Lawyers training systems in the EU

Portugal

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM FOR LAWYERS in Portugal		
1. Access to the Profession		
Higher education / university education	YES	
A law degree is compulsory	YES - Candidates must be holders of Master's Degree at least	
Steps to becoming a fully-fledged lawyer:	• Registration with the Bar • Examination organised by the Bar • Completion of an induction period	
Alternative routes to the profession:	YES - Transfer routes from other professions **Legal basis:** Estatuto da Ordem dos Avogados –(Lei nº 15/2005 de 26 de janeiro) (article 192 § 2 of the Statute of the Bar) Law professors with PhD in Law with effective teaching experience and former judges with classification of "good (4/5)" may become lawyers without undergoing the induction period and without passing an exam	
2. Training during induction period		
Is there an induction period?	YES	Article 188 of the Statute of the Bar - Estatuto da Ordem dos Advogados (Lei nº 15/2005 de 26 de janeiro) http://www.oa.pt/Conteudos/Artigos/detalhe_artigo.aspx?idc=30819&idsc=128

Compulsory	YES	Set length: 24 months
Types of structures responsible for organising induction training	Bar	
Form of induction training	• Apprenticeship supervised by a private practice • Training on legal professional skills	
Entrance exam / check before induction period	YES	• Entrance exam organised by the Bar
Set curriculum during induction period	There is a set curriculum during the induction period **Main topics included in the curriculum:** • Ethics and Deontology • Constitutional and human rights law • Information technology for lawyers • Civil procedure practice • Criminal procedure practice • Organisation of the Judiciary	
Specificities regarding EU law and linguistic training:	NO	
Induction period divided into different stages	YES	Stages of the induction period: • First phase: following sessions at the Bar • Second phase: apprenticeship with a lawyer (tutor)
Post-induction period assessment / exam	YES	Assessment of the trainee lawyer is made • Through reports from tutors • Through written exams • Through oral exams

3. Continuous training system

Differentiation between continuous training / specialisation training	YES Specialisation training occurs in stage 2 of the induction period, in the form of training sessions and seminars and it is separate from continuous training.

		According to the [Regulamento Geral das Especialidades](#), article 3 (Artigo 3, "requisitos mínimos") a lawyer can apply for a specialisation title after having acquired **10 years** of working experience in the required field of specialisation.
Obligations regarding continuous training	YES	Compulsory training obligations as stated in the internal regulations of the Bar – article 86 § i of Statute of the Bar - [Estatuto da Ordem dos Avogados](#) (Lei nº 15/2005 de 26 de janeiro)
Obligations regarding specialization training	YES	Specialisation training obligations as stated in the internal regulations of the Bar
Obligations regarding learning foreign languages	No obligation	
Obligations regarding EU law content in relation to continuous / specialization training?	No obligation	

4. Accreditation systems and training providers	
Possibility for accreditation	NO The training system in Portugal does not provide such possibility
Number of training providers offering continuous training activities	Between 11 and 20 training providers
Type of training providers developing accredited continuous training activities	• Bar • Organisation managed or established by the Bar • Non-accredited private commercial training provider • Non-accredited private or public non-for –profit training provider
Number of training providers organizing training activities in preparation for specialization	Between 11 and 20 training providers
Type of training providers developing accredited training activities in preparation for specialization	• Bar • Organisation managed or established by Bar (including law centres or local groupings of lawyers) • Accredited private commercial training provider (including law firms)

	• Accredited private or public non-for-profit training provider (including universities, foundations) • Non-accredited private commercial training provider • Non-accredited private or public non-for-profit training provider	

Activities and methods

Type of training activities accepted under the obligations of continuous or specialization training	• Attending face to face training sessions • Attending training conferences	Training obligations can be fulfilled through participation in training activities in another member state

5. Supervision of training activities

Organizations involved in supervising continuous training activities	N/A There is no supervision system for training activities in Portugal
Supervision process	N/A
Structure involved in supervising training activities towards specialisation	N/A

6. National reform of training system

Training system reform

A reform will take place in the next 3 years after the elections for the new Bar General Board, in 29th November 2013.

It is possible that the reform will reinforce the EU law aspects of training (both for induction period and continuous training) but it will depend on who is elected as President of the Bar.