



European Judicial Training Network ANNUAL REPORT

2023



With financial support
from the European Union

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1

EJTN IN 2023

EJTN IN 2023



Founded in
2000



9,320
Participants
in all activities



36
Members



40,305.5
Individual
training days



5
Associate
Members



AIAKOS
1,279
Participants



17
Observers



THEMIS
157
Participants



917
Activities
organised



Court Staff Integration
1,373
Participants

2

FOREWORD BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

FOREWORD BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear Reader,

2023 was a year full of challenges but also of rewards.

It was a dynamic and fruitful year with new activities and projects. The European Judicial Training Network organised 917 activities, trained 9,320 judges, prosecutors, court staff and trainers and delivered 40,305.5 days of training. We are proud to announce that this represents a 29% increase in participants compared to 2022. Of course, that dynamism owes a great deal to the unwavering commitment of all our EJTN Members who create the activities and ensure their wide and targeted dissemination.

In 2023, we also managed to increase the participation of court staff in our training by 33% compared to 2022, especially thanks to our Associate Members who joined all the working groups and ensured that their specific needs were better taken into account. The initiatives to support EJTN's Observers were further developed, particularly the Ukrainian training scheme and the Western Balkans project.

Reinforced cooperation with Partners was also a hallmark achievement of 2023. Indeed, EJTN's Partners significantly contributed to the design of new activities and to the improvement of the existing ones. Therefore, based on the new partnership concluded with the European Chief Prosecutor, EJTN offered new study visits at the EPPO from the second semester of 2023. In the meantime, together with the CJEU, we managed to increase the number of participants of the study visits at that institution back to the pre-Covid-19 figures. Furthermore, the ECtHR and the CJEU were closely involved in the improvement of the THEMIS Competition rules and were represented in the Grand Final Jury. That was a 'première' for the CJEU. Our other partners, such as CEPOL, Eurojust, the Max Planck Institute, GEMME, the EUAA and the FRA, kept enriching our training offering. It is also thanks to our intense cooperation with many of these partners, including the AEAJ, the ENCJ, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Courts and the Courts of Cassation, the MEDEL, the CEPEJ, the CCJE, the Venice Commission, UNODC and the HELP Programme of the Council of Europe, that we successfully organised the second edition of the judges@europe forum in Syracuse. Almost 90 participants from 25 EU Member States took part in that exceptional 3-day event and explored the fascinating interplay between the sound administration of justice and the rule of law in the digital era.

Indeed, EJTN paved the way for its own full transition into digitalisation in 2023. Thus, 14 EJTN Members were equipped with new virtual classrooms enabling them to deliver online and hybrid training. Additionally, acknowledging both the promises and the challenges of that new reality for judicial training and for the judiciary, already now and even more in the future, the EJTN General Assembly set up a new working group that is fully dedicated to digitalisation. 19 Members have stepped in and have already started to assess the specific training needs in that field. They are entrusted with the important task of designing a comprehensive digital training offering for judges, prosecutors and court staff at EU level.

These technological developments should nonetheless not overshadow the importance of values for justice systems in the EU, both individually and collectively. In this light, it is a great privilege but also a significant responsibility to contribute to the initial and continuous training of women and men performing judicial functions and thereby upholding the rule of law. Thus, the EJTN Conference of Directors aimed to raise awareness about the challenges arising from the diversity among the directors of the European judicial training institutions. This illustrates our collective commitment to contribute to a fair and cohesive society.

Thanks, in particular, to the continuous support of the European Commission, EJTN pursued its efforts to consolidate the European Area of Freedom, Security and Justice and to foster a common European judicial culture in 2023.

This is a collective achievement.

Enjoy your reading!



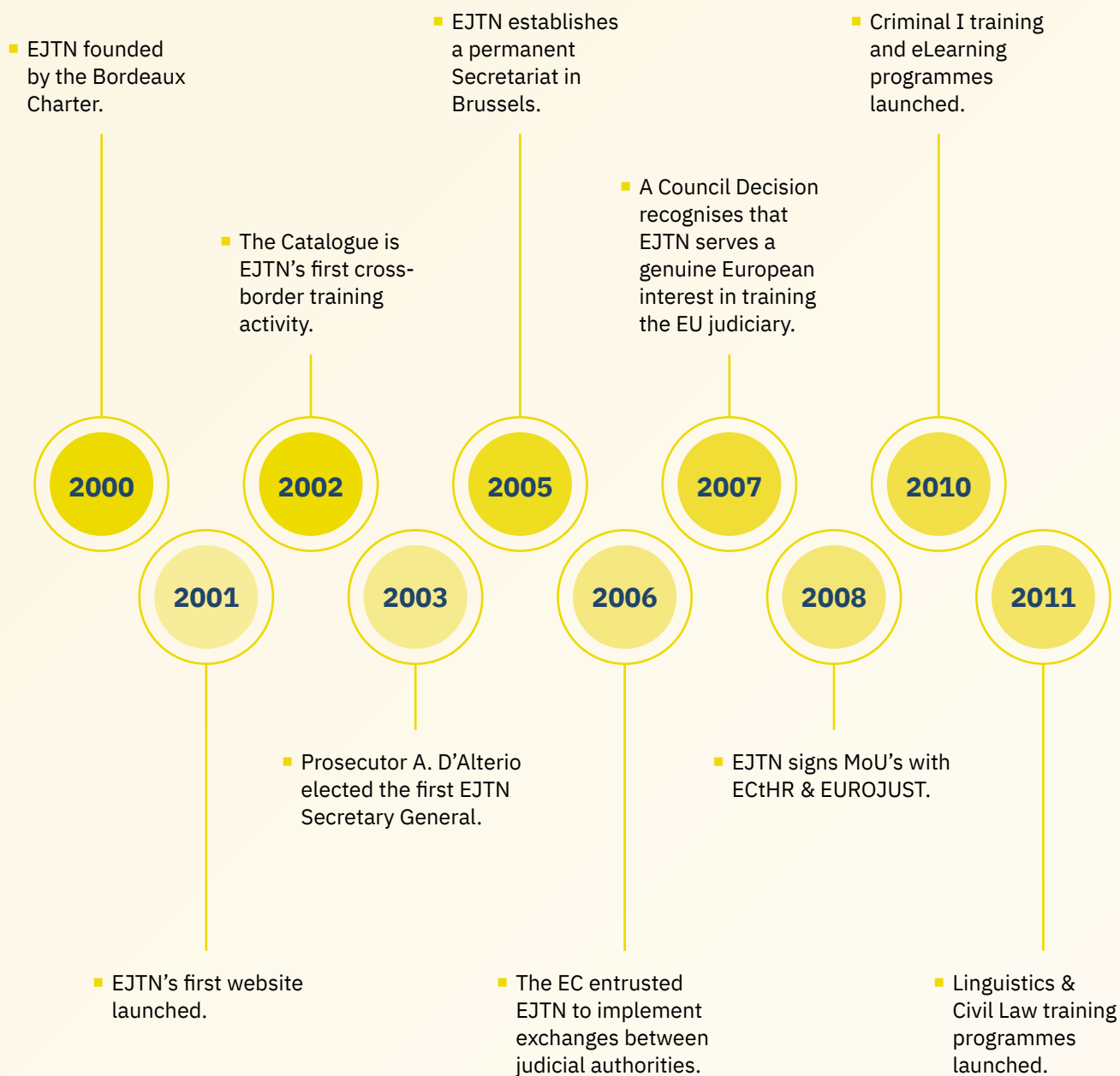
INGRID DERVEAUX

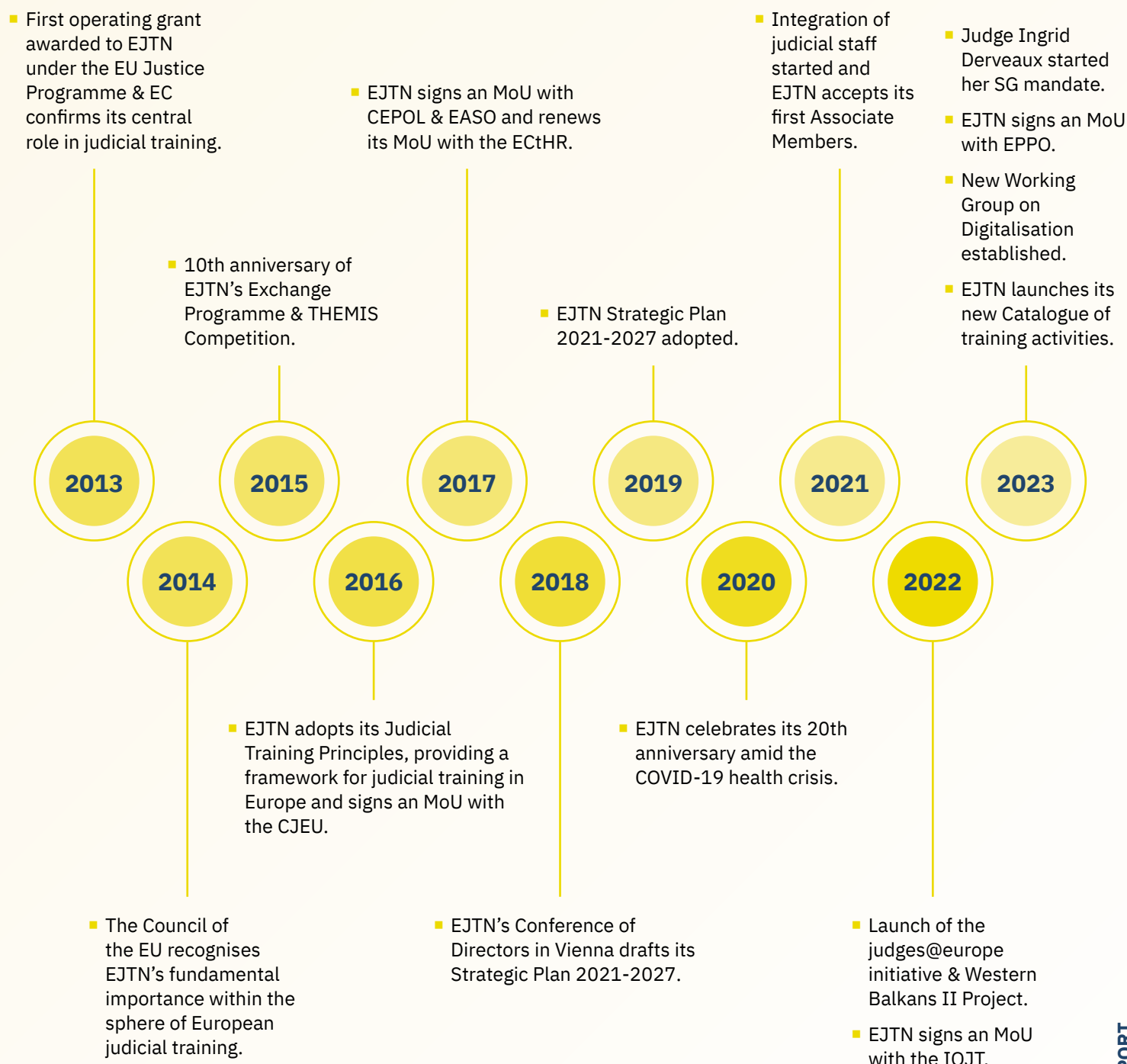
EJTN's Secretary General

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OUR HISTORY

OUR HISTORY







4

WHO ARE WE?

WHO ARE WE?

Founded in 2000 by the Bordeaux Charter, EJTN is an international non-profit association governed by the provisions of Belgian law. EJTN brings together judicial training institutions from all EU Member States to pursue an aim of general European interest: that of developing and implementing training and exchange activities for members of the European judiciary. These activities cover initial and continuous training and are delivered in close cooperation with its Members, Associate Members, Observers and Partners.

EJTN plays a vital role in promoting networking among its Members. It also serves as a platform where they can share experiences and exchange opinions in areas of joint interest, based on their common values. Furthermore, the Network gives particular importance to training the young members of the judiciary, as they are not only national, but also European justice practitioners.

EJTN'S APPROACH TO PLANNING AND EXECUTING ACTIVITIES

EJTN takes a decentralised approach to planning and organising its activities. The Members provide the expertise needed to develop and deliver judicial training activities, whilst the support of the European Commission remains essential for strategic advice and funding. EJTN's priorities are defined autonomously and in line with the principle of judicial

independence, but those set by the EU institutions in judicial training are also taken into consideration. EJTN recognises and respects the unique capacities, missions and diverse needs of its Members, and is committed to ensuring that the Network's activities are tailored to their requirements and priorities.

EJTN'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

EJTN is a key player in the judicial training field at European level. The Network focuses on consolidating its position and continues to work on making high-quality judicial training available to an increasing number of members of the European judiciary. EJTN aims to organise cross-border training activities for at least 5% of all judges and prosecutors each year and to make AIAKOS a standard component of its initial training offering.

The Network also runs dedicated training activities for court and prosecution staff and provides opportunities for its Members to meet and discuss this area of work. EJTN has a strategic objective of offering 1,200 exchanges in courts each year, in line with the 2021–2027 strategic plan and the European Commission's Communication 'Ensuring justice in the EU – A European judicial training strategy for 2021–2024'.

EJTN's 2021–2027 plan defines the following Strategic Goals:

- To maintain the high quality of EJTN's continuous training seminars in European law and cooperation, judgecraft, the rule of law and language skills.
- To continue developing and promoting different activities and projects, and to design, test and implement new training formats.
- To reach out to new target audiences for training courses at various levels.
- To offer networking on court staff training and to deliver training to court staff.
- To develop new formats and content for exchanges, and to integrate court staff into the Exchange Programme.
- To continue cooperating effectively with various Partners, EU candidates and potential candidate countries, the EEA and EFTA States and its Observers.

EJTN SECRETARIAT

EJTN's various activities would not be possible without the work and dedication of its team.
A group photo of the Secretariat in 2023.





EJTN'S GOVERNANCE

EJTN is a network of judicial training institutions. Its governance and structure are designed to promote dialogue and cooperation between its Members. Governance is overseen by the General Assembly which meets annually and a Steering Committee that meets several times a year. The Secretary General ensures the proper management of the Network and

its finances, initiates, coordinates and monitors the activities of the Network, and is the head of the EJTN Secretariat. Dedicated Working Groups plan and implement EJTN's projects and programmes within their respective fields. Focused Sub-Working Groups are assembled to address specific projects.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The EJTN General Assembly 2023 was hosted by the Swedish authorities on 15–16 June 2023. Over 150 participants attended, including Members, Associate Members, Observers and Partners.

This annual assembly is the most important EJTN event of the year, as it provides comprehensive information on EJTN's training offering, as well as its qualitative and effective implementation, according to EJTN's Strategic Plan 2021–2027. This year, the General Assembly was even more meaningful, as several workshops were organised and important matters were discussed among the EJTN participants, each with its own significance:

- What the future holds for EJTN after a quarter-century of service in consolidating a common European judicial culture;

- Digitalisation of judicial training as a new trend to be embraced with the aim of empowering justice practitioners in Europe;
- Raising conscience and awareness on the Green Deal and its implications for EJTN;
- Maximising EJTN's impact and level of participation, ensuring that all network activities have long-lasting results for justice practitioners.

The General Assembly also greeted distinguished guests representing the Swedish Ministry of Justice (Gunnar Strömmer), the Court of Justice of the European Union (Octavia Spineanu and Stanislas Adam), the European Court of Human Rights (Erik Wennerström), the European Commission DG Justice and Consumers (Wojciech Postulski) and many other well-known organisations, amplifying and lifting the assembly to new heights.



EJTN's General Assembly, 15-16 June 2023, Stockholm, Sweden



Conference of Directors, 17-18 October 2023, Madrid, Spain

CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS

EJTN's Conference of Directors was held under the auspices of the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU and was hosted by the Centro de Estudios Jurídicos (CEJ, Centre for Legal Studies), with the support of the Escuela Judicial (Spanish Judicial School, General Council of the Judiciary) on 17-18 October 2023. It was attended by 85 participants, including Members, Associate Members and Observers, and was dedicated to the topic of 'Training Judicial Professionals in the Attention to Diversity'.

The Conference addressed various aspects of diversity, including issues related to access to justice and this with special attention to access to justice and plain language, people with disabilities, child-friendly justice systems and gender perspective inclusion in

judicial training. This event was also an opportunity for participants to learn about ongoing EJTN activities in the area of cultural diversity, a topic of increasing importance with the continuous evolution of European societies.

The 2023 Conference was also an opportunity to hold an extraordinary General Assembly to elect the members of the new Working Group on Digitalisation. The French School for the Judiciary was elected as Convener of the Working Group for a 3-year mandate. The extraordinary General Assembly also unanimously approved the change of membership from the General Prosecutor's Office of Luxembourg to the National Council for Justice as the EJTN Member representing the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.



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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

WE TRANSITIONED INTO NEW LEADERSHIP

19 December 2022
New Secretary General Judge
Ingrid Derveaux joins EJTN



OUR WORKING GROUPS AND SUB-WORKING GROUPS MET



3 February 2023
Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
Sub-Working Group



23-24 February 2023
Judicial Training Methods Working Group



15-17 March 2023
Exchanges Programmes Working Group +
National Contact Point Meeting



27-28 February 2023
Criminal Law Sub-Working Group



7-8 September 2023
Administrative Law Sub-Working Group at the CJEU



18-19 September 2023
Linguistics Working Group



5-6 October 2023
Programmes Working Group



28-29 September 2023
Civil Law Sub-Working Group met
at the Castel Capuano in Naples

AND INTRODUCED NEW INNOVATIONS



28 November 2023

First meeting of New Digitalisation Working Group



18 December 2023

New Catalogue of Training Activities for 2024

WE HOSTED REMARKABLE EVENTS

15-16 June 2023

General Assembly



26-27 January 2023

Training Needs Assessment



17-18 October 2023

Conference of Directors



25-27 October 2023

Judges@Europe forum

WE ENDED THE YEAR WITH HOPE – AND LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEW YEAR



20-24 November 2023

Autumn weeks of the AIAKOS Programme



5-8 December 2023

THEMIS Competition Grand Final



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INITIAL TRAINING

INITIAL TRAINING

Judges and prosecutors in EU Member States are required to implement EU law from the very beginning of their professional lives. They may also collaborate on cross-border cases with their counterparts

from other EU Member States. EJTN offers two flagship activities focused on initial training of European judges and prosecutors: the AIAKOS Programme and the THEMIS Competition.

AIAKOS PROGRAMME

OVERVIEW

The AIAKOS Programme is an exchange dedicated to future and early-career judges and prosecutors. It takes place four times a year, usually two weeks in May and two weeks in November. The working language is English. Approximately 1,000 young professionals from several EU Member States participate in this Programme each year.

Participants spend five working days visiting a judicial training institution of another EU Member State. During this time, they gain insights into its judicial system, communicate with experienced judges and prosecutors and exchange ideas with their European peers. The participants often visit various judicial

institutions, including local courts, and attend hearings and lectures on EU law matters, judicial cooperation, ethics, as well as judgecraft.

Participating institutions are also expected to host participants from other Member States during other AIAKOS weeks. The objective of the AIAKOS Programme is to cultivate mutual trust and understanding among members of the EU judiciaries, enhance awareness of the European dimension of the work of judges and prosecutors, facilitate future international cooperation and contribute to the development of a shared European judicial culture.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

In 2023, the AIAKOS Programme featured 40 exchanges. Participants from 20 EU Member States were hosted in 22 Member States by 24 hosting institutions. A total of 1,279 participants were involved in the AIAKOS Programme in 2023.

Parallel online training sessions covering judgecraft, judicial ethics, and communication in court were arranged for all participants in the 2023 edition of the Programme.

Aspiring judges and prosecutors in the early stages of their careers are encouraged to contact their national training institutions for detailed information about the Programme's organisation in their respective countries. They can also enquire about the application processes and eligibility criteria of the participating countries.



AIAKOS Programme, 22-26 May 2023, Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary, Utrecht, the Netherlands

THEMIS COMPETITION

OVERVIEW

The THEMIS Competition is addressed to future judges and prosecutors from various EU Member States and third countries. In the competition, trainee judges and prosecutors draft academic papers, deliver presentations and hold discussions with a distinguished jury and their peers.

The competition unfolds over four semi-finals, each centred around distinct topics: EU and European criminal procedures, EU and European family law, EU and European civil procedures, as well as judicial ethics and professional conduct. The winners and runners-up of each semi-final qualify for the Grand Final, which is hosted by the winner of the previous edition.

Quote from the Italian team – the Winners!

From start to finish, our journey was nothing less than incredible. It's not just about the outcome of the competition, which brought us unexpected joy, but more about the experiences and emotions we carried home. THEMIS provided us with the opportunity to connect closely with brilliant colleagues from across Europe, and the moments we shared made it clear that the progress of the Union begins with us – young European judges and prosecutors – working together and uniting our efforts. Ultimately, this is the essence of THEMIS: creating a European identity among young national magistrates. And that, in itself, is the greatest reward of all. Thank you.

The winner of the Grand Final receives a prize and a 5-day study visit to a judicial institution of their choice, organised in collaboration with one of EJTN's Members and Partners. Each year, the jury selects the best papers from the four semi-finals. These papers have been published in an academic publication, the THEMIS Annual Journal, since 2019.

The THEMIS Competition is an exchange platform intended to share common values and legal knowledge about European and International Law perspectives. Future judges and prosecutors hold debates over EU and European law, fostering mutual trust and building connections.



Winners of THEMIS Competition Grand Finale, 5-8 December 2023, National Institute of magistracy, Bucharest, Romania

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

Four semi-finals were organised in 2023: two in Budapest (Hungary), one in Naples (Italy), and one in Krakow (Poland). The Grand Final was hosted in Bucharest (Romania).

The Italian Team won the 2023 THEMIS Competition, with the French as runners-up, and the Dutch team in third place. The competition saw the active participation of 39 teams consisting of 120 judicial trainees and 37 trainers from 14 countries.

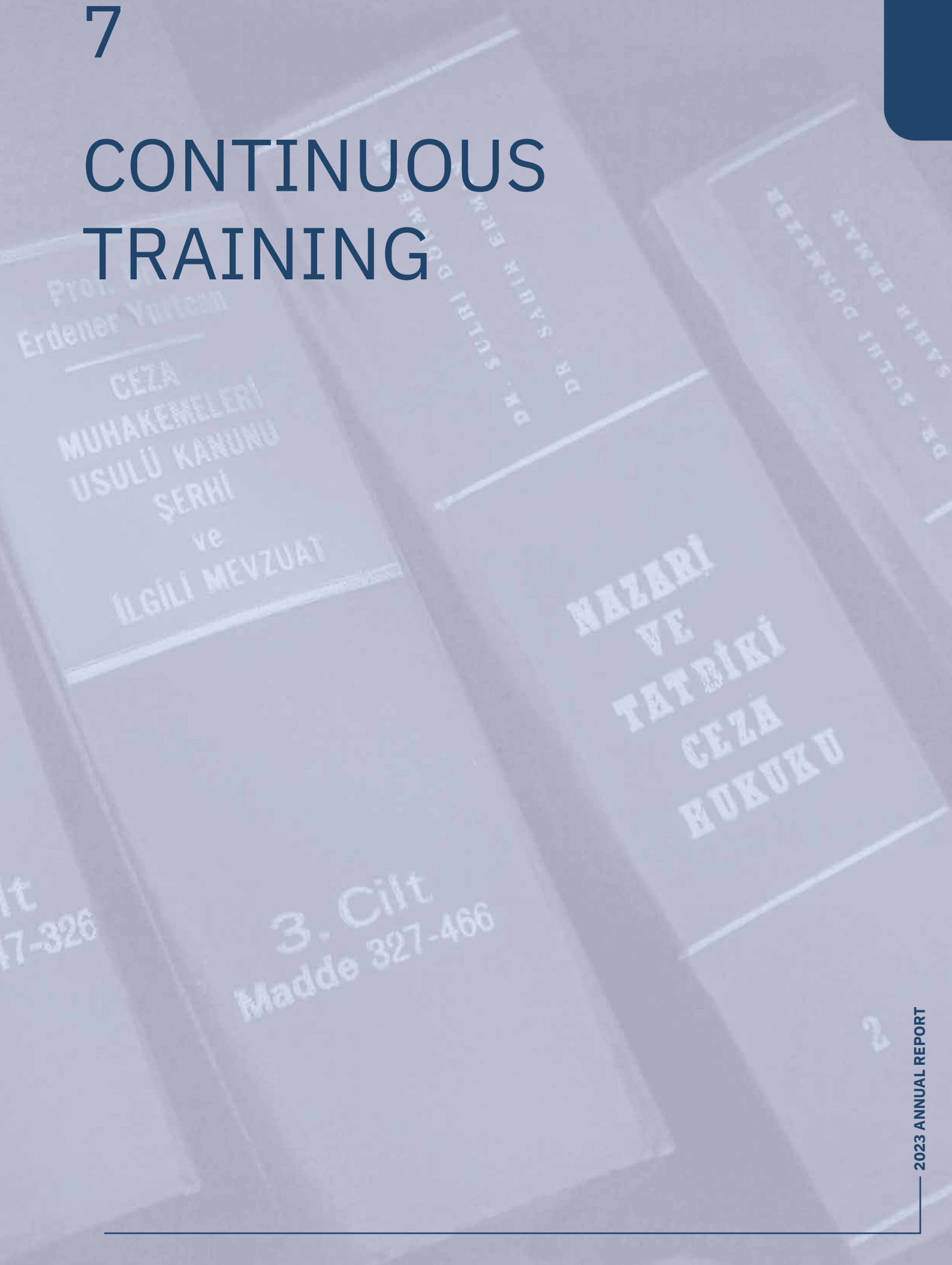
For the first time in 2023, the CJEU was represented in the THEMIS Competition: Stanislas Adam (Référéndaire at the cabinet of the President of the Court of Justice of the European Union) was indeed juror at the Grand Final of the competition which took place in Bucharest. The THEMIS Competition stimulates dialogue between young and experienced judges, as well as between European and national courts.



THEMIS Competition Semi-final B, organised by the School for the Judiciary, 6-9 June 2023, Castel Capuano, Naples, Italy

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CONTINUOUS TRAINING



CONTINUOUS TRAINING

Continuous judicial training is an important aspect of maintaining and enhancing the professional skills and competences of European justice practitioners – judges and prosecutors – throughout their careers. With its initial training offering, EJTN provides an

extensive range of training and exchange activities dedicated to judges and prosecutors in service with the final objective of improving the quality of justice in the EU Member States.

EXCHANGES¹

OVERVIEW

Launched in 2005, the Exchange Programme is EJTN's flagship activity, involving exchanges between courts, prosecution offices and judicial training institutions of the EU Member States. Over the 18 years of its existence, this Programme has seen a constant increase in the number of participants and the type of exchange activities.

EJTN's exchanges are short-term hands-on training activities offering participants the chance to immerse themselves in the judicial system of another EU Member State. Exchanges provide valuable and first-hand insight into European judicial cooperation and foster mutual trust through peer-shadowing or in joining a group of judges, prosecutors, court staff or judicial trainers from different countries.

Different types of exchanges are offered according to the identified training needs:

- General exchanges enable participants to learn about the judicial system of their host country, attend court hearings and share experiences and knowledge with their peers.
- Specialised exchanges are an opportunity to enhance the expertise of the participants in a wide range of areas of law, such as family law, organised crime, labour law, asylum and refugee law, tax law, environmental law, mediation, juvenile law, anti-corruption, banking law, and so on.
- Exchanges of judicial leaders enable court presidents, chief prosecutors and court staff managers to enhance their leadership and management skills in various areas, including media influence, information and communication technologies, human resources and financial management.
- Exchanges of trainers enable experts training judges, prosecutors and/or court staff to discover the training institution of the host country, its organisation, training methods, and training tools.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

In 2023, 1,463 judges, prosecutors, court and prosecution staff and trainers participated in exchanges for periods ranging from three days to two weeks. This represents a 35% increase over 2022. General exchanges for court staff, in particular, are becoming ever more popular with an increase of 45.5% in the number of participants in 2023 over the prior year.

Communication about exchanges has improved further with an online information session for selected participants in April 2023. During this webinar, the participants were informed about the requirements of their exchanges and the next steps in the organisation.

In 2023, the Exchange Programme Working Group, which is in charge of coordinating the exchange offering, set up a specific ad hoc group dedicated to exchanges of trainers with the aim of defining specific objectives for exchanges of this type. A second ad hoc group was created with the intention of analys-

ing and reviewing the different evaluation tools of the Exchange Programme.

Finally, the tutors who hosted exchanges in their court or prosecution office received a certificate of participation from EJTN for the first time in 2023, as a formal recognition of their involvement in the exchanges.



*General exchange, 18-22 September 2023,
Bucharest, Romania*

¹ General, specialised, leaders, trainers' exchanges

PROJECT-BASED EXCHANGES²

OVERVIEW

The participants themselves have been designing and creating so-called 'project-based exchanges' since 2023 on the basis of a pre-defined project with specific learning objectives. The uniqueness of pro-

ject-based exchanges lies in the approach to teaching when organising training activities and the freedom of designing a programme tailored to individual professional needs and interests.

Different types of project-based exchanges are offered:

- Bilateral exchanges are organised by groups of judges, prosecutors, and/or court staff. A delegation of justice practitioners from the same court or prosecution office will spend one week in a court or prosecution office of another Member State and will work on common cases, compare their judicial systems, and follow the work of their counterparts from the other country.
- Regional exchanges target cross-border regional cooperation between judges, prosecutors and court staff, who have the opportunity to discuss practical issues arising from cross-border cases with their counterparts from a neighbouring country. Regional exchanges enable participants to establish long-term partnerships and resolve practical issues arising from cross-border cooperation.
- EJTN–CEPOL joint exchanges are implemented in cooperation with the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) and enable EU judiciaries and law enforcement bodies to exchange best practices, experiences and investigation techniques. The participants discuss a variety of offences related, for example, to corruption, cybercrime, economic and financial crime, environmental crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking, as well as matters related to the coordination of Joint Investigation Teams.
- The Judiciary Learning Grant Programme empowers judges, prosecutors, court staff and judicial trainers to build and implement a tailor-made project based on a self-identified training need. Applicants are encouraged to submit innovative projects with the objective of enhancing cooperation with their European counterparts.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

In 2023, 318 judges, prosecutors, and court staff from 19 different EJTN Member and Associate Member institutions participated in project-based exchanges lasting three to five days.

In 2023, the EJTN Exchange Programme Working Group opened the Judiciary Learning Grant Programme for court staff and their trainers. Court staff constituted 50% of the participants, which showed that they are interested in this Programme. This Programme enables EU judges, prosecutors, court staff and trainers to also take part in tailor-made short-term visits to the European Courts.

Efforts were made to improve communication with the publication of a tutorial video on how to complete a hosting agreement in English, French and German. This video provided applicants with additional guidance on how to correctly complete a hosting agreement, as an essential document for a bilateral, regional, or judiciary learning grant exchange application.

Watch the tutorial video



Project-based exchanges remain among the most popular types of EJTN exchanges. The autonomy that justice practitioners experience in the designation of their own exchange project makes this activity both challenging and simultaneously attractive.



General exchange, 18-22 September 2023,
Bucharest, Romania

² Bilateral, JLG, Regional and EJTN-CEPOL exchanges

LONG-TERM TRAINING PERIODS

OVERVIEW

Long-term training periods are the most intensive training activities offered by EJTN. They represent a unique opportunity for judges and prosecutors to be actively immersed in the work of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Court of Human Rights or Eurojust.

Selected participants are assigned to the cabinet of a member of the Court, the registry, or the office of a national desk and assist their teams in their work with cases, research and/or documentation.

Long-term training periods pave the way for significant benefits for the professional lives of the participants. They not only have the objective of providing knowledge on human rights issues, EU law and judicial cooperation instruments in criminal matters, but they also focus on the procedures and case law of these judicial institutions. Long-term trainees completing their exchange are encouraged to share their experiences with their colleagues in their respective countries for the benefit of their national judiciaries.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTN continued its thriving and well-established cooperation and partnership with several European judicial bodies throughout 2023, enabling 75 judges and prosecutors to take part in long-term training.

A call for applications was launched in 2023 for the first time for a long-term training activity within the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) to be implemented in 2024.



*Exchange Programmes, Study visit, 21-23 June 2023,
Eurojust, the Hague, the Netherlands*

STUDY VISITS

OVERVIEW

EJTN organises study visits to various prominent institutions, including the European Court of Human Rights, the Court of Justice of the European Union, Eurojust, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Hague Conference on Private International Law, the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, the European Public Prosecutor's Office, and several EU institutions, such as the European Commission,

the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union.

EJTN Member and Associate Member institutions can send their judges, prosecutors, court staff and judicial trainers to participate in these activities. For many participants, these visits are a first and unique opportunity to communicate with professionals in the various host institutions and to get to know them better.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTN conducted 17 study visits in 2023. The participation of 562 people highlighted the popularity of these study visits, making them one of the most attractive activities within the EJTN Exchange Programme.

Following the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding in early 2023, EJTN implemented a study visit pilot project at the EPPO in combination with two

regular visits to the CJEU. 65 judges, prosecutors and court staff had the opportunity to become acquainted with the mandate and significance of the EPPO, as well as a specific case before the CJEU which emphasised the EPPO's cooperation methods.

All study visits organised in 2023 gave the participants an invaluable perspective into the everyday work of EU institutions, European and international

courts and various other organisations. They also provided a comprehensive and valuable training curriculum, contributing to building trust and strengthening

cooperation among the judiciaries across the EU Member States.

COOPERATION WITH THE CJEU

EJTN is grateful for the excellent cooperation and the continued increase in the number of participants of study visits at the CJEU. This change started in 2023 and, next year, it is expected that the participant

count will be over 50. Furthermore, EJTN is exploring opportunities to organise more long-term training activities at the Court.



Mr. Alfredo Escobar
The Registrar of the Court of Justice

The well-established and successful cooperation between the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) and the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) takes various forms. One example is that of the study visits held at the CJEU five times a year, each lasting 1.5 days. Due to the high demand for these visits, as of 2024, the CJEU has increased the maximum number of participants per group to 50.

In the same vein, we are actively working with EJTN to increase the number of participants in the long-term training programme, which is the flagship programme of the EJTN–CJEU cooperation. The ultimate aim would be to host one judge or prosecutor from each Member State each year. The long-term training offers national justice professionals the opportunity to work for 6 or 12 months in the cabinets of judges, advocates general or the Research and Documentation Directorate of the CJEU.

This unique insight into the realm of European justice and the working methods of the CJEU helps promote judicial dialogue within the EU and ultimately contributes to the uniform application of EU law. It also enhances the legal, cultural, linguistic and geographical diversity within the CJEU, which has always been of paramount importance to the institution.



Mr. Gianluca Grasso
Member of the Board of Directors of the Italian School for the Judiciary

I had the great opportunity to participate in the first long-term exchange at the Court of Justice of the European Union in 2009: it was a pivotal event in my professional life, a real turning point. This experience gave me a different perspective on the legal issues I face in my judicial activity. The European Gaius programme, which, together with the Dutch project, is recognised by the European Parliament as a reference model in European law training, was born out of the comparison with colleagues who were participating with me in the exchange programme.



Exchange Programmes, study visit, 22-23 May 2023, CJEU, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

OVERVIEW

EJTN's activities in the area of administrative law were launched in 2011. Their main goal is to train European judges, prosecutors, court staff and trainers to understand better the EU's legal administrative framework, as well as to promote mutual trust and cooperation between members of the judiciary.

EJTN training activities in European administrative law cover a wide range of areas and subjects, including, the place of the administrative judge in the state, data protection, tax law, environmental law, asylum law, immigration law, public procurement, compe-

tition law, social security, state liability, preliminary procedure, digitalisation and artificial intelligence.

EJTN seminars and webinars on administrative law are coordinated by the Administrative Law Sub-Working Group and are organised in close cooperation with long-standing partner organisations such as the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA), the Association of the European Administrative Judges (AEAJ), the Council of Europe and the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology.



Sub-Working Group Administrative Law, Seminar on Digitalisation & AI, 27-28 April 2023, Rome, Italy

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

In 2023, EJTN organised 14 training activities, which were attended by 541 practitioners from the EU Member States.

The focus of the administrative law activities was on the following main directions:

- Understanding the multidimensional role of the judiciary in the state;
- Digital market in competition law;
- Indirect taxation;
- Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence in administrative procedure;
- The enforcement of state aid law by national courts;
- Legislation on asylum and migration policies;
- EU preliminary ruling procedure;
- Jurisprudential developments in the field of data protection and the protection of privacy rights;
- EU environmental provisions to national cases;
- Prevention of conflicts of interest in administrative cases.

The novelty of this year was the introduction of three new subjects, namely, the enforcement of state aid law by national courts, the prevention of conflicts of interest in administrative cases, as well as two epi-

sodes of the webinar series on the application of sanctions for the breach of EU restrictive measures following the war in Ukraine.

CIVIL LAW

OVERVIEW

EJTN's activities in the area of civil law aim to offer training opportunities for judges, prosecutors, court staff and trainers interested in civil law matters with a cross-border dimension. Their main goal is to train European justice practitioners to better understand the EU's legal framework and promote mutual trust and cooperation between members of the judiciary.

EJTN civil law activities encompass a wide range of topics from family law and company law to the use of artificial intelligence and the impact that digitalisation has in civil proceedings. The civil law portfolio tries to keep up with the latest developments in this

area with the aim of equipping European justice practitioners with the necessary skills and knowledge in this field.

EJTN seminars and webinars on civil law are coordinated by the Civil Law Sub-Working Group and benefit from the expertise provided by EJTN Members and Partners, such as the CJEU, the European Commission, EJM, GEMME and IACCA. Interactive and alternative teaching methodologies with case studies and case law from the CJEU are used in its face-to-face seminars and webinars.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTN organised 12 training activities in 2023, which were attended by 449 practitioners from the EU Member States and EJTN's Observers.

The focus of the civil law portfolio was on the following main directions:

- Family Law in the EU
- Company Law
- Protection of consumer rights
- Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence
- Special types of contracts and e-commerce
- European Civil Procedure
- Brussels Ia, Rome I, and Rome II
- Service of documents
- Labour law
- Insolvency

In 2023, civil law activities started with training on European civil procedures, which addressed the latest case law in the light of the European legal framework. Face-to-face training and webinars were also organised on jurisdiction and applicable law in civil and commercial matters in the light of EU regulations – Brussels Ia, Rome I, and Rome II, electronically signed contracts and their value, collective redress in consumer protection and special types of contracts, mediation and conciliation, and so on.

Given that European society is progressing toward a digital era and e-commerce is expanding, seminars were also organised to address challenges of digitalisation related to consumer rights and protection levels in accordance with EU law and e-commerce, as well as new implications on civil liability when artificial intelligence is involved.



Sub-working Group Civil Law, Seminar, 21 February 2023, Riga, Latvia

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

OVERVIEW

EJTN focuses on improving practitioners' knowledge on EU criminal law by training judges, prosecutors and court staff for a better understanding and application thereof. Key areas covered include environmental crimes, cybercrime, corruption and procedural rights. The training emphasises the practical use of tools of EU judicial cooperation, such as the European

Investigation Order (EIO) and the European Arrest Warrant (EAW).

EJTN activities in the area of criminal law are coordinated by the Criminal Justice Sub-Working Group in close collaboration with such Partners as the European Judicial Cybercrime Network (EJCN), GNS, EJN, EPPO, Eurojust, Europol, CEPOL and JITs Network.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTN organised 32 training activities in 2023, which were attended by 800 practitioners from 24 Member States and five third countries.

The focus of the criminal law portfolio was on the following main directions:

- Environmental crime;
- Cross-border cooperation tools: judicial cooperation in criminal matters, EIO and EAW;
- Cybercrime and electronic evidence;
- Economic crimes: asset recovery and confiscation;
- The EPPO;
- Procedural safeguards for the suspect and the accused person in criminal proceedings;
- Victims' rights;
- Core international crimes with a special focus on war crimes;
- Probation measures.

The year started with a new seminar on environmental crime, emphasising the importance of criminal law aspects of the EU legal framework and the role of European prosecutors in protecting the environment.

Special attention was attached to tools of judicial cooperation and a training module entitled Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters, Case-Based Simulations. Special training on the European Arrest Warrant was also held. Seminars were also organised on the EIO highlighting legal challenges and solutions for practitioners when issuing or executing the EIO.

General training was organised on the mission, competence and structure of the EPPO, as was specialised training intended to enhance judges' and prosecutors' skills, focusing on tracing, freezing, recovery and confiscation of illegal assets. The 2023 EJTN training offering also covered topics of electronic

evidence and cyber issues supported by Eurojust and Europol expertise.

The network organised seminars on procedural rights, including one on the EU Children's Directive, where Frontex was a key contributor. Victims' rights were also addressed through the organisation of webinars and training sessions on domestic violence and child sexual abuse, with support from Victim Support Europe (VSE). Probation and alternative measures of detention, marking the first in-depth examination of the topic by attending justice practitioners and court staff, was another highlight of the year.

Finally, the fruitful collaboration with CEPOL continued with ten joint training activities organised covering various topics, such as electronic evidence, human trafficking, corruption, asset recovery, fraud, environmental crime and JITs.



Sub-Working Group Criminal Justice, 2-3 October 2023, EJTN offices, Brussels, Belgium

HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

OVERVIEW

EJTN's activities in the area of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms are coordinated by the Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms Sub-Working Group (HFR SWG). HFR SWG is committed to promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms through training and collaboration. It offers a unique platform

for judges, prosecutors, judicial staff and trainers in Europe to discuss the latest developments, enhance their skills and knowledge and contribute to the advancement of human rights and fundamental freedoms across Europe.



FRA & Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, Seminar on EU Charter, 20-21 March 2023, Vienna, Austria

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTN organised 12 training sessions in 2023 for 388 participants from 27 European countries, including 24 EU Member States and three other European countries. It also collaborated with the FRA, ECtHR, HELP, AEAJ and the MPIEF. New key training topics, such as judicial protection of health and the interplay between national and European courts were developed, while existing topics, such as SLAPPs, fake

news, disinformation, various types of hate speech and crimes, as well as the preliminary reference to the Court of Justice of the European Union as a safeguard for maintaining the rule of law, were expanded. Additionally, such topics as the integration of disabled persons, aging and water and sanitation were explored through lunchtime webinars.



The Italian School for the Judiciary & Sub-Working Group Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, 3 February 2023, Rome, Italy

LINGUISTICS

OVERVIEW

Launched in 2011, EJTJN linguistics seminars focus on training judges, prosecutors, trainee judges and prosecutors, as well as court and prosecution staff from the whole of the EU in legal English, French, German, Spanish and, more recently, Italian.

EJTJN's activities in the area of linguistics are coordinated by the Linguistics Working Group.

The main goal of this portfolio is to help participants improve their linguistics and legal skills so they can take part in other legal content seminars, facilitate cross-border judicial cooperation, and support the development of a common European legal culture.

The participants are trained on various legal instruments in such fields as civil, criminal and family law, as well as human rights. Other more specialised sessions address asylum, environmental law, the fight against cybercrime and cross-border organised crime.

Courses combine theoretical and practical aspects, covering legal terminology in the four basic language skills, namely reading, writing, speaking and listening. The sessions are handled by linguistic and legal experts working in tandem with a small group, using an interactive approach. In addition to its high-quality face-to-face seminars, EJTJN also organises online conversation classes and publishes legal language handbooks, which are freely available on EJTJN's website.



Working Group Linguistics meeting, 18 September 2023, Centre for Judicial Studies, Madrid, Spain

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTJN's participants were able to choose from 11 legal language seminars dedicated to judges and prosecutors in 2023. Selected training sessions were also opened to court staff, and four summer schools dedicated to trainee judges and prosecutors were organised.

The overall offering included six training sessions on judicial cooperation in criminal, civil and human rights matters, as well as five specialised seminars on cybercrime, asylum, refugees, cross-border organised crime and family and environmental law. Furthermore, the Linguistics Working Group continued the successful legal language seminars in legal Span-

ish in civil and criminal matters.

The four summer schools focused on vocabulary from judicial cooperation in civil law, criminal law and human rights. A new summer school was then developed by experts in the linguistics portfolio in ethics and judgecraft. Furthermore, the highly successful series of Online Conversation Classes, which started in 2021, continued with three series of 1-hour online classes lasting 10 weeks.

A total of 844 participants from 23 countries attended the 45 training activities organised within the framework of the linguistics portfolio in 2023.

JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS

OVERVIEW

The Judicial Training Methods Working Group was formed in 2014. Its main goal is to develop and disseminate training tools that are applicable to many contexts, including e-tools. The group has several sub-objectives, such as mapping the needs of the

EJTN Members regarding judicial training methods, providing training in judgecraft, judicial ethics and law training, facilitating the sharing of experiences between members and reinforcing activities linked to the Training the Trainers Forum.

The Judicial Training Methods Working Group contained five separate project teams, covering:

- The assessment and evaluation of training needs;
- Innovative curricula and the training plan;
- Innovative training methodology: e-tools and e-learning;
- Judgecraft;
- Leadership.

The group also addresses horizontal topics, such as evaluating EJTN activities, training sessions for EJTN Activity Coordinators and producing EJTN handbooks.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

14 activities of the Judicial Training Methods portfolio were implemented in 2023. A total of 338 participants from 33 countries (26 EU Member States, the United Kingdom and the Western Balkans countries) took part in online / face-to-face training and 64 experts collaborated in the organisation of these activities.

The first training on Virtual Reality (VR) in Judicial Training used VR technology to simulate realistic scenarios and enable judges and other legal professionals to practice and improve their skills in a safe and controlled environment. This seminar explored the role and possibilities of incorporating VR tools in judicial training.

Over 60 participants took part virtually in the online training for EJTN's Activity Coordinators offered by EJTN. The event was dedicated to EJTN's Activity Coordinators, who are responsible for supervising the design, planning and implementation of the training activities. This activity also included other stakeholders involved in the development of EJTN's activities.

'The Judicial Training Methods Handbook on Medium-to Long-Term Evaluation of Judicial Training' aims to simply yet practically answer the questions that need to be considered in order to provide quality evaluation methods; it is addressed to judicial trainers and training providers. This publication is available on the EJTN website under the Publications tab.



Judicial Training Methods Working Group, Seminar on Collecting best practices for e-tools, e-courses & hybrid training events, 17-18 March 2023, Naples, Italy

COURT STAFF INTEGRATION

OVERVIEW

EJTN extended its target audience to court staff by adopting its Strategic Plan 2021–2027, where networking and delivering training to court staff is included as a new strategic objective of the Network. EJTN's Members opted for an inclusive approach whereby court staff training needs and activities, including training and exchanges, are taken into account and addressed in all EJTN structures, together with those of judges and prosecutors.

Furthermore, EJTN, is working closely with the Academy of European Law (ERA) on the implementation of the project on 'Court staff and bailiffs' training in European civil and criminal law'. Co-funded by the European Union, the project aims to implement a modern and practical approach to judicial training for European court staff and bailiffs. In this context, EJTN is committed to hosting four training activities in 2023 and 2024 in European civil and criminal cross-border procedures, including English language skills.



Court Staff Integration Associate Members meeting, 28-29 November 2023, Dijon, France

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

In 2023, 1,373 court staff from 24 EU Member States participated in all EJTN events. EJTN achieved and surpassed its initial objective of 15% of court staff participating in its continuous training activities. This represents an increase of 33% over 2022.

In order to promote its training offering to court staff across the EU, EJTN focused its efforts on strengthening partnerships with other organisations and institutions, such as the start of cooperation with the European Union of Rechtspfleger.

Five Associate Members³ of EJTN met for the first time at the French National School of Clerks in Dijon (France) at the end of November 2023. The Associate Members used this meeting as a capacity building forum by exploring each other's national judicial

training systems, specificities and initiatives in order to identify court staff training needs. This gave the representatives the opportunity to brainstorm on the integration of court staff within EJTN's activities and identify critical areas for developing a renewed offer of training for this category of justice practitioners.

At the end of the year, as part of the EJTN-ERA project, EJTN hosted a seminar dedicated to court staff with an attendance of 22 participants from nine EU Member States. Participants expanded their knowledge and skills by switching between training sessions on legal English language and those covering legal matters. In addition to acquiring legal and practical skills, the participants learned more about the EJTN training opportunities dedicated to court and prosecution staff.



EJTN-ERA Language seminar on cross-border civil and criminal law procedures, 29 November - 1st December 2023, Brussels, Belgium

³ The event was attended by representatives of France's National School of Clerks, the Italian Ministry of Justice, the Maltese Court Services Agency, the Portuguese Ministry of Justice (Directorate-General of Justice Administration) and the Romanian National School of Clerks.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND ON THE CATALOGUE OF MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

OVERVIEW

The Catalogue of Members' Activities is a fundamental tool for promoting judicial training within the countries of the European Union. This tool integrates the training activities organised by EJTN's judicial institution members.

The Scholarship Fund enables individual judges, prosecutors, court staff and trainers to participate in seminars abroad, to improve knowledge of EU law, increase their command of foreign languages and acquire knowledge of national law that will be useful for performing their professional tasks.

The seminars/courses/training activities offered by EJTN's Members typically cover the following fields:

- Administrative Law;
- Civil Law;
- Criminal Law;
- EU Civil Law;
- European and International Law;
- Forensics;
- Human Rights;
- Judicial Skills;
- Linguistics;
- Professional Practice;
- Rule of Law;
- Society Issues;
- Teaching Methods.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

The Catalogue of Members' Activities implemented 126 seminars in 2023 attended by a total of 85 participants in 22 face-to-face events, who were trained

under the Scholarship Fund, including one event consisting of nine modules (CM/2023/06).

The participants were:

- 62 judges (5 from Belgium, 20 from Germany, 10 from Greece, 1 from Hungary, 4 from Italy, 3 from Malta, 1 from the Netherlands, 1 from Poland, 16 from Romania and 1 from Slovenia);
- 16 prosecutors (1 from Germany, 1 from Italy, 1 from Poland and 13 from Romania);
- 2 trainers (both from Portugal);
- Others (1 from Belgium, 1 from Germany, 2 from Poland and 1 from Slovenia).

CATALOGUE+

OVERVIEW

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.

The Catalogue+ project gives judges and prosecutors from across Europe the valuable opportunity to attend various training courses organised by the judicial training institutions that are Members of EJTN.

Each Member institution that organises seminars related to European law in their own country then has the right to designate one or more seminars for hosting foreign European judges and prosecutors. The judicial institutions participating in this project are able to send the same number of participants to the seminars organised by other EJTN Members.

The national training activity, therefore, becomes an international activity and is open to attract 10 or more foreign judges and prosecutors.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

Fourteen EJTN Member institutions contributed to the project in 2023. They held 37 Catalogue+ seminars and opened 370 places to foreign participants. 274 foreign participants from 15 countries across Europe successfully participated in this portfolio.

Participants of the Catalogue+ events highly appreciate the organisation of the Catalogue+ seminars,

the quality of the speakers, the vast amount of information provided during the seminars and the international atmosphere.

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



Official Logo of Catalogue Plus

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DIGITAL TRAINING

DIGITAL TRAINING

EJTN is constantly innovating to offer a wide variety of training formats. Videos and e-learning, webinars including lunchtime webinars, the online training cat-

alogue and the methodologies and resources database are EJTN's digital activities and platforms, which are available to justice practitioners.

NEW WORKING GROUP ON DIGITALISATION ESTABLISHED IN 2023

At the EJTN General Assembly held in June 2023 in Stockholm, EJTN decided to form a new Working Group on Digitalisation. An Extraordinary General Assembly was held in Madrid on 18 October 2023 and proceeded to elect the first newly-created Working Group on Digitalisation. The French National School for the Judiciary was elected to the position of con-

venor for a 3-year term of office. The Working Group consists of the 20 Members, including the convener.

Immediately after its establishment, the Working Group met online to discuss and draft a training needs assessment survey to establish the priorities for the EJTN training offering for 2024–2025.

LUNCHTIME WEBINARS

OVERVIEW

Since its creation in 2020, the One Hour Lunchtime Webinar project has become a meeting point for all justice practitioners. It is targeted at judges, prosecutors, court staff and trainers of the EU Member States giving them a unique opportunity to share experiences and best practices in various subjects and fields. These short webinars in the '1 hour, 1 expert, 1 topic' format are organised bi-weekly on various areas of law: administrative law, civil law, criminal law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, linguistics and judicial training methods.

A leading practitioner or expert delivers a lecture during the webinar, which is followed by a discussion moderated by the activity coordinator. The activity is conveniently scheduled every other Thursday from 13:00 to 14:00 CET on the Microsoft Teams platform as an open registration for all interested participants, without quota restrictions.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTN organised 21 lunchtime webinars in 2023, which were attended by a total of 1,619 participants from all over Europe, tackling topics as diverse as artificial intelligence, rights in the integration of disabled persons, judicial resilience, dialogue and expectations between the judiciary and criminal psychologists etc.

EJTN lunchtime webinars

Learn about EU law during your lunch break



In September, EJTN will launch a new series of lunchtime webinars. These are ideal for judges, prosecutors and court staff who are interested in learning about current topics in EU law.

Each session will focus on a single legal topic, which will be discussed by a selected expert. The webinars will last an hour to optimise the learning experience and fit conveniently into the working day.

The upcoming webinar series will address important issues such as restorative justice, water and sanitation as human fundamental rights, judicial resilience, consumer protection, the Whistleblower directive and many others.

Participation in the webinars is free of charge: just click on any of the links below to register and receive your invitation.

Topic (click for more information)	Expert	Date and time	Registration
Restorative justice	Carmen De La Fuente Méndez	Thursday 7 September 2023, 13:00 - 14:00 (CET)	
Water and sanitation as fundamental human rights	Alexandra Aragão	Thursday 21 September 2023, 13:00 - 14:00 (CET)	
Comprendre le vocabulaire des juridictions françaises et de l'Union européenne - Les principaux termes juridiques utilisés et leurs significations et exemples	Leona Černá	Thursday 5 October 2023, 13:00 - 14:00 (CET)	
Judicial resilience	Emma J. Bell	Thursday 19 October 2023, 13:00 - 14:00 (CET)	
Collective redress in consumer protection	Andrea Giussani	Wednesday 25 October, 15:00 - 16:00 (CET)	
The case law of the CJEU on constitutional rights in the EU in times of crisis	Barbara Boukouvala	Thursday 2 November 2023, 13:00 - 14:00 (CET)	
Contract law	To be confirmed	Thursday 16 November 2023, 13:00 - 14:00 (CET)	
Dialogue and expectations between the judiciary and criminal psychologists. The practical contribution of truth verification instruments	To be confirmed	Thursday 30 November 2023, 13:00 - 14:00 (CET)	
Whistleblower directive	To be confirmed	Thursday 14 December 2023, 13:00 - 14:00 (CET)	

About EJTN's lunchtime webinars

EJTN's lunchtime webinars were launched in 2020 to provide a practical and cost-effective training option for judges, prosecutors and court staff during the COVID-19 pandemic, and quickly became very popular. They are held every other Thursday from 13:00 - 14:00 CET.

The one-hour webinars enable participants to learn about recent trends in EU law, as well as exchange views with leading experts and network with colleagues from other countries, without the need to travel.



Official flyer of the 2023 Lunchtime Webinars

INTERVIEW WITH THE EJTN IT MANAGER

BRUSSELS — EJTN recently welcomed its first IT Manager, Mr. Aare Vesi from Estonia, who is adding a new dimension to the Secretariat's diverse and multicul-

tural team. In a candid conversation, Mr. Vesi shared his insights, achievements in 2023 and prospects at the EJTN Secretariat.

JOINING THE EJTN TEAM IN BRUSSELS

When asked about his decision to join the EJTN team, Mr. Vesi expressed his ambition to be part of an international group of experts. 'My goal has always been to contribute to and integrate with a European-wide platform, sharing my experiences and learning from others,' he stated.

As EJTN continues to evolve and embrace technological advancements, Mr. Vesi's role is pivotal in shap-

ing its digital future. His work not only improves the network's efficiency, but also enriches the learning experiences of its members across Europe.

Having in-house IT management and development expertise also fulfils the EJTN strategic plan, which aligns with the European Commission's strategy for the digitalisation of justice.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023

Mr. Vesi highlighted several key accomplishments in the past year, emphasising his commitment to advancing EJTN's technological capabilities:

- **Virtual Classrooms:** EJTN has continued to enhance the delivery of virtual classrooms, providing an effective learning platform for its members.
- **Cyber Security:** Significant improvements were made in the cyber security domain at EJTN's offices, ensuring data protection and maintaining stakeholder trust.
- **Online Training Catalogue:** An online feature complementing the paper catalogue, allowing members to access additional information seamlessly.
- **Moodle Platform Development:** The continued development of the Moodle platform ensures that EJTN offers comprehensive eLearning courses and resources.
- **Website Enhancements:** The EJTN website has been upgraded with additional functionalities and features based on member feedback.

LOOKING AHEAD

Mr. Vesi shared his excitement about the future developments at EJTN:

- **EJTN-ID:** A new system for streamlining the course registration process and serving as a central administrative interface for participants and National Contact Points.
- **Member's Area Intranet:** The forthcoming intranet will serve as an updated information portal, paving the way for the EJTN public library, which will host many resources and handbooks.
- **Collaboration with Innovation, Digitalisation and Resources Unit:** tasks focused on eLearning, aligning with the European Commission's strategy on Judicial Training, emphasising the importance of interactive and accessible eLearning.
- **Virtual Assistant:** An upcoming feature on the EJTN website, powered by a Large Language Model, will assist members and participants in gathering information.



Aare Vesi, the new EJTN IT Manager

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PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

EJTN follows with great interest the different democratic legal, social and economic developments taking place worldwide, especially in the EU Member States, which directly or indirectly affect the work and activity of its Members, Associate Members and Observers.

In view of the above and to promote EU values, including guaranteeing peace and security, democracy, rule of law and human rights, EJTN also continued to implement four special projects and initiatives in

2023, paying particular attention to rule of law matters and to the provision of assistance to the judicial training institutions in the Western Balkan countries and Ukraine.

These projects, financially supported by the European Commission (including DG NEAR and DG FISMA), have been highly praised by the beneficiaries as knowledge, training methodologies and capabilities are shared among peers with common backgrounds, challenges or interests.

WESTERN BALKANS II PROJECT

OVERVIEW

The Pilot Action on Judicial Training (WBII Project), launched in 2022 for three years, is part of the IPA II Multi-country Action Programme 2020, which is financially supported by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR). Its primary goal is to develop EU law training programmes at the Monte-

negrin Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution (CTJSP) and the Serbian Judicial Academy (JA), as well as to facilitate the participation of justice practitioners from all Western Balkan judiciaries in EJTN events. Beneficiary institutions include all judicial training institutions throughout the region.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTN released two training needs assessment reports in 2023, offering insights for enhancing EU law training in the Western Balkans. Following its key recommendations, a comprehensive series of training sessions on various aspects of EU law, a so-called *roadmap on EU law*, is being implemented with project support. The training programme targets a core group of trainers, who will continue to build and

monitor training on EU law in these countries. Each seminar emphasises the importance of CJEU jurisprudence for judicial reasoning in the EU accession process. With project support, members of Western Balkan judiciaries also participate in the EJTN events across Europe, reinforcing the links between the EJTN Members and Observers.



High-level mission of EJTN to the Republic of Serbia,
19 January 2023, Judicial Academy, Belgrade, Serbia

Ms. Ljiljana Lakić**President of the Steering Committee of the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution of Montenegro**

As the President of the Steering Committee of the CTJSP of Montenegro, I am pleased to highlight the invaluable benefits of our close collaboration with EJTJN. Working closely with EJTJN and its Members is leading to the development of a comprehensive national training programme on EU law, essential for Montenegro's EU accession process. EJTJN serves as a platform for exchanging experiences and expertise with colleagues from EU Member States and the region. Through this collaboration, we are committed to ensuring that our judiciary meets European legal standards, thereby greatly facilitating Montenegro's integration efforts.

**Mr. Nenad Vujić****Director of the Judicial Academy of the Republic of Serbia**

The Pilot Action on Judicial Training has proved successful on several fronts. It is strengthening cooperation between the Judicial Academy of the Republic of Serbia and EJTJN, equipping Serbian judges and prosecutors with valuable insights into EU law and supporting the existing National network of judges and prosecutors for adherence to European standards. With EJTJN's support, the Academy is developing new EU law curricula and e-learning courses for wider distribution. We eagerly anticipate building upon these achievements as we forge ahead with our activities together with EJTJN.

Mr. Arben Rakipi**Director of the Albanian School of Magistrates**

As the Director of the Albanian Magistrates School, I am happy to reflect on our fruitful cooperation with EJTJN. Through the Pilot Action on Judicial Training we are implementing together, the Network has provided excellent opportunities to develop and exchange very useful practices and experiences on improving the daily work of in-service magistrates according to the best EU models, fostering a culture of judicial excellence and mutual learning. Looking ahead, we aim to deepen this partnership, focusing on expanding our collaboration to reach a broader group of legal professionals towards a more European integrated and efficient justice system in Albania.

**Mr. Arben Murtezić****Director of the Centre for judicial and prosecutorial training of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

The opportunity to participate in EJTJN training and exchange programmes is highly valued by members of the judiciary in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The demand for participation in these activities is increasing each year. As for our institution, the maintenance of constant contact and cooperation with EJTJN presents a unique opportunity to keep up with modern trends in judicial education. Undoubtedly, one of our future goals is to continue and enhance this cooperation.

Mr. Slobodan Zec**Director of the Centre for judicial and prosecutorial training of the Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

As the newly appointed Director of the Centre, I have been informed by my colleagues of the highly effective collaboration with EJTN. This partnership is evidenced by the active involvement of judicial office holders, trainers and trainees from Republika Srpska – BiH, in the EJTN seminars, exchange programmes and the THEMIS Competition. I hope that this cooperation will continue and expand in the future. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank our partners, EJTN and the EU Commission, for their support.

**Ms. Natasha Gaber-Damjanovska****Director of the Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors of North Macedonia**

Cooperation between EJTN and the Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors of North Macedonia has spanned over a decade. Currently, AJPP holds observer status and participates in the Western Balkans II Project, with the ambition to expand participation by our judicial professionals in EJTN activities. By partnering with EJTN, our aim is not only to upgrade our training programmes and methods, including on EU law and judgecraft, but also to skilfully navigate the process of joining the EU family and adjusting to the European legal system. I consider it my personal long-term goal for our national judiciary to successfully manage this transition through high-quality training.

**Mr. Enver Fejzullahu****Director of the Kosovo Academy of Justice, Kosovo***

The Kosovo Academy of Justice has forged strong collaboration with EJTN, enabling our judges and prosecutors to participate in various training sessions and exchange programmes with support from the EU-funded project for the Western Balkans. These initiatives have significantly enhanced the expertise of the participants, fostering professional development and knowledge sharing for the benefit of the Kosovo judicial community. The Academy values its partnership with EJTN and aims to further cultivate it, with a view to promoting higher standards of judicial excellence within the region.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



High-level mission of EJTN to the Republic of Albania,
8 February 2023, School of Magistrates, Tirana, Albania

JUDGES@EUROPE FORUM

OVERVIEW

In March 2021, in the Council conclusions ‘Boosting Training of Justice Professionals’, the Council called on the European Commission to support existing European judiciary networks to promote and enhance the dialogue among judges in the EU. The European Commission entrusted EJTN with the responsibility of organising an initiative to facilitate exchanges between judges on the rule of law, integrity, accountability and independence of the judiciary.

EJTN developed the judges@europe forum to consolidate the rule of law in the EU and to encourage the development of a common judicial culture in Europe. The forum provides a secure and confidential space for judges to discuss critical issues related to

the European judiciary, such as the role of individual judges in protecting the rule of law and the importance of judiciary integrity and independence.

The European Commission continues to entrust EJTN with the task of providing this safe and trusting framework in its training activities. The forum promotes peer dialogue and networking among judges from EU Member States while ensuring the confidentiality of discussions by applying the Chatham House Rule. Additionally, the Programme connects judges with experts from leading associations and institutions that uphold the rule of law in the EU. The selection of participants is random, ensuring impartiality and fairness.



Judges@Europe Forum day 3, 27 November 2023, Syracuse, Italy

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

EJTN organised the second round of the judges@europe forum in 2023. This activity brought together 84 judges from 25 EU Member States (59 participants and 25 speakers). The participants explored various rule of law topics of particular importance to judges in the European legal space.

The judges were able to discuss contemporary challenges for judicial offices in the digital era related to the good administration of justice and increased demand for accountability of judges. As for the rule of law, the presentations and workshops tackled the accountability of judges from three angles: disciplinary and liability regimes, professional performance

and evaluation, and transparency.

The consistent dialogue throughout the Programme enabled judges to share their experiences and good practices. This dialogue benefitted from the presence of experts and representatives of the CJEU, the ECtHR, CEPEJ, CCJE, the Venice Commission, the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ), the European Networks of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ), the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, the International and European Association of Judges (UIM-IAJ), MEDEL, the European Network of Justice Inspection Service (RESIJ) and UNODC.

UKRAINIAN TRAINING SCHEME FOR 2023

EJTN's fundamental values and aims are strongly connected to those of the European Union and its heritage. Peace, freedom, justice, and security are among the EU's and EJTN's core aims. In view of the

above, EJTN and its members supported the Ukrainian judiciary in 2023 by providing legal training delivery in wartime.

OVERVIEW

Ukrainian Observers, the National School of Judges and the Prosecutors' Training Centre, have been able to attend specific EJTN events and benefit from dedicated webinars of the Network since 2022, on the basis of an agreement with the European Commission and the EJTN Members.

The planning of activities for 2023, and beyond, has been developed by EJTN in close cooperation with the Ukrainian authorities based on their concrete needs. Furthermore, and to avoid duplication, EJTN benefited from direct communication with its Members and ensured complementarity of efforts in providing adequate training to the Ukrainian judiciary.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

One activity was organised by EJTN with Ukrainian representatives in 2023. This event, which was organised on 18–19 December 2023 in Croatia, was a workshop for experts hosted by the Judicial Academy of Croatia. This workshop was attended by 13 experts and other participants from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Ukraine, who had the opportunity to discuss practical cases and challenges in handling war crime cases.

Under the Criminal Justice sub-working group training activities, EJTN, in cooperation with the Genocide Network Secretariat (GNS), organised training in Nuremberg dedicated to war crime subjects, which was hosted by the Nuremberg Academy. This event was attended by 32 judges and prosecutors from all 27 EU Member States, as well as members of the Ukrainian prosecution service specialising in war crime investigations.

Several EJTN Members, including ENM, SSR and ERA, organised bilateral training and exchanges events for the Ukrainian judicial authorities in 2023. Although these activities do not fall directly under the Ukrainian scheme per se, the EJTN contributed to the successful conduct of these activities by financing translation/interpretation services.

EJTN is committed to continue providing assistance to Ukraine in 2024. To this end, a new training scheme has been developed in close cooperation with the National School of Judges of Ukraine and EJTN Members covering a total of seven different areas and topics, such as anti-corruption and asset recovery, cybercrime, financial crimes, war crimes as well as training methodologies and capacity building matters. This training offering will continue to be implemented both by EJTN Members and EJTN itself.



Seminar on the investigation and prosecution of core international crimes, 5-7 June 2023, Nuremberg, Germany

WEBINAR SERIES ON JUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT OF EU RESTRICTIVE MEASURES (SANCTIONS)

OVERVIEW

EJTN in cooperation with Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union of the European Commission (DG FISMA) organised a series of webinars from April to June on judicial enforcement of EU restrictive measures, focusing on civil, administrative and criminal aspects related to the application of sanctions.

Restrictive measures are an important tool for pro-

moting EU values, maintaining international peace and security and consolidating and supporting democracy, the rule of law and human rights. The EU may impose restrictive measures against non-EU countries, entities, legal or natural persons to preserve these values. The Member States are primarily responsible for implementing and enforcing Union restrictive measures.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

Training of the EU judiciary, judges, prosecutors and court staff was identified as a targeted aim to make practitioners aware of the need of a consistent approach when enforcing restrictive measures at national level.

These series of webinars were attended by 204 participants from 19 EU Member States and were focused on the application of EU restrictive measures by administrative courts, as well as in civil and criminal proceedings.



10

EJTN'S COOPERATION WITH PARTNERS

EJTN'S COOPERATION WITH PARTNERS

EJTN continued its fruitful and successful cooperation with over 30 different organisations in 2023, to develop and deliver a training offering which:

- is aligned with and complementary to that of its members;
- reflects the concrete professional needs of European justice practitioners; and
- is based on the best expertise provided by these partner organisations.

The annual plan of activities set in the 2023 training catalogue was implemented by the EJTN Secretariat in a timely and professional manner and in close cooperation with its partner organisations, such as the ECtHR, the CJEU, Eurojust, CEPOL and EPPO.

Overall, internal and external cooperation was intensified, which included an increase in the number of meetings, visits, conferences and activities in which the Secretary General participated. Ms Derveaux attended over 96 activities and events in 2023 in approximately 20 different European cities.

EJTN is grateful to its long-standing Partners, as well as to the new partnerships formed during the year, who have contributed greatly to the successful implementation of a variety of training programmes and exchanges and with which the cooperation is growing stronger and closer each year.

Mr. Koen Lenaerts **President of the Court of Justice of the EU**

The long-standing dialogue and the solid cooperation between the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) and the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) is of utmost importance for improving the practice of EU Law in all Member States. Every year, national judges and prosecutors can benefit from a long-term traineeship in the chambers of the Members of the Court of Justice and the General Court or in the Research and Documentation Directorate of the CJEU. It is a unique opportunity for them to gain hands-on experience in EU procedures and to deepen their knowledge of the Court's case-law. Such an experience helps national judges and prosecutors to strengthen their practice of EU law upon return to their respective Member States. And in turn, this is an opportunity for the Court to benefit from the expertise of national judges and prosecutors representing a wide diversity of judicial cultures. Annual seminars, study visits, forums, and the exchange of training material are also part of this well-established cooperation. A last project worth mentioning: aiming to enhance the digital training offering for EU justice professionals through EJTN, the CJEU recently collaborated with EJTN and the European Commission to produce 6 educational videos on its functioning and procedures. They will be available in 2024 in 24 languages. The CJEU-EJTN partnership is a key contribution to the development of a genuine European judicial culture.





Ms. Montserrat Marín López
Executive Director of CEPOL

In today's fast-paced world, law enforcement and judiciary authorities have to work closely together to stay ahead of cross-border crime. Vocational training plays a central role in our efforts, as it strengthens cooperation at the EU level and promotes a common EU law enforcement culture. EJTN is a strategic partner for CEPOL in this endeavour. We will continue to enhance the competence of EU law enforcement officials through joint training programmes that promote the exchange of knowledge and best practices.

Ms. Laura Codruța Kövesi
Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO

The signature of the working arrangement with EJTN is an important step in our efforts to raise awareness about the protection of EU funds and about the EPPO's work with the European judiciary. Expert trainers from our organisation will contribute to EJTN's courses about the EPPO and crimes against the financial interests of the Union, providing practical, experience-based knowledge. Moreover, our staff will be able to benefit from the training courses provided by the EJTN, which will play a major role in enhancing our operational capacities.



Ms. Siofra O'Leary
President of the European Court of Human Rights

The partnership between the European Court of Human Rights and EJTN is both a successful and highly practical reflection of the principles of subsidiarity and shared responsibility. In particular, the annual long-term judicial training placements at the Court not only contribute significantly to the processing of over 67,000 pending applications but also provide a unique opportunity for national judges and prosecutors to absorb the Court's case-law, so that they can better reflect it in their day-to-day work, once they return to their respective States.

Mr. Ladislav Hamran
President of Eurojust

Cross-border judicial cooperation and judicial training go hand in glove and lead Eurojust and EJTN to be natural partners. I look forward to much more joint work to come and wish Ingrid Derveaux every success as EJTN's new Secretary General.



The background of the page is a grayscale photograph of several thick books stacked on top of each other. The spines of the books are visible, showing the texture of the paper and the binding. The books are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and volume. The lighting is soft, highlighting the edges of the pages and the curves of the spines.

11

PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

EJTN TRAINING CATALOGUE 2024

In December 2023, EJTN released its new Catalogue of Training Activities for 2024, featuring digital, initial and continuous training activities alongside new content, such as exchanges, study visits and detailed course descriptions. The aim is to assist participants in selecting tailored activities, thus amplifying EJTN's

impact. Designed for European justice practitioners, the catalogue incorporates input from various stakeholders. EJTN also invites all EU justice practitioners to participate in its training and exchange activities and help disseminate information about these opportunities.

THEMIS ANNUAL JOURNAL 2023

The best papers from the THEMIS semi-finals have been selected by jury members and published in the THEMIS Annual Journal since 2019. This academ-

ic-level publication collects the best propositions and ideas of trainee judges and prosecutors participating in the Competition.

JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS HANDBOOKS

EJTN launched 'The Judicial Training Methods Handbook on Medium- to Long-Term Evaluation of Judicial Training' in December 2023. This handbook offers guidance for evaluating training activities, focusing on Levels 2 and 3 of the Kirkpatrick Model. The document is an extension of the 2017 Guidelines published by the Working Group Judicial Training Methods. It is organised into four main sections, covering the Kirkpatrick Model: the first level of evaluation (reaction), the evaluation of learning and behaviour change at work.

It also includes conclusions and appendices. Sections two and three discuss Kirkpatrick Levels 2 and 3, respectively, with insights from an empirical study conducted by the Italian School for the Judiciary and the Italian National Research Council. This study represents the first attempt to apply the Kirkpatrick Model in the judiciary training context, with its findings summarised in the fourth section. It is available in both French and English.



EJTN 2024 Catalogue of activities released on 18 December 2023

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COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES



COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

EJTN amplified its visibility and communication efforts in 2023, among other things, by hiring a communications manager and drafting internal communication and visibility documents and tools. A new draft

communication strategy was also developed and a Taskforce on Communication was established within the Secretariat, allowing for better visibility for EJTN.

WEBSITE ARTICLES AND MODIFICATIONS

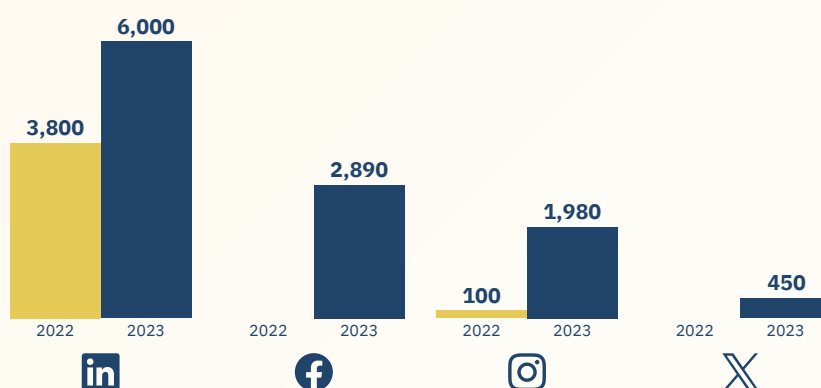
A total of 155 articles were published in 2023, with the bilingual policy applied systematically. Topics covered such subjects as the new Memorandum of Understanding signed with the EPPO, the General Assembly, the release of the new Training Catalogue, judges@europe forum, calls for applications to the

various EJTN training activities, and so on. Information about several EJTN Members and their contact details was updated. New website sections were created, namely publications, the Secretary General's biography and a FAQ section.

SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLS

Social media tools were created or revived, with the goal of communicating with different target groups, segmented by age, interest and professional profiles. In this context, social media was used to disseminate

information about EJTN activities, mainly to attract new demographics (e.g., AIAKOS, THEMIS). EJTN published a total of 397 posts across all social networks.



On 31 December 2023, EJTN's LinkedIn account had approximately 6,000 followers, Facebook had 2,890 followers, Instagram had 1,980 followers and X had 450 followers.

ALIGNMENT OF THE WEBSITE WITH THE 2024 TRAINING CATALOGUE

The website's overall structure was reviewed to align it with the structure of the 2024 Training Catalogue. All 2024 training activities were available on the website in late December 2023. Additionally, about 520

individual links to the Online Training Catalogue were added to help judges, prosecutors and court staff find information about and register to EJTN activities.

PUBLICATIONS OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS

The Catalogue of Training Activities (204 pages) was redesigned and EJTN's Annual Report (60 pages) was improved. Leaflets providing information about

EJTN's lunchtime webinars, linguistic training offering and the Exchange Programme's activities were also created.

INFO WEBINARS

EJTN organised two info webinars as part of the Exchange Programme in 2023. In April 2023, 424 participants in exchanges took part in an online information session about the requirements related to their participation and the next steps. In September 2023, an online information session was organised

to inform candidate judges, prosecutors and court staff about the exchange opportunities offered under the Exchange Programme and to provide tips on how to apply for an exchange in 2024. The session was attended by 518 viewers.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOS

EJTN organised photo reportage for all of its activities (including AIAKOS, THEMIS, exchange and programme activities, the signature of the MoU with the EPPO, etc.), as well as the recording of the network's different events. Interviews were also recorded, for

example, with some of the AIAKOS participants and at the General Assembly. The EJTN Secretary General also delivered two video messages for a German conference on judicial training at the Max Planck Institute.

PARTNERS

Bilateral cooperation with key EU agencies and structures (Eurojust, CEPOL and the EPPO etc.) had the objective of promoting and disseminating information on EJTN's activities. This included such actions as liaising with different communications teams to pro-

mote the successful ongoing cooperation with EJTN, as well as liking and reposting social media posts, securing permission to use official photographs in EJTN publications, receiving contributions for the EJTN annual report, and so on.



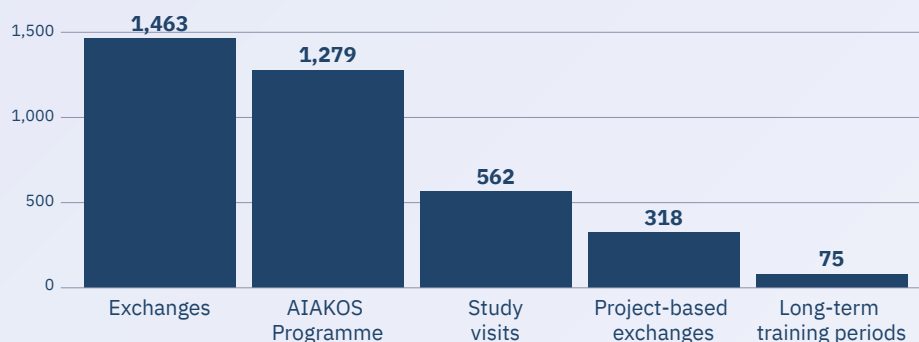
Judicial Training Methods, Seminar on Public speaking, 10-11 October 2023, Tallinn, Estonia

13

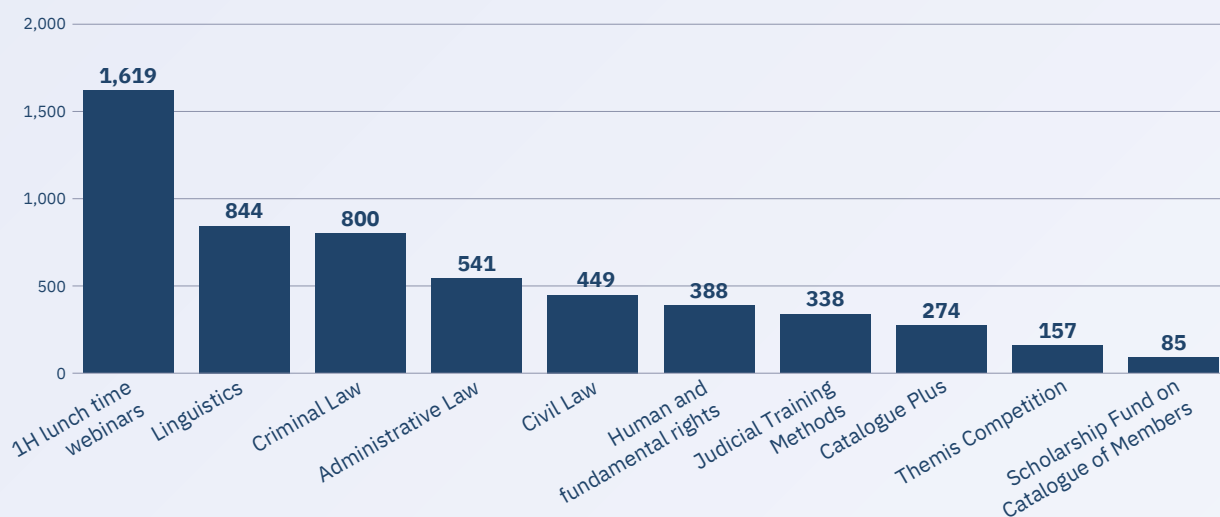
KEY FIGURES

KEY FIGURES

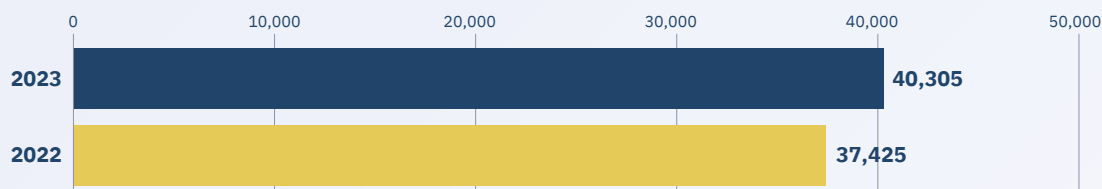
PARTICIPANTS IN EJTN EXCHANGES, STUDY VISITS AND OTHER PROGRAMMES IN 2023



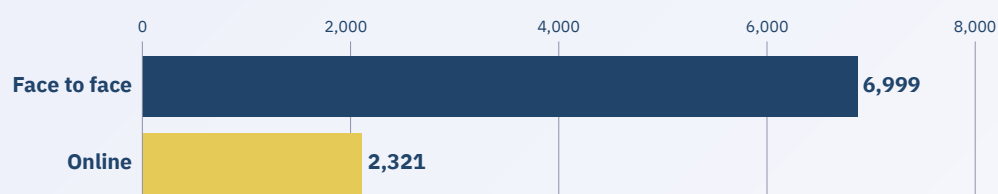
PARTICIPANTS IN EJTN TRAINING ACTIVITIES, WEBINARS AND CATALOGUES-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN 2023



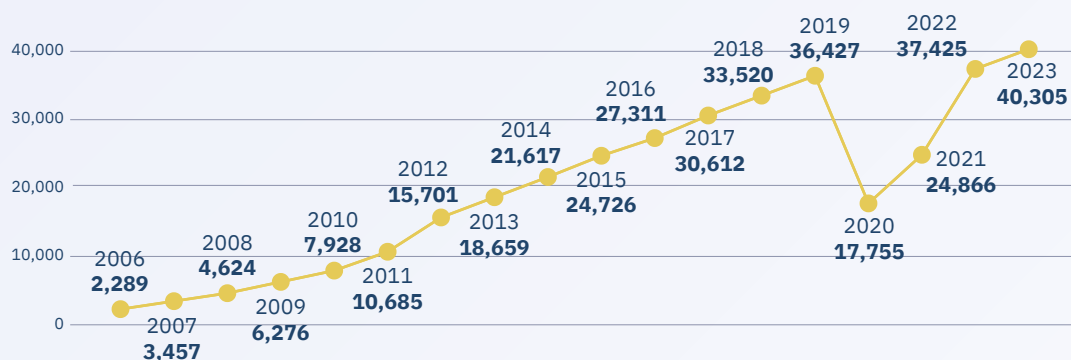
NUMBER OF TRAINING DAYS OFFERED BY THE EJTN 2022–2023



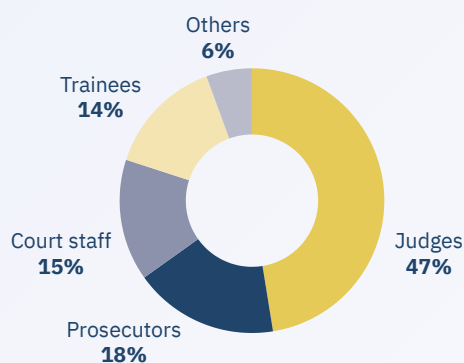
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN FACE TO FACE AND ONLINE TRAININGS



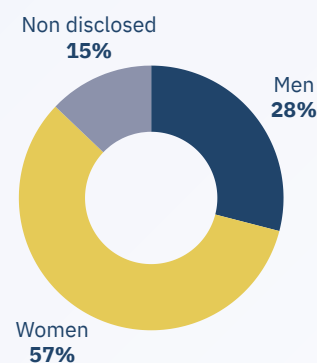
NUMBER OF TRAINING DAYS OFFERED BY THE EJTN 2006–2023



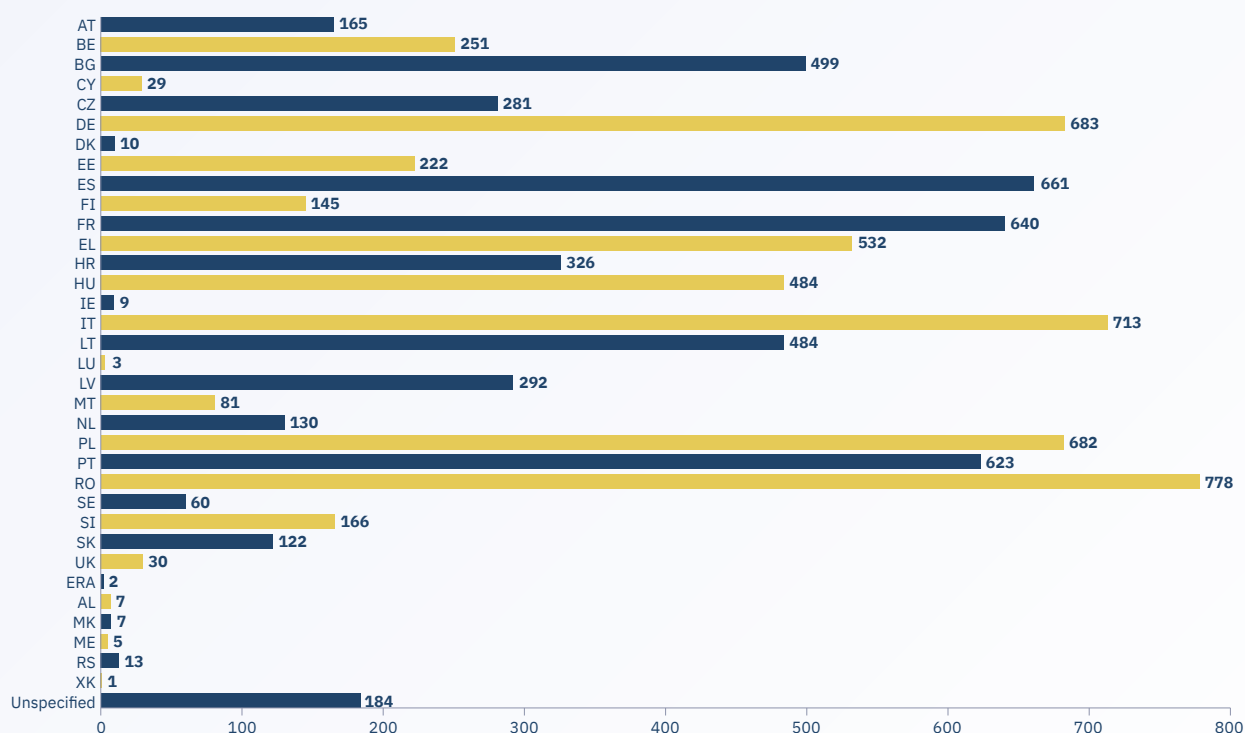
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS TRAINED BY FUNCTIONS



GENDER BALANCE



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS TRAINED BY NATIONALITIES



14

THE NETWORK

THE NETWORK

OUR MEMBERS

EJTN brings together the national institutions responsible for judicial training in the EU Member States and the European Academy of Law. EJTN's Members work together to develop training programmes and exchange activities for the benefit of European judges, prosecutors and court and prosecution staff.



AUSTRIA
Federal Ministry of Justice



BELGIUM
Judicial Training Institute



BULGARIA
National Institute of Justice



CROATIA
Judicial Academy



CYPRUS
Cyprus Judicial Training School



CZECH REPUBLIC
Judicial Academy



DENMARK
Court Administration



ESTONIA
Office of the Prosecutor General



ESTONIA
Supreme Court



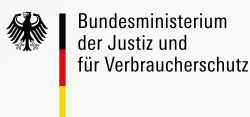
FINLAND
National Courts Administration



FINLAND
National Prosecution Authority



FRANCE
National School for the Judiciary



GERMANY
Federal Ministry of Justice



GREECE
National School of Judiciary



HUNGARY
National Office for the Judiciary



HUNGARY
Office of the Prosecutor General



IRELAND
Committee for Judicial Studies



ITALY
High Council of the Judiciary



ITALY
School for the Judiciary



LATVIA
Latvian Judicial Training Centre



LATVIA
Office of the Prosecutor General



LITHUANIA
National Courts Administration



LITHUANIA
Office of the Prosecutor General



LUXEMBOURG
National Council of Justice

MEMBERS CONTINUED



MALTA
Judicial Studies Committee



NETHERLANDS
Training and Study Centre
for the Judiciary



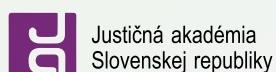
POLAND
National School of Judiciary
and Public Prosecution



PORTUGAL
Centre for Judicial Studies
(CEJ)



ROMANIA
National Institute of Magistracy
(NIM)



SLOVAKIA
Judicial Academy
of the Slovak Republic



SLOVENIA
Judicial Training Centre
(JTC)



SPAIN
Centre for Legal Studies (CEJ)



SPAIN
Judicial School



SWEDEN
Judicial Training Academy



SWEDEN
Swedish Prosecution
Authority



Academy of
European Law

OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Associate Members are national institutions of the EU Member States which are responsible for training court and prosecution staff. They can participate in the work of EJTJN's bodies (except the Steering Committee). Associate Members can attend EJTJN's General Assembly without voting rights.



FRANCE
National School of Clerks



ITALY
Ministry of Justice



MALTA
Court Services Agency



PORTUGAL
Directorate-General of Justice
Administration



ROMANIA
National School
of Clerks

OUR OBSERVERS

EJTN has Observers representing national bodies from EU accession states, other European countries and Departments from the European Commission. EJTN's Observers may participate in EJTN's projects but cannot vote at the General Assembly.

EU INSTITUTIONS



European Commission's
Directorate-General for Justice
and Consumers

GEORGIA



High School of Justice

SERBIA



Judicial Academy of the
Republic of Serbia

INTERNATIONAL BODIES



Council of Europe

MOLDOVA



National Institute of Justice

SWITZERLAND



Foundation for the
continuous training
of Swiss Judges

ALBANIA



Albanian School
of Magistrates

MONTENEGRO



Centre for Training
in Judiciary and State
Prosecution

UK



England & Wales
Judicial College



Northern Ireland
Judicial Studies Board

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



Centre for Judicial and
Prosecutorial Training of
Republika Srpska

NORTH MACEDONIA



Academy for Judges and Public
Prosecutors



Scotland
Judicial Institute for Scotland

NORWAY



NORGES
DOMSTOLER

Norwegian Courts
Administration

UKRAINE



National School of Judges



Prosecutor's Training Centre
of Ukraine



Centre for Judicial and
Prosecutorial Training of the
Federation of Bosnia and
Herzegovina

OUR PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

EJTN believes sound cooperation with trusted partners is essential for developing and promoting high-quality training for European judges, prosecutors and court and prosecution staff.

EU INSTITUTIONS



European Commission



Court of Justice of the European Union

INTERNATIONAL BODIES



Council of Europe



European Court of Human Rights



United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals

EU AGENCIES



European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training



European Union Agency for Asylum – EUAA



European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation – EUROJUST



European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights – FRA



European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation – EUROPOL



European Public Prosecutor's Office

OTHER BODIES



Association of European Administrative Judges



Association of European Competition Law Judges



Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the EU



European Judges Group for Mediation



European Association of Labour Court Judges



European Judicial Cybercrime Network



European Judicial Network



European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial Matters

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS CONTINUED



European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment



European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment



Genocide Network – European Network of contact points in respect of persons responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes



International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges



International Organization for Judicial Training



Joint Investigative Teams Network



Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology



Network of Councils for the Judiciary



Network of Public Prosecutors or equivalent institutions at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the EU



Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU



Regional Cooperation Council



The Hague Conference on Private International Law

EJTN STEERING COMMITTEE

CHAIR

Netherlands Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (SSR)

MEMBERS

Austria Federal Ministry of Justice

Belgium Judicial Training Institute (IFJ / IGO)

Germany Federal Ministry of Justice

Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)

Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)

Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)

Spain Judicial School

Academy of European Law (ERA)

EXCHANGE PROGRAMME WORKING GROUP

CONVENER

Belgium Judicial Training Institute (IFJ / IGO)

MEMBERS

Austria Federal Ministry of Justice

Bulgaria National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

Croatia Judicial Academy

Czech Republic Judicial Academy

Estonia Office of the Prosecutor General

Estonia Supreme Court

France National School for the Judiciary (ENM)

France National School of Clerks (ENG)

Germany Federal Ministry of Justice

Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)

Hungary National Office for the Judiciary

Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)

Italy Ministry of Justice

Lithuania National Courts Administration

Netherlands Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (SSR)

Poland National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)

Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)

Portugal Directorate-General of Justice Administration (DGJA)

Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)

Romania National School of Clerks

Slovenia Judicial Training Centre (JTC)

Spain Centre for Legal Studies (CEJ)

Spain Judicial School

PROGRAMMES WORKING GROUP

CONVENER

Academy of European Law (ERA)

MEMBERS

Austria Federal Ministry of Justice

Belgium Judicial Training Institute (IFJ / IGO)

Bulgaria National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

Croatia Judicial Academy

Czech Republic Judicial Academy

Finland National Courts Administration (NCA)

France National School for the Judiciary (ENM)

France National School of Clerks (ENG)

Germany Federal Ministry of Justice

Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)

Hungary Office of the Prosecutor General

Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)

Italy High Council for the Judiciary (CSM)

Italy Ministry of Justice

Latvia Latvian Judicial Training Centre (LJTC)

Lithuania National Courts Administration

Lithuania Office of the Prosecutor General

Poland National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)

Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)

Portugal Directorate-General of Justice Administration (DGJA)

Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)

Romania National School of Clerks

Slovenia Judicial Training Centre (JTC)

Spain Centre for Legal Studies (CEJ)

Spain Judicial School

JUDICIAL TRAINING METHODS WORKING GROUP

CONVENER

Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)

MEMBERS

Belgium Judicial Training Institute (IFJ/IGO)
Bulgaria National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
Croatia Judicial Academy
Czech Republic Judicial Academy
Estonia Office of the Prosecutor General
Finland National Courts Administration (NCA)
France National School for the Judiciary (ENM)
France National School of Clerks (ENG)
Germany Federal Ministry of Justice
Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)
Hungary Office of the Prosecutor General
Ireland Judicial Council
Italy High Council for the Judiciary (CSM)
Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)

Lithuania National Courts Administration
Netherlands Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (SSR)
Poland National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)
Portugal Directorate-General of Justice Administration (DGJA)
Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)
Romania National School of Clerks
Slovenia Judicial Training Centre (JTC)
Spain Judicial School
Sweden Judicial Training Academy
Academy of European Law (ERA)

OBSERVERS

North Macedonia Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors
United Kingdom Judicial College of England and Wales

United Kingdom – Scotland Judicial Institute for Scotland
Serbia Judicial Academy

LINGUISTICS WORKING GROUP

CONVENER

Czech Republic Judicial Academy

MEMBERS

Belgium Judicial Training Institute (IFJ / IGO)
Croatia Judicial Academy
France National School for the Judiciary (ENM)
Germany Federal Ministry of Justice
Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)
Hungary National Office for the Judiciary (NOJ)
Hungary Office of the Prosecutor General
Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)
Italy Ministry of Justice
Lithuania National Courts Administration
Lithuania Office of the Prosecutor General

Poland National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)
Portugal Directorate-General of Justice Administration (DGJA)
Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)
Romania National School of Clerks
Slovenia Judicial Training Centre (JTC)
Spain Centre for Legal Studies (CEJ)
Spain Judicial School
Academy of European Law (ERA)

OBSERVERS

North Macedonia Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors

DIGITALISATION WORKING GROUP

CONVENER

France National School for the Judiciary (ENM)

MEMBERS

Belgium Judicial Training Institute (IFJ/IGO)
Bulgaria National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
Croatia Judicial Academy
Estonia Office of the Prosecutor General
France National School of Clerks
Germany Federal Ministry of Justice
Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)
Italy High Council for the Judiciary
Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)
Latvia Latvian Judicial Training Centre
Netherlands Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (SSR)

Poland National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)
Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)
Portugal Directorate-General of Justice Administration (DGJA)
Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)
Romania National School of Clerks
Spain Centre for Legal Studies (CEJ)
Spain Judicial School
Sweden Prosecution Authority

SUB-WORKING GROUP ON ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

CONVENER

Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)

MEMBERS

Austria Federal Ministry of Justice
Bulgaria National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
Croatia Judicial Academy
Finland National Courts Administration
Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)
Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)

Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)
Portugal Directorate-General of Justice Administration (DGJA)
Slovenia Judicial Training Centre (JTC)
Academy of European Law (ERA)

SUB-WORKING GROUP ON CIVIL LAW

CONVENER

Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)

MEMBERS

Belgium Judicial Training Institute (IFJ/IGO)
Bulgaria National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
Croatia Judicial Academy
Finland National Courts Administration (NCA)
France National School for the Judiciary (ENM)
France National School of Clerks
Germany Federal Ministry of Justice
Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)
Poland National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)

Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)
Portugal Directorate-General of Justice Administration (DGJA)
Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)
Romania National School of Clerks
Spain Judicial School
Academy of European Law (ERA)

SUB-WORKING GROUP ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CONVENER

Spain Centre for Legal Studies (CEJ)

MEMBERS

Austria Federal Ministry of Justice

Belgium Judicial Training Institute (IFJ/IGO)

Bulgaria National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

Croatia Judicial Academy

Czech Republic Judicial Academy

Finland National Courts Administration

France National School for the Judiciary (ENM)

France National School of Clerks

Germany Federal Ministry of Justice

Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)

Hungary Office of the Prosecutor General

Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)

Italy High Council for the Judiciary

Poland National School for Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)

Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)

Portugal Directorate-General of Justice Administration (DGJA)

Romania National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)

Romania National School of Clerks

Spain Judicial School

Academy of European Law (ERA)

SUB-WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

CONVENER

Slovenia Judicial Training Centre (JTC)

MEMBERS

Austria Ministry of Justice

Bulgaria National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

Croatia Judicial Academy

France National School for the Judiciary (ENM)

Germany Federal Ministry of Justice

Greece National School of the Judiciary (ESDI)

Hungary Office of the Prosecutor General

Italy School for the Judiciary (SSM)

Latvia Latvian Judicial Training Centre

Lithuania Office of the Prosecutor General

Malta Court Services Agency

Poland National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)

Portugal Centre for Judicial Studies (CEJ)

Spain Centre for Legal Studies (CEJ)

Spain Judicial School

Academy of European Law (ERA)

OUR EXPERTS

We offer training to judges, prosecutors and court staff in a wide range of areas. Our programmes cover such themes as civil law, criminal law, consumer law, tax law, judgecraft leadership, language skills and artificial intelligence.

A significant part of our work is made possible thanks to the valuable contribution of our network of experts.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

ACKES Christina
ACOSTA Diego
ANGELOU Ioannis
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ACRONYMS

AEAJ	Association of the European Administrative Judges
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AJPP	Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors of North Macedonia
CCJE	Consultative Council of European Judges
CEPEJ	European Commission for the efficiency of justice
CEPOL	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training
CJEU	Court of Justice of the European Union
DG FISMA	Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union of the European Commission
DG NEAR	European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
EAW	European Arrest Warrant
ECtHR	European Court of Human Rights
EEA	European Economic Area
EFTA	European Free Trade Area
EIO	European Investigation Order
EJCN	European Judicial Cybercrime Network
EJN	European Judicial Network
EJTN	European Judicial Training Network
ENCJ	European Networks of Councils for the Judiciary
ENM	National School for the Judiciary (France)
EPPO	European Public Prosecutor's Office
ERA	Academy of European Law
EU	European Union
EUA	European Union Agency for Asylum
Eurojust	European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation
Europol	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation
FRA	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
GEMME	European Judges Group for Mediation
GNS	Genocide Network Secretariat
HELP	European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals
HFR SWG	Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms Sub-Working Group
IACCA	International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities
JIT	Joint Investigation Teams
MEDEL	Magistrats européens pour la démocratie et les libertés (European Magistrates for Democracy and Liberties)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPIEF	Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology
RESIJ	European Network of Justice Inspection Service
SLAPPs	Strategic legal actions against public participation
SSR	Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (Netherlands)
UIM-IAJ	International and European Association of Judges
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
VR	Virtual Reality
VSE	Victim Support Europe



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