

AIAKOS PROGRAMME

ESCUELA JUDICIAL – SPANISH JUDICIAL SCHOOL



- **Brief description of the AIAKOS Programme (current description in EJTJ 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 Spanish Judicial School is the primary institution responsible for the training of judges and prosecutors in Spain. Located in Barcelona, it provides rigorous academic and practical education to ensure high professional standards. The school also promotes international cooperation and exchange programs, fostering collaboration within the European judicial framework. Its curriculum combines legal theory, case analysis, and hands-on experience in courts.

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

- Why did you choose to become a judge?
- How do you become a judge in your country?
- The future of the judiciary: challenges and opportunities for judges in an evolving society.
- AI and algorithmic decision-making in judicial activity.
- Shadowing a Spanish judge.

- Visits to institutions (police, Court of Appeal, bar association, border-control police, etc.).
- Social activities.
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- **Content of the host institution's programme**
 - Getting to know each other: ice-breaking session.
 - Exchange session reflecting the key topics:
 - Why did you choose to become a judge?
 - How one becomes a judge in each country
 - The future of the judiciary
 - Workshops on AI and algorithmic decision-making and their impact on judicial work and ethics.
 - The daily work of judges in Spain: stay in the Courts.
 - Institutional visits: police, Court of Appeal, bar association, border-control police (to be confirmed).
 - Social activities such as a museum visit and/or a group dinner.
- **Additional information**

During the first two days of each AIAKOS week, our international visitors will mix with Spanish trainee judges and take part in workshops on topics such as the future of the judiciary and the impact of AI and algorithmic decision-making. A total of approximately 60 trainee judges from all over Europe will work together in three or four groups of 15–20 people. Within these groups, participants will be divided into small sub-groups of five. Practical cases will be discussed in the sub-groups and later shared in the larger plenary.

During the rest of the AIAKOS week, our international visitors will have the opportunity to spend a day in a Spanish court. In groups of four or five, participants will shadow a judge to gain first-hand insight into the daily work of a Spanish judge. Additionally, the programme may include attending a jury trial at the Court of Appeal, depending on availability and/or visits to other institutions, such as the police, the bar association or border-control services, along with optional social activities aimed at fostering networking and cultural exchange.

Important notice for AIAKOS participants in November:

Due to planned renovation works, the Judicial School will be temporarily closed during this period. As a result, some of the above mentioned activities may be modified. Participants will be informed in advance of any changes.