificity of the host institution**

The **Judicial Academy** is a unified training centre founded on January 1, 2025, to provide further education for judges, court employees, prosecutors, and assistant prosecutors. It also offers qualification improvement measures for investigators on interdisciplinary issues. Its aim is to create an environment where justice professionals can consolidate and enhance their knowledge and skills while discussing important issues in one place, promoting a common understanding.

The **Prosecution Office** is a judicial authority that operates within the framework of its competence as defined by legislative acts, ensuring independent supervision of compliance with the law. Its task is to respond to legal violations and ensure that relevant cases are resolved according to the procedures established by legislative acts.

- **Key points for the host institution's programme**

- Foster mutual understanding of different European judicial systems.
- Encourage reflection on the AIAKOS participants' roles as judges and prosecutors within the European judicial system, including discussions on the values, ethics, and responsibilities of judges and prosecutors in the EU.
- Practical experience through direct observation of a judge's daily responsibilities in a courtroom environment.
- Promote mutual understanding of the role and function of the Prosecution Office within the legal system.

- **Content of the host institution's programme**

- General overview of the Latvian judicial system and the judicial systems of other participants attending the specific visit.
- Visit to the Judicial Academy.
- Visit to the Prosecution Office.
- Court Administration: E-case system and digitalization of courts.
- Attendance at court hearings.
- Visit to the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court.
- Reflective workshop on professional identity as an EU judge/prosecutor.
- Discussions with Latvian judges and prosecutors on current legal topics.

- **Additional information**

Overall group will consist of around 12 - 16 persons. AIAKOS programme takes place in Riga.