



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



With financial support from the Justice
Programme of the European Union







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Published on 26 April 2021.

This EJTN Annual Report covers activities
from 1 January to 31 December 2020.



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INTRODUCTION

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

5,074 individual judges, prosecutors, trainers and trainees trained.

17,756 individual training days provided.

Study on the Training Needs of Court Staff on EU Law in the EU continued.

EJTN's digital transition gains momentum during COVID-19 pandemic.

FOREWORD

TURNING CHALLENGES INTO OPPORTUNITIES

"Turning challenges into opportunities" was the motto of EJTN's directors' conference in autumn 2018 in Vienna. At that time nobody was expecting that it would be reinvigorated so literally one and half years later. The COVID-19 pandemic turned our whole EJTN training universe upside down. Suddenly, we had to transfer a large part of our activities into virtual ones – be it meetings, trainings, or networking events. Even the General Assembly, the Themis Competition, and the AIAKOS Programme were held online. This was a huge challenge, and a long stony path that we all, EJTN and its members, observers and partners could only embark on hand-in-hand.

The current report proves that we made it – and better than expected. Across all EJTN's various training activities, 5,074 judges, prosecutors, trainers and trainees, representing all EU Member States, participated in EJTN's training opportunities, with 17,756 individual training days.

EJTN's flagship the Exchange Programme for judicial authorities suffered hard from the health crisis. Figures dropped from 3,220 in 2019 to 925 in 2020. This is due to the fact that the essence and nature of these precious opportunities to build mutual trust require in-person meetings that cannot be replaced, even by the best technology. Still, some of the Exchange Programme activities witnessed online editions, like the AIAKOS Programme in Autumn 2020, and the Study visits. Long-term exchanges took place as usual.

Other portfolios like the Programmes, Linguistics, and Judicial Training Methods were better suited to adapt to the new times: Their activities could be transformed into virtual ones, and we did transfer them without compromise. Even new formats were developed: A lunchtime webinar series with biweekly short sessions under the motto "1 topic / 1 expert / 1 hour / Unlimited questions" has emerged, and many episodes welcomed more participants than standard web-seminars. Two episodes of an open joint webcast with the US National Judicial College "Lessons Learned from Around the World About Managing Courts in a Pandemic" attracted around 2,000 judges from all over the world,

several hundred from the EU. All this shows that EJTN was able to adapt quickly and successfully to the new situation – content-wise and format-wise.

After the General Assembly in Bucharest in June 2019 had adopted the 2021-2027 EJTN Strategic Plan, the European Commission followed in December 2020 with its long-awaited judicial training strategy "Ensuring justice in the EU – a European judicial training strategy for 2021-2024". We are particularly grateful to Commissioner of Justice Didier Reynders that he presented in person together with his team the new strategy in an online conference on 3 December 2020 for EJTN Members and answered their questions. Both strategies complement each other, and one of their common highlights is already casting its shadow: The integration of the court staff and their training providers in the activities of our network. The ongoing project on the "Study on the training needs of court staff on EU law in the EU" gained momentum in 2020; it will map the training needs and enable us to develop tailor-made training and networking offers.

Last, but not least: 2020 is an anniversary year! On 13 October EJTN celebrated its 20th anniversary. Unfortunately, we could not have the festive celebration that we hoped to have. But this report contains a little surprise for the reader about which I am particularly proud: I had the pleasure to interview all my predecessors back to 2005 on their experiences, challenges, and memories of their time as Secretary General of EJTN. I also interviewed EJTN veteran Wolfgang Heusel who retired by the end of 2020. It was a pleasure to have these online meetings, and my special thanks goes to Wolfgang Heusel, Gilles Charbonnier, Victor Hall, Luís Pereira and Wojciech Postulski.

I invite you to review this Annual Report, which highlights our Network's accomplishments in 2020 and provides a glimpse of the new opportunities and possibilities on the horizon for our Network. I hope that the year 2020, as a year with practically no in-person contact, will stay a one-time occurrence.

Judge Markus Brückner,
EJTN Secretary General

HISTORY

2020

EJTN celebrated its 20th anniversary on 13 October 2020 in the midst of the COVID-19 sanitary crisis.

2019

General Assembly
 - Judge Markus Brückner elected to be new Secretary General (2020-2022)
 - New EJTN Strategic Plan 2021-2027 adopted

2018

EJTN's Directors' Conference in Vienna stood out as a particularly seminal gathering where the draft EJTN Strategic Plan 2021-2027 was addressed.

2016

Published EJTN's Judicial Training Principles, providing a universal framework for judicial training.

2015

Celebrated the 10th anniversaries of the EJTN Exchange Programme and the THEMIS Competition.

2014

Secretary General: Judge W. Postulski (2014-2017 & 2017-2019).

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

2013

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

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

2011

Secretary General: L. Pereira, Senior Public Prosecutor (2011-2014).
 - Linguistics and Civil Law training programmes launched.

2010

Criminal I training and eLearning programmes launched.

2008

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

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.

2006

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

2005

EJTN establishes a permanent Secretariat in Brussels.

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



EJTN's first home in Brussels in 2005

2003

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

2002

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

2001

EJTN's first website launched.

2000

Creation of EJTN - Charter of Bordeaux.

EJTN's first logo



* 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, 28 November 2013.

Interview with Gilles Charbonnier – 2005–2008

Why did you accept the office of Secretary General at EJTN and what were your visions and ideas at that time?

In 2004, the situation was very difficult and challenging. The declaration of Bordeaux had created strong hopes among the EJTN members but unfortunately, this declaration had not been followed by concrete steps. There were many reasons for that: lack of trust of the European Commission, lack of identity and of visibility of the EJTN, difficulties for the EJTN members to share a common approach about what to undertake, competition between them and with other organisations at the European level... It was unclear whether EJTN would become a key actor in judicial training at the European level.

So why did I accept? Because I had faith in the project of creating an independent and democratic Network, capable of promoting training programmes for judges and prosecutors and policies with a real European dimension. I also wanted to participate in the building of the EU because, as a citizen, I am a supporter of the EU, despite the difficulties and criticisms. At that time the EU decided to make a priority of the building of a common space of justice, freedom and security. That was very motivating for me, as well as the enlargement to 10 Eastern European countries.

Indeed, many of these visions have become true in the meantime. EJTN is now 20 years old, a young adult. What challenges, what changes have you observed on its life journey so far?

First, I am very happy to observe that all the activities we launched during my mandate still exist now and have been strongly developed beyond what we could expect. I have seen that Quentin, Aude, Monica, Jolanta, Monica are still part of the team of the Secretariat and I'm very proud of them, of their hard work and their loyalty to EJTN - staff truly connected to the Network. It seems that EJTN is not threatened in its existence anymore. Back then, it was a daily fight for existence, throughout my entire mandate. I also observed, directly after my mandate, when I spoke about training in international fora, people used to ask me what EJTN was; nowadays, people know that EJTN exists, and the questions are entirely different: they ask for details! It is amazing that EJTN is now known and appreciated everywhere in the world.

Every Secretary General has encountered challenges during their mandate. What were your major challenges in this office?

It is impossible for me to select one. There were several major challenges: (1) To build a strong EJTN secretariat. (2) To get financing and to secure the EJTN financially. When my mandate ended, I was partly satisfied because, yes, we received financing, but it was not sufficiently structurally secure. (3) The Exchange Programme. I wrote this programme in 2004, two calls for proposal of the Commission, and I was lucky to implement the Exchange programme as EJTN Secretary General after its initial implementation by the ENM. For me it was a key project. I was convinced that if we succeeded to implement it on a bigger scale, the Network would be saved, because it would demonstrate its capacity to implement huge and ambitious programmes. (4) The first strategic plan. I was convinced it was important for a young organisation like EJTN to have a vision for the future. For the first time, we gave a definition of the Network and its mission. We called it the Mission Statement of EJTN. (5) The visibility of EJTN and its recognition. We gained this through newsletters, a website, online training material, a book about the judicial systems throughout Europe, events like the opening of our first premises with the vice-president of the Commission, the launch of the Exchange Programme from the European Parliament, the European Court in Strasbourg etc. Visibility was very important, and the recognition came. In 2005/2006/2008, the Commission and the Council mentioned EJTN in their communication.

What is your advice and hopes for EJTN's future?

Each period has its own characteristics and its own needs. The main advice would be to remain united, which is not an easy task. My hope is that EJTN continues its wonderful adventure, looks to the future, is proactive in the identification of the needs of Judicial training, like new technologies, and, of course, knowledge of European rules and regulations. I hope the Network continues to provide its high level expertise, thanks to all its members, in the building up of the unique judicial space within the EU.

Interview with Victor Hall – 2008–2011

Why did you accept the office of Secretary General and what were your visions and ideas at that time?

I had been seconded as a Judge to the Judicial Studies Board of England and Wales as its Director of Studies for three years from 2003. Part of the role required me to attend EJTN meetings. This was in the organisation's early days where policy and direction were still being formed. Armando d'Alterio was the Secretary General at that time and he was developing the Network on a day-to-day, week-by-week basis. He was followed by Gilles Charbonnier who brought a measure of structure and vision into the way things were done and who instituted a calendar of meetings and brought structure to the committees as well as developing the Exchange Programme which soon became our flagship project.

I had a vision of continuing this nuts and bolts work and of

greatly expanding technology within the Network. While I was at the Judicial Studies Board I had led work on judicial training techniques and methodologies as well as work towards the formation of a Judicial College in England and Wales much of which I realised could be incorporated into a European model. I was very keen to enhance the Network's web presence and to start work leading to delivery of training via distance learning. I appointed Michael Korhonen to be the Secretariat lead on this in 2009.

EJTN is now 20 years old, a young adult. What changes have you observed on its life journey so far?

The development of the Exchange Programme is something about which the Network can be very proud. The European Commission seemed to like it very much. There has also been an exponential development of areas of judicial and quasi-judicial training that has been undertaken by the

Network. We were coming under quite a lot of a pressure to take on notaries, have you taken on notaries yet? Themis has developed into a significant project!

No but we will have another new target group, the Court Staff.

Court Staff was another one that was talked about, but in those days this was not something that could be incorporated because there were so many other areas which had priority. In addition to notaries I remember requests for assistance from patent judges, Eurojust and Environment among others. EJTN has expanded enormously since those days. Linguistics had commenced just before I became Secretary General.

Every secretary general encountered challenges during his mandate. What was your major challenge?

Five weeks after I took over, I discovered a huge hole in the budget. The income of the Network simply was not enough to manage it due to a large part of an inadequate overall income being required to discharge debts from the previous year. Complete reform of finances and a major increase in budgeting was needed to provide the Member States with the service that they wanted not only to enhance the work of the Network but also to give it much greater credibility with the Commission. Dealing with this issue really curtailed the amount of time that I had available to

develop technology, judicial training methodology, distance learning and training conferences. Effectively that part of my mandate was reduced from three years down to a year and a half, bearing in mind that the last six months of a mandate is essentially looking forward to the incoming Secretary General. Having had little induction into the role of Secretary General at the start of my mandate I spent a lot of time liaising with my successor to ensure effective continuity of leadership.

Do you have any advice or hopes for the future of EJTN?

It is going entirely the right way. No doubt experience over the pandemic of virtual meetings will give you cause to consider the wisdom of having committee meetings that call for up to 15 people travelling around Europe with per diems and the costs of flying and hotel bills rather than using technology. There is obviously a place for face to face meetings not only because it is a way of forming collaborative relationships in a way that virtual meetings do not but also to enhance the advantages that come about from human beings being in actual contact.

I cannot end without praising the Secretariat for all the work that it did in my day and still does to enable the Network to develop its impressive role in European judicial training. I am particularly encouraged to see that there are a number of people still employed in the Secretariat that were there in my day!

Interview and written contribution of Luís Pereira - 2011-2014

Why did you accept the office of Secretary General at EJTN? What were your visions and ideas at that time?

In late 2009 I was approached by a couple of EJTN members having a seat in the Steering Committee in order to submit a candidacy to the Secretary General post after Victor Hall's term of office due to end in March 2011.

Being actively engaged in the European judicial training scene for some years, I had been acting since 2005 as CEJ representative in the Secretary General and the General Assembly, convenor of WG External Relations (now defunct) and, after 2008, convenor of the WG Exchange Programme. I had shared responsibility in the design of THEMIS and the Criminal Justice Project I, and participated actively in the build-up of the Criminal curricula. Besides, I had been close to every major decision taken by the Network at that time, namely the increase in the number of membership fees bands as approved in Prague (in relation to what was initially proposed in Berlin), the introduction of the so-called participation fees as the sole solution to solve the financial problems resulting from the gap between the overall EU financial contribution to EJTN projects and the amount initially granted as pre-financed advance, and the idea of having restricted budgets to execute projects as a way to reduce the amount required for those fees. In addition, under my overall coordination, the WG EP had defined the policy leading to a vast reform of the programme which, I think, contributed decisively to its increased quality.

Having accepted the challenge and noticing that the statutory powers of the Secretary General gave but little room for any own initiative on matters related to the definition either of EJTN policy or on what concerned the activities defined as the EJTN core, I restricted myself to declaring

at the electing General Assembly that I would be doing my very best to execute those powers with diligence and independence from any institution or country while following the strict guidelines issued by the bodies of the Network, defend the independence of the organisation and of the international training of the judiciary undertaken under its framework and to stimulate, within my powers the future work to be developed within the Network as a whole.

Of course, attached to such a declaration of principles were a couple of main ideas. The first was that, in order to provide an external image of unity of the network, I would be seeking the presence of the members elected to convene the Steering Committee and the Working Groups while conducting negotiations with European authorities. The second, related to external visibility, and with the aim to provide a fairer evaluation of EJTN's added value in the European training scene, involved the publication and dissemination of our first Annual Report of Activities in 2012 (covering to the year of 2011). The third referred to the enrichment of EJTN's portfolio of training activities, with the purpose to target a larger number of participants, which has originated the Criminal Project II, the Catalogue+, the civil seminar series, the Independent seminar series as well as the first e-learning courses.

EJTN is now 20 years old, a young adult. What changes have you observed on its life journey so far?

Looking at the year of 2010, and what training activities were promoted by EJTN, its portfolio included only, besides the Exchange Programme, the Criminal Justice Programme I, the Linguistic' Seminars Project and the THEMIS competition. The overall grant budget was around €4M and the number of yearly participants in all those activities was

not exceeding 950.

The comparison of those facts and figures with what is EJTN's offer nowadays, its budget and the number of judges and prosecutors attending its activities seems to be evidence enough of the organisation's growth and success.

Every Secretary General has encountered challenges during their mandate. What was your major challenge in this office?

The major challenge was undoubtedly to assure that EJTN would be benefiting from an operating grant for the 2014/2020 period under the EU Justice Programme. When I took office, in March 2011, the idea prevailing around the EU COM was that European training stakeholders should apply for individual calls to develop their own training projects. Accordingly, neither EJTN nor ERA would be entitled to benefit from operating grants to cover a wider range of training activities. Fortunately, we managed to invert that point of view as expressed in Regulation (EU) 1382/2013.

The second major task, of course, was to continue Victor Hall's outstanding work towards the restoration of EJTN's credibility.

Other challenges were to maintain the unity of the network as a European organisation. This involved, on the one hand, having Cyprus back as an EJTN member and, on the other hand, to assure that regional international training could be achieved within the EJTN's framework and not through the development of regional independent organisations.

Last but not least, it was imperative to achieve a considerably better cost to serve ratio (e.g. overall cost of training one participant for one day) and increase the diversity of training activities offered and the number of participants targeted, along with the proposal of interactive training methodologies.

What is your advice and wish for EJTN's future?

I certainly do hope that EJTN should be able to develop even further although having in mind that its core activity remains being the training of the European judiciary. Steps can still be taken towards an increased commitment of EJTN members to the development of European training activities while applying to interactive training methodologies.

If I may, I would like also to express two words of caution. The first, on what concerns the governance of the main bodies of the network as a whole, due to the increase in EJTN members entitled to attend the General Assembly, and their diversity, as a result of the enlargement of the EJTN's training scope (e.g. training of other legal professions). The second, on the adequate functioning and effective management of the several working groups taking into account the number of members now having a seat in each one of them.

Luís Pereira

March 2021

Interview with Wojciech Postulski – 2014-2019

Why did you accept the office of Secretary General at EJTN and what were your visions and ideas at that time?

I was a judge, I am a judge. At that time from a still relatively new Member State. I had experienced my country joining the EU, building bridges with colleagues from the West, building connections with the EU member States, with the EU institutions and partner Institutions, with the EU judges. I was very much believing in the openness, in the open approach to any actors willing to collaborate, to work with, to share ideas, to advise. I was very open to sharing. I think I had this idea that EJTN cannot be solely the training provider. That it should be much more; that it should be the platform where we meet, where we get to know each other, where we learn from each other, where we help others. I think that was always at the core of any decision, any step I took over those six years as the Secretary General of the Network.

EJTN is now 20 years old, one might say a young adult. What changes have you observed on its life journey so far?

I see the development of EJTN over last 20 years as a typical growing-up process. There was a birth in Bordeaux surrounded by happiness and enthusiasm. After a few years, we had to survive a few childhood diseases that were not always easy to cure and remedy. But as every child, EJTN went through that. Then there was a teenage period during which EJTN was looking for the right way for itself, to settle down, to have self-reflection on what to do.

And now EJTN is turning, as each of us did in the past, into the most self-reflective time, trying to find out what is really needed, what really is the goal for us, for life in the future. It is a very, very important period I believe for EJTN. It was

the Council that said in the conclusions adopted today [the interview was conducted on 11 March] that EJTN proved that it is well positioned to be named the main actor on the EU scene of the judicial training. This process was in the end successful, I guess.

Every Secretary General has encountered challenges during their mandate. What was your major challenge in this office?

For me, it was quite an easy task to build on the efforts of my predecessors: not to spoil anything that was achieved and to keep developing the Network. But if I were to identify some challenges, the main one was, I think, to build a strong position for the Network: to get the recognition among other judicial (both national and European) bodies, networks and associations; to get recognition among EU Institutions and become a solid partner for them; to be a driving force in judicial training. Not to follow all the time the ideas of the others, not to be the executor of the strategies that others impose, but to have a say.

Another constant challenging task was to be at the level of expectations of members. Because EJTN is for its Members, for national institutions. Remembering what is really needed at the grassroot level and not to be driven by the Brussels' bubble.

What is your advice and wish for EJTN's future?

It is always ambiguous to give advice from the perspective of the past. I believe that the future is always the point of intersection between the ambitious vision and the achievable reality. So it is very important to have this vision, and this vision must be ambitious, but at the same time one

must be aware that the reality might not always follow, not every vision is achievable. So, the reality is proving huge test of those visions. The key is to find the right point of intersection between the two. I always remember something called the red queen effect. It means that to maintain the current position you need to constantly run. But if we are in

a constant run we sometimes miss the time for reflection. Being closer to the current situation, the biggest challenge for EJTN is to get ready for the new normal, for the post pandemic reality. The wish for the future is to make it the right way, whatever will be required in this new reality.

Special interview with Wolfgang Heusel – Before 2002 (secretariat led by ERA, founding member of EJTN and secretariat leader before 2002)

You were already on board when the EJTN was founded, and you represented one of its founders. What were your visions and ideas at that time?

When EJTN was founded, a number of judicial colleges and training institutes in the Member States and ERA together thought that it was necessary to set up a network among us. In the 90s, we had problems in reaching out to the judges and prosecutors in the Member States with regard to European law training. It was a consequence of this 1992 Single Market legislation package that in the Member States the judiciary was lagging behind in realising how important it had become to be able to apply this new European acquis. It was less about creating a network to discuss and coordinate other activities such as exchanges or the so-called soft skills. It was really about learning and applying the genuine European law as such. Part of the vision, already in the 1990s, was the looming East enlargement. We were thinking of how to help Eastern European countries to prepare for accession by inviting them to participate in events we would organise.

We have come a long way since then. EJTN is now 20 years old, one might say a young adult. What changes have you observed on its life journey so far?

When we established EJTN in October 2000 in Bordeaux, we set up a Network which was informal, which did not have legal personality. So, it really was no more than a framework for cooperation, for coordination. The idea was not that the network as such would be a recipient of EU funding but that the members cooperating on projects would apply for funding from the Commission. But quite soon it became obvious that the Network should have its own legal personality for that purpose and in 2002 ERA as EJTN's secretariat, plus a few other members launched the project to reform the statute. The Copenhagen General Assembly in December 2002 discussed the proposal which was politically highly controversial. Some members did not like the idea at all. They had other political ideas: From the outset, in 2000/2001 already, and in parallel to us setting up this informal Network, the Commission supported a proposal by the 2000 French Presidency to set up another European judicial training network at EU level to be run by the Commission. This was a threat for our Network and a risk that the Commission, supported by some Member States, would create a parallel network which, conceived as an EU agency under Commission authority, would be the only recipient of direct funding from the EU and we would never benefit from anything like that. But we managed to overcome this danger and to vest our EJTN with legal personality.

Other important changes were not only to be able to receive project funding, but also an operating grant. And, in 2004, the acceptance of judicial training institutes from all ten new Member States. This has changed the character of the Network.

Which major challenges did you observe in EJTN's life and from the perspective of a member?

I have already mentioned two major challenges: the proposal to set up a parallel network, and EJTN's transformation into an Association with legal personality.

Another then major challenge was the financial crisis of 2008/2009. When Gilles Charbonnier, Secretary General 2005-2008, left office in March 2008, the network was in a disastrous financial state. I cannot judge to what extent it was his responsibility, to what extent it was perhaps also our responsibility at Steering Committee or General Assembly level as those who should have controlled the finances of the Network or set up a proper control mechanism. Whatever it was, it was really very difficult. I recall that in 2009 we had to organise an extraordinary General Assembly in Berlin where we discussed the situation in almost a state of bankruptcy. But in the end, it worked out. We created a contingency fund, we even managed to claim back some project money from the Commission. From then on, slowly and steadily, the Network became much more reliable with how it ran its finances. I think this was an effort we all succeeded in together. It was a huge challenge for Victor Hall, then Secretary General, who had to devote most of his term to getting out of this crisis. It was really a disaster.

Another challenge of that time was that the Network was seen pretty critically by the Commission. For quite a long time, the Commission was not really supportive at all. One can easily guess one reason for this – that the proposal to create a Commission-run network did not come to fruition. Another reason was that the Network, given its financial situation, did not deliver much at that time. But the situation improved when Victor's successor Luís Pereira managed to make the Commission aware of the growing deliveries which the Network then provided. He persuaded the Commission that it would make more sense to accept the situation as it was, to accept that the judiciaries and the training institutes of the Member States preferred this way of cooperation, and to support it. Since then, the Network has gone from strength to strength.

Is there any advice or any wish that you have for EJTN's future?

I wish EJTN to go from strength to strength also in the years to come. My advice would be that the Network should never forget that, like the Member States' judicial training institutes, it has been set up for the benefit of our target groups. We all are at the service of these, and EJTN should always be aware that it is at the service of its members as well. That assured, we can achieve the targets which we might set ourselves. And don't forget that all structures tend to become complacent at some stage, so be aware of that risk and do what is necessary to avoid it. For the rest I am very optimistic. It has been a pleasure to be part of this project for a very long time.

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 36 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 enhance 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 maintains its objectives of offering 1,200 exchanges in courts per year, as well as set out in EJTN's strategic plan 2021-2027 and the European judicial training strategy for 2021-2024 "Ensuring justice in the EU", EJTN pursues ambitious objectives: to organise cross-border training activities every year for at least 5% of all judges and prosecutors, to offer training for court staff and

networking opportunities for their dedicated training providers, and to make AIAKOS a standard component of the initial training offer.

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 decentralised planning and implementation structure, EJTN can rely on the mobilisation of all of its Members to provide the relevant expertise and active participation necessary to develop its offer of training activities. The financial support of the European Commission is essential to ensuring this development in the best possible conditions.

The merger of these factors along with the increasing trust placed in EJTN as a major and trusted partner in 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 among 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 several key achievements have been made, including:

- Further strengthening of the Network, with reference to the objectives set in the 2020 Communication from the European Commission "Ensuring justice in the EU - a European judicial training strategy for 2021-2024" COM(2020) 713 final;
- Improving coordination and assistance to national training institutions, Members and Observers, so as to facilitate and enhance their training offers;
- Increasing performance across existing financial and methodological means as well providing expertise and know-how through EJTN's networking.



Secretary General Markus Brückner
with Commissioner Didier Reynders

VISION, MISSION & 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 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 potential 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 high quality, innovative training activities that give added value to the training offered at national level, while 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 suitable for enabling 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 2021-2027 defines EJTN's strategic goals for this period as the following:

- To continue to develop and promote different activities and projects.
- To design, test and implement new formats for training activities.
- To reach out to new target audiences for training courses at several levels.
- To offer networking on court staff training and delivering training to court staff.
- To develop new formats and contents of exchanges, also with the aim of integrating court staff into the Exchange Programme.
- To maintain the high quality of EJTN continuous training seminars in the areas of European law and cooperation, judgecraft, rule of law, and the development of language skills.
- To continue to cooperate effectively with a wide array of partners, with EU candidate and potential candidate countries, the European Economic Area (EEA)/EFTA States, and its Observers.



JUDICIAL TRAINING PRINCIPLES

At EJTN's 2016 General Assembly, a landmark motion was presented and adopted. The General Assembly unanimously approved EJTN's proposed nine judicial training principles.

The judicial training principles were developed within EJTN's Steering Committee, which agreed in principle at its November 2015 meeting to draft a European statement relating to the core principles of judicial training. A process of moving the initiative forward was created and EJTN was named as the key actor in this process.

The principles establish key statements relating to the nature of judicial training, the importance of initial training, the right to regular continuous training and the integral nature of training in daily work. The principles also address the dominion of national training institutions regarding the content and delivery of training, clarify who should deliver training and stress the need for modern training techniques, while also expressing the need for funding and support commitments from authorities.



A UNIVERSAL TRAINING FRAMEWORK

Intended to provide a universal training framework for Europe's judiciary and judicial training institutions, the principles provide Europe's judiciary with a foundation and source of inspiration for managing their own judicial training needs. The principles also provide Europe's judicial training institutions with a common foundation from which to plan and deliver judicial training activities.

THE NINE JUDICIAL TRAINING PRINCIPLES

1. Judicial training is a multidisciplinary and practical type of training, essentially intended for the transmission of professional techniques and values complementary to legal education.
2. All judges and prosecutors should receive initial training before or on their appointment.
3. All judges and prosecutors should have the right to regular continuous training after appointment and throughout their careers and it is their responsibility to undertake it. Every Member State should put in place systems that ensure judges and prosecutors are able to exercise this right and responsibility.
4. Training is part of the normal working life of a judge and a prosecutor. All judges and prosecutors should have time to undertake training as part of their normal working time, unless it exceptionally jeopardises the service of justice.
5. In accordance with the principles of judicial independence, the design, content and delivery of judicial training are exclusively for national institutions responsible for judicial training to determine.
6. Training should primarily be delivered by judges and prosecutors who have been previously trained for this purpose.
7. Active and modern educational techniques should be given primacy in judicial training.
8. Member States should provide national institutions responsible for judicial training with sufficient funding and other resources to achieve their aims and objectives.
9. The highest judicial authorities should support judicial training.

The judicial training principles, available in Europe's official languages, may be found from EJTN's website.



ACTORS

EJTN MEMBERS



Federal Ministry of
Constitutional Affairs, Reforms,
Deregulation and Justice

INDEPENDENT | TRANSPARENT | CITIZEN-ORIENTED

AUSTRIA

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF CONSTITUTIONAL
AFFAIRS, REFORMS, DEREGULATION AND
JUSTICE



BELGIUM

JUDICIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE



NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF JUSTICE

BULGARIA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE



CROATIA

JUDICIAL ACADEMY



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
JUDICIAL SERVICE
SUPREME COURT OF CYPRUS

CYPRUS

SUPREME COURT



JUSTIČNÍ AKADEMIE

CZECH REPUBLIC
JUDICIAL ACADEMY



DENMARK

COURT ADMINISTRATION



ACADEMY OF EUROPEAN LAW (ERA)



ESTONIA

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL



SUPREME COURT
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

ESTONIA

SUPREME COURT



National Courts
Administration
Finland

FINLAND

NATIONAL COURT ADMINISTRATION



NATIONAL PROSECUTION AUTHORITY
Finland

FINLAND

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL



FRANCE

NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE JUDICIARY



GERMANY
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION



LATVIA
JUDICIAL TRAINING CENTRE



GREECE
NATIONAL SCHOOL OF THE JUDICIARY



LATVIA
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL



HUNGARY
NATIONAL OFFICE FOR THE JUDICIARY



LITHUANIA
NATIONAL COURTS ADMINISTRATION



HUNGARY
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL



LITHUANIA
PROSECUTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE



An tSéirbhís Chúirteanna
Courts Service
IRELAND
COMMITTEE FOR JUDICIAL STUDIES



LUXEMBOURG
PARQUET GÉNÉRAL



ITALY
SCHOOL FOR THE JUDICIARY



MALTA
JUDICIAL STUDIES COMMITTEE



ITALY
HIGH COUNCIL FOR THE JUDICIARY



THE NETHERLANDS
TRAINING AND STUDY CENTRE
FOR THE JUDICIARY



POLAND
NATIONAL SCHOOL OF JUDICIARY
AND PUBLIC PROSECUTION



PORTUGAL
CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL STUDIES



ROMANIA
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
MAGISTRACY



SLOVAK REPUBLIC
JUDICIAL ACADEMY



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
JUDICIAL TRAINING CENTRE

SLOVENIA
JUDICIAL TRAINING CENTRE



SPAIN
CENTRE FOR LEGAL STUDIES



CONSEJO GENERAL DEL PODER JUDICIAL
ESCUELA JUDICIAL

SPAIN
JUDICIAL SCHOOL



DOMSTOLSVERKET
SVERIGES DOMSTOLAR

SWEDEN
JUDICIAL TRAINING ACADEMY



ÅKLAGARMYNDIGHETEN
Swedish Prosecution Authority

SWEDEN
SWEDISH PROSECUTION AUTHORITY

EJTN OBSERVERS



JUDICIAL
COLLEGE

UK / ENGLAND AND WALES
JUDICIAL COLLEGE



UK / NORTHERN IRELAND
JUDICIAL STUDIES BOARD



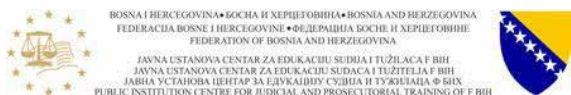
UK / SCOTLAND
JUDICIAL INSTITUTE



ALBANIA
MAGISTRATES SCHOOL



MONTENEGRO
JUDICIAL TRAINING CENTRE



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



**NORWEGIAN COURTS
ADMINISTRATION**

NORWAY
COURTS ADMINISTRATION



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



SERBIA
JUDICIAL ACADEMY



GEORGIA
HIGH SCHOOL OF JUSTICE



SWITZERLAND
**FOUNDATION FOR THE CONTINUOUS TRAIN-
ING OF SWISS JUDGES**



ACADEMY FOR JUDGES AND PUBLIC PROSECUTORS PAVEL SHATEV

NORTH MACEDONIA
**ACADEMY FOR JUDGES AND PUBLIC
PROSECUTORS**



UKRAINE
NATIONAL SCHOOL OF JUDGES



MOLDOVA
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE



UKRAINE
NATIONAL PROSECUTION ACADEMY

EJTN PARTNERS

TRUSTED PARTNERSHIPS AND TOPIC EXPERTS

Absolutely vital to EJTN's training offering is having close cooperation with partners. EJTN will continue its time-honoured tradition of collaboration with its trusted partners to provide expertise in designing and cross-pro-

moting training programmes. EJTN is proud to continue its long legacy of collaboration with its partners in order to deliver top-quality judicial training to Europe's judges and prosecutors.



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.



Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union

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



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



Regional Cooperation Council

- Cooperation with judiciary of Western Balkans countries



United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

- Global Judicial Integrity Network
- Study Visits



Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)

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



Eurojust

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



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

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



European Judicial Cybercrime Network

- Combatting cybercrime through training



Joint Investigation Teams (JIT) Network

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



Court of Justice of the European Union

- Long Term Exchanges
- Study Visits



European Commission

- Implementation of Operating Grant
- Needs analysis
- Study Visits (Brussels)



European Asylum Support Office (EASO)

- Cooperation within Court and Tribunal Network
- Mapping training needs



The European Association of Labour Court Judges

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



International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges (IARMJ)

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



EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

- JHA meeting of the training coordinators
- Study Visits



Council of Europe

- Study Visits
- Help in 28
- Cooperation on the Rule of Law project
- Cooperation with the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ)
- Cooperation with the Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE)
- Cooperation with the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE)



European Court of Human Rights

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



European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training

- EJTN-CEPOL-JIT Network Secretariat Cooperation on Joint Investigation Team Seminars
- Joint seminars and webinars
- Training analyses



European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE)

- Cooperation within Partnership based on MoU following EP Pilot



The Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH)

- Study Visits



European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE)

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



Association of European Competition Law Judges (AECLJ)

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



Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)

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



Max Planck Institute
for Social Anthropology

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
 - Study visits
- Collaboration on seminars in administrative law and human and fundamental rights



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
- Specialised judicial exchanges

EJTN IS ALSO ENGAGED IN OTHER COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WITH THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:

- e-Justice Communication via Online Data Exchange
- Ecole Nationale des Greffes
- European Institute of Public Administration
- European Lawyers' Foundation
- European Network of Forensic Science Institutes
- European Patent Office
- European Union Intellectual Property Office
- European University Institute
- International Association for European Cooperation on Justice and Home Affairs
- International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates
- International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law
- International Organization for Judicial Training
- Judicial Network of the European Union
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- Panel of Recognised International Market Experts in Finance
- Pharma crime
- Robert Schuman Foundation
- South East European Judicial Training Network
- The Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe

GOVERNANCE

DECENTRALISED PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES

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

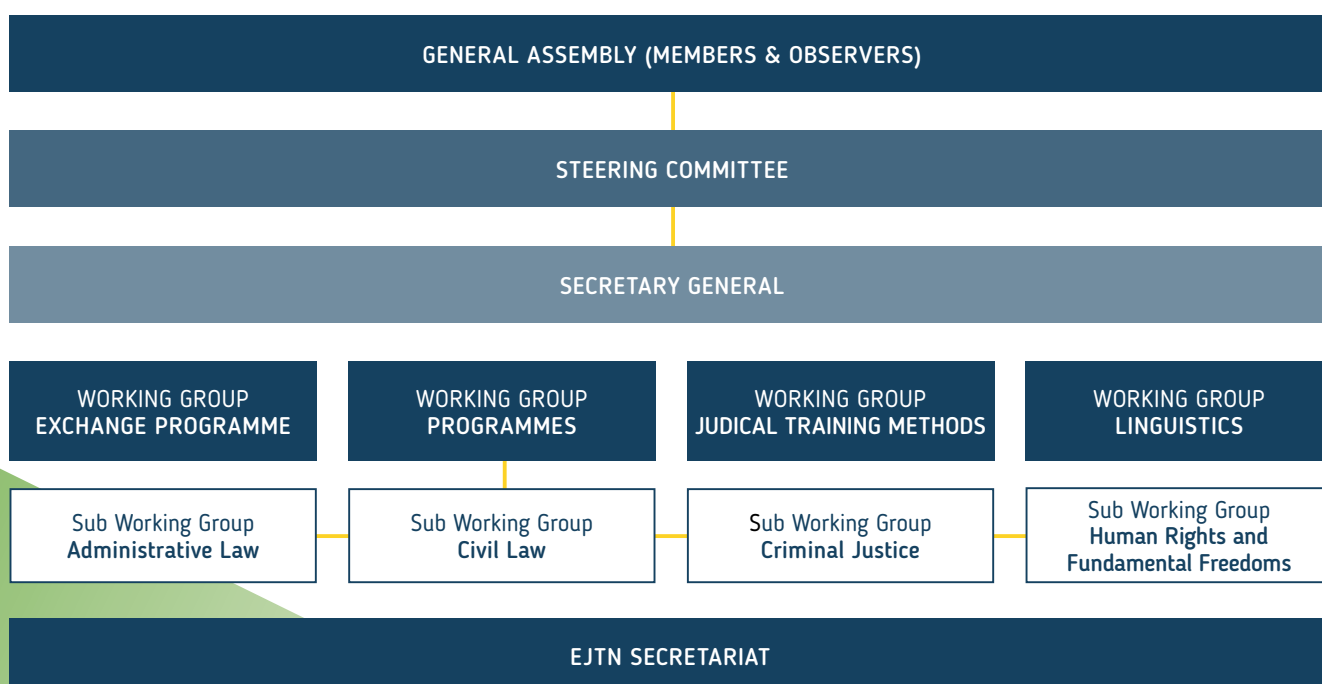
The decentralised planning concept means that every activity to be carried out within the EJTN annual training programme should firstly be identified as corresponding to an actual training need of the European judiciary by EJTN Members of the appropriate Working Group or Sub-Working Group. In addition, 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 36 Member institutions from the 27 EU Member States as well as numerous Observers and Partner institutions



Elected in 2019 and with their mandates beginning on 1st January 2020, EJTN's Steering Committee, Working Groups and Sub-Working Groups are made up of the following EJTN Members.

STEERING COMMITTEE

THE FRENCH NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE JUDICIARY (ENM) (FRANCE) – CHAIR



Members:

Federal Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, Reforms, Deregulation and Justice (Austria)
Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
Academy of European Law
National School for the Judiciary (France)
School for the Judiciary (Italy)
Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (The Netherlands)
Centre for Judicial Studies (Portugal)
Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)

WORKING GROUP JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS

CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL STUDIES (PORTUGAL)



Members:

Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
Judicial Academy (Czech Republic)
Academy of European Law
Office of the Prosecutor General (Estonia)
Ministry of Justice (Finland)
Prosecution Service (Finland)
National School for the Judiciary (France)
Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
National School of Judiciary Greece)
National Office for the Judiciary, Hungarian Judicial Academy (Hungary)
School for the Judiciary (Italy)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Latvia)
National Courts Administration (Lithuania)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Lithuania)
Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (Netherlands)
National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland)
Centre For Judicial Studies (Portugal)
National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
Judicial Training Centre (Slovenia)
Judicial School of the General Council of the Judiciary (Spain)
Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)
Judicial Training Academy (Sweden)
Judicial College (UK – England & Wales)
Judicial Studies Committee (UK – Scotland)

WORKING GROUP EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

BELGIAN JUDICIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (BELGIUM) – CONVENER



Members:

Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, Reforms, Deregulation and Justice (Austria)
Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
Judicial Academy (Czech Republic)
Supreme Court (Estonia)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Estonia)
National School for the Judiciary (France)
Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
National School of Judiciary (Greece)
School for the Judiciary (Italy)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Latvia)
National Courts Administration (Lithuania)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Lithuania)
Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (Netherlands)
National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland)
Centre For Judicial Studies (Portugal)
National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
Judicial Training Centre (Slovenia)
Judicial School of the General Council of the Judiciary (Spain)
Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)

WORKING GROUP PROGRAMMES

ACADEMY OF EUROPEAN LAW (ERA) – CONVENER



Members:

Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, Reforms, Deregulation and Justice (Austria)
Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
Judicial Academy (Czech Republic)
Academy of European Law
Ministry of Justice (Finland)
National School for the Judiciary (France)
Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
National School of Judiciary (Greece)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Hungary)
School for the Judiciary (Italy)
Latvian Judicial Training Centre (Latvia)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Latvia)
National Courts Administration (Lithuania)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Lithuania)
National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland)
Centre For Judicial Studies (Portugal)
National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
Judicial Training Centre (Slovenia)
Judicial School of the General Council of the Judiciary (Spain)
Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)
Prosecution Service (Sweden)

WORKING GROUP LINGUISTICS

THE CZECH JUDICIAL ACADEMY (CZECH REPUBLIC) - CONVENER



Members:

Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
Judicial Academy (Czech Republic)
Academy of European Law
National School for the Judiciary (France)
Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Germany)
National School of Judiciary (Greece)
Office of the National Council for the Judiciary (Hungary)
School for the Judiciary (Italy)
Latvian Judicial Training Centre (Latvia)
National Courts Administration (Lithuania)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Lithuania)
Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (The Netherlands)
National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland)
National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
Ministry of Justice (Slovenia)
Judicial School of the General Council of the Judiciary (Spain)
The Centre for Legal Studies (Spain)
Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors (North Macedonia)
National School of Judges (Ukraine)

SUB-WORKING GROUP CIVIL

SCUOLA SUPERIORE DELLA MAGISTRATURA (ITALY) - CONVENER



Members:

Institut de formation judiciaire - IGO (Belgium)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
Bundesministerium der Justiz (Germany)
National School of Judges (Greece)
Centro de Estudos Judiciários (Portugal)
National Institute for the magistracy (Romania)
Escuela Judicial de España (Spain)
Academy of European Law (ERA)
The Judicial Training Centre (Slovenia)

SUB-WORKING GROUP ADMINISTRATIVE

ROMANIAN INSTITUTE OF MAGISTRACY (ROMANIA) - CONVENER



Members:

Academy of European Law (ERA)
Center for Judicial Training (Slovenia)
Federal Ministry of Justice (Austria)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
School for the Judiciary (Italy)
National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
National Institute of Magistracy (Romania) - Convener
Ministry of Justice / Oikeusministeriö (Finland)
National School of Judiciary (Greece)
Centro de Estudos Judiciários (Portugal)

SUB-WORKING GROUP CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CENTRE FOR LEGAL STUDIES (SPAIN) - CONVENER



Members:

Federal Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, Reforms, Deregulation and Justice (Austria)
Belgian Judicial Training Institute (Belgium)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
The French National School for the Judiciary (ENM) (France)
National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
Judicial Academy (Czech Republic)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
Academy of European Law (ERA)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Latvia)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Lithuania)
National Institute of Magistracy (Romania)
Prosecution Service (Sweden)
Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection in coordination with the Bavarian Ministry of Justice (Germany)
National School of Judges (Greece)
The School for the Judiciary (Italy)
Centre for Judicial Studies (Portugal)

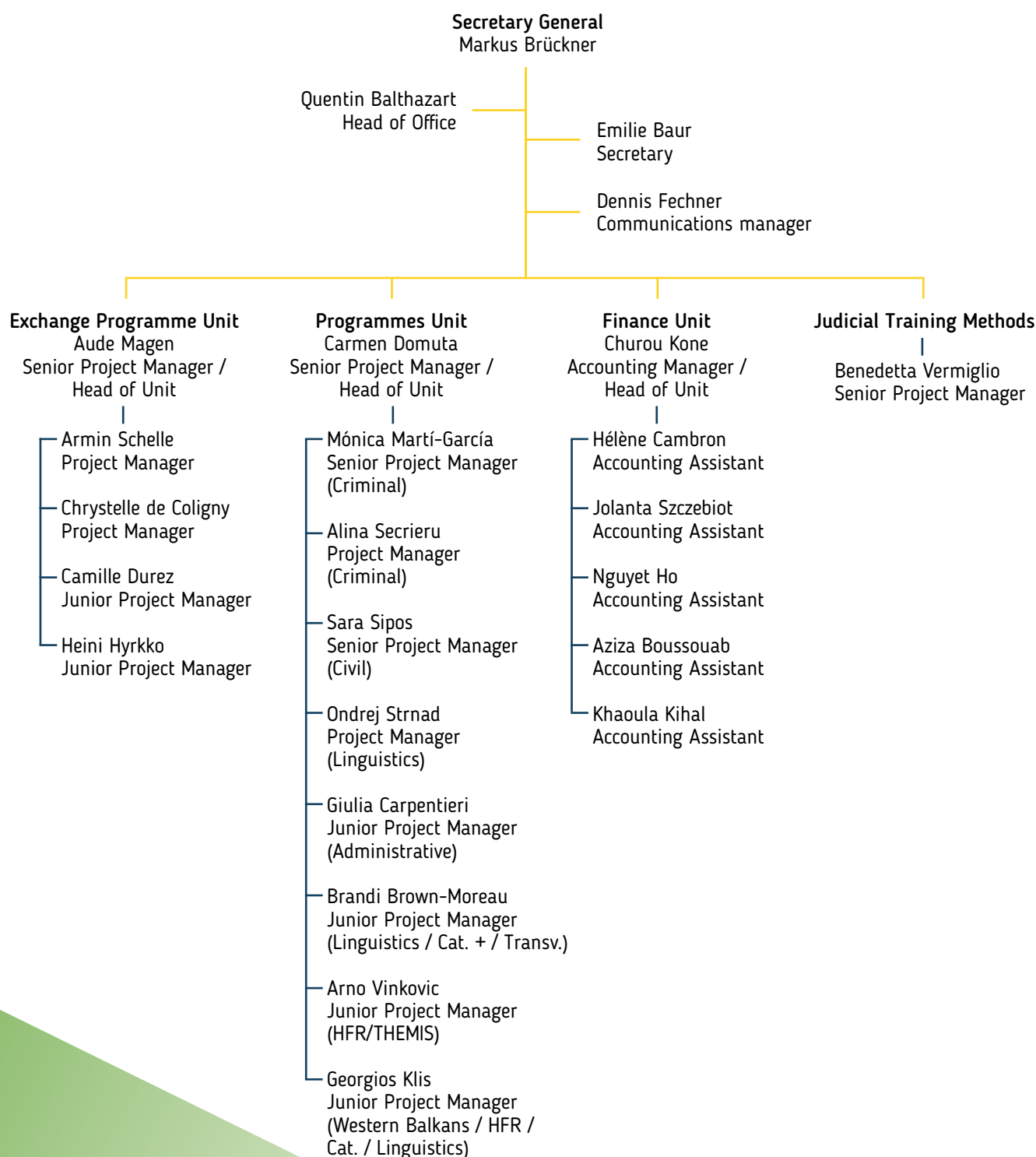
SUB-WORKING GROUP HUMAN AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION REPRESENTED BY THE HESSIAN MINISTRY OF JUSTICE (CONVENER)

Members:

Federal Ministry of Justice (Austria)
National Institute of Justice (Bulgaria)
Academy of European Law (ERA)
The Centre for Legal Studies (ES)
Judicial School of the General Council of the Judiciary (ES)
Ministry of Justice (Finland)
National School of Judiciary (Greece)
Judicial Academy (Croatia)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Hungary)
The School for the Judiciary (Italy)
State Council (Italy)
Office of the Prosecutor General (Lithuania)
National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (Poland)
Centre for Judicial Studies (Portugal)

EJTN TEAM



EJTN TEAM

DIRECTION

EXCHANGE
PROGRAMME UNIT

PROGRAMMES UNIT

COMMUNICATIONS



**Judge
Markus Brückner**
Secretary General



Quentin Balthazart
Head of Office



Dennis Fechner
Communication Manager



Aude Magen
Senior Project Manager
Head of Unit



Armin Schelle
Project Manager



Emilie Baur
Secretary



Carmen Domuta
Senior Project Manager
Head of Unit



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Coligny**
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Arno Vinkovic
Junior Project Manager



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Alina Secieru
Project Manager



Ondrej Strnad
Project Manager



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Junior Project Manager



Giorgos Klis
Junior Project Manager

EJTN TEAM

FINANCE UNIT



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Head of Unit



Hélène Cambron
Accounting Assistant



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JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS



Benedetta Vermiglio
Senior Project Manager

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

EJTN WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING EXPERTS:

- Diego Acosta
- Pinar Akman
- Magdalena Aksamitowska-Kobos
- Dubravka Aksamovic
- Petros Alikakos
- Marco Alma
- Anthimos Anthimos
- Calos Manuel Alves
- Magdalena Aksamitowska-Kobos
- Estella Baker
- Marie Baker
- Iliyana Baltova
- Raluca Bercea
- Pontus Bergsten
- Daniel Bernard
- Markiyan Bem
- Holger Böhman
- Marco Botta
- Christopher Bovis
- Morana Briški
- Paolo Bruno
- Alexandra Buciu Barba
- Vlatka Butorac Malnar
- Theo Byl
- Fabrizio Cafaggi
- Miguel Ángel Campos Pardillos
- Paolo Caprile
- Roberto Caranta
- Karin Carlens
- Thomas Cassuto
- José Castillo- García
- Anthony Collins
- Leslie Cuthbert
- Leona Černá
- Andrea Anna Maria Chis
- Roxana Constantinescu
- Jeremy Cooper
- Clara Cotroneo
- Ilse Couwenbergh
- Ingebjörg Darsow-Faller
- Christian Davies
- Richard Delaney
- Wendy De Bondt
- Costant De Konick
- Boudewijn De Jonge
- Emellin De Oliveira
- Katelijne Declerck
- Wiebke Dettmers
- Luc De Houwer
- Dimitri Desme
- Nuria Diaz Abad
- Sietske Dijkstra
- Daniele Domenicucci
- Filippo Donati
- Horatiu Dumbrava
- Marine Fahy
- Calogero Ferrara
- Alkiviadis Feresidis
- Vitezslava Fricova

- Diana Urania Galetta
- Aleš Galič
- Elsa Garcia-Maltras De Blas
- Amanda Gedge-Wallace
- Anca Ghideanu
- Styliani Giailoglou
- Florence Gilbert
- Martina Grochová
- Gábor Gyulai
- James Hamilton
- John Hardy
- Tricia Harkin
- Michael Hopmeier
- Andrei Iacuba
- Nicolas Jacobs
- Sara Jakobsson
- Lorenzo Jannelli
- Sanja Jovičić
- Marko Juric
- Alexandros Ioannis Kargopoulos
- Matthias Keller
- Jan Kerkhofs
- Peter Kimpian
- Andrej Kmecl
- Stergios Kofinis
- Catherine Koutsopoulou
- Jan Kratochvíl
- Angelina Lazarova
- Senija Ledić
- Paul Leplomb
- Gordon Lingard
- Letitia Lucescu
- Francisco Luis
- Ann Lukowiak
- Aleksandra Machowska
- Philippe Malherbe
- Jonika Marflak Trontelj
- Dariusz Mazur
- Simon Minks
- Giorgio Monti
- Flavius Motu
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- Paul Notenboom
- Robert O'Donoghue
- Alexandre Oliveira
- Babek Oshidari
- Tanja Pavelin
- Jasminka Pecotic Kaufman
- Denisa Petriláková
- Siniša Petrović
- Daniela Piana
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- Massimiliano Puglia
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- Jean-Philippe Rivaud
- Karolina Rokicka
- Aleš Roztočil
- Luis Rodríguez Sol
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- Eva Samaniego Fernández
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- Antoon Schotsaert
- Daniel Severinsson
- Halina Sierocka
- Barbara Simma
- Gerd Sinding
- Monika Skinder-Pik
- Christopher Sobotta
- Vendula Sochorová
- Federica Sona
- Peter Piccu-Van Speybrouck
- Darja Srabotič
- Marc Steiner
- Maciej Szpunar
- Ugo Taddei
- Ana Maria Telbis
- Markus Thoma
- Dimitrios Titsias
- Mariana Todorova
- Rafael Toledano Cantero
- Maarja Torga
- Epameinondas Troulinos
- Diana Ungureanu
- Nicolas Van Der Linden
- Luc Van Der Taelen
- Herman Van Harten
- Philippe Van Linthout
- Romulus Dan Varga
- Vikarská Zuzana
- David Vilas Fernández
- Isabel Alice Walbaum Robinson
- Petra Wagner
- Michael Jurgen Werner
- Nikolai Zacharias
- Boštjan Zalar
- Aleš Zalar
- Antonio Zárate Conde
- Stefano Zirulia
- Bruna Žuber



ACTIVITIES

EXCHANGE PROGRAMME FOR JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES



OVERVIEW

With great challenges come great opportunities. So says, or similarly says, a well-known phrase describing the impact of greater obstacles and crises on the development of new and alternative approaches and solutions. Without altering our core goal to strengthen trust and co-operation among European judicial authorities, the Exchange Programme was able to follow new paths of designing, managing, and implementing trainings and exchanges for judges and prosecutors from EU Member States.

While 2020 was an extraordinary breaking point in the implementation of judicial exchanges, it marked a significant push towards the pursuit of target group-oriented and tailored distance-learning offers that provoked a high degree of creativity and innovation from participants and organisers alike.

AN UNPREDICTABLE YEAR FOR THE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

With the calls for applications for the Exchange Programme activities already launched in late 2019 and early 2020, optimism and dedication to provide and to conduct the usual training as much as possible was the first and most obvious way to approach Exchange Programme portfolios. Lessons were learned quickly, and the global situation required a new strategy to cope with travel restrictions, lockdown measures and to protect participants, experts, and EJTN staff alike from serious health threats.

To maintain its training offer, the Exchange Programme used two main mechanisms: first, postponements of the trainings were proposed to the participants. While these postponements were sometimes possible, it became clear that exchanges and study visits alike would be best taking place online to provide as many judges and prosecutors as possible with continued training offers.

Consequently, huge efforts had to be taken to maintain the existing training offer as much as possible and, where

travelling and face-to-face judicial training were no longer possible, design and stabilise a system of alternative and creative training solutions. In line with frequently updated EJTN policies, constantly changing restrictions in different Member States and the omnipresent threat of a serious health hazard to every person involved, the Exchange Programme began experimenting, analysing, reviewing, and carefully evaluating a vast array of different tools and software for distance learning. Quick action and creative co-operation with our partner institutions was required while quality standards and the content of the trainings still needed to be monitored and analysed.

DIGITALISATION OF JUDICIAL TRAINING

The implementation of online trainings – despite additional challenges and many lessons to be learned – proved to be a wise and forward-looking decision. Consequently, the Exchange Programme was able to offer many online trainings reaching out to a significant number of participants across the EU Member States while maintaining high quality standards for modified, enhanced, and further developed training schemes. Thanks to the magnificent support and efforts of our partners, the European courts and institutions, members, and national training institutions, 925 judges, prosecutors, and trainers from 24 EU Member States, the United Kingdom, and 5 Western Balkan countries benefited from the opportunity to participate in online training activities offered under the Exchange Programme to improve their knowledge of the foreign judicial system and language, European law and cooperation instruments as well as exchange views with their European colleagues.

For the first time since its launch in 2005, the Exchange Programme was confronted with the need for a major transition of most of its training offers to digital and distance-learning. While 83 participants in general, specialised,



Short term group exchange in Belgium 7th–18th September 2020

and bilateral exchanges and one study visit could take place face-to-face when rules for travel and physical contact in the respective member states allowed it, many trainings could be transformed into online events.

The AIAKOS Programme took up a significant share of the 2020 online events. Taking place virtually, it gave judges and prosecutors at the early stage of their career the opportunity to foster mutual trust with a view to future cooperation. Almost 530 participants took part in 14 institutions during two virtual exchange weeks organised in autumn 2020. In addition, the first ever online group exchange was organised in October 2020, an experience that shall be repeated in 2021.

Furthermore, through careful and detailed preparation as well as continuous testing and evaluation of different online conference capacities, study visits proved to be the most important online activities as the nature of them entails direct training by experts and representatives from European courts and institutions. Study visits took place via various videoconference tools and reached a high number of motivated participants.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

In 2020, a total of 925 judicial authorities, trainers and future judges and prosecutors from the EU Member States and the Western Balkan countries benefited from judicial exchanges and training activities offered in the framework of the Exchange Programme. The main activities covered initial training for early-career and future judges and prosecutors, short-term exchanges, as well as long-term training and virtual study visits with European courts and institutions.

The 2020 **AIAKOS Programme** was among the first EJTN events that were largely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Hence, a new format had to be found and was implemented through eAIAKOS, an online version offering a unique exchange platform for early-career and future European judges and prosecutors to learn and exchange views about each other's national judicial systems and foster mutual trust in view of future cooperation at the early stage of their career.

In 2020, the two weeks of the spring term had to be cancelled due to lockdown measures in most EU Member States and the participants from 11 Member States were re-allocated to participate in autumn. Altogether, 527 participants from 17 Member States and 5 Western Balkan countries took part in the two training weeks that were hosted by a total of 14 institutions. As a result, the AIAKOS Programme remains the principal initial training activity offered under the Exchange Programme for young judges and prosecutors from across the continent with the aim of raising their awareness about the European dimension of their (future) work.

Short-term exchanges dedicated to European judicial authorities and trainers were among the training schemes most affected by the global health crisis. These exchanges being highly dependent on travel restrictions, lockdown-measures, and eventual national security policies of both parties involved were very vulnerable to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

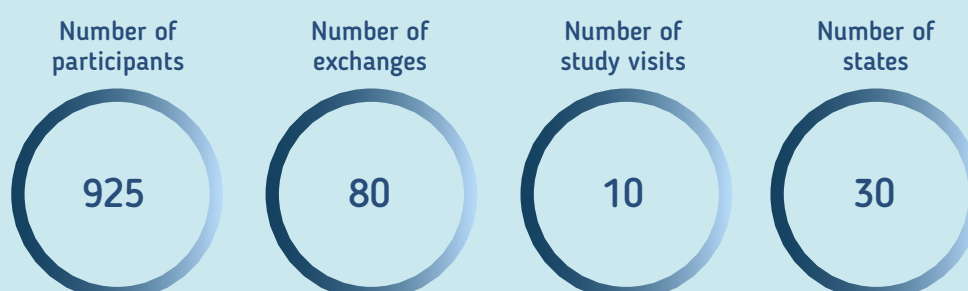
Nevertheless, 83 judges, prosecutors, and judicial trainers from 18 Member States had the opportunity to take part in a face-to-face judicial exchange in a court/prosecution office/judicial training institution of another Member State during summer and the beginning of autumn 2020, a time when contamination rates had dropped far enough to

RESULTS

Despite all adverse conditions, 925 judges, prosecutors, and trainers from 24 EU Member States, the United Kingdom, and five Western Balkan countries benefited from newly established and modified training programmes. While the organisation of in-person training was highly uncertain in 2020, 178 judicial authorities and trainers still had the opportunity to benefit from an on-site training organised under the Exchange Programme.

In addition, newly developed and implemented online training was provided to 747 participants and proved that the organisation of judicial training through distance-learning and digital communication is possible and, more-

over, expedient when the conditions require it. Among these, 9 participants took part in the first online group exchange. The EJTN Exchange Programme proved to be creative and determined to put everything in place to make digital training not only a substitute for physical training, but a new and valuable part of the Exchange Programme portfolio. Where the digitalisation of exchanges was not possible due to the nature of the exchange type, the decision to extend the implementation period of the Exchange Programme 2020 until the end of April 2021 provided the possibility for more judges and prosecutors to postpone their face-to-face trainings.



allow physical events under certain, carefully evaluated conditions that required the unconditional respect of hygiene and social distancing standards. Among the 83 participants, 60 took part in a general exchange, 16 in a specialised exchange, 12 in three bilateral exchanges, and 3 in an exchange dedicated to court presidents and chief prosecutors.

Additionally, 9 judges/prosecutors/trainers had the possibility of taking part in the first ever online exchange.

Long-term training periods. Traineeships at the European courts and institutions granted the possibility for distance and hybrid learning as judges and prosecutors followed the programme both remotely and at the Courts and institutions themselves if the working conditions and social distancing measures allowed it. Our marvellous and long-established co-operation and relationship with the institutions could hence continue in 2020, even if sometimes adjustments were necessary.

As a result, 62 judges and prosecutors were assigned to long-term training periods at the European Court of Human Rights (12 months), the Court of Justice of the European Union (6 and 10 months), and Eurojust (3–4 months).

EJTN long-term trainees benefited from an in-depth insight in the work and functioning of the institutions while intensifying their knowledge on European human rights instruments, the EU acquis, and case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union, as well as European criminal co-operation instruments.

Active participation in the analysis and work on the proceedings and case law of the Courts provided the long-term trainees with valuable knowledge on European law that can be shared and applied in their respective countries for the benefit of their national judiciary.

Study visits. As the Exchange Programme intensified its implementation of virtual training tools, the possibility of replacing on-site study visits at the European and international courts and institutions became more and more feasible. In close co-operation with the hosting institutions, tailored and adapted curricula for virtual events could be implemented.

A first study visit was organised in the traditional face-to-face format at the European Court of Human Rights in March. Very shortly after, travel restrictions, lockdown measures, and the imminent threat of the COVID-19 pandemic forced the Exchange Programme to re-think the concept of study visits, creating distance-learning events and involving experts from the institutions.

Starting in June with the first virtual study visit at the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights in Vienna, nine more virtual events took place throughout the year. In co-operation with the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Court of Human Rights, the Hague Conference on Private International Law, the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights / the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the EU institutions in Brussels, some 211 participants attended presentations, discussions, and case studies in various virtual classrooms.



Virtual study visit with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights on 4th June 2020

ACTIVITY TYPE	PARTICIPANTS ONLINE	PARTICIPANTS PHYSICAL
General exchanges in courts, prosecution offices and judicial training institutions of EU MS	9	52
Specialised exchanges	0	16
Bilateral exchanges	0	12
Exchanges for court presidents and chief prosecutors	0	3
Study visits at the ECtHR, the CJEU, Eurojust, EU institutions, FRA/UNODC and the HCCH	211	33
Long-term training periods at the ECtHR, the CJEU and Eurojust*	-	62
AIAKOS Programme	527	0
TOTAL	747	178

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW ACTIVITIES



OVERVIEW

The EJTN Administrative Law Portfolio foresees a large offer and designs and implements high-quality and practical trainings for Administrative Law Judges, Prosecutors, Trainers and Judicial Professionals in Europe. Developing new best practices and methodologies for the implementation of interactive seminars is indeed the main goal of the Administrative Law Sub-Working Group. Since its creation in 2011, the EJTN Administrative Law Portfolio offer has seen growth in terms of trainings implemented by year. In 2020, despite the COVID-19 outbreak, EJTN's Administrative Law project provided 11 seminars (1 face to face event and 10 online classrooms) on different key topics: EU Antitrust Law, EU Public Procurements, EU Migration Law, EU Environmental Law, Data Protection and Privacy Rights, Administrative Law and Procedure (2 editions), EU Asylum Law, EU Preliminary Ruling Procedure, EU Competition Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution in Administrative Law. A four-episode webinar series on Jurisprudence Updates has been also implemented.

FIRST JOINT PROJECT WITH THE EUROPEAN ASYLUM SUPPORT OFFICE (EASO)

The EJTN brings value to judicial training through its network of Members, Observers and Partners, and cooperation with various judicial networks and associations. In this respect, the first joint project with the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) has been implemented in May 2020 under the organisation of the Administrative Law Portfolio. The project consisted of a pilot webinar series on Country-of-Origin Information (COI) and Judicial Training Methodology aimed at current or future judicial trainers on COI. The training enabled over 40 participants from 14 EU Member States and trainers of both partner institutions to learn and teach in an interactive way.

The last session held on 25th of May, covered the topic of Judicial Training Methodology. The EJTN expert leading this session advised participants on the principles illustrated in the EJTN Handbook on Judicial Training. She explained the role and competencies of the trainer within the judiciary: How to plan a training programme, how to use modern

training methods and design, and how to organise training events and evaluations. Due to the current situation faced by the learning sector since the COVID-19 outbreak, specific emphasis was put on webinars and interactive distance learning tools.

The entire webinar series has been successful and achieved the pre-set objectives. EJTN is looking forward to further jointly organised projects on international protection and judicial training methodology!

WEBINAR SERIES ON JURISPRUDENCE UPDATES AND AD 1h LUNCHTIME WEBINARS

In 2020 the Administrative Law Portfolio launched a four-episodes webinar on "Jurisprudence Updates: most important decisions of the European Court of Justice relevant for Administrative Judges".

The goal of the webinar series was to provide a wide spectrum of the most recent developments of the case-law from the European Court of Justice in different fields of interest, especially for Administrative Judges: Tax Law, State Aid, Environmental Law and Data Protection.

Each episode foresaw the participation of leading experts and practitioners in the field, who guided participants through the most important recent cases.

134 participants overall attended the four episodes from all over Europe. Due to the success of this project, it will continue in 2021!

In July 2020, EJTN started a new project consisting of a series of 1-hour lunchtime webinars in the format 1 topic/1 expert/1 hour. These trainings approach themes of interest for EU judiciary in this time of pandemic and are composed of short introduction – 30-minutes presentation – Q/A session. No formal application, no selection process, no national quota foreseen. Two webinars have been implemented in 2020 under the Administrative Law Sub-Working Group on the topics of 'Tax law challenges in the COVID-19 pandemic' and 'The need for national special public procurement rules in times of pandemic, and the European Union law' which saw the participation of 28 and 38 attendees respectively.

RESULTS



DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

The first seminar of 2020 covered the topic of 'EU Trust Law' and took place on the 2-3 March in Bucharest, Romania. The training aimed to provide judges from the EU Member States with a basic training course on the application of Articles 101 and 102 of the TFEU and enable them to understand the concepts of Antitrust provisions and to get the knowledge needed for a proper use of the basic EU legal provisions on Antitrust. A total of 27 participants from 12 EU Member States (MS) participated to the event. The training was led by a panel of 7 expert-speakers.

The training on 'EU Public Procurements' has been the first training moved online due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Originally scheduled on 30-31 of March in Trier, it took place on the 27-28 April online. Due to the online format, participants have been requested to follow some preparatory videos in advance to discuss practical aspects of the topic live with the experts involved. This methodology has been used for the seminars taking place until mid-June. Such discussion aimed at providing national judges with good understanding of the key concepts, principles and themes of the EU Public Procurement Law and an update on the case law of the EU Courts. A total of 22 participants from 10 EU MS participated to the first event. The training was led by a panel of 6 expert-speakers.

The third seminar of the year covered the topic of 'EU Migration Law'. Organised for the first time under the EJTN Administrative Law Portfolio Offer, this training has been extremely well received by participants. It took place as two separate morning sessions on the 14th of May and 12th of June 2021. Participants devoted their time to get introduced to the analysis of practical cases covering different topics concerning EU Policy and Legislation on legal migration. 30 participants from 13 EU MS and 1 WB (North Macedonia) attended the training. The training was led by a panel of 5 expert-speakers.

The training on 'EU Environmental Law' took place on 25-26 May, online. This training, organised in collaboration with the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ), addressed the specific topics of 'Air Quality Legislation', 'Water Framework Directive' and 'Waste Management' by a combination of video-lectures shared in advance with participants and practical case analyses done live online. A representation of 11 EU MS was present at the event as an audience of 25 participants. The training was led by a panel of 5 expert-speakers.

On 8-9 June 2020, the seminar on 'EU Data Protection and Privacy Rights' took place online. These two morning online sessions were dedicated to addressing the changes to the EU's data protection framework and foster discussion among practitioners from the different EU Member States focusing on the most relevant legal and jurisprudential developments in the field of data protection and the protection of the right to private life. A total of 24 participants from 13 EU MS participated in the event. The training was led by a panel of 7 expert-speakers.

The training on 'Administrative Law and Procedure' seminar, took place on the 29-30 June online. Participants attending

this training devoted their time to the discussion of practical cases and selected issues in the field of administrative procedural law with a definite comparative aspect and approach. The same seminar was repeated on the 9-10 December as an online classroom too. For this second edition two new sessions on the use of IT and Artificial Intelligence in the decision-making process of Public Administration and the Administrative Procedures were included in the programme. A total of 28 participants from 13 EU MS and a panel of 5 experts participated in the first event. The second event saw the participation of 31 attendees from 10 MS and 7 experts.

The training on 'EU Asylum Law' took place on 17-18 September, online. This training, organised in collaboration with Max Plank, combined an anthropological analysis of the topic with the legal approach. Attendees participated in a practical workshop and implemented a Moot Court exercise online. Two representatives from EASO participated as speakers giving an overview of the current situation of Asylum Seekers in Europe and the role of EASO as supporter for European Courts and Tribunals. A total of 11 participants from 7 EU MS participated at the event. The training was led by a panel of 7 expert-speakers.

On the 22-23 October 2020 the training on 'EU Preliminary Ruling Procedure' took place online. The training has been based on practical workshops and framework lectures addressing the instances warranting referral of questions to the CJEU, the practical drafting and formulation of questions, the interpretation and implementation of CJEU's judgments, and the latter's views on the best practices in this field. Two representatives from the EU Court of Justice participated as experts/speakers giving inputs concerning good practices and common mistakes in drafting references and how to read, interpret and implement a CJEU Judgements. A total of 16 participants from 10 EU MS participated in the event. The training was led by a panel of 4 expert-speakers.

On the 9-10 November the ninth seminar of 2020 took place online covering the topic 'EU Competition Law'. The training, targeted for judges and prosecutors already dealing with competition, was focused on the relationship between Competition Law and Digital Economy, Big Data, Innovation and Inequalities, Public and Private Antitrust Enforcement. A total of 17 participants from 8 EU MS participated in the event. The training was led by a panel of 5 expert-speakers.

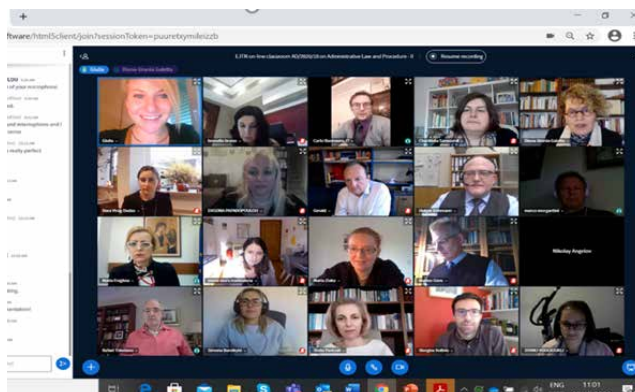
An additional event took place online in 2020: the seminar on 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in Administrative Law'. The event took place on 1-2 December 2020 and saw the participation of the Association for European Judges for Mediation (GEMME) in the speakers' panel. Participants devoted their time to get introduced to the principles and practical implementation of conciliation in the daily work of Administrative Judges. A practical play role exercise was proposed to attendees during the second day of the training. A total of 16 participants from 8 EU MS attended the training. The seminar was led by a panel of 6 expert-speakers.

Topic table

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR
EU Antitrust Law Seminar	National Institute of Magistracy (NIM), Romania	2-3 March 2020	Senka Orlić Zaninović
EU Public Procurements Seminar	Online	27-28 April 2020	Jean-Philippe Rageade Avgustina Dorich
EU Migration Law Seminar	Online	14 May-12 June 2020	Diana Mihaila Fernando Duarte
EU Environmental Law Seminar	Online	25-26 May 2020	Jean-Philippe Rageade Pouikli Kleoniki
EU Data Protection and Privacy Right Seminar	Online	8-9 June 2020	Senka Orlić Zaninović Jonika Marflak Trontelj
Administrative Law and Procedure Seminar	Online	29-30 June 2020	Maria Laura Maddalena Evgenia Papadopoulou
EU Asylum Law Seminar	Online	17-18 September 2020	Tiina Hyvärinen
EU Preliminary Ruling Procedure Seminar	Online	22-23 October 2020	Diana Mihaila Nikolay Angelov
EU Competition Law Seminar	Online	9-10 November 2020	Rosa Perna
Alternative dispute Resolution in Administrative Law Seminar	Online	1-2 December 2020	Jonika Marflak Trontelj Nikolay Angelov
Administrative Law and Procedure Seminar (second edition)	Online	9-10 December 2020	Maria Laura Maddalena Evgenia Papadopoulou Gerald Fegerl



Group Picture, Judicial training on EU Antitrust Law, March 2020, Bucharest, Romania



Online Classroom, Administrative Law and Procedure, December 2020, BigBlueButton Videoconference Platform

CIVIL LAW ACTIVITIES



OVERVIEW

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

It aims to improve judicial cooperation in civil law matters and focuses 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 – developing online trainings and targeting new topics

Since its creation ten years ago, the group extended its training offer up to ten seminars per annum in key topics ranging from European family law, European labour law and European procedural and commercial law. Due to the worldwide pandemic, the Civil Law Sub-Working Group was compelled to transfer 8 out of 10 activities online and add three new webinars, with a focus on pandemic issues in EU Civil matters.

In the pre-pandemic set up the Civil Law project offers two-day long training activities aimed at improving skills and knowledge of judges and prosecutors and judicial trainers across the EU member States. The trainings combine the theoretical lectures with the analysis of real cases in the framework of interactive workshops.

However, since March 2020, the Civil Law project had to adapt its outreach to judges and prosecutors from the EU. Limitations in movement introduced by EU Member States' governments did not allow trainings to continue in physical form, and not all trainings could have been held online. Rules and procedures from health authorities in terms of limitations on the number of participants and distance needed has also imposed conditions that most of the EJTN members couldn't apply. As a result – EJTN found a creative way of continuing its trainings in an online format, combining presentations, Q&A sessions and short workshops in virtual classrooms, using interactive technical tools available.

Currently the Civil Law project offers two-half day long training activities. Together with the shortened time frame of each seminar, the Civil Law project activities remained committed to offering tailor made sessions to keep the participants engaged, through targeted online tools like relevant and practical exercises.

A total of 321 judges and prosecutors attended the Civil Law project's foreseen programmatic training events and additionally 196 attended the EJTN's dedicated specialised 1 hour webinars (2 on MS Teams and 1 on ADOBE). In total the Civil Law project in 2020 reached 517 judges and prosecutors from 23 EU Member States and 3 Western Balkan States (North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo).

The Civil Law project continued the cooperation with EJN and GEMME and gathered top expertise from different members states and EU institutions.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

In 2020, the Civil Law project organised a total of 10 seminars, out of which 2 were face to face, and eight were transferred online due to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic. The Civil Law SWG identified key areas requiring judicial training at the EU-level. The trainings were open to magistrates from all EU Member States and the Western Balkan States.

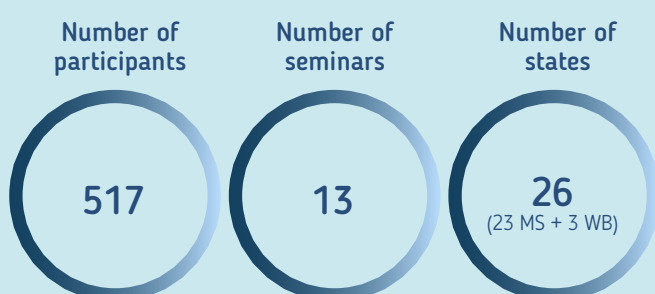
The first civil law seminar of 2020 was held in February in Ljubljana, Slovenia on the topic of *Service of documents & taking of evidence abroad*. The event gathered a total of 48 judges and prosecutors, representing 13 EU Member States. The training was led by a panel of seven expert-speakers. The training addressed most recent case-law developments and engaged participants in discussions on practical aspects involving cross-border elements.

The second training event of 2020 on the topic of *Brussels I regulation – jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgements in civil matters* was successfully repeated for the seventh time and held in March in Prague organised by the Czech Judicial Academy. The training was led by a panel of eight expert-speakers and gathered the participation of 41 judges and prosecutors from 15 different EU Member States. The evaluations revealed that this topic continues to be a hot one, still requested by many magistrates.

The third training event of 2020 on the topic of *Intellectual Property Law - Trademarks & designs* was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent travel and lockdown restrictions. The training was led by a panel of four expert-speakers and attended by 38 judges and prosecutors from 18 different EU Member States and Kosovo. The designated platform for this online training was Zoom, where participants had the chance to go through the legal framework, solve some cases and engage into fruitful discussions with top experts in the field.

RESULTS

The civil law sub-working group seminars are an effective way of training EU and Western Balkan member states judges and prosecutors also providing an excellent platform and opportunity for knowledge exchange.



The fourth training event of 2020 on the topic of *Protection of consumers rights in the light of the EU law* was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent travel and lockdown restrictions. The training was led by a panel of six expert-speakers and saw the participation of 43 judges and prosecutors from 14 different EU Member States. The designated platform for this online training was Zoom. The training tackled the latest issues linked to online commerce, latest legal developments as well as recent ECJ case law.

The fifth training event of 2020 on the topic of *Cross-border labour law* was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent travel and lockdown restrictions. The training was led by a panel of five expert-speakers and saw the participation of 31 judges and prosecutors from 14 different EU Member States. The designated platform for this online training was Zoom, which allowed the participants to attend to different presentations and then be part of short workshops solving practical cases.

The sixth training event of 2020 on the topic of *Conflict of laws in contractual matters (Rome I. and II.)* was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent travel and lockdown restrictions. The training was led by a panel of five expert-speakers and saw the participation of 33 judges and prosecutors from 12 different EU Member States. The designated platform for this online training was Zoom. The experts engaged the participants in active discussions on recent developments and challenged them to give examples from their own countries.

The seventh training event of 2020 on the topic of *Cross-border Insolvency in the EU* was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent travel and lockdown restrictions. The training was led by a panel of seven expert-speakers and saw the participation of 27 judges and prosecutors from 10 different EU Member States. The designated platform for this online training was BigBlueButton. The training addressed issues linked to insolvency with cross-border elements and also tackled the effects of pandemic.

The eight training event of 2020 on the topic of *Alternative Dispute Resolution / Mediation* was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent travel and lockdown restrictions. The training was led by a panel of nine expert-speakers and saw the participation of 22 judges and prosecutors from 12 different EU Member States. The designated platform for this online training was BigBlue-

Button. The trainers aimed at showing the magistrates the alternative dispute resolution methods and engaged them in different practical exercises.

The ninth training event of 2020 on the topic of *European Civil Procedure* was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent travel and lockdown restrictions. The training was led by a panel of seven expert-speakers and saw the participation of 20 judges and prosecutors from 11 different EU Member States and North Macedonia. The designated platform for this online training was BigBlueButton. Participants appreciated the possibility to gain new knowledge and skills and mostly the opportunity to exchange best practices across different EU countries. The tenth training event of 2020 on the topic of *European Civil Procedure in Family Law matters* was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent travel and lockdown restrictions. The training was led by a panel of five expert-speakers and saw the participation of 18 judges and prosecutors from 14 different EU Member States and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The designated platform for this online training was BigBlueButton. The topic was extremely important especially in the light of the new legal framework of the Brussels IIa Regulation.

All of the above training events included active panel discussions combined with practical work in small-group workshops. At the training participants had the opportunity to learn more about and exchange ideas with their European counterparts in different EU MS's as well as discuss emerging legal topics with leading expert speakers.

WEBINARS

In 2020 the Civil law sub-working group implemented three webinars on the following topics.

- 1) Judicial training in times of pandemic through Webex, Zoom, Teams, Go to meeting, Moodle, Big Blue Button (24 September 2020) that gathered 44 participants. The designated platform for this online training was Microsoft Teams. The training was part of the 1h Webinar Series.
- 2) Insolvency in the time of COVID-19: How to respond to a growing crisis (19 November 2020) that gathered 97 participants. The designated platform for this online training was Microsoft Teams. The training was part of the 1h Lunchtime webinar series.
- 3) Matrimonial Property Regimes (10 December 2020) that gathered 55 participants. The designated platform for this online training was Adobe.

Civil Law Seminars – 2020

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATES	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR
Service of documents & taking of evidence abroad	Ministry of Justice Slovenia (SL)	5-6 February 2020	Ministry of Justice Slovenia (SL)
Brussels I Regulation – Jurisdiction and the Recognition and Enforcement of Judgements in civil matters – introductory level	Judicial Training Academy (CZ)	5-6 March 2020	Judicial Training Academy (CZ)
Intellectual Property Law-Trademarks & designs	Online	15-16 April 2020	Centre for Judicial Studies (CES-PT)
Protection of consumers right in the light of the EU law	Online	14-15 May 2020	Spanish Judicial School (CGPJ-ES)
Cross-border Labour Law	Online	4-5 June 2020	Judicial Training Institute (BE)

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATES	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR
Conflict of laws in contractual matters (Rome I. and II.)	Online	22-23 July 2020	National School of Judges (ESDI-GR)
Cross-border Insolvency in the EU	Online	2-3 September 2020	Judicial Academy of Croatia (HR)
Alternative Dispute Resolution / Mediation	Online	8-9 October 2020	Italian School for the Judiciary (SSM)
European Civil Procedure	Online	11-12 November 2020	Federal Ministry of Justice (DE)
European Civil Procedure in Family Law matters	Online	3-4 December 2020	Academy of European Law (ERA)

Group photos:



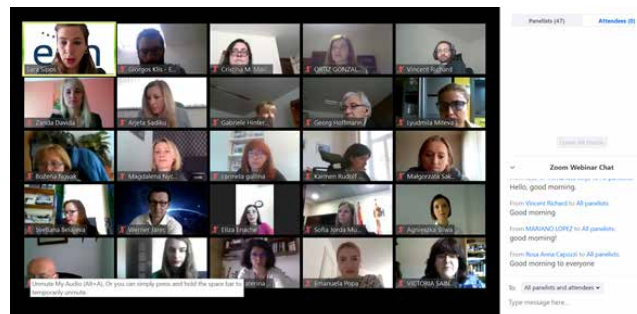
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CI/2020/04

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SEMINARS

OVERVIEW

The 2020 year came with continued development of the EU Criminal Law area, triggering a need for continuous exchange of experience, learning and developing the skills of judiciary.

At the same time, the COVID-19 pandemic created more pressure as to how to ensure an efficient cross-border cooperation in an electronic environment, requiring EJTN to look for solutions in adapting to the new challenges and looking for new opportunities and exploring ways to ensure qualitative e-trainings in the area of Criminal Law. The pandemic stimulated new areas of discussion such as the reaction and function of judicial system in times of crisis, but also offered the drive to provide tech-based solutions and facilitate exchange in a virtual world.

Under the monitoring of the Criminal Justice Sub working Group (CJSWG), the Criminal Justice programmes adapted the entire training curricula to an online environment, enabling the possibility to continue acquiring new skills and knowledge despite the impossibility of travel.

Use of polls, virtual classrooms and breakout rooms contributed to ensuring that participants from Member States interacted and stayed connected in order to ensure better cross-border cooperation.

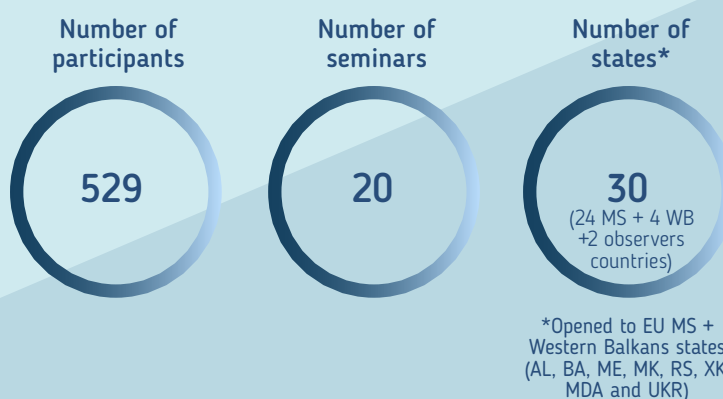
The curricula of the Criminal Law portfolio expanded to new topics such as Environmental Law, Forensics in Courts and the Fight against Radicalisation in online environments.

The cooperation with the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) continued as part of the e-learning offer on the CEPOL online platform, with joint trainings in new online pre-recorded format being available for practitioners in the area of Counter-terrorism and Foreign Fighters.

In 2020 EJTN continued joining forces with its partners to foster better fight against cross-border crime. Our trainings benefitted from the expert contribution from ENFSI, Eurojust, Europol, EJM, EJCN and EPPO, providing first-hand knowledge from practitioners in different areas of law.

RESULTS

The Criminal Justice portfolio was able to deliver its trainings to a larger audience, thanks to the possibility of connecting online from any part of the world. While judicial cooperation in criminal matters continued to be a cross-cutting area for all the trainings, specialised key topics as use of digital systems and electronic evidence, cybercrime, asset recovery, confiscation, forensics or the EPPO became the backbone of the Criminal Law area.



DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

Flagships seminars in EU Criminal Law: Series of seminars on International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters, the European Investigation Order and Procedural Rights in criminal proceedings in the EU in practice.

In 2020 the classical series of seminars based upon interactive discussions, group workshops and simulations had to adapt to the online environment. Thus, EJTN gave the opportunity for participants in all MS to get acquainted with the main tools used in judicial cooperation, discover the role of EJM and Eurojust and interact directly with representatives of these organisations. Two additional trainings focused on more specific topics of judicial cooperation in Environmental crimes and judicial cooperation in Trafficking in Human Beings involving cross-border elements.

The adaptation of 2 seminars on **“The European Investigation Order in practice”** to the online environment was stimulating. The seminars (both basic level) were aimed at making participants aware about practical questions and challenges when issuing/or executing a European Investigation Order. Key presentations about the current legal landscape of EU cross border evidence and different regimes for the obtaining of evidence were at the core of the online events. Reiterating best practices identified during the seminar were stressed at the end on the events.

EJTN provided 2 training events **on Procedural safeguards in criminal proceedings in the EU in practice** aimed at offering a platform for practical discussions for a better overview of criminal defence rights under a set of Directives designed to reinforce procedural safeguards in criminal proceedings. The 2 online trainings were focused on a case scenario with questions on the right to information, right to interpretation and translation, access to a lawyer, minors in criminal proceedings and presumption of innocence.

SPECIALISED SEMINARS IN EU CRIMINAL LAW

In 2020 EJTN organised specialised seminars at targeted different key topics and audience, as follows:

Gathering and admissibility of evidence in Counterterrorism: challenges and best practices

The training gathered 22 practitioners from different EU Member States who had the chance to interact with high-level experts from Belgium and the Netherlands. The online training focused a lot on the practical cases brought as examples by the experts, addressing issues like the collection of evidence, interview of victims, use of open sources for the investigation, presentation of evidence in court. Additionally, the training dedicated a special session to radicalisation and ISIS in times of COVID-19.

A much requested topic was the one on *E-Evidence and Cybercrime*.

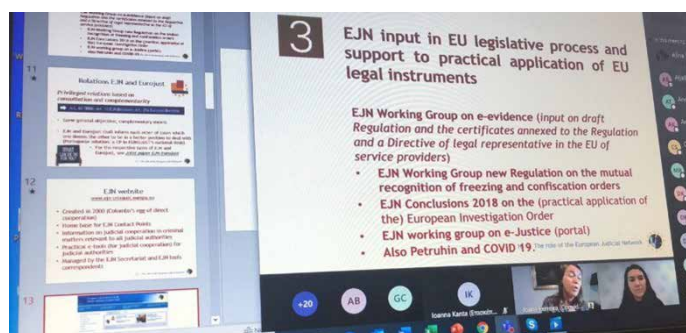
The two introductory and one advanced training organised online provoked the participants to engage in discussions on the challenges encountered in handling electronic evidence and investigation of cybercrime. The trainings combined presentations with workshops where participants were asked to solve cases using the Budapest Convention and recent ECJ case law. EJTN had the chance to be assisted by experts from Europol, Eurojust, EJCEN, leading cybercrime experts from Belgium and Portugal.

The use of the forensic science evidence in Court – challenges and developments in the EU

The new and very popular training organised in cooperation with the European National Forensics Institutes Network aimed at bringing the judiciary and forensic experts, ensuring a mutual understanding of what and how to use different forensic reports, how to better cooperate in order to ensure a successful investigation, new methods to be used in the future such as phenotyping and facial recognition closer.

Economic crimes: asset recovery and confiscation in the EU

The two specialised online trainings aimed at increasing understanding and common approaches on financial investigations, confiscation and criminal assets recovery; discussing practical use of legal instruments in this area, exchanging knowledge and facilitating cooperation between the judicial authorities of the Member States as well as with international organisations and EU agencies. Regulation 2018/1805 on the mutual recognition of freezing orders and confiscation orders was a key topic in both



Online training on “Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters”, 18 November 2020

events.

The Protection of the Financial Interests of the EU and the EPPO.

The online training made judges and prosecutors aware of the PIF Directive and its effects in the Member States. Practitioners received information on the legal framework around the protection of EU financial interests and measures taken at EU level to protect the EU's financial interests.

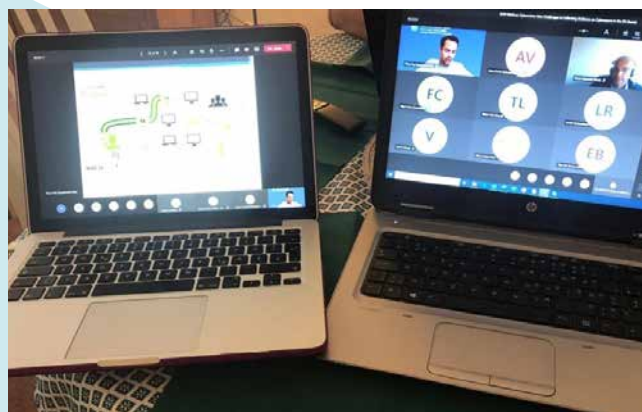
The new actor in the Criminal justice area, the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO), was a key topic and delegates had the opportunity to get acquainted with the first steps of setting up and running the Office by EPPO representatives. The training combined keynotes and workshops with study cases to enhance practical knowledge of practitioners in order to get familiar with investigations and prosecutions of offences affecting the

Union's financial interests.

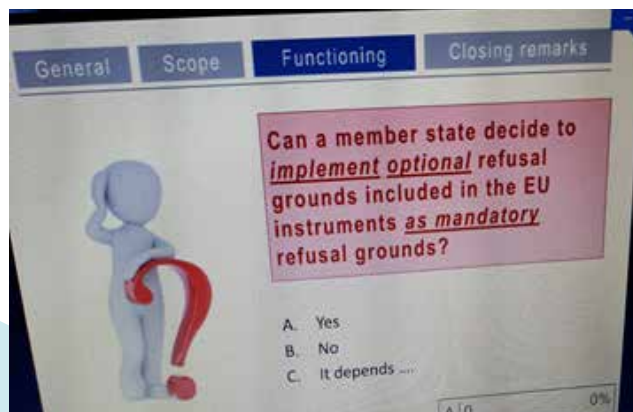
SERIES OF TOPICAL WEBINARS IN THE FIELD OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The new e-training tool initiative launched by EJTN in the format of *1hour Lunchtime webinar (1hour/1topic /1expert)* in the particular field of Criminal Justice as a response to the needs of practitioners in pandemic times had two key moments. On 7 October 2020 the webinar **"Publicity as a basic principle of the criminal procedure in the context of digital justice"** gathered 74 attendees. Later in the year the 1hour webinar on **'Artificial Intelligence Implementation in Crime Prevention, Investigation and Punishment'** was broadcast on 3 December and gathered 70 attendees.

Following the EJTN goal of awareness-raising on the EPPO, a webinar was broadcast on 8 December entitled **"The EPPO - investigations and prosecutions to fight crimes against the financial interests of the EU"** aimed at providing a better understanding of the creation and setting up of the EPPO. The webinar gathered 64 attendees from the EU and third countries.



Online training on "Cybercrime: New Challenges in Collecting Evidence on Cyberspace in the EU (basic)", 8 - 9 October 2020



Online training on "The European Investigation Order in Practice", 4 December 2020

Topic table

ACTIVITY NAME	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR
Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters	Online	18 November 2020	EJTN Secretariat
The European Investigation Order in Practice (Basic)	Online	3-4 December 2020	Ministry of Justice-Austria
Webinar-Procedural Rights in Criminal Proceedings in the EU in practice	Online	17 April 2020	ENM-France
Cybercrime and E-evidence (Basic)	Online	3-4 December 2020	CEJ-Portugal
Webinar-Economic Crimes: asset recovery and confiscation in the EU in practice	Online	12-13 May 2020	National School of Judiciary (GR)
Online training on Gathering and Admissibility of Evidence in Counter-Terrorism: Challenges and Best Practices	Online	2-3 June 2020	CEJ-Portugal
ONLINE: Cybercrime and E-Evidence (Advanced)	Online	25-26 June 2020	CEJ-Portugal
Webinar-The Protection of the Financial Interests of the Union and the EPPO	Online	15-16 June 2020	Federal Ministry of Justice -DE in coordination with Bavarian Ministry of Justice
Procedural Safeguards in criminal proceedings in the EU in Practice	Online	26-27 October 2020	ENM-France
Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters: Practical Case-Based Simulation in the Fight Against THB and Sexual exploitation	Online	17 November 2020	Swedish Prosecution Office
Cybercrime and E-Evidence (basic)	Online	8-9 October 2020	SSM Italy
The European Investigation Order in Practice (Basic)	Online	20-21 October 2020	Ministry of Justice-Austria
Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters: Environmental crimes	Online	23 November 2020	SSM Italy
Economic Crimes: asset recovery and confiscation (Specialised)	Online	17-18 November 2020	National School of Judiciary-Greece
The use of the forensic science evidence in Court - challenges and developments in the EU	Online	19-20 November 2020	SSM Italy and NIM Romania
EJTN-CEPOL Foreign fighters/Foreign travelers	Online	1-12 February 2021	EJTN Secretariat
EJTN-CEPOL "International Asset Recovery" course, currently scheduled from 1st to December 4th, 2020.	Online	1-4 December 2020	EJTN Secretariat
Publicity as a basic principle of the criminal procedure in the context of digital justice (1h Webinar)	Online	7 October 2020	NIJ-Bulgaria
Artificial Intelligence Implementation in the Crime Prevention, Investigation and Punishment" (1h Webinar)	Online	3 December 2020	NIJ-Bulgaria
THE EPPO - investigations and prosecutions to fight crimes against the financial interests of the EU	Online	8 December 2020	EJTN Secretariat

HUMAN AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS SEMINARS



OVERVIEW

The Working Group Programmes in November 2016 created a new Sub-Working Group, the Human and Fundamental Rights Sub-Working Group (HFR SWG), which was exclusively devoted to activities in the field of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (HR&FF).

The HFR SWG was mandated to:

- Develop training activities in the area of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- Liaise directly with EJTN's external partners for development of joint seminars and trainings, namely
 - European Union Agency for fundamental Rights (FRA)
 - Council of Europe: Court of Human Rights (CoE) and The European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals Project (HELP)
 - Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)
 - Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology
- Liaise with all other EJTN SWGs when the latter develop trainings with HR&FF elements.

This proposal was justified by the significance of the topic, its broad scope as well as the need for EJTN to have a capacity to keep an efficient cooperation with the HELP of CoE and FRA. Cooperation with other significant stakeholders presents an opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices with their counterparts across Europe as well as to discuss the most recent developments in their field of professional interest with leading experts and practitioners.

All trainings include a set of framework lectures and multiple workshops where participants discuss practical cases and exchange views on their domestic legislation and the application of the relevant EU legal instruments.

In 2020, a total of 7 trainings were implemented, which trained 260 participants in total. This number comprises 186 participants. The participants came from 30 different states, including 26 EU Member States and 4 Western Balkan states (Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia). The project involved more than 50 experts through the organisation of the HFR SWG.



RESULTS

The Human and Fundamental Rights Sub-Working Group seminars are an effective way of training EU magistrates and also providing an excellent platform and opportunity for the exchange of knowledge.

Seminar in partnership with AEAJ
Conflicts of Norms / Multi level of Protection in the Application of Fundamental Rights
12-13 March 2020

Number of participants

186

Number of seminars

7

Number of states*

30

*Opened to EU MS + Western Balkans states (AL, BA, ME, MK, RS and XK)

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

SEVEN JUDICIAL TRAINING EVENTS IN 2020

Over 2020, 5 judicial training events of 2 days in duration and 2 judicial training events of one full day in duration were delivered. Participants in each training were provided with a full set of relevant training materials (such as a list of case law, legislation and speakers' presentations). The aim of the trainings was to increase participants' knowledge on EU law in the related field and to help them to apply such knowledge in their day-to-day professional lives.

The seminars/webinars were arranged by theoretical sessions and combined with workshop sessions based on real-life examples and case studies.

The trainings implemented in 2020 were as follows:

1. Seminar 'Rule of Law Training for Judges: Independent Judges as a Cornerstone of the Rule of Law' (HFR/2020/01), 5-6 March, in Sofia, Bulgaria, which attracted 41 participants and 6 expert speakers.
2. Training 'Conflicts of Norms in the Application of Fundamental Rights' (HFR/2020/02), in partnership with the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ), 12-13 March, in Barcelona, Spain, attracting 19 participants and 6 expert speakers.
3. Training 'EJTN-FRA Applicability and Effect of the EU Charter on Fundamental Rights In National Proceedings' (HFR/2020/03), in partnership with FRA, 26 November, held online, bringing together 22 participants and 5 expert speakers.
4. Seminar 'Human Rights and Access to Justice in the EU' (HFR/2020/05) in partnership with the ECtHR/CoE, 14-15 October, held online, attracted 25 participants and 5 expert speakers.
5. Seminar 'Freedom of Speech' (HFR/2020/06), 5-6 October, held online, which attracted 19 participants and 5 expert speakers.
6. Seminar 'Autonomous Prosecution Services and their essential role for the Rule of Law' (HFR/2020/07), in, 29-30 October, held online, which attracted 14 participants and 4 expert speakers.
7. Seminar 'Cultural Diversity in the Courtroom - judges in Europe facing new challenges' (HFR/2020/08), in partnership with the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, 19 November, held online, which brought together 41 participants and 6 expert speakers.

Seminars used e-learning courses as suggested preparatory tools in advance of the trainings (HELP e-learning course on Article 6 ECtHR and ECtHR case law). The aim of these suggested preparatory materials was to ensure participant preparation prior to the training event, familiarisation with these learning resources and also possible further dissemination from participants to their colleagues.

Topic Table

NAME OF EVENT	DATE	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR
Rule of Law Training for Judges: Independent Judges as a Cornerstone of the Rule of Law	5-6 March 2020	Sofia, Bulgaria	Karolina Rokicka Academy of European Law (ERA)
Conflicts of Norms / Multi level of Protection in the Application of Fundamental Rights	12-13 March 2020	Barcelona, Spain	Jose Maria Assencio Gallego The Spanish School for Judges, (ES)
Applicability and Effect of the EU Charter on Fundamental Rights in National Proceedings	26 November 2020	Online	Lorenza Calzagno School for the Judiciary (SSM) Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos, National School of Judiciary (GR)
Human Rights and Access to Justice in the EU	14-15 October 2020	Online	Morana Briski Judicial Academy of Croatia (HR)
Freedom of Speech	5-6 October 2020	Online	Morana Briski - Judicial Academy of Croatia (HR) Paivi Hirvela - Ministry of Justice (FI)
Autonomous Prosecution Services and their essential role for the Rule of Law	29-30 October 2020	Online	Elsa Garcia - Maltras De Blas Centre for Judicial Studies (ES)
Cultural Diversity in the Courtroom: Judges facing new challenges	19 November 2020	Online	Katharina Steininger Federal Ministry of Justice (AT)

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME



Linguistics
Linguistique



OVERVIEW

EJTN's linguistic project focuses on the training of the EU judiciary in legal English, legal French and in legal German. 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.

The project has begun in 2011 and since then many legal language seminars have been organised on various topics in various judicial academies of EU Member States.

The courses of the Linguistics project aim at developing both the legal and linguistics skills of the participants by combining legal knowledge a

Furthermore, they aim at bringing the EU legal practitioners together and foster the mutual sharing of experiences and creating the conditions for establishing direct contacts among the judiciary of the different EU Member States in order to promote a common European legal culture and bring the EU closer together.

LATEST NEWS IN 2020: UPGRADE TO A WORKING GROUP, NEW SEMINARS, TRAINING RESOURCES AND LEARNING METHODS

At the last General Assembly of the EJTN the Sub-working group Linguistics was promoted to a stand-alone Working group. The group will continue to offer its high-quality linguistics trainings and furthermore will support the linguistic needs of other groups and portfolios by developing new materials, resources, and e-learning.

As in previous years EJTN's 2020 Linguistics Programme offered a wide range of training opportunities for the judges and prosecutors from all over Europe and, in some seminars, also for judges and prosecutors from Western Balkans, thus fostering cooperation not just within the EU but also outside its borders. The participants were able to choose from 11 different trainings. As in previous years, linguistics continues to offer trainings in legal language to trainee judges and prosecutors or judges and prosecutors within the first three years of their career, so called Summer Schools.

During this special year, many trainings could not take place face-to-face and were transformed to interactive online seminars. 14 trainings were held online. EJTN's linguistics experts came together to re-design the offer of the project into online courses. This required adaptation of the teaching methodology and creating new exercises for the online environment.

The offer included six long trainings on judicial cooperation in criminal, civil law and human rights matters and five specialised seminars on topics of cybercrime, asylum and refugees, tax law and environmental law. Two new three-day seminars in the field of intellectual property and environmental law have been developed and implemented. The intellectual property law seminar was developed with great support from the European Patent Office. Both seminars followed the same training structure and methodology of the other highly acclaimed seminars with the focus on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in the respective field.

RESULTS

EJTN's linguistics programme trained a great number of European legal practitioners within different areas of law. 242 participants from over 21 EU Member States and 4 participants from Western Balkans states took part in the face-to-face and online trainings.



DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

EJTN's linguistics portfolio has adapted in 2020 to the world-wide crisis in order to provide the best resources and learning methods for the benefit of the European judiciary.

A great number of linguistics seminars were prepared by EJTN in 2020. 11 trainings of a duration of either 4 days or 3 days (for specialised trainings) have taken place in the past year. Furthermore, 4 Summer Schools in linguistics of 4 days in duration were implemented.

The first seminar of the year in civil matters took place face-to-face in Lublin, Poland. Then the crisis started, and the remaining seminars of the year were transformed into online trainings. The seminars' schedule and methodology had to be adapted to a new online format, while trying to keep as close as possible to original successful seminars. As in face-to-face seminars the courses combined linguistics and legal sessions. Participants were divided into small groups and each group was trained for the entire seminar by a team composed of a linguistics expert and a legal expert acting simultaneously. The seminars offered English language and in selected seminars participants were improving their French and German language skills as well.

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 the training offered, 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.

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

In terms of content the following legal topics constituted the basis of the discussion and language training of the face-to-face seminar entitled *"Legal language training in 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

Additional seminar on civil matters and Summer School on civil matters that took place online focused on:

- Civil judicial cooperation in criminal matters
- Jurisdiction, recognition and execution of judgments in civil and commercial matters and the Judicial Atlas

The two online seminars entitled *"Legal language training in cooperation in criminal matters"* and the Summer School in criminal matters focused, for their part, on:

- 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

During the two online seminars entitled *"Legal language training in cooperation in human rights' EU Law"*, and during the Summer School on the same topic, the discussions revolved specifically around:

- European Union and Council of Europe instruments
- Recent relevant jurisprudence on Article 6 of ECHR
- Right 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

Another seminar in the series of Summer Schools entitled *"Summer School: Legal language training in cooperation in family law"* focused on:

- Parental responsibility- Jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement
- Child abduction- Interface between the Brussels II regulation and The Hague
- Maintenance- Jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement

With regard to the short seminars, the following topics constituted the basis of the discussions:

The seminar on the *'vocabulary of tax law'* focused on:

- General introduction to EU law and taxation including EU legislation on cooperation in tax law matters
- Convention of 25th October 1980
- Indirect tax, VAT and excises

The new seminar entitled *"Legal Language training in cooperation in intellectual property law"* included the following topics:

- General introduction to intellectual property law: concepts and definitions; introduction to key terminology
- Copyrights and rights related to copyright
- Enforcement of intellectual property rights
- Patents and Trademarks

"Legal language training in cooperation in cybercrime":

- General introduction to cybercrime; concepts and definitions; introduction to key terminology
- Digital investigations and transborder component
- Capacity-building, collaboration and engagement

"Legal language training in cooperation in asylum and refugees":

General introduction to Asylum law; the concept of refugee and different categories of migrants; Introduction to key terminology

- The "Dublin" Regulation and the relocation of migrants
- The European Convention on human rights and the right to asylum: the developing caselaw in the ECtHR.

Lastly a new seminar on Environmental law entitled *"Legal language training in cooperation in environmental law"* focused on:

- Environmental assessment (SEA & EIA)
- Renewable energies and EU law
- Access to justice in environmental matters
- Public procurement and environment

Topic Table

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in civil matters</i>	National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution, Lublin, Poland	9-13 March 2020	Dariusz Szawurski-Radetz
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in criminal matters</i>	Online	Originally 30 March-3 April 2020 took place 2-5 February 2021	José María Asencio Gallego
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in cybercrime</i>	Online	20-22 April 2020	Donata Viršilaite
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in criminal matters</i>	Online	11-14 May 2020	Amanda Gedge-Wallace
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in human rights' EU law</i>	Online	8-11 June 2020	Renata Vystrčilová
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in asylum & refugees</i>	Online	1-3 July 2020	Clara Pascual Castroviejo
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in tax law</i>	Online	16-18 September 2020	Nella Popović
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in intellectual property law</i>	Online	5-7 October 2020	Dariusz Szawurski-Radetz
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in civil matters</i>	Online	2-5 November 2020	Antonella Rocca
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in human rights' EU law</i>	Online	23-27 November 2020	Kristina Henningsen
Linguistics seminar <i>Legal language training in cooperation in environmental law</i>	Online	30 November-2 December 2020	Renata Vystrčilová
Linguistics seminar <i>Summer School: Legal language training in cooperation in family law</i>	Online	25-29 May 2020	Donata Viršilaite
Linguistics seminar <i>Summer School: Legal language training in cooperation in civil matters</i>	Online	6-10 July 2020	Donata Viršilaite
Linguistics seminar <i>Summer School: Legal language training in cooperation in criminal matters</i>	Online	27-31 July 2020	Dariusz Szawurski-Radetz
Linguistics seminar <i>Summer School: Legal language training in cooperation in human rights</i>	Online	24-28 August 2020	Dariusz Szawurski-Radetz

Publications:

Handbook on the language of data protection

First edition of the linguistics handbook providing overview of legal English in the field of data protection and includes numerous exercises, definitions and examples of real cases and includes the answer keys.

The handbook is freely available to download from:

https://www.ejtn.eu/MRDDocuments/Handbook_Data_Protection_Ebook.pdf

JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS



OVERVIEW

In 2020, the Working Group Judicial Training Methods pursued its activities within its third mandate. Having grown to 26 members, it has become EJTN's largest working group, showing members' high interest in the methodology topics. In order to maintain its agility, the group decided to change its structure and to subdivide into seven smaller Project Teams instead of the former three large Topical Teams. Three out of these seven teams will dedicate themselves to rediscover topics from the LOT 1 "Study on Best Practices in training of judges and prosecutors", one will cover "e-tools and e-learning", and the three remaining on Judgecraft, Leadership and Train the Trainers. This structural decision will, however, translate into new activities only in 2021. In 2020 the group delivered 10 synchronous trainings in the well-known areas. Moreover, it unveiled the new Distance Learning Handbook, a publication that could not come at a better time than in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic which gave distance and online training an unprecedented boost

Established in 2015, the Working Group Judicial Training Methods was created with these pressing needs of judicial training in mind: sharing good judicial training practices among justice professionals; setting up a new approach towards the delivery of training and knowledge to EU judges and prosecutors according to changing needs and priorities and, to conclude, combining judicial training with the quality of justice. Its activities are very much entwined with the mandates of EJTN's other Working Groups, which also seek to serve and improve judicial training across Europe.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

The Working Group Judicial Training Methods may be viewed as a common thread serving the aims of EJTN's other Working Groups alike. Its primary aim is to seek and propose the most efficient judicial training methodologies, which are applicable in all contexts and for any training development purposes.

In 2020, the Working Group Judicial Training Methods implemented the following key actions, still within its three topical themes:

The Topical Team Leadership has implemented three seminars and a conference:

- The Seminar on "Change Management: 13 participants from 10 countries (1 being from UK) and 6 experts participated at the seminar and addressed the following topics: Psychological Reactions to change; Organisational change management; The impact of technology on change management; The leader's role in managing change involving technology.
- The Seminar on "Personal leadership", converted into a webinar, gathered 17 participants from 12 countries (2 of them representing MK) and 4 experts. Topics were emotional Intelligence with focus on personal Leadership; How do you want to be perceived as a leader; Dealing with conflicts; How to handle difficult situations.
- The Seminar on "Leadership in communication" saw the attendance of 16 participants from 12 countries (1 of them being from MK) and 5 experts. They followed issues like the role of a leader in a court or public prosecution office; Communication and listening skills for leaders; Importance of conflict management in leadership; Leadership styles; Ethical guidelines for communicating with the social media for judges; Communication with media; How to prepare for an interview.

RESULTS

In 2020, 196 participants took part in the events organised by JTM



- The year concluded with the Conference on “Presentation of Leadership guidelines”: 21 participants from 13 countries (1 of them representing MK) and 9 experts attended this conference that focused mainly on the Presentation of the JTM guidelines on leadership and the key topics: Personal Leadership, Leadership in communication and Change Management. National examples of leadership training were illustrated/ shared. The event ended with discussions and plans to improve the Leadership Guidelines.

The **Topical Team Judgecraft** organised three seminars, this year with an increased variety in their agendas:

- Two webinars were dedicated to “Ethics, Bias and evidence”, dealing with unconscious Bias, assessing credibility and reliability, and judicial resilience. They saw the attendance of 28 participants from 18 countries, and 16 participants from 9 countries respectively, and 3 experts each.
- A new web seminar on “Communication, credibility and bias” with 22 participants from 14 countries and 3 experts. The event started with a presentation on assessing credibility, followed by presentations and discussions on understanding the elements of communication and how it can go wrong; communication with the vulnerable; unconscious bias.

The **Topical Team Evaluation and Methodologies** organised the following actions:

- The seminar on “On the job training” attracted 16 participants from 12 countries, as well as 5 experts. It focused on mentoring/tutoring programmes; recruitment, training, evaluation of mentors.

- The webinar on “Mentoring and Tutoring” aimed at relevant and interesting topics such as national mentoring and tutoring systems, coaching mind-set and core competences, and coaching-based approach for mentors. 32 participants from 15 countries and 2 experts attended the first online training of the portfolio.
- The seminar on “Training in interactive way” gathered 27 participants from 18 countries and 6 experts. The training started with a presentation on ‘Learning in the 21st century’ to further concentrate on the following aspects: Interactive tools in e-learning; The role of the trainer in the interactive online sessions; Interactive methods in judicial e-learning.

The Working Group Judicial Training Methods eventually unveiled and published in December 2020 the **new Distance Learning Handbook**, which aims at answering in a simple yet practical way the questions that must be considered to provide quality distance training. The publication, which is addressed to judicial trainers and training providers, explores in detail the essential aspects to be considered when organising a quality distance training course, and puts forward recommendations in the following key areas: how to start distance learning courses and how to design an e-course; specific analysis is devoted to E-learning training methods and tools and a last chapter illustrates how to shift from face to face to online trainings whose pressing needs were highlighted in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. This handbook completes the variety of resources and tools created by the Working Group Judicial Training Methods for supporting training purposes, namely the “*Handbook on judicial training methodology in Europe*” and the “*Guidelines for Evaluation of judicial training practices*”.

Topic Table

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION AND COUNTRY	DATE	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR
TM/2020/01 seminar on “On the job training”.	Königs Wusterhausen - Berlin, Germany	4-5 February 2020	Nathalie Glime
TM/2020/02 seminar on “Change Management”	Tallinn, Estonia	9-10 March 2020	Luca Perilli
TM/2020/03 seminar on “Mentoring and Tutoring”	Online	16 April 2020	Kati Kivistö
TM/2020/04 seminar on “Ethics, Bias and evidence”	Online	11-12 June 2020	Andrew Hatton
TM/2020/05 seminar on “Training in interactive way”	Online	9 July 2020	Ivanka Kirilova
TM/2020/06 seminar on “Communication, credibility and bias”	Online	10-11 September 2020	Phil Rostant and Leslie Cuthbert
TM/2020/07 seminar on “Personal leadership”	Online	11-12 November 2020	Eva Krejčová
TM/2020/08 seminar on “Ethics, Bias and evidence”	Online	26-27 November 2020	Phil Rostant
TM/2020/09 seminar on “Leadership in communication”	Online	17-18 December 2020	Dijana Mandić
TM/2020/10 Conference on “Presentation of Leadership guidelines”	Online	1-2 December 2020	Gianluca Grasso

THEMIS COMPETITION



OVERVIEW

The highly acclaimed THEMIS Competition, open to future EU magistrates undergoing entry-level training, presents an event for debating EU topics, soft-skills learning and development of practicing judicial skills.

NEW APPROACHES

The 2020 THEMIS Competition was open to judicial trainees from all training institutions who are Members or Observers of EJTN. Teams of three judicial trainees, accompanied by one teacher/tutor, are enrolled in the competition which consists of four semi-finals and a Grand Final. The official language of the competition is English.

The maximum number of teams participating in a semi-final is 11. The winner and runner up of each semi-final will enter the Grand Final, consequently resulting in 8 teams in the Grand Final. The prize for the winning team at the Grand Final is a one-week study visit, organised and financed by EJTN, in any European judicial institution.

In 2020, the topics addressed were the following:

- EU and European Criminal Procedure
- EU and European Family law
- EU and European Civil procedure
- Judicial Ethics and Professional Conduct
- Access to Justice

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

The EJTN THEMIS Competition is a unique contest format, open to judicial trainees from across Europe. It provides a platform for exchanging views and developing new approaches on topics related to international civil and criminal cooperation, human rights and judicial deontology.

The THEMIS Competition is designed to develop the 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, chosen from a pool of experts appointed by EJTN Members, are all well-regarded professionals in the fields of the given semi-final or Grand Final. As a general rule, experts must not have the same nationalities as the competing team they will have to assess.

A genuine enthusiasm exists for the THEMIS Competition. In 2020, 32 teams competed in the year's four semi-finals. Each semi-final had three stages: a written paper on a topic relevant for the subject of the semi-final; an video presentation of that paper; and, a discussion with the jury. The competition involved 16 jury members, all being acclaimed experts in their respective fields.

The jury members assessed the overall quality and the originality, the critical thinking and the anticipation of future solutions, the reference to relevant case law, and also the communication skills and the consistency.

The winner and the runner up from each semi-final entered

RESULTS

In 2020, the THEMIS project implemented 5 seminars, resulting in the training of 140 participants altogether. This number represents 32 teams consisting of 105 judicial trainees and 35 trainers. The participants came from 15 countries, including 12 EU Member States (Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia and Spain) and 3 Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia).



the Grand Final, resulting in 8 teams in total (Eight teams representing three French teams, two Portuguese teams, Hungary, Italy and Serbia)

The Grand Final of the THEMIS 2020 Competition was organised online.

The teams prepared excellent written reports and delivered outstanding video presentations and the Q&A sessions with each other and the members of the Jury.

EJTN warmly thanks the hard-working jury members who assessed the participants' written papers, presided over the debates and deliberated each team's performance. e-Grand Final has been chaired by Ms. Francoise Tulkens, former Vice-President and former Judge elected in respect of Belgium to the European Court of Human Rights. Other jury members were: Ms. Jana Gajdošová, Programme Manager at the Research & Data Unit (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, FRA); Mr. Grzegorz Borkowski, judge, international legal expert, former Head of Office

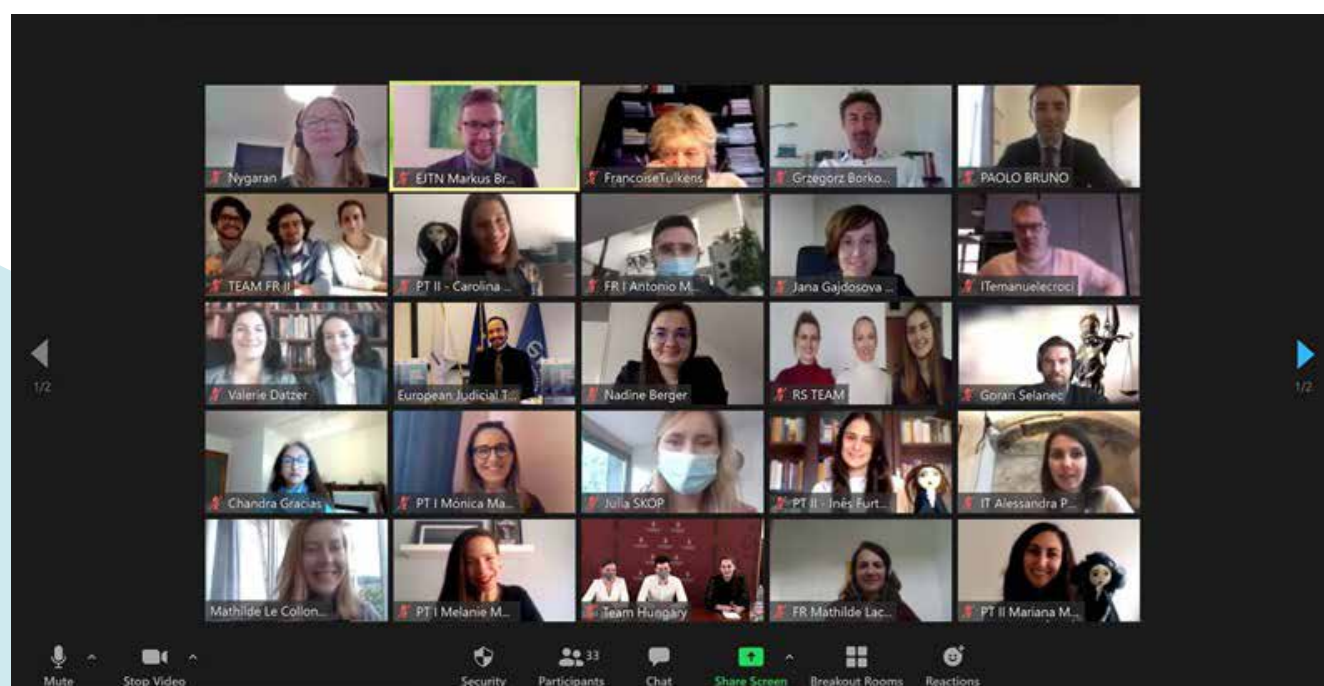
of the National Council of the Judiciary of Poland and Mr. Goran Selanec, Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Croatia.

Bringing together future magistrates

The THEMIS Competition brings together future magistrates from different EU countries at a time when they are undergoing entry-level training and enables them to share common values, exchange new experiences and discuss areas of common interest. The THEMIS Competition provides an ideal forum in which to discuss EU and international law subjects, promote exchanges and experiences between participants, increase knowledge, encourage critical thinking and foster professional networks.

EJTN proudly supports the THEMIS Competition, which continues to provide a genuine skills-enhancing experience for future EU magistrates.

ACTIVITY REFERENCE	ACTIVITY NAME	DATE	PARTICIPANTS	JURY MEMBERS
TH/2020/01	Semi-final A: EU and European Criminal Procedure	7-9 July 2020 Online	40	3
TH/2020/02	Semi-final B: EU and European Family Law	29 June-1 July 2020 Online	24	3
TH/2020/03	Semi-final C: EU and European Civil Procedure	29 June-1 July Online	24	3
TH/2020/04	Semi-final D: Judicial Ethics and Professional Conduct	7-8 July 2020 Online	20	3
TH/2020/05	Grand Final; Access to Justice	7-9 December Online	32	4



Themis eGrand Final 2020 7 - 9 December Online

THEMIS COMPETITION 2020 JURY MEMBERS (ORDER AND FUNCTIONS PER SEMI-FINAL)

Semi Final A: EU and European Criminal Procedure:

- **David J. DICKSON (UK)** Head of Extradition, Scottish Prosecution Service
- **Christine GÖDL (AT)** Judge, Federal Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, Reforms, Deregulation and Justice: Department for International Criminal Law
- **Petros ALIKAKOS (GR)** Judge, National School of Judiciary

Semi Final B: EU and European Family Law:

- **Maarja TORGA (EE)** Judicial Advisor at the Estonian Supreme Court, Professor at University of Tartu, Faculty of Law
- **Aleš GALIČ (SI)** Professor of International Private Law, University of Ljubljana
- **Boriana MUSSEVA (BG)** Head of Department at Sofia University, Attorney and Lecturer at National Institute for Justice.

Semi Final C: EU and European Civil Procedure:

- **Haldi KOIT (EE)**; Advisor at the Ministry of Justice of Estonia, Lecturer in Private International Law
- **Hrvoje GRUBIŠIĆ (EC)** European Commission, DG JUST: Civil Justice Policy Unit, Secretary of the European Judicial Network (EJN) in Civil and Commercial Matters
- **Danutė JOČIENĖ (LT)** Judge at the Constitutional Court of Lithuania, former Judge at the ECtHR

Semi Final D: Judicial Ethics and Professional Conduct

- **Jeremy COOPER (UK)** Professor, Retired Judge and Consultant to the UNODC on Judicial Integrity, Conduct and Ethics
- **Carolina FONS (ES)** Doctor in Law, Head of External and Institutional Relations of the Spanish Judicial School
- **Roberta SOLIS (UN)** Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, Judicial Integrity Team Leader from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

THEMIS 2020 RESULTS

THEMIS 2020 GRAND FINAL	
1st Place	TEAM PORTUGAL II
2nd Place	TEAM SERBIA
3rd Place	TEAM FRANCE II

THEMIS 2020 SEMI-FINAL A	
1st Place	TEAM HUNGARY
2nd Place	TEAM PORTUGAL
3rd Place	TEAM ROMANIA
Themis Annual Journal papers	TEAM CROATIA TEAM POLAND TEAM FRANCE

THEMIS 2020 SEMI-FINAL B	
1st Place	TEAM PORTUGAL
2nd Place	TEAM FRANCE
3rd Place	TEAM HUNGARY
Themis Annual Journal papers	TEAM HUNGARY TEAM PORTUGAL TEAM ROMANIA

THEMIS 2020 SEMI-FINAL C	
1st Place	TEAM FRANCE
2nd Place	TEAM ITALY
3rd Place	TEAM SPAIN
Themis Annual Journal papers	TEAM ALBANIA TEAM FRANCE

THEMIS 2020 SEMI-FINAL D	
1st Place	TEAM FRANCE
2nd Place	TEAM SERBIA
3rd Place	TEAM POLAND
Themis Annual Journal papers	TEAM FRANCE TEAM SERBIA

THEMIS ANNUAL JOURNAL 2020

- 10 best papers selected from the semi-finals on the current legal issues
- 44 authors from 8 EU MS
- 12 expert editorial board

Link and picture to the publication:

<https://www.ejtn.eu/MRDDocuments/EJTN%20TAJ%202020.pdf>



2020 WEBINARS

This section aims at reporting on (a) 'Traditional webinars', (b) a new 'Lunch webinars project', (c) Webinars in cooperation with the US National Judicial College, (d)

Webinars dedicated to EJTN Activity Coordinators and (e) a Pilot webinar series in cooperation with EASO.

(A) TRADITIONAL WEBINARS IN ADMINISTRATIVE, CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LAW AREAS

EJTN continued in 2020 the implementation of 'traditional webinars'.

A series of four episodes on the "Jurisprudence Updates: most important decisions of the European Court of Justice relevant for Administrative Judges" was carried out under the Administrative Law portfolio.

The Criminal Justice portfolio has run a webinar on

"The EPPO: investigations and prosecutions to fight crimes against the financial interests of the EU".

A webinar on "Matrimonial property regimes and property consequences of registered partnerships" was implemented under the Civil Law portfolio.

A total of **253 participants** attended EJTN traditional webinars in 2020.

Topic table and participation

	DATE	PORTFOLIO AND TOPIC	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
1.	7, 14, 20 and 27 October 2020	Administrative Law, "Jurisprudence Updates: most important decisions of the European Court of Justice relevant for Administrative Judges"	134
2.	8 December 2020	Criminal Law, "THE EPPO: investigations and prosecutions to fight crimes against the financial interests of the EU"	64
3.	10 December 2020	Civil Law, "Matrimonial property regimes and property consequences of registered partnerships"	55

(B) 1 HOUR LUNCHTIME WEBINARS

EJTN reacted in 2020 to the coronavirus crisis with a series of **short webinars in the format 1topic/1expert/1hour**.

The topics were in line with the occurring crisis and were well received by the EU judiciary.

Nine webinars took place from Mid-July to Mid-December bi-weekly, on Thursday, at 1pm-2pm CET Brussels time and a total of **587 judges and prosecutors** from all over Europe

attended the interesting sessions presented.

The trainings all had the following structure: short introduction- 30-minute presentation of the topic - Q/A session with the participants.

They were held on *Microsoft Teams* platform, without any formal application or selection, nor any quota per member.

Topic table and participation

	DATE	PORTFOLIO AND TOPIC	EXPERT	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
1	16 July 2020	Human and Fundamental Rights, 'Freedom of expression in times of pandemic'	Raluca Bercea	Morana Briski	70
2	10 September 2020	Administrative Law, 'Tax law challenges in the COVID-19 pandemic'	Maria Papadopoulou	Evgenia Papadopoulou	28
3	24 September 2020	Civil Law, 'Judicial training in times of pandemic through Webex, Zoom, Teams, Go to meeting, Moodle, Big Blue Button'	Carla Martinez Castro	Carolina Fons Rodriguez	44
4	7 October 2020	Criminal Justice, 'Publicity as a basic principle of the criminal procedure in the context of digital justice'	Iva Pushkarova	Angelina Lazarova	74
5	22 October 2020	Human and Fundamental Rights, 'Access to Justice in times of pandemic'	Jose Duarte Coimbra	Fernando Duarte	115

	DATE	PORTFOLIO AND TOPIC	EXPERT	ACTIVITY COORDINATOR	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
6	5 November 2020	Administrative Law, 'The need of national special public procurement rules in times of pandemic, and the European Union law'	Pedro Gonçalves	Fernando Duarte	38
7	19 November 2020	Civil Law, 'The impact of COVID-19 on Insolvency Law'	Mahesh Uttamchandani	Mr. Gianluca Grasso	97
8	3 December 2020	Criminal Justice, 'Artificial Intelligence Implementation in the Crime Prevention, Investigation and Punishment'	Mariana Todorova	Angelina Lazarova	70
9	17 December 2020	Human and Fundamental Rights, 'Limitations of Fundamental Rights for the Elderly in Times of Pandemic'	Cláudia Monge	Fernando Duarte	51

The **lunch webinar series will continue in 2021** in the same format as in 2020. Topics from Linguistics and Judicial

Training Methods portfolios are intended to be addressed as well.

(C) WEBINARS IN COOPERATION WITH THE US NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE

On 23 April 2020, the EJTN in association with the National Judicial College in the United States, held the webcast '*Lessons Learned from Around the World About Managing Courts in a Pandemic*'. The webinar welcomed international participation of more than 1300 judges and justice from more continents.

The webcast's objective was that after attendance participants will be able to:

- Describe how different countries were managing COVID-19 challenges;
- Summarise processes and procedures that other countries are using successfully; and
- Recite what individual judges can do to ensure justice for their citizens in this unprecedented time of need.

Following the great success of the session held in April and overwhelming demand to attend, the activity was repeated on 26 June 2020.

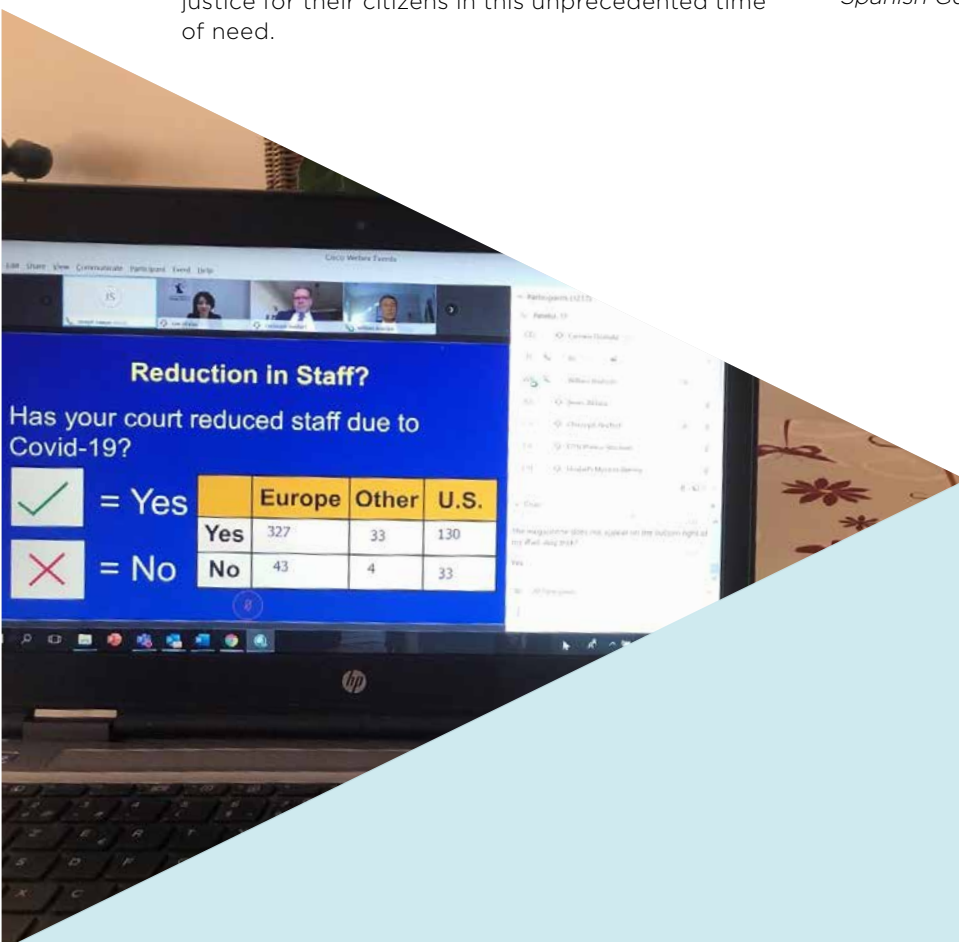
Some **830 EU judges and prosecutors** participated in total in the two sessions.

EJTN Speakers:

From Germany: Honorable Christoph Reichert, President of the Regional Court Offenburg, Baden-Württemberg

From Italy: Honorable Marina Tavassi, President of the Court of Appeal of Milan

From Spain: Honorable Pedro Félix Álvarez de Benito, Senior Judge, Head of Division, Foreign Affairs Division, Spanish General Council for the Judiciary



(D) TRAININGS DEDICATED TO ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

On 30 April 2020 EJTN organised an online training on *'How to plan and hold a webinar / online training?'* The event was dedicated to EJTN's Activity Coordinators, who are in charge of designing, planning and implementing training activities.

The main objectives of the training were carefully followed by the experts involved in preparation and delivery of the training:

- Getting familiar with the online technology and its functions;
- Raising awareness on the EJTN webinar methodology;
- Understanding the steps in planning and organizing a webinar;
- Identifying the roles and tasks of an activity coordinator;
- Experimenting with interactions specific to a webinar.

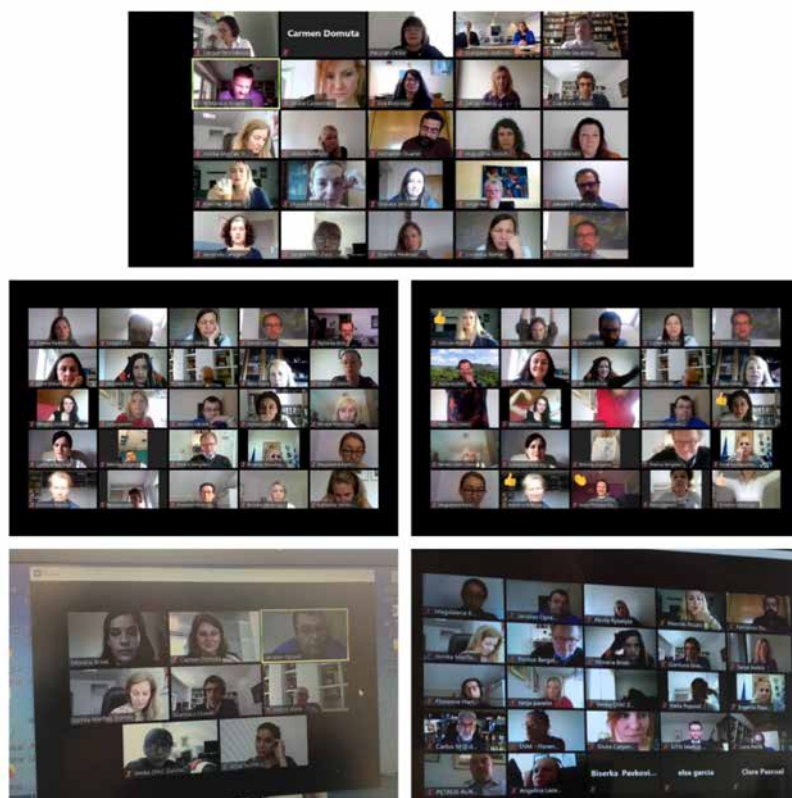
The event aimed at proving that online training can be interactive, by using methods like physical warm up exercises, breakout rooms exercises, presentations and large group discussions and polls, short surveys, and whiteboard interaction.

Live streaming platforms comparison, video conferencing platforms comparison or communication tips were also on the agenda.

Participants were given the occasion to share and gain experience on how to transform a face-to-face seminar into a webinar.

On 17 November 2020 another webinar dedicated to EJTN Activity Coordinators addressed the topic *"How to be an Activity Coordinator"*. The role of the activity coordinator was discussed in depth and various EJTN IT tools were presented.

In total 99 participants attended the two trainings.



(E) FIRST JOINT PROJECT WITH THE EUROPEAN ASYLUM SUPPORT OFFICE (EASO)

The EJTN brings value to judicial training through its network of Members, Observers and Partners, and cooperation with various judicial networks and associations. In this respect, the first joint project with the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) has been implemented in May 2020 under the organisation of the Administrative Law Portfolio. The project consisted in a pilot webinar series on Country-of-Origin Information (COI) and Judicial Training Methodology aimed at current or future judicial trainers on COI. The training enabled **41 participants** from 14 EU Member States and trainers of both partner institutions to learn and teach in an interactive way.

The last session held on 25 May covered the topic of Judicial

Training Methodology. The EJTN expert leading this session advised participants on the principles illustrated in the EJTN Handbook on Judicial Training. She explained the role and competencies of the trainer within the judiciary: How to plan a training programme, how to use modern training methods and design, and how to organise training events and evaluations. Due to the current situation faced by the learning sector since the COVID-19 outbreak, specific emphasis was put on webinars and interactive distance-learning tools.

The entire webinar series has been successful and achieved the pre-set objectives. EJTN is looking forward to further jointly organised projects on the topic of the international protection and judicial training methodology!

SPECIALISED TRAINING SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF WORK OF THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE (EPPO)

OVERVIEW

The Regulation establishing the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) under enhanced cooperation was adopted on 12 October 2017 and entered into force on 20 November 2017.

The EPPO is currently being set up, with the aim of becoming operational in March 2021. As an independent and

decentralised European prosecution service, the EPPO will be competent to investigate, prosecute and bring to judgment crimes against the EU budget, such as fraud, corruption or serious cross-border VAT fraud. At this stage, there are 22 participating EU countries.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

In July 2020, EJTN and ERA in a Consortium prepared a joint offer in response to a call for tenders launched by the EPPO aimed at providing specialised training services in the field of work of the European Public Prosecutor's Office. In November 2020 the Consortium successfully passed the evaluation procedure and was awarded with a Framework contract to implement the new project on specialised EPPO trainings.

The project team presented a Draft Annual Work Programme for the year 2021 of trainings and meetings which

was discussed with EPPO representatives at the beginning of December 2020 (Kick-off meeting).

In accordance with the Draft Annual Work Programme, trainings for EPPO are to be implemented in 2021 on several clusters : (i) Fraud patterns and relevant case law on PIF crimes and VAT fraud; (ii) EU funding programmes and sources of income, EU Procurement and Financial Regulations in the context of the EPPO's field of work and (iii) tailor-made courses on English terminology relevant to criminal substantial and procedural law, EU funds.



CATALOGUE+



OVERVIEW

Thanks to the Catalogue+ project, magistrates from across Europe have the valuable opportunity to attend various training courses organised by the judicial training institutions being Members of EJTN.

18 EJTN's Members institutions contributed to this project in 2020, organising seminars on a topic of law.

There was 40 Catalogue + seminars with 400 places opened to foreign participants.

Out of the 400 places, 85 foreign participants successfully participated in this portfolio.

Additionally, 1749 national participants took part in the Catalogue+ seminars offered by their respective national training institutions. All in all, a sum up of 178 EU magistrates received training for 2020 under this project.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

Each Member institution that organises seminars relating to European law in their own country then 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 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. The national training activity, therefore, becomes an international one and is opened to attract 10 foreign magistrates or more.

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 the EJTN.

Participants to the Catalogue+ events highly appreciate the organisation of the Catalogue+ seminars, the quality of speakers, the rich information provided during the seminars and the international atmosphere.

EJTN's Catalogue+ programme 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, such as criminal law, civil law, human rights and many more.

Just as with previous years, EJTN is always looking forward to new and more seminars being added to the programme to ensure the continual growth of Catalogue+.

Topic Table

ACTIVITY REFERENCE	SEMINAR DATE	TITLE OF THE SEMINAR	SEMINAR VENUE	COMMENT
CP/2020/01	TBC	Justice - communication and trust	Lisbon, Portugal	Cancelled
CP/2020/02	20-24 January 2020	International human rights protection	Trier, Rhineland-Palatinate	Face-to-face
CP/2020/03	31 January 2020	Gender and domestic violence; female genital mutilation	Lisbon, Portugal	Face-to-face
CP/2020/04	10-12 February 2020	Scientific logic and probative assessment. Special reference to biological evidence.	Madrid, Spain	Face-to-face
CP/2020/05	4-6 March 2020	Protection of vulnerable investigated and accused persons	Madrid, Spain	Face-to-face

RESULTS

A record number of 85 European legal practitioners from over 13 EU Member States received training in 2020 under the auspices of EJTN's Catalogue Plus Programme within different areas of law.

Number of participants

85

Number of seminars

17

Number of states*

13

*Opened to EU MS + Western Balkan states (AL, BA, ME, MK, RS and XK)

ACTIVITY REFERENCE	SEMINAR DATE	TITLE OF THE SEMINAR	SEMINAR VENUE	COMMENT
CP/2020/06	6 March 2020	Children in the context of domestic violence - how to safeguard their right to protection	Lisbon, Portugal	Face-to-face
CP/2020/07	23-25 March 2020	Asylum and immigration law seminar	Kroměříž, Czech Republic	Cancelled
CP/2020/08	23-25 March 2020	Digital contracting and its evidence	Madrid, Spain	Cancelled
CP/2020/09	30 November-2 December 2020	Judicial cooperation in family law	Sofia, Bulgaria	Online
CP/2020/10	1-2 April 2020	Multi-layered treatment of particularly vulnerable children	Ljubljana, Slovenia	Cancelled
CP/2020/11	6-8 April 2020	Medical error	Lublin, Poland	Cancelled
CP/2020/12	16-17 April 2020	Collective redress in the eu	ERA, Trier, Germany	Cancelled
CP/2020/13	16-17 June 2020	Seizure and forfeiture	Brussels, Belgium	Cancelled
CP/2020/14	4-5 June 2020	Right to a fair trial - recent ecthr case-law	ERA, Strasbourg, France	Online
CP/2020/15	4-8 May 2020	International cooperation in criminal matters	Lublin, Poland	Cancelled
CP/2020/16	7-8 May 2020	Conference with ilo	Lisbon, Portugal	Cancelled
CP/2020/17	11-12 May 2020	Conference on investigating cybercrime in the eu	Bucharest, Romania	Cancelled
CP/2020/18	16-18 November 2020	Legal language	Bucharest, Romania	Online
CP/2020/19	5 June 2020	European labour law	Lisbon, Portugal	Cancelled
CP/2020/20	27-31 July 2020	Legal english	Kroměříž, Czech Republic	Cancelled
CP/2020/21	7-9 September 2020	Conduct of legal transactions for judges	Lublin, Poland	Cancelled
CP/2020/22	16 September 2020	Ethics and prevention of corruption	Riga, Latvia	Cancelled
CP/2020/23	28-29 September 2020	Combating corruption in the EU	Bucharest, Romania	Cancelled
CP/2020/24	14-15 December 2020	European investigation order (eio). Admissibility of evidence	Sofia, Bulgaria	Online
CP/2020/25	2-5 November 2020	Racism - a challenge for the judicial system	Trier, Rhineland-Palatinate	Cancelled
CP/2020/26	9-10 November 2020	Conference on "the interaction with the minors during the judiciary proceedings. Specificities"	Bucharest, Romania	Cancelled
CP/2020/27	16-18 November 2020	Investigation and prosecution of crimes against sexual freedom. Special reference to the minor victim.	Madrid, Spain	Cancelled
CP/2020/28	16-20 November 2020	Corruption: detection, prevention, repression	Paris, France	Online
CP/2020/29	18-20 November 2020	Cybercrime	Stegersbach, Austria	Cancelled
CP/2020/30	10-11 December 2020	Annual conference on countering terrorism in the eu 2020 - dealing with right-wing and left-wing extremism	ERA, Trier, Germany	Online
CP/2020/31	7-11 December 2020	Court management	Paris, France	Online
CP/2020/32	2-4 December 2020	Scientific logic and probative assessment. Special reference to biological evidences.	Scandicci, Italy	Online and only in italian
CP/2020/33	21-23 September 2020	Freedom of expression and hate speech	Scandicci, Italy	Online and only in italian
CP/2020/34	11-13 March 2020	Artificial intelligence and jurisdiction in practice: office organisation and decision-making function	Scandicci, Italy	Cancelled
CP/2020/35	21-23 December 2020	Essential european law	Utrecht, The Netherlands	Online
CP/2020/36	TBC	Environmental crimes	Kroměříž, Czech Republic	Cancelled
CP/2020/37	11-12 June 2020	Regulation (eu) 2018/1805 of the european parliament and of the council of 14 november 2018 on the mutual recognition of freezing orders and confiscation orders	Madrid, Spain	Cancelled
CP/2020/38	TBC	International perspective on hate crimes	Madrid, Spain	Cancelled
CP/2020/39	7-8 December 2020	Mediation in civil and commercial matters	Zadar, Croatia	Online
CP/2020/40	5-6 March 2020	Judicial ethics	Dubrovnik, Croatia	Face-to-face

CATALOGUE OF MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES




OVERVIEW

The EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities, was created in 2003, initially under the name of Catalogue General.

The EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities promotes various judicial training events within the EU Member States for the entire judiciary of the EU Member States. The Catalogue integrates the activities organised and selected by EJTN's Members.

In 2020, 145 seminars were offered by 12 Member institutions of the EJTN under the EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities. Various topics were covered under international, European and national law. More specifically, trainings, among other, took place on the rule of law, professional practices, societal issues, linguistics, judicial skills, human rights, forensics, criminal law, judicial cooperation in criminal matters, civil law, labour law, commercial law and administrative law.

The 2020 EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities received a total of 581 foreign participants.

Europeans judges and prosecutors highly appreciate the valuable seminars, adding significant value to their professional life.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities is an essential engine of training, which promotes various judicial training opportunities within the European Union Member States and supports the integration of the activities organised by EJTN's Member institutions.

Aimed at European judges and prosecutors, in 2019 there were 147 seminars available covering a wide breadth of topics such as administrative, civil, and criminal law, human rights, European and international law along with many other seminars. Seminars co-financed by the European Union were also offered.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Created in 2015 under the portfolio of the Catalogue of Members' Activities, the Scholarship Fund allows EU individual judges and prosecutors to participate in trainings abroad. This is to master their knowledge of EU Law, improve their command of foreign languages and acquire knowledge of national law useful to perform professional tasks.

Applications for scholarships are to be submitted through the candidates' national EJTN Member institutions, which then run internal national selection processes. All sending institutions address the hosts to check availability and acceptance.

Under the framework of the Scholarship Fund, 5 participants per EJTN Member state and ERA may be accommodated by this mechanism.

Over 2020, a total number of 16 European legal practitioners from 8 EU Member States have been supported by the Scholarship Fund. Overall, these 16 magistrates participated in 7 different seminars, which were hosted in 4 different EU Member States.

RESULTS

A total number of 581 of European legal practitioners from 26 EU Member States received training in 2019 under the auspices of EJTN's Catalogue of Members' Activities within different areas of law.

COUNTRY	#OF SCHOLARSHIPS ISSUED
BULGARIA	2
GERMANY	1
GREECE	1
ITALY	5
POLAND	1
PORTUGAL	1
ROMANIA	1
SPAIN	4
TOTAL	16

Number of participants

581

Number of seminars

27

Number of states

28



STUDY ON THE TRAINING NEEDS OF COURT STAFF ON EU LAW IN THE EU

OVERVIEW

From 2019 to 2021, the EJTN-led consortium with the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) is running the project on the 'Study on the Training Needs of Court Staff on EU Law in the EU', funded by the European Commission (Directorate General of Justice and Consumers).

The general objective of the study is to map in detail the training needs on EU law of the different types of court staff according to their respective tasks in the EU Member States. Unlike the definition of the court staff as referred to in EJTN's Strategic Plan 2021-2027 adopted at the 2019 General Assembly, the expression 'court staff' for the purpose of the study *"means the support staff of courts and tribunals and of prosecutors' offices, whatever their education background or legal status in the countries"*.

RESULTS

2020 began with a fruitful Kick-off Conference with the national coordinators. Throughout the course of the year, data were collected by the national coordinators based on three questionnaires that had been designed by the Experts in Judicial Training with the support of the project Experts Committee.

The Experts in Judicial Training subsequently analysed the data submitted by 27 Member States and discussed the results with the project Experts Committee with a view to drafting the Study report.

Number of
institutions involved



Number of
national coordinators



Number of
states



DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

The Kick-off Conference laid the foundations of the future cooperation between the project team, the national coordinators and the assisting committees, raising ownership and involvement in the study. During plenary sessions and workshops, the national coordinators received first-hand information on how to best complete their task and could discuss with each other and with the project's team the strategies that will be used in their respective countries. The project Experts Committee and the project Steering Committee could also meet the project team and further discuss their cooperation and work ahead.

The main activities conducted in 2020 were linked to data collection. With the support of the project Experts Committee, the Experts in Judicial Training, in charge of the scientific component of the project, designed three questionnaires which were successively completed by the national coordinators:

- **Questionnaire 1** focused on updating the inventory from the Lot 3 Study of 2014 on the State of Play of Court Staff Training in EU Law and Promotion of Cooperation Between Court Staff Training Providers at EU Level, i.e. on the different categories of court staff, their functions and the extent to which they apply EU law. It was launched on 24 January 2020.

- **Questionnaire 2** focused on the state of the training activities on EU law for court staff. It was launched on 30 April 2020.

- **Questionnaire 3** focused on the training capacities and future European networking needs and capacities. It was launched on 30 October 2020.

During each round of the project, a close collaborative approach was adopted with the national coordinators through regular exchanges and online meetings with the project team. The involvement of the national coordinators and the quality of their work for the data collection was acknowledged on several occasions by the project team, the project committees and the European Commission.

The data collection was also assisted by the committees of the project. While the project Experts Committee members provided advice on the content of the questionnaires and analysis of the data, the project Steering Committee supervised the overall implementation of the project.

In parallel to the data collection, as organisations involved in the training of court staff, the European Bailiffs' Foundation (EUBF) and the Academy of European Law (ERA) were also regularly informed about the latest development of the project and invited to provide comments.

NAME OF EVENT	HOSTING INSTITUTION	DATE
Project Experts Committee	IGO, Brussels, Belgium	20 January 2020
Kick-off Conference of National Coordinators and Presentation of Questionnaire 1	IGO, Brussels, Belgium	21 January 2020
Project Steering Committee	IGO, Brussels, Belgium	21 January 2020
Project Experts Committee	Online	27 April 2020
Presentation of Questionnaire 2 to the National Coordinators	Online	28 April 2020
Project Steering Committee	Online	28 April 2020
Project Experts Committee	Online	25 June 2020
Project Experts Committee	Online	20 October 2020
Questions and Answers Sessions on Questionnaire 3 with the National Coordinators	Online	10 November 2020 20 November 2020

eTOOLS

OVERVIEW

EJTN's eTools are IT platforms, databases, interaction channels and processing systems for increasing the dissemination of knowledge and information, engagement and administrative efficiencies.

With an eye to a classification system, EJTN's eTools may be grouped into learning tools, searching tools, social media tools and application and project management tools.

Continuous investments in eTools allows EJTN to meet several key aims. Knowledge and information can be disseminated across a wider reach, networking and engagement can be improved and greater administrative efficiencies may be obtained.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

EJTN's eTools serve the interests of Europe's judiciary as well as all those who participate in EJTN's training programmes.

Learning tools such as its collection of podcasts and webinars widen access to judicial training. Searching tools such as the Methodologies & Resources Database (MRD) ensure that supporting resources for judicial training are always at hand. Social media channels engage the wider community and help drive judicial discourse. Application and project management tools allow participants to efficiently manage their applications for training and help ensure that EJTN's projects are managed more cost effectively.



RESULTS

EJTN's various eTools continue to serve Europe's judiciary around the clock.

Number of blended
learning participants



Number of
podcasts



LEARNING TOOLS

PODCASTS

One of EJTN's primary objectives is to facilitate the widest possible dissemination of knowledge and information. Accordingly, EJTN continues to invest in the production of podcasts and webinars. To date, EJTN produced 14 podcast sets, based on judicial training seminars held across Europe, involving 67 renowned speakers.



BLENDED AND E-LEARNING MODULES

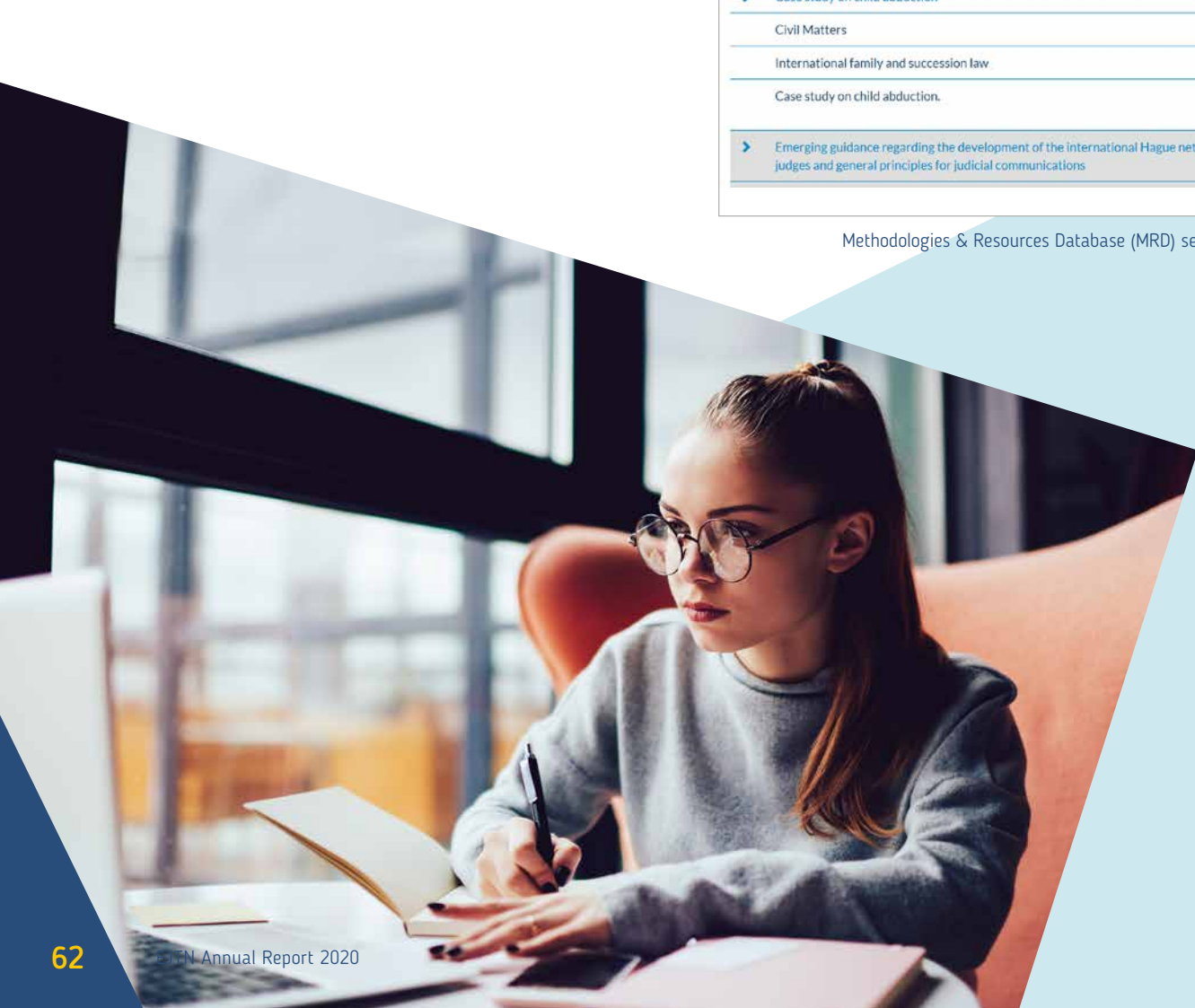
EJTN's existing blended learning courses were again run throughout the year to supplement the face-to-face trainings with pre-classroom learning activities available on EJTN's online platform.

SEARCHING TOOLS

The Methodologies & Resources Database (MRD) brings together the very best of judicial training resources from across Europe. MRD is a centralised collection of searchable judicial training-related resources, which are sourced from EJTN, its Members and other stakeholders. The format of the resources incorporate links to e-Learning opportunities, training materials, reports, case studies, podcasts, bibliographies as well as handbooks and guidelines.

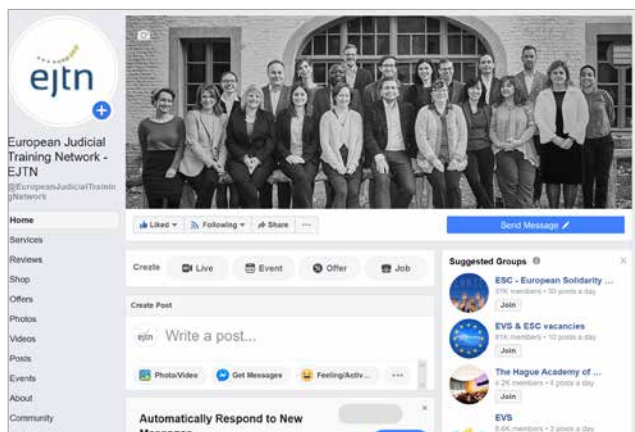
Search Result	
Civil Matters (28)	Criminal Matters (8) EU (1)
Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1)	Linguistics (33)
Training Methodology (52)	
> Corporate Mobility in the European Union	
Civil Matters	
International commercial law	
> EJTN eLearning course: Understanding References for a Preliminary Ruling of the Court of Justice of the EU	
Civil Matters	
Judicial cooperation in civil matters	
> Case study on child abduction	
Civil Matters	
International family and succession law	
Case study on child abduction.	
> Emerging guidance regarding the development of the international Hague network of judges and general principles for judicial communications	

Methodologies & Resources Database (MRD) search results.



SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLS

EJTN's engagement with social media continues to grow. EJTN maintains Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, Flickr and Vimeo platforms, and EJTN staff are also actively engaged with these tools with 'live' posts from events. EJTN's social media policy as well as instructional guides for staff ensure the smooth usage of these social media channels.



EJTN's social media channels contribute to European judicial discourse.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEVEL TEST

The experts of the Sub-working group linguistics have developed an online tool for all EJTN's activities. The English language level test is available on EJTN's website: <https://learning.eitn.eu/login/>

The test allows potential participants to test their knowledge level of legal English before applying to EJTN's training and give them an idea of the language level they are currently at, in order to help them choose the right activity. The test has 50 questions and participants have a limit of 45 minutes to complete the test. After completing the test, each participant receives a certificate from the system with the level attained.

APPLICATION AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT TOOLS

EJTN operated through and continued to invest in IT systems for processing and managing training participants as well as for managing its own projects.

ONLINE SYSTEM FOR PARTICIPANTS (OSP)

The Online System for Applicants (OSP) is a state-of-the-art system for use by EJTN as well as EJTN's partner organisations across Europe for managing the many thousands of EJTN seminar candidates and participants.

Participants in seminars use the system for registration of personal details and preferences as well as for completing post-event travel reimbursement claims, quality surveys and completion certification.

Edit candidate

First name *

Surname *

Gender

Email *

Additional emails

Country *

Function *

Institution of origin *

Professional address *

Office phone nr

Ncp

Events

Add to event

LI/2018/08 Language training on the vocabulary of Hum...

Edit

LI/2019/05 Legal language training in cooperation in asy...

Edit

CI/2020/01 Service of documents & taking of evidence a...

Edit

The Online System for Participants (OSP).

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TOOL (PMT)

EJTN's Project Management Tool (PMT) is used by both EJTN personnel and Activity Coordinators from EJTN Member organisations. PMT allows professional-grade managing of all facets of EJTN's seminars (initiating, managing, reporting and archiving). The PMT manages all phases of EJTN's hundreds of projects and seminars, from initial establishment, to daily managing, reporting and finally archiving of completed/past projects.

KEY PUBLICATIONS

EJTN's key publications are available on EJTN's searchable Methodologies & Resources Database (MRD), which is a centralised collection of searchable judicial training-related resources sourced from EJTN, its Members and other stakeholders!



Consult MRD at:

<http://www.ejtn.eu/Methodologies--Resources/>

EJTN PUBLICATIONS

2021 CALENDAR OF TRAINING ACTIVITIES

This publication provides a comprehensive overview of EJTN's and Members' training activities along with a full picture of EJTN's rich collection of podcasts, virtual learning and other training resources. An overview on how to apply for EJTN's training opportunities is also provided.

NEW IN 2020

JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS HANDBOOK ON DISTANCE LEARNING

The Judicial Training Methods Distance Learning Handbook aims at answering in a simple yet practical way the questions that must be considered to provide quality distance training; it is aimed at judicial trainers and training providers. This Handbook consists of five chapters, exploring in detail the following key areas: how to start distance learning courses and how to design an e-course; specific analysis is devoted to E-learning training methods and tools and a last chapter illustrates how to shift from face to face to online trainings. Conclusions in each chapter and final recommendations allow respectively to focus on the essential aspects to be considered while organizing a quality distance training course. Moreover, in consideration of the technical specificities linked to this subject, a glossary has been included to support the reader in this aim as well.

EJTN CONTRIBUTED TO:

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S REPORT ON TRAINING FOR EU LEGAL PRACTITIONERS

The European Commission 2018 judicial training report was published in January 2019 and its 2019 edition was published in December. This is an important assessment of the progress made towards reaching the 2020 judicial training targets, the European Commission has set in its Building trust in EU-wide justice, a new dimension to European judicial training communication of September 2011. As a great marker of success, an ambitious 2020 training target has already been achieved two years ahead of schedule.

OTHER AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS

JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATION OF JUDICIAL TRAINING PRACTICES

These guidelines aim to support judicial training providers with their work in evaluating training activities. It is designed as short and comprehensive manual highlighting relevant practical examples. Based on Kirkpatrick's four-level training evaluation model, it offers four chapters with each one focusing on one of the levels. It is available as an e-tool, in both English and French, and includes concrete references and samples of evaluation tools and methods such as questionnaires, surveys, peers reviews and action plans. Available in English and French.

HANDBOOK (IN ENGLISH FOR HUMAN RIGHTS)

This handbook provides an overview of legal English in the field of human rights and includes numerous exercises, definitions and examples of real cases.

THE LANGUAGE OF COMPETITION LAW HANDBOOK / MANUEL LE VOCABULAIRE DU DROIT DE LA CONCURRENCE

This handbook provides an overview of legal English and French in the field of competition law and includes numerous exercises, definitions and examples of real cases.

THE LANGUAGE OF CYBERCRIME HANDBOOK

This handbook provides an overview of legal English in the field of cybercrime and includes numerous exercises, definitions and examples of real cases.

JUDICIAL TRAINING PRINCIPLES

Intended to provide a universal training framework for Europe's judiciary and judicial training institutions, the principles provide Europe's judiciary with a foundation and source of inspiration for managing their own judicial training needs.

Available in 22 languages.

EJTN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LINGUISTICS HANDBOOKS

The Handbooks, produced under the auspices of prominent law experts and linguists, take a comprehensive look at language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in civil matters and also in criminal matters. These are a vital resource for any judge, prosecutor or trainer involved in linguistics endeavours. eBook formats are available from EJTN's website.

EJTN HANDBOOK ON JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODOLOGY IN EUROPE

The Handbook is a unique tool, designed by EJTN judicial experts, that illustrates the role, competencies, training methods as well as the best practices of trainers from across European judiciaries. Available in 23 languages.

GOOD JUDICIAL TRAINING PRACTICES

These good training practices were collected from 23 judicial training organisations across Europe. Each of the resulting 65 good practices, arranged under 5 themes, present the key features of the good practice, highlight the relevant contact persons for the good practice and provide comments and further analysis about the good practice. Available in 23 languages.

JUDICIAL TRAINING IN THE EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES

This 2011 study describes the state of judicial training in the European Union. It presents the results of a major survey of judges, prosecutors and court staff on their experiences of judicial training. It also profiles EU judicial training actors and contains detailed recommendations on how to overcome obstacles to participation in judicial training and to promote best practices.

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2011/453198/IPOL-JURI_ET%282011%29453198_EN.pdf

THE EJTN TRAINING CURRICULA

The EJTN training curricula aim to contribute to the development of a genuine European judicial culture, based on diversity of the legal systems of the Member States and unity through European law in different fields of activity: criminal law; civil law; legal language; and Trainers/Methodology.

ERA/EJTN STUDY – JUDICIAL TRAINING IN THE EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES

This study describes the state of judicial training in the European Union, particularly in EU law. It presents the results of a major survey of judges, prosecutors and court staff on their experiences of judicial training. Profiles of the judicial training actors at EU level and in Member States, along with detailed recommendations on how to overcome obstacles to participation in judicial training and to promote best practice across the EU are also addressed.

EJTN EUROPEAN CIVIL FORUM HANDBOOK

The Handbook provides authoritative knowledge of pedagogical tools, evaluation and training practices on three EU civil justice cooperation instruments.

EJTN CRIMINAL GUIDELINES

Aimed at trainers, these guidelines address topics, documents and case law suitable for training endeavours in this field. Trainee and trainer profiles are covered and suitable training methods are also assessed.

EJTN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW TRAINING GUIDELINES

The aim of these guidelines is to serve as a working tool for the development of quality training in the field of Administrative Law across Europe, highlighting the most seminal legislation, case-law and relevant documentation in this respective field.

RULE OF LAW IN EUROPE – PERSPECTIVES FROM PRACTITIONERS AND ACADEMICS

With this publication, consisting of four articles authored by four prominent academics and practitioners, EJTN aims to increase judges and prosecutors' knowledge about key

elements of the rule of law standards deriving from several sources and their practical implications for their professional and private lives, increasing mutual understanding of European colleagues. Additionally, it aims to bolster the values and rules that judges and prosecutors need to adhere to in their work, such as integrity and competence, and EU law requirements and standards concerning independence, media communication strategies and appointment or disciplinary procedures, which are essential to reinforcing the rule of law. Finally, the publication aims to enable practitioners from different countries to respond to the various challenges relating to the rule of law, and to be aware of how to implement mechanisms to prevent, correct and sanction abuse of the rule of law in practitioners' daily activities. Available in English.

TRAINING GUIDE ON THE RULE OF LAW - FOR JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS

The Training Guide on the Rule of Law for Judges and Prosecutors has an objective of sharing knowledge of how to design training events in the rule of law field, how to implement such activities and, finally, how to best evaluate the process and the results of such trainings. The 91-page guide is divided into 5 units: needs analysis, forms of training delivery, design of a training component, training material design, and assessment and evaluation. The Training Guide builds on EJTN's expertise collected over the years and articulated in such celebrated EJTN publications as the Handbook on Judicial Training Methodology in Europe, published in 2016, and the Judicial Training Methods Guidelines for Evaluation of Judicial Training Practices, published in 2017.

Available in English.

JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS GUIDELINES FOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING

EJTN released the *Judicial Training Methods Guidelines for Leadership Training*: its overall purpose is to serve as a useful tool, which means being easy to use and hands-on as well as giving practical examples. These guidelines aim to support judicial training providers in their work on planning, organising and conducting leadership training. The Guidelines consist of three main areas, mirroring the Leadership trainings, which are provided within the JTM seminars: "Personal Leadership", "Leadership in Communication" and "Change Management". For each mentioned area, the expected learning outcome and the training methods employed are illustrated. Then, each chapter is closed by specific recommendations.

Available in English.

THEMIS ANNUAL JOURNAL

EJTN launched a unique international publication for the judiciary – the THEMIS Annual Journal, which showcases contemporary topics within the EU judicial sphere and helps develop a common European judicial culture and build mutual trust. THEMIS Annual Journal, an international legal publication, covers the topics of the THEMIS Semi-finals. The journal is included in many legal databases and is a leading professional publication. The Journal covers current issues and original approaches in legal reasoning.

Available in English.



The following statistics and charts were compiled to determine how many EU judges and public prosecutors attended cross-border and online training activities organised by EJTN in 2020 and to place these achievements within a historical context. Further, these achievements illustrate how EJTN has continued to perform under the efficiency and cost-to-serve ratio.

The impact of the COVID-19 crisis on cross-border face-to-face training activities is reflected in these achievements.

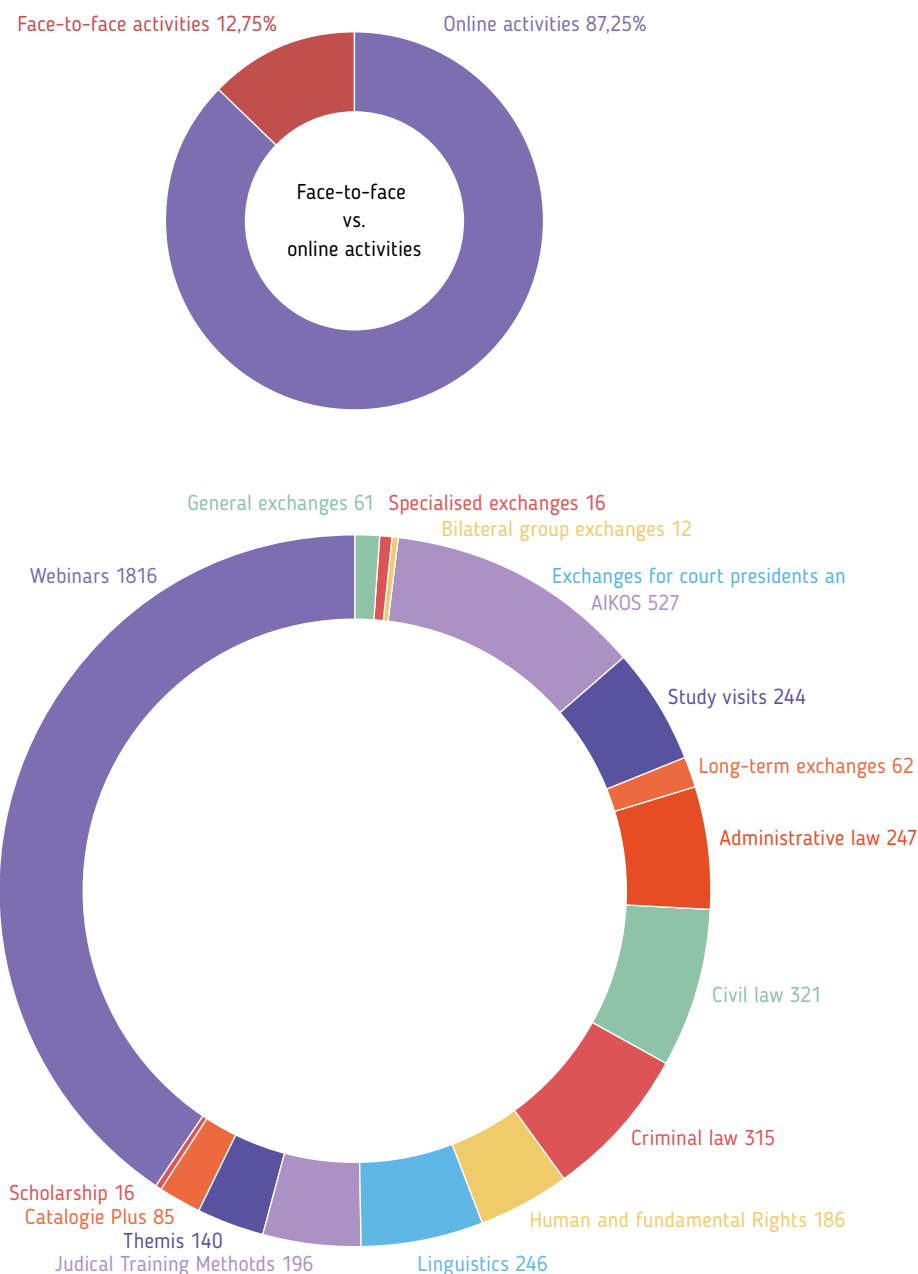
ACHIEVEMENTS

TABLE I

EJTN's wide range of 2020 training activities by number of participants

2020 ACHIEVEMENTS

Total participants (Catalogue of Members activities excl.) 4,493	Cost-to-Serve Ratio: Price/Training Day 239.22 €
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The objectives and nature of the Exchange Programme include the in-person meeting of peers in other European countries and the on-site experience of a foreign judicial system at work. The great majority of judicial exchanges were therefore maintained in the face-to-face format and postponed to a later stage with the exception of the AIA-KOS Programme, which contains more structured parts like presentations of general judicial and non-judicial topics that could be adapted to online formats. Study visits organised

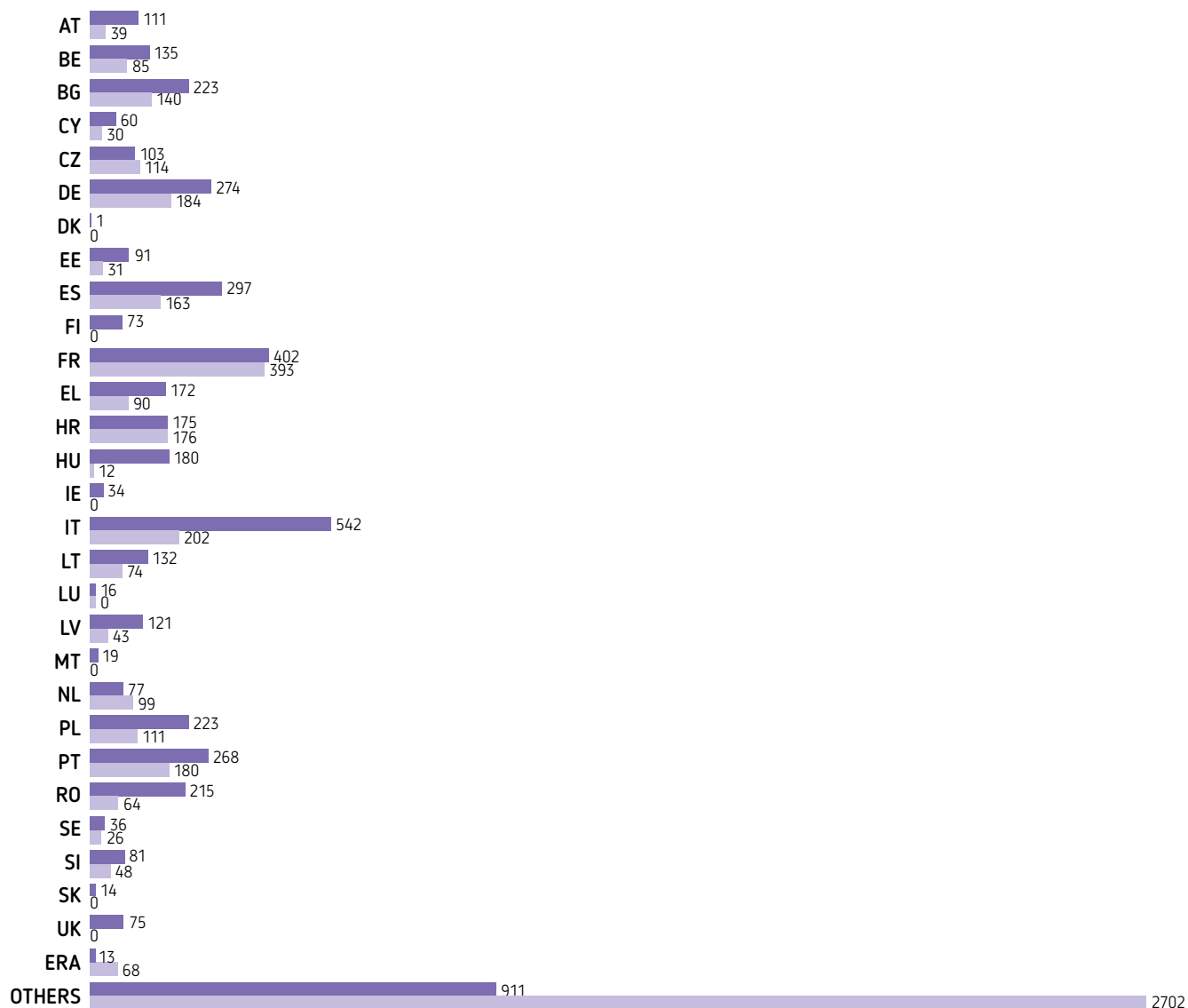
in cooperation with EJTN long-lasting partners were also turned into virtual programmes.

The EJTN Members were also impacted by the COVID-19 crisis as observed from the Catalogue of Members activities. The conversion of training activities from face-to-face to online formats enable maintaining the number of participants in the seminars.

Table II illustrates how many EU judges and public prosecutors have attended EJTN's own training activities and the Catalogue of EJTN's Members training activities abroad in

2020 (in dark violet), as well as how many foreign judges and public prosecutors EJTN's Members have hosted in 2020 (in light violet) under the EJTN activities framework.

TABLE II



- Number of judiciary sent on training by Members
- Number of foreign judiciary hosted for training by Members

* The category "OTHERS" refers to institutions like CJEU, ECtHR, Eurojust, CEPOL, FRA, HCCH and the EU Institutions, and also encompass the activities held online due to the COVID-19 crisis

TABLE III. Evolution of yearly attendance

EJTN's training activities (EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities included)

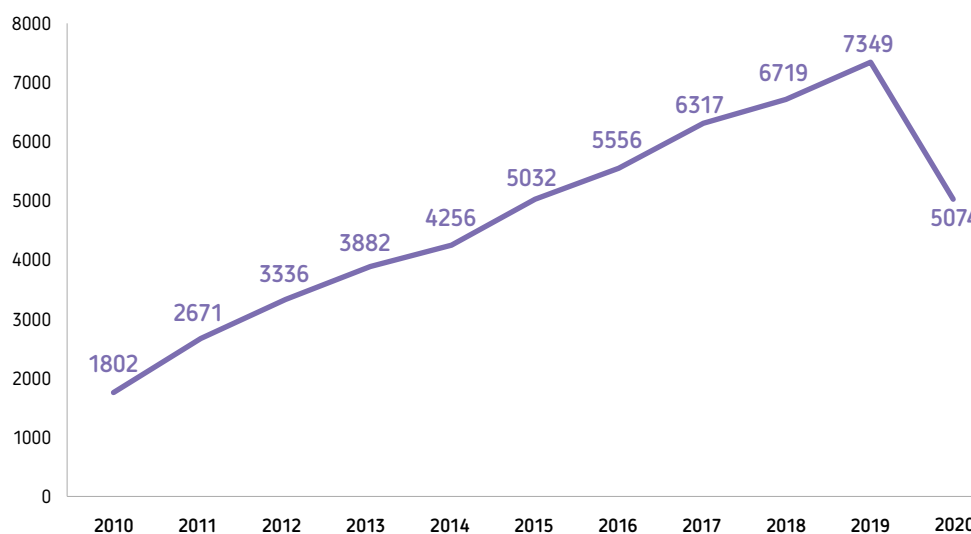


TABLE IV. Evolution of yearly attendance

EJTN's own training activities (EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities excluded)

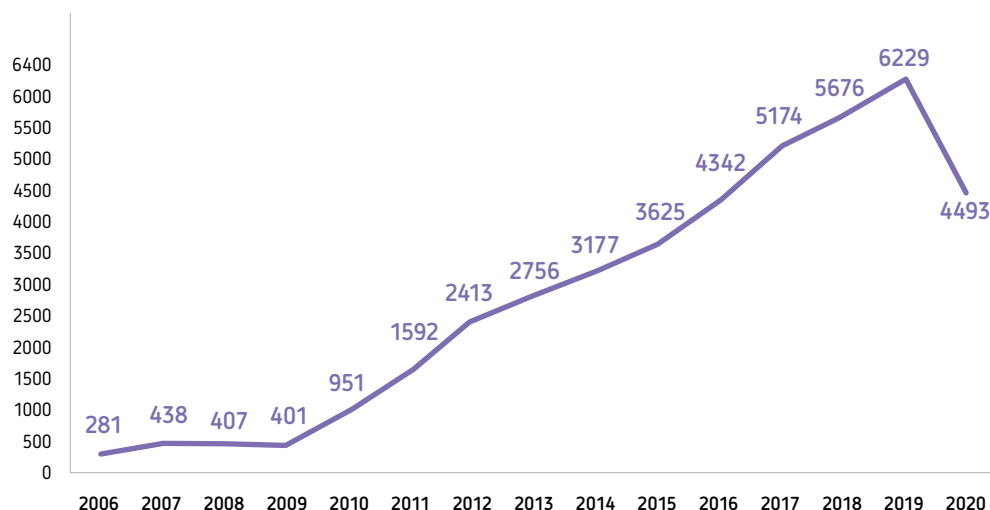
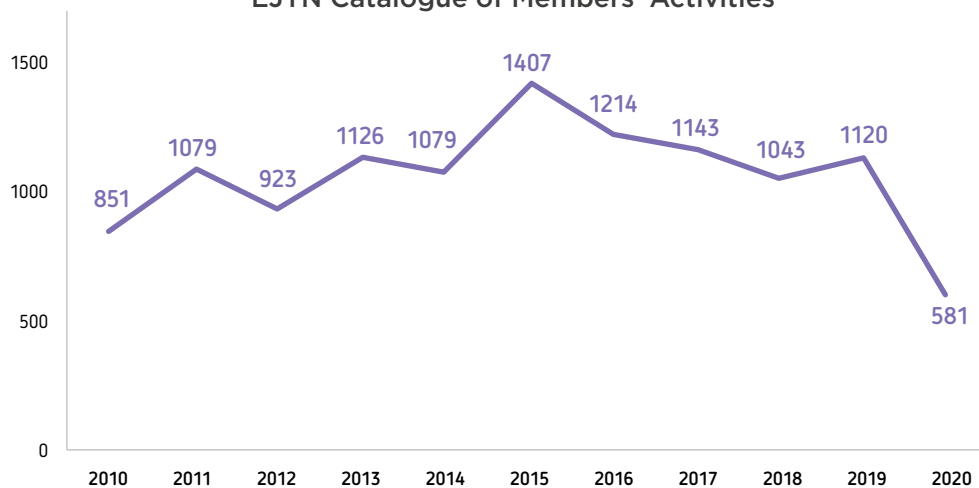


TABLE V. Evolution of yearly attendance

EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities*



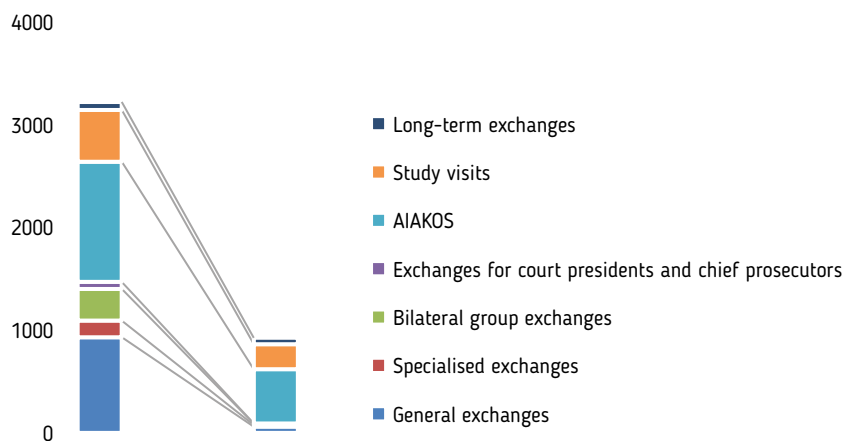
*2020 data not available from the following Member States: AT, BE, CY, DK, EE, EL, FI, HU, IE, LU, LV, MT, SE, SI and SK.

Highlight on the Exchange Programme for Judicial Authorities

TABLES VI

Impact of the COVID-19 between 2019 and 2020 on the number of participants

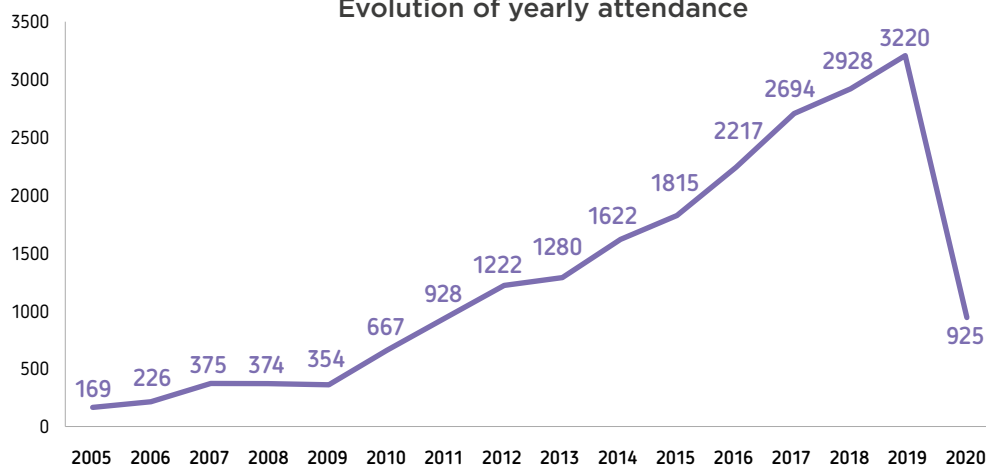
Exchanges



	2019	2020
Long-term exchanges	77	62
Study visits	504	244
AIAKOS	1170	527
Exchanges for court presidents and chief prosecutors	68	3
Bilateral group exchanges	308	12
Specialised exchanges	162	16
General exchanges	931	61

TABLE VII

Evolution of yearly attendance



The objectives and nature of the Exchange Programme include the in-person meeting of peers in other European countries and the on-site experience of a foreign judicial system at work. The great majority of judicial exchanges were therefore maintained in the face-to-face format and postponed to a later stage with the exception of the

AIAKOS Programme, which contains more structured parts like presentations of general judicial and non-judicial topics that could be adapted to online formats. Study visits organised in cooperation with EJTN long-lasting partners were also turned into virtual programmes.

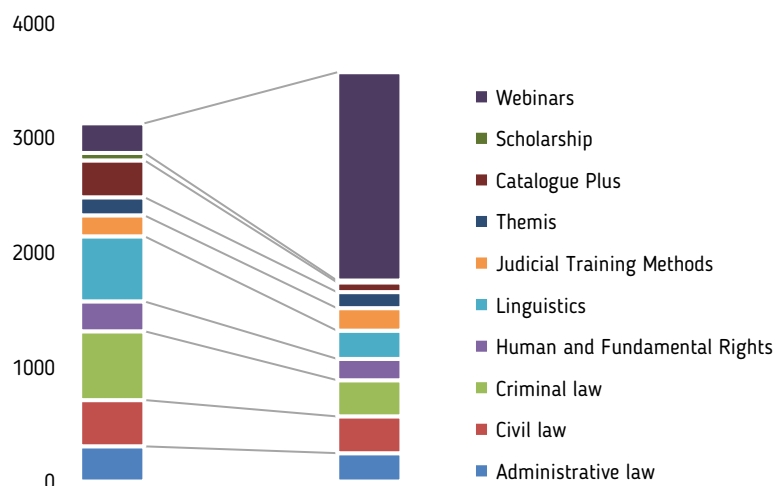
Highlight on the seminars and webinars

(EJTN Catalogue of Members' Activities excluded)

TABLE VIII

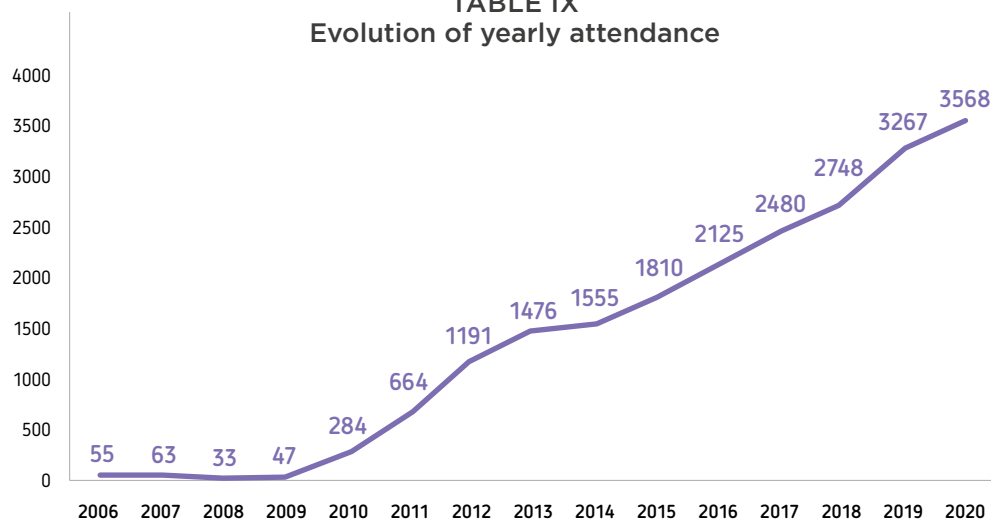
Impact of the COVID-19 between 2019 and 2020 on the number of participants

Seminars



	2019	2020
Webinars	258	1816
Scholarship	65	16
Catalogue Plus	322	85
Themis	158	140
Judicial Training Methods	182	196
Linguistics	568	246
Human and Fundamental Rights	260	186
Criminal law	600	315
Civil law	403	321
Administrative law	307	247

TABLE IX
Evolution of yearly attendance

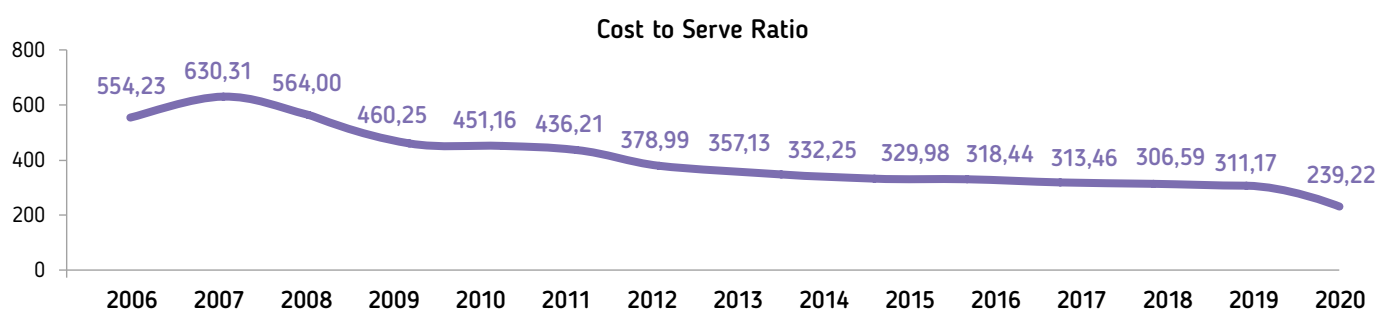


The conversion of training activities from face-to-face to online formats enabled maintaining the number of participants in the seminars as well as additional online trainings.

TABLE X
Number of effective training days offered



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



The contents and views expressed herein solely reflect those of EJTN and the European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of these contents and views.





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