



Tender JUST/2012/JUTR/PR/0064/A4 –

Implementation of the Pilot Project – European Judicial Training

Lot 4

*“Promotion of cooperation
between judicial stakeholders
concerned by European judicial training”*

Final report

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Justice
Directorate B – Criminal Justice
Unit B.2 – Criminal Law

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FINAL REPORT – Tender JUST/2012/JUTR/PR/0064/A4

Lot 1 “Study on Best Practices in training of judges and prosecutors”

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List of abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
ACA-EUROPE	Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union
AEAJ	Association of European Administrative Judges
AECLJ	Association of European Competition Law Judges
CCBE	Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe
CCEJ	Consultative Council of European Judges
CCPE	Consultative Council of European Prosecutors
CEJ	Centro de Estudios Jurídicos – Centre for Legal Studies
CEPOL	European Police College
CSM	Consiglio Superiore della Magistratura – High Council for the Judiciary
DG Justice	Directorate General for Justice
EAJ/IAJ	European Association of Judges / International Association of Judges
EALCJ	European Association of Labour Court Judges
ECJ	European Court of Justice
ECJF	European Commercial Judges Forum
ECHR	European Court of Human Rights
EEA	European Economic Area
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EJPA	European Judges and Prosecutors Association
ENM	Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature / National School for the Judiciary – France
ENPE	European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment
ESC	EJTN Steering Committee
EU	European Union
EUFJE	European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment
EUJCM	European Union of Judges in Commercial Matters
EJN	European Judicial Network (in criminal matters)

Abbreviation	Description
EJN-Civil	European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters
EJTN / REFJ	European Judicial Training Network / Réseau Européen de Formation Judiciaire
ERA	Europäische Rechtsakademie / Academy of European Law / Académie de Droit Européen
EU / UE	European Union / Union Européenne
GA	General Assembly
GEMME	European Association of Judges for Mediation
ILO	International Labour Organization
IFJ/IGO	Institut de Formation Judiciaire / Instituut voor Gerechtelijke Opleiding / Judicial Training Institute – Belgium
IMPEL	European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law
IATJ	International Association of Tax Judges
KSSIP	Krajowa Szkoła Sądownictwa i Prokuratury / National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution – Poland
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NIJ	National Institute of Justice – Bulgaria
NIM	National Institute for the Magistracy – Romania
NCP	National Contact Point
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SSM	Scuola Superiore della Magistratura – Italian School for the Judiciary – Italy
SSR	Studiecentrum Rechtspleging / Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary – The Netherlands
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Executive summary

Background of the report

In 2012, the Commission opened an invitation to tender for a project designed to promote cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial training. Together with a budgetary allocation, this proposal originated in the European Parliament. Following a competitive tendering process, the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) was awarded the contract on 15 July 2013.

The principal aim of the project was to support the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) in organising its cooperation with its relevant partners and networks at the European level, such as the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union.

In total the EJTN and twelve partners have taken part in the project. (See section 1.6)

Methodology of the study

The principal methodology adopted by the EJTN was to establish a project steering committee composed of members of the EJTN working groups and of representatives of the project partners. (See section 1.6)

The project steering committee held in total four meetings during the execution of the project. The working language of the committee was English. (See section 5.1.1)

The main work was carried out by the EJTN Secretariat and by the partner organisations (State of play).

With the active coordination of the EJTN, the partners discussed the draft project documents during the Steering Committee meetings. The partners

further analysed the proposals internally and provided their comments. The final approval of the documents has been made by the Steering Committee.

The work on the project was time limited and had to be completed over a twelve month period from inception to delivery.

In addition to delivering the final report containing the complete description of the implementation of the contract, the project also required the completion of three deliverables. (See section 1.2.2)

Deliverable one comprises a report on the state of play, providing further information about the project partner organisations. The partner organisations described in the fact sheets represent a wide range of judicial stakeholders. (See chapter 4)

Deliverable two describes the series of past and planned future meetings of the project partners. (See chapter 5)

Deliverable three provides a roadmap for the project partners setting out the main guidelines for their future cooperation. (See chapter 7)

The roadmap for future cooperation is based on a joint declaration, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the project partners, establishing the recommendations for their cooperation. (See chapter 6)

Within the framework of the project workshop organised by the European Commission, the project partners signed the Memorandum of Understanding on 27 June 2014.

Recommendations of the study

Based on the above description, the study makes a number of key recommendations on the follow-up as follows:

- The cooperation between the EJTN and the project partners will target the sharing of information in relation to training needs, the dissemination of information on training activities and the exchange of experts' data.
- The cooperation between the EJTN and the project partners will include the creation of consortia in specific areas.

- The EJTN and some of the project partners will establish a special cooperation in order to benefit to the maximum extend from their position linked to the hierarchy of the judiciaries.
- The EJTN and the project partners will undertake all means available to raise the awareness of the added value of participation in training.
- In order to discuss matters of common interest, the EJTN will promote yearly meetings of the contact points and other representatives of the project partners.
- The EJTN will invite the heads of the project partners to its General Assembly.
- The EJTN and the project partners will adopt the necessary internal mechanisms indispensable for the good execution of the Memorandum of Understanding.

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Résumé

Contexte du rapport

En 2012, la Commission a lancé une invitation à soumissionner pour la réalisation d'un projet visant à promouvoir la coopération entre les acteurs impliqués dans la formation judiciaire européenne. Cette proposition et l'enveloppe budgétaire qui lui est associée avaient initialement été introduites par le Parlement européen. Au terme d'une procédure d'appel d'offres concurrentiel, le Réseau européen de formation judiciaire (REFJ) a remporté le marché le 15 juillet 2013.

L'objectif principal de ce projet était d'aider le Réseau européen de formation judiciaire (REFJ) à organiser sa coopération avec d'autres partenaires et réseaux pertinents au niveau européen, tels que le Réseau européen des Conseils de la Justice, le Réseau des Présidents des Cours suprêmes judiciaires de l'Union européenne, l'Association des conseils d'État et des juridictions administratives suprêmes de l'Union européenne et le Réseau des Procureurs généraux des Cours suprêmes judiciaires de l'Union européenne.

Au total, le projet a rassemblé douze partenaires autour du REFJ (voir le point 2.1).

Méthodologie de l'étude

La principale méthodologie adoptée par le REFJ a consisté à établir un comité directeur composé de membres des groupes de travail du REFJ et de représentants des partenaires au projet (voir le point 1.6).

Le comité directeur s'est réuni à quatre reprises durant l'exécution du projet. La langue de travail du comité était l'anglais. (voir le point 5.1.1)

La majeure partie des travaux a été réalisée par le secrétariat du REFJ et les organisations partenaires (voir la section consacrée à la situation actuelle).

Les partenaires ont d'abord élaboré des projets de documents durant les réunions du comité directeur, sous la coordination active du REFJ. Ils ont ensuite analysé les propositions en interne et transmis leurs commentaires.

Enfin, l’approbation finale des documents s’est faite au sein du comité directeur.

Le projet était limité dans le temps et devait être exécuté dans un délai de 12 mois.

Outre la rédaction d’un rapport final décrivant de manière détaillée la mise en œuvre du contrat, le projet impliquait également la livraison de trois autres éléments. (voir le point 1.2.2)

Le premier est un rapport sur la situation actuelle, visant à fournir des informations complémentaires sur les organisations partenaires au projet. Les organisations partenaires décrites dans les fiches d’information représentent un large éventail d’acteurs judiciaires (voir le chapitre 4).

Le deuxième élément à livrer est une liste détaillée des réunions passées et futures entre les partenaires au projet (voir le chapitre 5).

Le troisième est une feuille de route décrivant les principales orientations fixées par les partenaires au projet pour guider leur future coopération (voir le chapitre 7).

La feuille de route est fondée sur un protocole d’accord, c’est-à-dire une déclaration conjointe par laquelle les partenaires au projet précisent les termes de leur coopération (voir le chapitre 6).

Le protocole d’accord a été signé par les partenaires au projet le 27 juin 2014, à l’occasion de l’atelier de travail organisé par la Commission européenne.

Recommandations de l’étude

Sur base de la description susmentionnée, l’étude propose un certain nombre de recommandations clés :

- La coopération entre le REFJ et les partenaires au projet ciblera le partage d’informations concernant les besoins de formation, la diffusion de renseignements au sujet des activités de formation et l’échange de coordonnées d’experts.
- La coopération entre le REFJ et les partenaires au projet impliquera la création de consortiums dans des domaines spécifiques.

- Le REFJ et certains partenaires au projet établiront une coopération spéciale afin de tirer au maximum parti de leur place respective dans la hiérarchie du système judiciaire.
- Le REFJ et les partenaires au projet emploieront tous les moyens disponibles pour sensibiliser les magistrats à la valeur ajoutée de la formation.
- Le REFJ organisera chaque année une réunion rassemblant les points de contact et d’autres représentants des partenaires au projet afin de discuter de questions d’intérêt commun.
- Le REFJ invitera les dirigeants des organisations partenaires à assister à son Assemblée générale.
- Le REFJ et les partenaires au projet mettront en place les mécanismes internes nécessaires pour permettre la bonne exécution du protocole d’accord.

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Part one – The report

Chapter one: background to report

1.1. Background

The importance of judicial training for the effective application of EU law has been repeatedly underlined in recent years by the European Parliament, the European Council set ambitious targets for judicial training in the Stockholm Programme and the European Commission published its communication on judicial training on 13 September 2011¹.

In the same year the Academy of European Law (ERA), a key provider of judicial training in Europe for the past 22 years, carried out a study, commissioned by the European Parliament, in cooperation with the EJTN and its members (the ERA-EJTN study)².

The main purpose of the ERA-EJTN study was to provide an in-depth, objective analysis of judicial training in the Member States on European Union law (EU law), the law of other Member States and comparative law. Based upon this study, ERA sought: a) to identify the **institutions in the European Union** currently providing such training; b) to compile an inventory of Good Practices in judicial training, which may be shared between jurisdictions, especially with regard to EU law; and c) to make recommendations about possible solutions to shortcomings identified in the current provision of judicial training at European Union level.

Building on the ERA-EJTN study and implementing the European Parliament's proposal of pilot project, in 2012 the European Commission opened an invitation to tender for a Project designed for the promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial training³. Following a competitive tendering process, the EJTN was awarded the contract, which was signed on 15 July 2013.

1.2. Objectives and deliverables of the project

1.2.1. Objectives

The objective of this project is to promote the cooperation between EU-level judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial training through the following means:

- To produce a report on the state of play of the roles of the main EU-level judicial stakeholders concerned by judicial training;

¹ “Building trust in EU-wide justice: A new dimension to European judicial training”, COM (2011) 511, 13 September 2011. http://ec.europa.eu/justice/criminal/files/2011-551-judicial-training_en.pdf

² [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2011/453198/IPOL-JURI_ET\(2011\)453198_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2011/453198/IPOL-JURI_ET(2011)453198_EN.pdf)

³ Tender JUST/2012/JUTR/PR/0064/A4 – Implementation of the Pilot Project – European Judicial Training Lot 4 “Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial training”. http://ec.europa.eu/justice/newsroom/contracts/files/2012s132-218282/invitation_en.pdf

- To organise meetings of the representatives of the judicial stakeholders to discuss avenues for their possible future cooperation to improve judicial training in EU law and in the law of other Member States;
- To provide a roadmap for cooperation between the identified judicial stakeholders.

1.2.2. Deliverables

The European Commission set down the project’s deliverables as follows:

Deliverable 1

State of play of the respective roles of the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, such as the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU regarding training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, as well as of the current cooperation between them.

Deliverable 2

Organisation of meeting(s) of representatives of the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, such as the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU, to discuss their cooperation regarding the improvement of training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, in line with the European Commission Communication of 13 September 2011 “Building trust in EU-wide justice, a new dimension to European judicial training”, the Council Conclusions of 27 October 2011 on European judicial training⁴ and the European Parliament’s proposal of pilot project.

⁴ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/jha/125701.pdf

Deliverable 3

Roadmap for the cooperation between the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, such as the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU, in order to improve training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, in line with the respective mandates of the above-mentioned networks and in line with the European Commission Communication of 13 September 2011 “Building trust in EU-wide justice, a new dimension to European judicial training”, with the Council Conclusions of 27 October 2011 on European judicial training and the European Parliament’s proposal of pilot project.

1.3. Preliminary preparations for the project: the establishment of the project steering committee (PSC)

The EJTN established a project steering committee (PSC) consisting of the chairs of four of the EJTN’s internal working groups assisted by a core administrator.

The EJTN invited the representatives of the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union as listed in the call for tender (hereinafter referred to as the ‘horizontal project partners’) to be part of the steering committee. Once further project partners had been identified, they were also invited to appoint representatives to the project steering committee.

1.4. The role of the horizontal project partners

In a considerable number of EU countries, the national structures in charge of judicial training have no legal competence in areas beyond the simple delivery of the training itself. In fact, several cases were identified where the following areas of competence were entrusted not to the national training institutions but to the highest level of judiciary: a.) establishing the criteria on how to promote equal conditions of access to training, b.) disseminating information on the training resources available, c.) ensuring better uptake by practitioners, d.) establishing standards for the selection of participants on training activities and e.) evaluating the relevance of training contents, methodologies and their results in a magistrate’s daily work.

Therefore, the EJTN readily recognised the added value / role of the four horizontal project partners as indicated in the call for tender. These European associations while linked to the highest hierarchy of the judiciaries in each of the EU member States could bring considerable input to overcome some shortcomings identified by the EJTN on judicial training and, while doing so, could become key contributors to increasingly efficient judicial training at the national and European levels.

1.5. The role of the project steering committee

The PSC ensured the coordination and the full execution of the project, through the representatives of the EJTN working groups and the project partners. The Committee was assisted by a dedicated administrator from the EJTN Secretariat.

1.6. Members of the project steering committee

The following EJTN working groups and organisations were members of the PSC:

- the chair of the EJTN Steering Committee – Training and Study Center for the Judiciary (SSR) – The Netherlands
- the convener of the EJTN Working Group Programmes – Academy of European Law (ERA)
- the convener of the EJTN Working Group Technologies– Judicial College – United Kingdom
- the convener of the EJTN Working Group Exchange Programme – Judicial Training Institute, Belgium
- one representative of the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary,
- one representative of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts,
- one representative of the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions.

This composition ensured an adequate representation in the steering committee of some of the most active EJTN members (insofar as the European judicial training scene is concerned) in addition to the horizontal partners.

Moreover, the EJTN members of the PSC composed an internal PSC, in charge of preparing the meetings of the PSC under the coordination of the chair and with the help of an assistant.

During the project execution, further project partners were identified. The EJTN steering committee (ESC), which consists of the representatives of all EJTN members, carried out the final selection of the project partners. The ESC approved the project

partners pre-selected by the project steering committee. Therefore, the following members were subsequently added to the PSC:

- one representative of the European Judicial Network (in criminal matters) (EJN),
- one representative of the European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial Matters (EJN-Civil),
- one representative of the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ),
- one representative of the Association of European Competition Law Judges (AECLJ),
- one representative of the European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME),
- one representative of the International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ),
- one representative of the European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE),
- one representative of the European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE).

1.7. The involvement of the European Commission

In the present project the European Commission considered it appropriate to join the meetings of the PSC instead of setting up an additional external instance to monitor the project. As a consequence, the Commission took part in all PSC meetings, while the execution was the responsibility of the participating organisations in the framework of the contract awarded to the EJTN.

The Commission committed itself to actively promote the dissemination of the project's results. This started with the publicity given to the signature of the memorandum of understanding between the project partners in the presence of the Director General for Justice during a Commission workshop on "Building upon good training practices" on 27 June 2014⁵.

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/justice/events/judicial-training-2014/index_en.htm

Chapter two: methodology for the study

2.1. Introduction

Given the timeframe and the resources available to execute this project, it was essential to devise a methodology that would prove effective and appropriate to the task.

As mentioned above in point 1.3 the principal methodology adopted by the EJTN was to establish a project steering committee.

2.2. Project deliverables

In addition to delivering the final report containing the complete description of the implementation of the contract, the project also required the completion of three deliverables.

- **Deliverable 1 – Report on the ‘State of play’**

Deliverable one comprises a report on the state of play of the respective roles of the project partners. With the active coordination of the EJTN, the project partners provided general information on their organisation as well as an overview of their core activities and competences.

The description of the EJTN and the twelve project partners has been summarized in thirteen fact sheets.

The report on the State of play is included in annex four of the present report.

- **Deliverable 2 – Organisation of meetings**

Deliverable two describes the series of past meetings and the planning for the future meetings of the project partners. The EJTN organised and coordinated the meetings and summarised their main points in the form of meeting minutes.

The meeting minutes are included in annex six of the present report.

- **Deliverable 3 – Roadmap for future cooperation**

Deliverable three provides a roadmap for the project partners setting out the main guidelines for their future cooperation. The first draft of the roadmap was prepared

by the EJTN’s internal PSC composed of the EJTN members (as listed in 1.6 above).

- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

Alongside the three deliverables, the EJTN prepared a joint declaration in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to describe the commitment of the project partners for their future cooperation to improve the training of judges and prosecutors. This MoU was discussed and then finalised during PSC meetings once the project partners had approved the text internally.

The work of the project was time limited and had to be completed over a twelve month period from inception to delivery.

During the execution of the project, the PSC held a total of four meetings.⁶

Within the framework of the above-mentioned project workshop organised by the European Commission⁷ the project partners signed the MoU on 27 June 2014.

⁶ First meeting of the project steering committee – 2 October 2013, second meeting of the project steering committee – 13 December 2013, third meeting of the project steering committee – 6 May 2014, fourth meeting of the project steering committee – 26 June 2014.

⁷ Project workshop: Building upon good practices in European judicial training
http://ec.europa.eu/justice/events/judicial-training-2014/index_en.htm

Chapter three: detailed project description

3.1. Invitation of the horizontal project partners

The EJTN identified the availability of the four horizontal project partners.

The four horizontal partners are:

1. The European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)
2. The Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts
3. The Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions (ACA-Europe)
4. The Network of Public Prosecutors, or equivalent institutions, at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union

The EJTN sent a call for commitment to these partners asking for their participation in the execution of the project.

The institutions were asked to:

- Declare the organization to be fully committed to the project purposes
- Appoint a representative on behalf of the organisation to the Project Steering Committee
- Agree to the work plan drafted by the EJTN

The EJTN received letters of commitment from three horizontal project partners: the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts and the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions.

The Network of Public Prosecutors or equivalent institutions, at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union, considered the project very interesting but informed the EJTN that its participation would require the affirmative vote of its members that assemble only once a year and therefore could not be secured before the end of this project. As a consequence, the network could not participate in the project but its representative expressed interest for the project, asked to be kept informed and indicated that the project would be discussed at the network's general assembly.

3.2. Kick off meeting with the European Commission

- The kick off meeting was held on 10 September 2013.

During the kick off meeting with the representatives of the Commission the EJTN indicated that the horizontal partners had been invited to participate in the project and to appoint their representatives to the project steering committee.

The EJTN handed over the project schedule and the progress table and provided an overview over the next project steps.

It was agreed that the Commission would take part in the PSC meetings, as explained above (see section 1.7).

3.3. Inception note

Within 20 calendar days after the kick off meeting, the EJTN submitted the inception note to the Commission. The inception note included the progress table, the project schedule and a description of the methodology to be pursued by the EJTN.

3.4. First meeting of the project steering committee

- The first meeting of the project steering committee was held on 2 October 2013.

During the first meeting of the PSC the three participating horizontal project partners presented their organisations and provided an overview of their core activities.

In its technical proposal the EJTN had already proposed to invite the following organisations to appoint a representative to the PSC:

- The European Judicial Network (in criminal matters) – (EJN)
- The European Judicial Network on Civil and Commercial matters – (EJN-Civil)
- The Consultative Council of European Judges – (CCEJ)
- The Consultative Council of European Prosecutors – (CCPE)

After careful consideration, and with the agreement of the representatives of the European Commission, the steering committee decided that it was not necessary to involve in the project the Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE) and the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE). This decision was based on the fact that the areas of possible future cooperation which constitute the main framework of the collaboration is less relevant to the before mentioned organisations.

The PSC decided that the European Judicial Network (in criminal matters) (EJN) and the European Judicial Network on Civil and Commercial matters (EJN-Civil) should be involved in the project.

The PSC members decided to invite a number of EU-level organizations gathering judges and/or prosecutors around specific topics, with the view of establishing their level of involvement in judicial training, if any, and subsequently considering them for involvement in the project. The organisations were to be asked to present themselves, their activities and competences, the number and identity of their members, their statutory goals and their involvement in judicial training, if any.

It was agreed by the PSC that the EJTN would contact the following twelve organisations:

1. The European Forum of Judges for the Environment – (EUFJE)
2. The International Association of Refugee Law Judges – (IARLJ)
3. The Association of European Administrative Judges – (AEAJ)
4. The European Association of Judges for Mediation – (GEMME)
5. The Association of European Competition Law Judges – (AECLJ)
6. The European Association of Labour Court Judges – (EALCJ)
7. The International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates – (IAYFJM)
8. The European Union of Judges in Commercial Matters – (EUJCM)
9. The International Association of Judges / European Association of Judges – (IAJ/EAJ)
10. The International Association of Tax Judges – (IATJ)
11. The European Commercial Judges Forum – (ECJF)
12. The European Judges and Prosecutors Association – (EJPA).

The steering committee members discussed the activities to be executed within the next month and agreed:

- To facilitate the preparation of the report on the state of play and to ensure the necessary uniformity of presentation, the EJTN would provide guidelines on the essential aspects to be covered in the report;
- That the organisations would also cooperate on a strategic level and issue guidelines in the form of a joint declaration, in order to improve their cooperation regarding the training of judges and prosecutors;
- That the EJTN would provide the first draft of such a joint declaration under the form of a memorandum of understanding.

3.5. Second meeting of the project steering committee

The second meeting of the PSC was held on 13 December 2013.

- Selection of the partners that should be called to participate in the project:

During its second meeting the project steering committee evaluated the replies received from ten of the contacted organisations.

The selection criteria included the following aspects: (a) type of membership, (b) size, (c) national/international scope of the organisation and (d) whether training is part of the statutes and of the activities of the organisation (which also determined the extent to which the organisation in question could subsequently cooperate with the EJTN).

On this basis the steering committee established an inventory of the invited organisations and advised that the following six organisations should be called upon to participate in the project.

1. The European Forum of Judges for the Environment – (EUFJE)
2. The International Association of Refugee Law Judges – (IARLJ)
3. The Association of European Administrative Judges – (AEAJ)
4. The European Association of Judges for Mediation – (GEMME)
5. The Association of European Competition Law Judges – (AECLJ)
6. The European Association of Labour Court Judges – (EALCJ)

The EJTN did not receive any response from the following organisations:

1. The European Commercial Judges Forum – (ECJF)
2. The European Judges and Prosecutors Association – (EJPA)

An advice of non-invitation concerned the following organisations:

- International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates – (IAYFJM)

Reason for non-invitation: The organisation has an international scope that surpasses the EU and has only recently developed a European section which is currently limited to twelve European countries. The committee members agreed to reconsider inviting the IAYFJM if its European section would develop further.

- European Union of Judges in Commercial Matters – (EUJCM)

Reason for non-invitation: The organisation was considered to be too limited in size and primarily an organisation of lay judges.

- International Association of Judges / European Association of Judges – (IAJ/EAJ)

Reason for non-invitation: The scope of the organisation surpasses the European Union. Activities go beyond the European Union. Membership is open not only to the members of the judiciary as is the case of the remaining project organisations.

- International Association of Tax Judges – (IATJ)

Reason for non-invitation: The organisation was considered to be too small. Also it appeared that most members come from mainly one EU Member State (The Netherlands).

The result was transmitted to the EJTN steering committee (ESC). On its basis at its meeting of 21-22 February 2014 the ESC made the final selection of the project partners. The committee approved the PSC's proposal.

The committee members discussed the first draft of the MoU and agreed to introduce several changes to the text. These changes were introduced, on the one hand, to eliminate the concerns involving several project partners regarding the exact responsibilities and expectations related to the collaboration, (e.g. whether financial obligations are imposed related to signing of the MoU) and on the other, the exact form of cooperation and contributions were specified.

3.6. Interim report

On 14 January 2014, within six months of the signature of the service contract, the EJTN submitted the interim report to the European Commission. The interim report included the updated progress table and project schedule, as well as additional information regarding the progress of the implementation of the contract and the minutes of the meetings.

3.7. Progress meeting with the European Commission

- The progress meeting with the European Commission was held on 28 March 2014.

The EJTN presented further project achievements since the submission of the interim report.

The European Commission provided information on the EU-level project workshop: 'Building upon good practices in European judicial training' planned for end June 2014.

The parties discussed the possible integration of LOT 4 and the signature of the MoU in the conference.

3.8. Third meeting of the project steering committee

- The third meeting of the PSC was held on 6 May 2014.

The EJTN provided an overview of the project and of the activities carried out to date.

The partners reviewed and discussed the draft project documents concerning the deliverables, i.e., the state of play, the MoU and the roadmap. The partners provided further comments to all three project documents.

The European Commission provided additional information on the EU-level project workshop 'Building upon good practices in European judicial training' planned for 26-27 June 2014, invited the EJTN to provide an overview and present the main achievements of the project during the conference and suggested to organise the signature of the MoU in the presence of the Director General for Justice (DG Justice).

3.9. Fourth meeting of the project steering committee

- The fourth meeting of the PSC was held on 26 June 2014.

During the last meeting of the project steering committee, the project partners approved the final text of the project documents, i.e., the report on the state of play, the MoU and the roadmap.

The EJC-Civil announced that its network would not sign the MoU, nevertheless wishes to keep the close cooperation with the EJTN and thus remain part of the project including the roadmap. The EJC (in criminal matters) announced that – since the time of the signature of the MoU overlapped with its General Assembly – it could sign the MoU only shortly later.

The project partners discussed the first action items of the roadmap.

The European Commission provided information regarding the dissemination of the results, notably on the European e-Justice Portal.

The EJTN informed the partners about the draft final report.

3.10. European Commission Project workshop: Building upon good practices in European judicial training

- The project workshop was held on 26-27 June 2014.

The project workshop was organised by the DG Justice of the European Commission, outside the scope of the present project. During the workshop, the EJTN Secretary General, Judge Wojciech Postulski, presented an overview of the structure and key achievements of the LOT 4 of the EU pilot project. The project partners signed the MoU in the presence of the DG Justice's Director General.

Chapter four: deliverable one – report on the state of play

Deliverable one

State of play of the respective roles of the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, such as the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU regarding training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, as well as of the current cooperation between them.

To facilitate the preparation of deliverable one of the project, the EJTN provided guidelines to all project partners setting out the essential aspects to be covered by the report.

These guidelines included the following elements:

- General information (name of the partner, date of constitution, legal statute, legal seat);
- Goals of the partner;
- Membership structure of the partner (overall number of current members with a breakdown by nationalities);
- Governance and bodies of the partner;
- Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed by the partner (if applicable);
- Highlight of the partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training;
- Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project.

The project partners submitted their responses and the EJTN prepared a draft report. The EJTN disseminated the draft report to the partners for their review and comments.

The European Commission suggested that the EJTN edits the report to separate fact sheets, creating an individual fact sheet for each project partner, to ensure its easy dissemination, namely through the European e-Justice Portal and the EJTN website.

The description of the EJTN and the twelve project partners has been summarized into thirteen factsheets.

The factsheets are included in annex four of the present report.

Chapter five: deliverable two – organisation of meetings

Deliverable two

Organisation of meeting(s) of representatives of the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, such as the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU, to discuss their cooperation regarding the improvement of training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, in line with the European Commission Communication of 13 September 2011 “Building trust in EU-wide justice, a new dimension to European judicial training”, the Council Conclusions of 27 October 2011 on European judicial training and the European Parliament’s proposal of pilot project.

5.1. Meetings of the project partners during the project execution

In the context of deliverable two, a series of meetings of the representatives of the partners were organised within the framework of the project in the form of PSC meetings.

Throughout the project, the PSC met on four occasions. During these meetings, the project partners discussed the execution of the project, focusing on their cooperation regarding the improvement of judicial training on national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures.

Between July 2013 and July 2014 the following PSC meetings were held at the EJTN premises in Brussels:

- First meeting of the project steering committee – 2 October 2013;
- Second meeting of the project steering committee – 13 December 2013;
- Third meeting of the project steering committee – 6 May 2014;
- Fourth meeting of the project steering committee – 26 June 2014.

5.2. Future meetings of the project partners

As settled in the MoU (Art 3 (b)) and the roadmap for cooperation (chapter IV, point 3 and 4):

- a) The EJTN will promote a yearly meeting of the contact points and of the heads of the project partners

During the meeting of the contact points, matters of common interest, regarding the identification of actual training needs will be discussed and co-related suggestions of training activities to be organised will be made.

- b) The EJTN will invite all the heads of the project partners to its General Assembly (GA)

During the meeting of the heads of the project partners the execution of the MoU and of the roadmap will be evaluated, as well as other forms of possible cooperation might be identified.

Chapter six: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

6.1. Introduction

It has been foreseen in the technical proposal of the EJTN that the project partners will also cooperate on a strategic level and issue guidelines/recommendations which will take the form of a joint declaration/a memorandum of understanding in order to improve their cooperation regarding the training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union Law and judicial cooperation procedures.

6.2. Main aspects of the MoU

The partners agreed that the MoU for future cooperation should be restricted to the following main aspects:

- (i) A declaration on the importance of training (promotion of equal conditions for access to training, establishment of standards for the selection of participants, ensuring of better uptake by practitioners),
- (ii) A common agreement on sharing information regarding training needs’ assessment. The Networks will cooperate in the identification of training needs within the extent allowed by their own statutes.
- (iii) A common agreement on the dissemination of information on training activities and training resources available, and
- (iv) The exchange of experts’ data.

The EJTN prepared the first draft of the MoU and distributed it to the project partners for their review and internal discussion. The aim was to reach a common, final text that could be agreed upon at a later stage.

The project partners provided their comments to the document, which were duly integrated in the final text. The document was approved at the last meeting of the steering committee.

6.3. The position of the EJN-Civil

The EJN-Civil informed the EJTN and the other project partners that the signature of the MoU was not possible for the network, mainly due to institutional reasons, i.e., the lack of legal personality of the network.

This notwithstanding, the EJN-Civil emphasised its wish to continue and even strengthen its existing cooperation with the EJTN.

The EJN-Civil suggested that the following specific recital, reflecting Article 12(a) of Council Decision 2001/470/EC⁸ (amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC of the European Parliament⁹ and of the Council) to be added to the text of the MoU:

“Good cooperation also exists with the European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters relating to the promotion of training on judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters.”

6.4. Signature of the MoU

On 27 June 2014, the MoU was signed by the project partners within the framework of the workshop ‘Building upon good practices in European judicial training’ organised by the European Commission's DG Justice.

The EJN (in criminal matters) signed the MoU on 22 July 2014.

The MoU is included in annex five of the present report.

⁸ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?ELX_SESSIONID=8T6fT1TdQCRpC7GrQnJw7wnJVK1wQLH1d66Dlbt9wyGXyhySBXJ!-735511499?uri=CELEX:32001D0470

⁹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:168:0035:0040:EN:PDF>

Chapter seven: Deliverable three – roadmap for the cooperation

Deliverable three

Roadmap for the cooperation between the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, such as the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU, in order to improve training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, in line with the respective mandates of the above-mentioned networks and in line with the European Commission Communication of 13 September 2011 “Building trust in EU-wide justice, a new dimension to European judicial training”, with the Council Conclusions of 27 October 2011 on European judicial training and the European Parliament’s proposal of pilot project.

7.1. Introduction

The roadmap for cooperation includes the execution of the main articles of the MoU as well as a description of the future cooperation between the EJTN and the project partners.

The EJTN steering committee members (the convener of the working groups together with the EJTN Secretary General) prepared the first draft of the roadmap. The EJTN distributed the draft to all project partners for their review and comments.

7.2. Structure of the roadmap

The roadmap is divided in four chapters.

- Chapter one covers the cooperation between all the project partners in the following areas:
 1. The sharing of information in relation to training needs' assessment;
 2. The dissemination of information on training activities and resources;
 3. The exchange of experts' data and the identification of experts;
 4. The development of consortia in specific areas.

- Chapters two and three establish a special cooperation between some of the project partners and the EJTN with the view to benefiting to the maximum extend from their position linked to the hierarchy of the judiciaries.

In particular:

- Chapter two outlines the specific cooperation between the EJTN and of the three horizontal project partners.
- Chapter three covers the specific cooperation between the EJTN, the EJM and the EJM-Civil.
- Chapter four regulates the necessary procedures for a fruitful cooperation.

7.3. Procedures

7.3.1. Establishment of the network of national contact points

The project partners agreed that within three month following the signature of the MoU each partner would appoint a representative responsible for the exchange of information on all fields covered by the agreed cooperation¹⁰. These representatives are referred to as national contact points (NCP).

7.3.2. Annual meeting with the contact points and representatives

- a.) The EJTN will promote an annual meeting of the national contact points and of the heads of the project partners¹¹.

During such meeting, matters of common interest, regarding the identification of actual training needs, would be discussed and co-related suggestions of training activities to be organised would be made.

- b.) The EJTN will invite all the heads of the project partners to its General Assembly (GA)¹².

During the meeting of the heads of the project partners the execution of the MoU and of the roadmap would be evaluated and other forms of possible cooperation may be identified.

The roadmap is included in annex seven of the present report.

⁹ Chapter IV, point 1. – Roadmap

¹¹ Chapter IV, point 3. – Roadmap

¹² Chapter IV, point 4. – Roadmap

Part two – The study

Chapter eight: conclusions and recommendations on follow-up

8.1. Conclusions and main findings

The main conclusions and findings of the present project are as follows:

1. International judges and public prosecutors’ associations and networks can play a valuable role in encouraging and facilitating training, working in conjunction with the body which has direct responsibility for its planning and execution.
2. The project partners acknowledge the added value of the project’s memorandum of understanding; namely, that the respect for each party’s competence, mission and capabilities may contribute to a higher quality and efficiency of the training addressed to the European judiciary.
3. The partners express their availability and commitment to contribute to the enhancement of the quality of training provided by the EJTN and its members at the European level.
4. The EJTN and its partners agree to cooperate on a strategic level in order to improve the training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions, as well as in European Union Law and judicial cooperation procedures, according to each partner’s competences and capacities. This cooperation will be focused on the sharing of information regarding training needs’ assessment.
5. The EJTN and its partners will cooperate on the dissemination of information on training activities and materials, the identification of experts and the exchange of experts’ data.
6. The European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union, in the quality of organisations linked to the highest hierarchy of the judiciaries in each European Union member State, could play a key role as contributors to an increasingly efficient judicial training at the European level.
7. There is an added value for organising training activities at the European level in cooperation with the Secretariats of the European Judicial Network and the European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters, as institutionalised European actors with the aim to facilitate international cooperation, and with the boards of the partners as judicial organisations gathering special expertise in their respective field of competence and knowledge.

8.2. Recommendations on the follow-up

Based on the aforementioned project conclusions, there are several key recommendations regarding its follow-up, which were included in the MoU and the roadmap for future cooperation; namely:

1. The cooperation between the project partners regarding the sharing of information in relation to training needs' assessment shall be as follows:
 - The project partners shall gather relevant information from their members regarding the need for judicial training.
 - At the first quarter of each year the EJTN shall invite all project partners to present their findings regarding training needs in their respective fields of specialization, both at the European and the national levels, with a description of the corresponding reasons (i.e. factual/legal reasons for the emerging needs).
 - At the first quarter of each year the EJTN shall invite all project partners to submit proposals on judicial training (i.e. suitable target group for training, length of training, need for training). The EJTN shall present the information received to its working and sub-working groups.
2. Each year (October/November) the EJTN shall provide all project partners with general information on its annual training plan of activities.
3. The EJTN shall assist in the dissemination of training information by publishing information on the training courses organized by the project partners on its website.
4. The cooperation between the project partners shall include the exchange of experts' data and the identification of experts. The project partners shall outline a common definition of the 'expert' (minimum qualifications, eligibility). The project partners shall feed the EJTN's a database of experts which will be a living instrument, subject to continuous update based on the yearly exchange of information between the project partners.
5. The cooperation between the project partners shall include the creation of consortia in specific areas. Should the EJTN identify, on the basis of the information provided by the project partners regarding judicial training needs, the need for organising an event within the field of competence of one of the project partners, the EJTN shall invite the relevant project partner to join a consortium for its execution.
6. In the framework of cooperation between the EJTN and the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts and the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions, the partners shall – within the scope of their competences – exchange the strategic papers published by each partner. The partners will further determine training needs in specific areas (i.e., judicial ethics).

7. The partners mentioned in point six above shall support networks of experts in the field of EU law at the national level pursuant to the European Parliament resolution on judicial training – court coordinators.¹³
8. Further the mentioned partners shall undertake all means available to raise the awareness of the added value of the participation in training – pursuant to the recommendations of the Study prepared by the ERA and the EJTN on judicial Training in the European Union Member States (2011) for the European Parliament.¹⁴
9. The EJTN shall inform the EJM and the EJM-Civil regularly on the training events in order to provide their contact points with the opportunity to attend the trainings.
10. The EJTN shall promote an annual meeting of the contact points and other representatives of the project partners in order to discuss matters of common interest including development of a common methodology for evaluation of quality of training services, evaluate the outcome of the previous year's cooperation, identify possible shortages/ areas subject to improvement, introduce new tools of cooperation in new areas, evaluate the state of execution of the present roadmap.
11. The EJTN shall invite the heads of the project partners to its General Assembly.
12. Each of the partners shall adopt the necessary internal mechanisms indispensable to allow a good execution of the concluded MoU, including the appointment of a contact point for all the purposes therein.
13. LOT 1 of the pilot project investigated examples of best, good and promising practices in the training of judges and prosecutors within the member states. It ran parallel to LOT 4 and its report was published by the European Commission in June 2014. LOT 1 provides 65 examples of best, good and promising training practices, the great majority of which are easily transferable across jurisdictions and national frontiers. It also provides a series of recommendations regarding the future direction of judicial training in Europe. It seems pre-eminently sensible that the project partners being responsible for the promulgation of the training recommendations outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding should use the practices and recommendations contained in the final report and fact sheets of LOT 1 as the guiding principles and starting point for the achievement of the goals set out in the Memorandum.
14. All documents associated with this project, especially the State of Play of the roles of partners will be published on the EJTN website and on the European e-Justice Portal of the European Commission.

¹³ See link: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONGSML+MOTION+B7-2013-0053+0+DOC+PDF+V0//EN>

¹⁴ See link: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2011/453198/IPOL-JURI_ET\(2011\)453198_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2011/453198/IPOL-JURI_ET(2011)453198_EN.pdf)

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Annex one: list of background reports

- European Commission (2011), Report on European Judicial Training, available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/justice/criminal/files/report_on_european_judicial_training_2011_en.pdf
- European Commission (2012) Report on European Judicial Training, available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/justice/criminal/files/european_judicial_training_annual_report_2012.pdf
- Judicial Training in the European Union Member States: Study for the European Parliament, 2011. Available at:
[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2011/453198/IPO L-JURI_ET\(2011\)453198\(SUM01\)_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2011/453198/IPO L-JURI_ET(2011)453198(SUM01)_EN.pdf)
- European Commission Communication of 13 September 2011 “Building trust in EU-wide justice, a new dimension to European judicial training”. Available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/justice/criminal/files/2011-551-judicial-training_en.pdf
- Council Conclusions of 27 October 2011 on European judicial training. Available at:
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/jha/125701.pdf
- Council Decision of 28 May 2001 (2001/470/EC) establishing a European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters. Available at:
http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/;ELX_SESSIONID=8T6fT1TdQCRpC7GrQnJw7wnJVK1wQLH1d66DlBkT9wyGXyhySBXJ!-735511499?uri=CELEX:32001D0470
- Council Conclusions of 27 October 2011 on European judicial training. Available at:
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/jha/125701.pdf
- Decision No 568/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 amending Council Decision 2001/470/EC establishing a European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters. Available at:
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:168:0035:0040:EN:PDF>
- European Parliament resolution on judicial training – court coordinators. Available at:
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+MOTION+B7-2013-0053+0+DOC+PDF+V0//EN>

- Compilation of briefing notes for the Workshop on Judicial Training at the European Parliament on 28 November 2013. Available at:
www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201311/20131126ATT74944/20131126ATT74944EN.pdf

Annex two: progress table

DATE 2013		ACTIVITY	PROGRESS STATE
JULY	July-15	Signature of the contract	COMPLETED
		Constitution of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) is concluded	COMPLETED
		Constitution of the Contact Point Network is concluded	COMPLETED
SEPTEMBER	20 Sept	Kick off meeting with the Commission/desk officer	COMPLETED
	30 Sept	Inception note is submitted to the Commission	COMPLETED
	2 Oct	First meeting of the Project Steering Committee at EJTN	COMPLETED
		PSC starts to prepare the report on the ‘State of play’ (Deliverable 1)	COMPLETED
		Invitation is sent to EJN and EJNCC to produce similar reports	COMPLETED
NOVEMBER		Draft of the report on Deliverable 1 continues	COMPLETED
DECEMBER		Skeleton of the MoU is drafted	COMPLETED
	13 Dec	Second meeting of the Project Steering Committee	COMPLETED
		Inventory and selection of partners is concluded	COMPLETED
		Contact points conclude answering the questionnaire	COMPLETED
		Individual partner’s reports towards Deliverable 1 are concluded	COMPLETED
		First draft of MoU is concluded	COMPLETED
DATE 2014		ACTIVITY	PROGRESS STATE
JANUARY	14 Jan	Interim Report is submitted to the Commission	COMPLETED
		The EJTN and involved partners promote internal discussions on the contents of the MoU	COMPLETED
		Report that consists on Deliverable 1 is concluded	COMPLETED
MARCH	28 Mar	Progress meeting with the Commission	COMPLETED
APRIL	3 April	Internal PSC meeting: First insight of the ‘ Roadmap for cooperation ’ is discussed (Deliverable 3)	COMPLETED

MAY	6 May	Third meeting of the Project Steering Committee	COMPLETED
		MoU is approved	COMPLETED
JUNE	26 June	Fourth meeting of the Project Steering Committee	COMPLETED
	26-27 June	Project Workshop: Building upon good practices	COMPLETED
	June 27	Signature of the MoU by the EJTN and the project partners	COMPLETED
JULY	July-14	The EJTN delivers the draft final report to the Commission	COMPLETED
	July-23	The EJTN receives comments on the draft final report from the Commission	COMPLETED
August	Aug-12	The EJTN delivers the final report to the Commission	COMPLETED

Annex three: list of project partners

Fact sheet number	Name of partner	Abbreviation
1.	European Judicial Training Network	EJTN
2.	Network of Councils for the Judiciary	ENCJ
3.	Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union	N/A
4.	Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union	ACA-Europe
5.	European Judicial Network	EJN
6.	European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters	EJN-Civil
7.	Association of European Administrative Judges	AEAJ
8.	Association of European Competition Law Judges	AECLJ
9.	European Association of Judges for Mediation	GEMME
11.	International Association of Refugee Law Judges	IARLJ
12.	European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment	EUFJE
13.	European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment	ENPE

Annex four – Deliverable one: Report on the State of play

Fact Sheet No. 1 – European Judicial Training Network

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)
Date of constitution	2000
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit International Association (since 2008) a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law
Legal Seat	Rue du Commerce 123, B – 1000 Brussels, Belgium
Website	http://www.ejtn.eu/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The EJTN’s mandate is to help build a genuine European area of justice and to promote knowledge of legal systems, thereby enhancing the understanding, confidence and cooperation between judges and prosecutors within EU states.</p> <p>Charged with this mandate, the EJTN promotes training programmes with a genuine European dimension for members of the judiciary in Europe.</p> <p>Within the framework of the creation of the European Area of Freedom Security and Justice, the objectives of the EJTN are co-operation on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the analysis and identification of the training needs of the judiciaries of member states; • the exchange and dissemination of experience in the field of judicial training; • the design of programmes and methods for collaborative training, in particular using new technology; • the co-ordination of members’ programmes and activities in matters relating to European law and those which concern initiatives of the European Union; • in collaboration with the Lisbon Network of the Council of Europe (where appropriate) to provide expertise and know-how to European, and other national and international institutions in order to promote the ideals inherent in an area of Freedom, Security and Justice; • the promotion and advancement of the legal systems of candidate countries seeking accession to the European Union. <p><u>The EJTN’s vision:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EJTN is an institution pursuing an aim of general European interest in the field of training of the judiciary. • The EJTN is a recognised and respected player operating at European level. • The EJTN is fully autonomous in defining its own priorities and European judiciary training needs, while simultaneously retaining judicial independence, taking into account priorities set by the European institutions. • The EJTN respects the different capacities, missions and structures as well as the different needs of individual Member institutions that have an impact on their 	

possible involvement in EJTN’s activities.

- The EJTN’s role in European judicial training in the foreseeable future will remain EJTN’s *raison d’être*, i.e. the initial and continuous training of EU judges and prosecutors and to combine forces to achieve better and stronger results in judicial training in the European area of justice.
- The EJTN shall continue its drive to offer quality, innovative training activities that give added value to the training offered at the national level, whilst appreciating that the first and main responsibility for the provision of such training activities lies with national training institutes.
- The EJTN’s Members have a legitimate interest in using the Network as their forum for networking. Therefore, it is considered fundamental that EJTN continues to provide the platform and tools adequate to allow an exchange of concepts and best practices, which should have a wider scope than only European law.

The EJTN’s Strategic goals for the period 2014-2020:

- To continue to foster mutual trust between judges and prosecutors from different European legal systems.
- To increase the level of knowledge of EU law among the European judiciary.
- To assure high standards of quality of European judicial training and promote high standards of quality for national judicial training.
- To foster the early development of a judge’s and prosecutor’s European profile.
- To strive towards an increased networking function of EJTN.
- To strive towards a more effective external cooperation.
- In the interest of maintaining judicial independence, to reinforce as far as possible the primacy of the role of EJTN in all areas of judicial training at EU level.

C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)

The EJTN membership is available to all national institutions of the Member States of the European Union specifically responsible for the training of the professional judiciary and for the training of Prosecutors where they form part of the “Corps Judiciaire”. Those institutions in Member States of the European Union which are involved in judicial training at the level of the European Union – particularly in Community Law – may also be members.

The EJTN has 34 members representing all EU member states as well as EU transnational bodies. Members are key stakeholders in EJTN’s endeavours and enjoy full voting rights.

Members:

- Austria – Ministry of Justice
- Belgium – Judicial Training Institute (IGO - IFJ)
- Bulgaria – National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
- Croatia – Judicial Academy
- Cyprus – Supreme Court of Cyprus
- Czech Republic – Judicial Academy
- Denmark – Danish Courts of Administration
- Estonia – The Supreme Court of Estonia
- Finland – Ministry of Justice

- France – National School for the Judiciary (ENM)
- Germany – Federal Ministry of Justice
- Greece – National School of Judges
- Hungary – Judicial Academy,
- Hungary – Office of the Prosecutor General
- Ireland – Judicial Studies Institute
- Italy – Italian School for the Judiciary (SSM)
- Italy – High Council for the Judiciary (CSM)
- Latvia – Judicial Training Centre
- Lithuania – National Courts of Administration
- Luxembourg – Ministry of Justice
- Malta – Judicial Studies Committee
- Poland – National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution (KSSIP)
- Portugal – Center for Judiciary Studies (CEJ)
- Romania – National Institute of Magistracy (NIM)
- Slovakia – Judicial Academy
- Slovenia – Ministry of Justice
- Spain – Center of Legal Studies (CEJ – Spain)
- Spain – Spanish Judicial School (CGPJ)
- Sweden – Swedish Courts of Administration
- The Netherlands – Training and Study Center for the Judiciary (SSR)
- United Kingdom – Judicial College of England and Wales
- United Kingdom – Judicial Studies Board for Northern Ireland
- United Kingdom – Judicial Institute for Scotland
- ERA – Academy of European Law

Observers:

The EJTN also has Observers which in most cases represent EU accession states, other EU states and EU institutions. Observers may partake in the EJTN’s projects and help to shape its endeavours.

- Bosnia and Herzegovina – Public Institution Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of Republika Srpska
- Estonia – Office of the Prosecutor General
- Lithuania – Prosecutor General's Office
- Macedonia – Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors
- Montenegro – Judicial Training Centre
- Norway – Norwegian Courts Administration
- Switzerland – Foundation for the continuous training of Swiss Judges
- Turkey – Academy of Justice
- Council of Europe
- European Institutions: European Commission Directorate General Justice

Candidates for the status of Observer:

- Serbia
- Moldova

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Network consists of a General Assembly, a Steering Committee and a Secretary General.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The EJTN operates on the basis of an annual programme of activities which is carried out by one or more of its members.

In particular, this programme contains activities which promote among its members and others invited to participate:

- the comparison and exchange of judicial practice;
- understanding of the judicial systems of Member States of the European Union;
- understanding of the means of judicial cooperation within the European Union;
- language skills;
- support to candidate countries with the design and execution of their training programmes, and to promote familiarisation with means of judicial cooperation;
- the development of common instruments of training, particularly in judicial cooperation;
- the development of judicial skills and of those who are appointed to act as trainers within Member States.

Programmes and activities:

- Exchange programme for judicial authorities:

The main objective of the Exchange Programme is to develop mutual trust between judicial authorities and the feeling of belonging to a common European judicial area in order to promote the mutual recognition of judicial decisions by getting to know each other better and working together.

The Exchange Programme is destined for, inter alia, legal practitioners, judges and prosecutors at all levels and all courts (civil, criminal, and administrative), future judges and prosecutors as well as judicial trainers. In order to meet the various training needs of the judiciary (according to their seniority, their specialization, etc.) and encourage regular participation in the programme's activities, several types of activities are offered.

The majority of these activities consist of **short-term exchanges** (2 weeks) in court. These are organized either as an individual or as a group exchange.

Long-term training periods (from 3 months up to 1 year) are offered at Eurojust, the ECtHR and the CJEU.

Finally, **study visits** of one week within EU bodies complete the training offer. A programme of study visits specifically designed for initial training was also developed in order to enable future European judges and prosecutors to participate in judicial exchanges.

The conditions for participating in one of these activities are a strong motivation on a professional level and good knowledge of the language in which the activity takes

place.

- Aiakos:

The main aim of the project is designed to bring together future or newly appointed judges and prosecutors from different EU member states to raise their awareness of the European dimension of their (future) work and to foster mutual understanding of different European judicial cultures and systems.

This programme offers two week exchanges (one week abroad and one week at home with foreign trainees) for mixed groups of national and foreign judicial trainees or newly appointed judges and prosecutors to other European initial training schools, courts and prosecutions.

- Catalogue:

The EJTN Catalogue is a fundamental tool to promote judicial training within the European Union Member States.

The general Catalogue programme covers the training activities organised by EJTN's members, which are open to all the judges and prosecutors of EJTN's member and observer institutions. All institutions have access to seminars organised by all of the other institutions. Through the general Catalogue programme, judges and prosecutors benefit from quality training and expand their network of contacts.

- Catalogue +:

EJTN's Catalogue+ programme is unique in the sense that rather than creating brand new training activities, the programme aims to enhance and upgrade existing training courses of its Membership. The EJTN provides financial assistance to its participating member organisations to enhance content and translate existing training courses. Members are free to choose any existing EU law-related courses for enhancement.

- Civil Justice:

The CiLaw project was launched in 2011 and aims to strengthen judicial training in civil justice cooperation among EU justice professionals. In light of the continuity, the CiLaw project pursues the organisation of highly focused seminars and training events aiming to deliver judicial training on diversified EU instruments playing a pivotal role in the framework of civil justice cooperation at EU level and which are utilised within the daily work of EU magistrates.

- Criminal Justice I:

“International Judicial Cooperation in criminal Matters in Practice: EAW and MLA simulations”

Ensuring mutual trust and finding new ways to increase mutual understanding and interaction between the different systems in the Member States is a key achievement of the Criminal Justice I project.

Through a series of seminars per year gathering together judges and prosecutors from 3 different Member States in each seminar, the EJTN has implemented new standards to train the EU judiciary in judicial cooperation. The training model, based upon a simulation, recreates a real scenario of European cross-border cooperation. The activity allows participants to learn, through study cases inspired from real life, about practical questions that arise under both their own legal system and the systems of their colleagues in other Member States while using the available Mutual Legal assistance and EU tools in judicial cooperation.

- Criminal Justice II:

“Obtaining and transferring evidence in criminal matters between Member States in view of securing its admissibility”

To promote effective cooperation on obtaining evidence in criminal matters in view of its admissibility in another Member State, the EJTN organises a series of seminars aiming at cross-border gathering and admissibility of evidence.

The approach of the seminars is based upon interactive workshops and plenary briefings where judges and prosecutors analyse together practical cases which highlight the differences and common fundamental principles of the legal orders of the EU Criminal justice systems. The proposed methodology leads to the judges and prosecutors to learn how to better face those situations where the use of evidence related to criminal matters obtained in another Member State should be secured in view of its admissibility in courts.

- e-learning:

The EJTN has invested in the creation of its own eLearning programme, which is open to all of Europe’s judiciary and is free of charge. Currently, four self-standing eLearning courses, dealing with various topics of law, are available and housed on EJTN’s eLearning platform: *Understanding References for a Preliminary Ruling of the Court of Justice of the EU*; *Parental Responsibility and the Brussels II bis Regulation*; *The European Order for Payment Procedure*; and, *Creating a European Order for Uncontested Claims*. In addition, EJTN also champions the production of eLearning-related supporting materials and resources.

- Independent seminars:

The Independent Seminars Project brings together key European partners such as the European Police College (CEPOL) and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) and the EJTN member institutions in the implementation of targeted training in three main areas:

- (a) the Administrative Law Sub-Working Group Seminars (devoted to a wide range of topics, from EU Asylum Law, to EU Tax and Environmental Law),
- (b) the EJTN-CEPOL seminars on Joint Investigation Teams, and
- (c) the EJTN-ECtHR yearly seminar on Human Rights for EU Judicial Trainers.

- Linguistics:

The EJTN is focussing special attention to designing linguistic projects for the training of the EU judiciary in legal English and legal French.

The EJTN Linguistics programme, which contains seminars on Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in criminal/ civil matters, is designed for EU judges and prosecutors working within judicial cooperation in criminal/ civil matters.

The linguistics seminars combine legal information and language exercises in a practical and dynamic way.

The objectives of the linguistics programme are:

- Provide participants with training on specific terminology in English or French of the different instruments in the field of judicial cooperation in criminal/ civil matters at EU level;
- Provide participants with an in-depth knowledge of legal terminology in English or French as well as to improve a practical use (oral and written);

- Provide participants with a comprehensive overview of the legal and judicial systems of the European Union in order to assess their respective needs in the field of judicial cooperation;
- Familiarise participants with the various legal instruments in the field of judicial cooperation in criminal/ civil matters and the use of online tools available on different websites relating to judicial cooperation in criminal/ civil matters (e.g. EJM website);
- Create the conditions for direct contacts between judges, public prosecutors and legal practitioners of the different Member States in order to promote a common ‘European legal culture’;
- Enhance mutual trust between European judicial authorities.

The programme is continuously evaluated and improved and its activities diversified and increased.

In order to extend the benefit of this training beyond the number of participants who attended the courses, two training Handbooks were produced by the seminars’ linguistics and legal experts on both “Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in criminal matters” and on “Language training on the vocabulary of judicial cooperation in civil matters”.

The Handbooks include the English and French course contents along with other related training materials and they were produced both on paper and electronic format, the latter being available on the EJM’s web site.

EU judges and prosecutors will benefit from EJM’s high quality training programmes, which are supported by the European Commission and the various European national training institutions.

- Themis:

The competition is addressed to trainees from all institutions and schools responsible for the training of the European magistracy. Participants from institutions and schools are being invited to join with participants from other European countries to debate, exchange knowledge and points of view on different aspects of European Law.

The main aim of the THEMIS project is to bring together future magistrates from different European countries at a time when they are undergoing entry-level training to enable them to share common values and to exchange new experiences and discuss new perspectives in areas of common interest. As such, THEMIS constitutes one of EJM’s main activities specifically addressed to initial judicial training.

The project also aims to develop abilities related to the future profession of the participants, such as communication skills, debating abilities, critical and analytical thinking, logical reasoning and correct legal writing.

With this in mind, the event provides a unique opportunity for trainees to discuss their own ideas on the chosen subjects with well-known experts in an international forum.

- Training methodologies:

The analysis and identification of the training needs of the judiciaries of the Member States of the European Union, the exchange and dissemination of experiences, practices and methodologies in the field of judicial training and the design of programmes and methods for collaborative training continue to be some of the EJM’s main aims. Believing that appropriate judicial training constitutes a key element in developing mutual trust between legal practitioners sharing a common area of

freedom, security and justice, EJTN's activities for trainers' play a pivotal role.

Along the years, from 2009 onwards, the range of the implemented actions (seminars, workshops) has increased in number of participants, kind of initiatives and has widened in the sectors covered by targeted actions. In addition to the implementation of the mentioned training events, the EJTN also disposes of the TT Forum, a virtual platform available on Moodle aiming to favour the exchange of information, tools and practices among EU trainers.

EJTN is aiming to become efficient platform allowing collection, exchange and dissemination of concepts and best practices as judicial training methods are concerned, including judicial training in judgecraft and ethics.

F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

Under Article 3 of its Articles of Association, the Association which is devoid of any profit motive, has as its aim the promotion of training programmes with a genuine European dimension for members of the European judiciaries.

Within the framework of the creation of the European Area of Freedom, Security and Justice, the objectives of the EJTN are co-operation on:

- the analysis and identification of the training needs of the judiciaries of member states;
- the exchange and dissemination of experience in the field of judicial training;
- the design of programmes and methods for collaborative training, in particular using new technology;
- the co-ordination of members' programmes and activities in matters relating to European law and those which concern initiatives of the European Union;
- in collaboration with the Lisbon Network of the Council of Europe (where appropriate) to provide expertise and know-how to European, and other national and international institutions in order to promote the ideals inherent in an area of Freedom, Security and Justice;
- the promotion and advancement of the legal systems of candidate countries seeking accession to the European Union;
- the promotion of the activities referred to in Article 5(2) among its members and others who are, or who may be, invited to participate.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

The EJTN has developed link with the four major partners of the current project and with the EJNI. The EJTN and the four major partners are invited to each other's General Assemblies.

Fact Sheet No. 2 – European Network of Councils for the Judiciary

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)
Date of constitution	2004
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit International Association (since 2008) a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law
Legal Seat	Rue de la Croix de Fer 67, B – 1050 Brussels, Belgium
Website	http://www.encj.eu/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Association has as its aim the improvement of cooperation between, and good mutual understanding amongst, the Councils for the Judiciary and the members of the judiciary of both the European Union Member States and of any European Union candidate member states.</p> <p>The Association shall exclusively and directly pursue international objectives of a non-profit making nature.</p> <p>Within the framework of the creation of the European Area of freedom, security and justice, the objectives of the Association are co-operation between members on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analysis of and information on the structures and competencies of members, and exchanges between the members; • exchange of experience in relation to how the judiciary is organised and how it functions; • provision of expertise, experience and proposals to European Union institutions and other national and international organisations. <p>ENCJ's Vision is that the ENCJ will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A unique body representing the judicial perspective to European Institutions • The centre of a vibrant forum for the judiciary across Europe • The main support for independent Councils for the Judiciary <p>All to enable the judiciary to optimize the timely and effective delivery of justice for the benefit of all.</p> <p>Mission Statement: The ENCJ is the body which unites all Councils for the Judiciary of the EU member states and represents them in the EU. It reinforces an independent yet accountable judiciary and promotes best practices to enable the judiciary to deliver timely and effective justice for the benefit of all.</p>	

C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)

The ENCJ membership is open to all national institutions of Member States of the European Union which are independent of the executive and legislature, or which are autonomous, and which ensure the final responsibility for the support of the judiciary in the independent delivery of justice.

Members:

- Belgium – Hoge Raad voor de Justitie/ Conseil Supérieur de la Justice
- Bulgaria – Supreme Judicial Council JC
- Denmark – Domstolsstyrelsen
- England and Wales – Judges Council
- France – Conseil Supérieure de la Magistrature
- Ireland – Courts Service
- Italy – Consiglio Superiore della Magistratura
- Italy – Consiglio di Presidenza della Giustizia Amministrativa
- Latvia – Tieslietu Padome
- Lithuania – Teiseju Taryba
- Malta – Commission for the Administration of Justice
- Netherlands – Raad voor de rechtspraak
- Northern Ireland – Judges Council
- Poland – Krajowa Rada Sadownictwa
- Portugal – Conselho Superior da Magistratura
- Romania – Consiliul Superior al Magustraturii
- Scotland – Judicial Council
- Slovakia – Sunda Rada
- Slovenia – Sodni Svet
- Spain – Consejo General del Poder Judicial

Observers: (15 Observers)

The status of observer may, at its request, be granted by a unanimous decision of the General Assembly to: the Ministry of Justice in European Union Member States where institutions as specified in Article 6.1 do not exist; the Institutions as specified in Article 6.1 from European Union candidate states [and the Member States of the European Economic Area] (GA 29 May 2009); the institutions of the European Union; advisory bodies of European organizations in particular the Council of Europe, dealing with matters related to justice.

i. Ministries of Justice of:

- Austria
- Cyprus

- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- Finland
- Germany
- Luxembourg

ii. The Councils for the Judiciary or similar or similar autonomous bodies of:

- Croatia
- Hungary
- Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Norway
- Sweden
- Turkey

iii. The Court of Justice of the European Union

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association consists of a General Assembly and an Executive Board.

General Assembly

The General Assembly is endowed with all the powers necessary to achieve the aims and objectives of the Association.

The General Assembly shall comprise representatives of each member of the Association. It shall meet regularly, at least once in each calendar year.

Executive Board

The Executive Board will consist of the President and of 7 Member Institutions elected by the General Assembly for two years. It functions as a collegial board. The Executive Board has all powers that are expressly vested in it by these Statutes. Without prejudice to its other powers in these Statutes, the Executive Board shall:

- a. take all necessary measures for the implementation of the Association's programme of activities,
- b. be responsible for ensuring the proper functioning of the Permanent Office,
- c. be responsible for calling and preparing ordinary or special meetings of the General Assembly,
- d. propose statements and policy positions to the General Assembly,
- e. undertake all legal formalities and publicity in respect of appointments and the annual financial statements, and

f. submit an annual report of its activities to the General Assembly.

Permanent Office

The Association has a Permanent Office independent of any member of the Association. The Office functions as an administrative unit under the authority of the President and the Executive Board.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The ENCJ brings together the national institutions in the Member States of the European Union which are independent of the executive and legislature and which are responsible for the support of the Judiciaries in the independent delivery of justice.

At the national level, some ENCJ members are fully competent for judicial training. Some other ENCJ members have close relations with their national judicial training institute or school: either the training institute reports directly to them or they decide on the guidelines for the judicial training.

The ENCJ does not itself provide training but aims to improve cooperation between the councils for the judiciary and members of the judiciary in the European Union, including through the promotion of best practices to enable the judiciary to deliver timely and effective justice.

The ENCJ’s opinion on judicial training is that Councils for the Judiciary should actively promote the activities mentioned below:

- guaranteeing a fixed place in initial and continuous training for EU law, as well as the understanding of other systems;
- enabling judges to meet colleagues from other Member States, either through training seminars for judges from various EU Member states or by participation in the exchange programmes;
- promoting the establishment of ‘jumelages’ between courts (twinning of courts) of EU Member States;
- encouraging judges who specialise in certain areas of law to participate in judicial networks (i.e. European Association of Labour Court Judges, European Commercial Judges Forum);
- organising bilateral study-visits also enhances mutual understanding and mutual confidence.

The ENCJ opinion on what concerns EU law and networks of experts on EU law is that:

On the national level the dissemination of EU knowledge could be either done by putting in place a network of EU law specialists or by appointing judges who provide access to information on EU Law (information intermediary) with a view to its practical application. The aim is that the available information is easily accessible for all judges. The challenge is to organise these specialists or court coordinators so that they are easily found and approachable by their colleagues.

The ENCJ itself should promote the connection of national networks of Court coordinators or experts in EU law throughout Europe.

On the European level, it is necessary to promote the development of judicial networks that focus on improving mutual understanding of specialist issues and problems and on how the Member States’ judiciaries identify and address these common concerns through sharing experience and through improved communication channels.

It is important that these networks are developed in a coordinated way. The ENCJ could and should promote the setting up of these networks and support the management of these networks by ensuring they are properly structured and facilitate contacts between Members.

The ENCJ has organised a seminar on Timeliness. If for the purpose of the present project the seminar should be perceived as a training activity, it is introduced here:

The ENCJ has organised Regional Seminar on Timeliness for Baltic and Nordic countries, 22-23 April 2013, Poland. The seminar was organised at a regional level with participants from countries with comparable culture and legal traditions and this allowing for a concrete and operational approach. The aim of the seminar was to increase awareness of the problem of timeliness, to deepen the understanding of causes and remedies, and to discuss the recommendations and the cooperation between stakeholders, and thus to further the implementation of the recommendations.

A second Regional Seminar on Timeliness for another region will be organised in 2014 as a follow-up to the pilot seminar on the same topic.

The ENCJ is running an internship programme which could be seen as a form of exchange.

The ENCJ started its Internship programme in 2009. Its aim is to reinforce the links and the mutual confidence between the ENCJ Office and the Members. It also offers an opportunity to staff working for a Member of the ENCJ to gain experience in dealing with the various EU institutions and working in a multinational team. Each intern is a temporary member of the ENCJ Office and is selected for a different period but in principle for two months. Shorter or longer internships are also possible. In most cases, the intern will provide assistance to the functioning of the Office depending on the work available, but sometimes he/she can be assigned with a specific topic or dossier that needs to be researched.

Since its creation in 2009, 13 staff members of the ENCJ Members completed the two-month internship at the ENCJ Office. After the management assistant of ENCJ left in the summer of 2013, this position is now filled by interns.

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

In the Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the ENCJ there is no specific reference to any form of judicial training. The aim of the Association is the exchange analysis of and information on the structures and competencies of members, and exchanges between the members; exchange of experience in relation to how the judiciary is organised and how it functions and provision of expertise, experience and proposals

to European Union institutions and other national and international organisations.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

The ENCJ has developed links with the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN), the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union and the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union (ACA Europe). The ENCJ participates in the meetings of these organisations.

The ENCJ initiated a joint reaction with ACA and the Network of President of Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU on Judicial Training in 2010.

In 2013, the cooperation between the ENCJ and the other three judicial networks is mainly determined by their mutual work on the EU Pilot Project on Judicial training LOT 4 – Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders by European judicial training.

Fact Sheet No. 3 – Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union
Date of constitution	2004
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit Association under French law
Legal Seat	5, quai de l’Horloge, F – 75001 Paris, France
Website	http://reseau-presidents.eu/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The main purposes of the Network are to promote exchanges of views and experience on all matters concerning the case law, organisation and functioning of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union in the performance of their judicial or advisory functions, particularly with regard to EU law.</p> <p>It also promotes contacts and exchanges of information between its Members or Observers as well as between them and the European Institutions, by providing the latter with the opportunity to consult its members on all questions regarding the harmonisation of substantive and adjective law.</p>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>Members: The membership is open to the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union. All 28 Member States of the European Union are represented among the members.</p> <p>Observers: The Presidents of other Supreme Judicial Courts of States can be admitted as Observers by the General Assembly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liechtenstein • Montenegro • Norway 	
D. Governance and bodies of the Partner	
<p>The Network is managed by the Board which may take any measure required for the functioning of the Network in the interval between General Assemblies.</p> <p>The Board comprises the President, two or more Vice-presidents, the Secretary General and the Treasurer.</p>	
E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners	
<p>The Network has promoted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The creation of a common Portal of Jurisprudence; • The creation of a discussion forum for the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial 	

Courts;

- The consideration of topics common to the European Supreme Judicial Courts with the organisation of conferences and colloquia;
- The integration of the Supreme Judicial Courts into the European judicial architecture and the development of relations with the European Institutions;
- A comparison between the different methods of judging, the creation of a new common approach and system of values between the different legal systems of European Union Member States;
- The strengthening of relations between the Supreme Judicial Courts themselves.

In addition to offering conditions for a dialogue between the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Network has since 2010 organised a Judges’ Exchange Programme with a view to promoting working relationships and mutual knowledge among Supreme Judicial Courts.

The Network is also equipped with a website, which was completely remodelled in 2011 after the launch of the European e-Justice Portal, on which it is listed. The website may be consulted by the public to find out about the Network’s activities and for information on the Supreme Judicial Courts. The Intranet site, restricted to Members of the Network, seeks to increase contacts between Judges of Supreme Judicial Courts.

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

Under Article 3 of its Articles of Association, the main purposes of the Network are to promote exchanges of views and experience on all matters concerning the case law, organisation and functioning of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union in the performance of their judicial or advisory functions, particularly with regard to EU law.

It also promotes contacts and exchanges of information between its Members or Observers as well as between them and the European Institutions, by providing the latter with the opportunity to consult its members on all questions regarding the harmonisation of substantive and adjective law.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

The Network develops its activities in partnership with the following European Networks: the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union (ACA-Europe) and the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ). These Networks are invited to participate in the conferences and colloquia of the Network and the latter also participates in the manifestations they organized.

Fact Sheet No. 4 – Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union (ACA-Europe)

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union – (ACA-Europe)
Date of constitution	2001
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit International Association a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law
Legal Seat	Rue de la Science, 33 B – 1040 Brussels, Belgium
Website	http://www.aca-europe.eu/index.php/en
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The purpose of the Association is to promote within its financial limits exchanges of views and experience on matters concerning the jurisprudence, organisation and functioning of its Members in the performance of their judicial and/or advisory functions, particularly with regard to Community Law.</p> <p>Within this framework, the Association may initiate or promote studies and publish a review or juridical collections.</p> <p>Recognizing each others' independence, the Association shall promote contacts and exchanges of information between its Members or Observers and with the European Union authorities.</p> <p>Every second year in principle, or at intervals to be established by the General Assembly, it shall organise a colloquium to consider matters falling within its terms of reference. The Association shall set up a data bank, consisting principally of decisions, advices and studies by its Members relevant to the purpose of the Association, reports and conclusions produced during the colloquiums of the Association as well as any other useful information.</p>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>Members:</p> <p>The members of the ACA-Europe are: the Court of Justice of the European Union and the supreme jurisdictions and Councils of State of the Member States of the European Union which are empowered to adjudicate in the final instance in disputes concerning the activities of public administrative bodies or which are acting in an all-round legal advisory capacity as far as the drawing up of normative texts is concerned.</p> <p>There shall not be more than two Members from each State.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Union – The Court of Justice of the European Union • Austria – The Administrative Court • Belgium – The Council of State • Bulgaria – The Supreme Administrative Court • Croatia – The High Administrative Court • Cyprus – The Supreme Court • Czech Republic – The Supreme Administrative Court 	

- Denmark – The Supreme Court
- Estonia – The Supreme Court
- Finland – The Supreme Administrative Court
- France – The Council of State
- Germany – The Federal Administrative Court
- Greece – The Council of State
- Hungary – the Curia
- Ireland – the Supreme Court
- Italy – the Council of State
- Latvia – The Supreme Court
- Lithuania – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Luxembourg – The Council of State the Administrative Court
- Malta – The Court of appeal
- Netherlands – The Council of State
- Poland – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Portugal – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Romania – The High Court of Cassation and Justice the Legislative Council
- Slovakia – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Slovenia – The Supreme Court
- Spain – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Sweden – The Supreme Administrative Court
- United Kingdom – The Supreme Court

Observers:

The Jurisdictions and Councils of State similarly empowered of States which are engaged in negotiations with a view to their actually joining the European Union can be admitted as Observers. As soon as the State to which it belongs has joined the European Union, the Observer becomes automatically at its request a Member of the Association.

Observers:

- Montenegro – The Supreme Court
- Turkey – The Council of State

Guest courts:

- Norway – The Supreme Court
- Switzerland – The Federal Supreme Court

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is managed by a General Assembly, a Board and a General Secretary.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The activities of the ACA-Europe are specifically oriented towards the training of judges in particular to:

- Enhance access to knowledge in the implementation and application of European law, particularly with regard to the effective implementation of the fundamental rights of the European Charter. This Charter is a fundamental part of all European law. The national judge ensures compliance with this Charter as a trial judge of Union law (environment/telecommunication/foreigners/public health, etc.). (Databases/ periodical “REFLETS” /Forum/meetings);
- Improve knowledge about the judicial system of each member court (Tour of Europe) and to deepen the acquis by comparing experiences and practices (meetings / exchange of judges / Forum);

- Organise an exchange programme for judges between member supreme courts targeting the continuous training of judges. This programme gives the judges a concrete experience in all phases of the judicial procedure of concrete cases handled by the supreme court host;
- In-depth study of the knowledge tools (*self-learning/exchange of good practices*): *updating the databases* (DEC-NAT/JURIFAST)/ boosting the Forum.

The knowledge tools mentioned above are organised in two axis.

1. First axis: access to the knowledge tools

- **Database DECNAT**

A collection of about 27,000 national judicial decisions is available on the ACA-Europe website (www.aca-europe.eu) (possible access via Eur-Lex).

Ongoing project to realise a link between DECNAT data and national databases and vice versa, carried out on an experimental basis with 3 member high courts.

Target group: all of the judges of the member supreme courts, the European citizens and specially the entire community of law practitioners (academics and firms of the public or private sector)

- **Databank JURIFAST**

A collection of 1,500 judicial decisions is also available on the ACA-Europe website (www.aca-europe.eu) (possible access via Eur-Lex).

Target group: the same like DECNAT

- **Forum**

ACA-Europe Internal network of corresponding judges (in way of dynamisation): each member court appoints a corresponding judge for “Forum” with a double mission: management and animation of the Forum;

Regarding the management, the corresponding judge shall attend to a fast answer questions;

Regarding the animations, the corresponding judges mention once a month topical legal subjects and draw attention of the others judges on interesting events about EU law (new statute of the Court of justice, major judgments of the Court or of the ECtHR or of their court, assumption of a position by the constitutional courts in relation with EU law, etc...)

The corresponding judges for Forum play a role for the input stimulation of **JURIFAST**.

Targeted public: the community of the judges of the supreme courts

- **“Reflets” review**

Reflets is an online document published by the CJEU that gives readers an overview of recent national and international case law, of new national legislation, and of some articles of doctrine. This document originally only existed in French, but ACA-Europe and the CJEU agreed that it will be translated into English and made available via its website www.aca-europe.eu.

Targeted public: ditto DEC.NAT and JuriFast

2. Second axis: learning by knowledge exchange

- **Organisation of seminars (two or three times a year) and a colloquium (every two years)**

Topical legal theme closely linked with the implementation of EU law.

Targeted public:

By seminar: 40 ACA-Europe judges (direct effect of participation except external/internal benefits)

By colloquium: 75 ACA-Europe judges (direct effect of participation except external/internal benefits)

- **Organisation of a judicial exchange**

Active participation of the trainee judge in the works of the host Court (training in methods of operation of the host court/ access to cases file/ formative support to the apprehension and understanding of the object of appeal/ access to hearings / organisation of the hearings feedback) ended by a training report published on the website www.aca-europe.eu.

Targeted public: 12 judges (direct effect except external/internal benefits)

Internal benefit is to understand as the dissemination of information by the trainee judge inside his court.

External benefit is to understand as the access, via the website, especially for the whole community of law's practitioners (academic sector and firms from private/public sector), to the exchanged datas for and during the event.

F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

Under Article 3 of its Articles of Association, the main purposes of the Network are to promote exchanges of views and experience on all matters concerning the case law, organisation and functioning of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union in the performance of their judicial or advisory functions, particularly with regard to EU law.

It also promotes contacts and exchanges of information between its Members or Observers as well as between them and the European Institutions, by providing the latter with the opportunity to consult its members on all questions regarding the harmonisation of substantive and adjective law.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

ACA-Europe closely collaborates with the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, the European Network of the Councils of Justice and the European Judicial Training Network.

ACA-Europe attends the general assemblies of the two first networks and has with them regular exchanges of views in the context of judicial training. ACA-Europe is taking part, via member courts of the Association, in training cycles organised by the EJTN, besides the judges exchange programme set up by ACA-Europe.

Fact Sheet No. 5 – European Judicial Network (EJN)

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Judicial Network in Criminal matters
Date of constitution	1998
Legal Basis	Council Decision 2008/976/JHA of 16 December 2008. (Created by the Joint Action 98/428 JHA of 29 June 1998)
Legal Seat	Maanweg 174, 2516 AB, The Hague, Netherlands
Website	http://www.ejn-crimjust.europa.eu/ejn/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The EJN aims to create more effective judicial co-operation, particularly in combating serious crime, by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acting as active intermediaries to facilitate judicial co-operation; • Providing legal and practical information to competent local authorities including through our website; • Providing support with requests for judicial cooperation; • Creating a European Union judicial culture; and • Cooperating with other Judicial Networks, third countries and judicial partners. <p>The main goals of the EJN towards the facilitation of judicial co-operation are also achieved through the useful website and its judicial tools such as the Atlas, Fiches Belges, Library and Compendium. Part of the judicial training of the contact points and practitioners is to know how to handle those tools.</p> <p>The Council Decision states that the EJN shall organize periodic meetings of the Member States’ representatives. The members of the EJN would meet in order to get to know each other, to gather knowledge on the legal systems of each one and implementation of EU measures, and to provide a forum for discussion of practical and legal problems encountered by the Member States.</p> <p>The plenary meetings are organised at least three times a year as follows: one Plenary meeting, commonly called the “Regular Meeting” is held in The Hague and is initiated by the Member State holding the Presidency of the Council. The other two plenary meetings are organised by the Member State holding the Rotating Presidency of the Council, and should be held in their respective Member State.</p>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>The EJN is composed of contact points from the 28 EU Member States, from EU candidate countries (FYROM, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey) and EU associated countries (Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), as well as of the European Commission and of a Secretariat based in The Hague.</p>	

The EJM contact points are designated by each Member State among: central authorities in charge of international judicial co-operation, judicial authorities and other competent authorities with specific responsibilities in the field of international judicial co-operation, both in general and for certain forms of serious crime, such as organized crime, corruption, drug trafficking or terrorism.

The appointment of contact points takes place according to the constitutional rules, legal traditions and internal structure of each country. The only condition is that it provides effective coverage for all forms of crimes throughout the country.

The result is the existence of almost 400 national contact points across Europe, together with the sub-networks.

Among each Member State's contact points a National Correspondent and a Tool Correspondent are appointed; the former being responsible for the functioning of the Network within their own Member State and for the contacts with the Secretariat; the latter being responsible for the updating of information of their Member State and of the EJM website. Once a year both a National Correspondent Meeting as well as a Tool Correspondent Meeting is organized.

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

Article 2 (8) of the Council Decision provides that the EJM Secretariat is responsible for the administration of the network. Furthermore, Articles 7 and 9 empower the EJM Secretariat with providing and updating judicial informatics tools on the EJM website. The EJM Secretariat represents the EJM in close consultation and coordination with the Member State, which holds the Presidency of the EU Council, and with the EJM Trio Presidencies.

The main tasks of the EJM Secretariat are:

- Enabling the EJM contact points to fulfil their tasks;
- Setting up, maintaining and improving the EJM website and its operational e-tools;
- Disseminating information to the contact points and stakeholders on the EJM activities and on judicial co-operation;
- Ensuring representation and establishing relations with other Judicial Networks and structures in the field of judicial co-operation within and beyond the EU.

The EJM Secretariat is composed of a Secretary to the EJM, a secretariat coordinator, two legal specialists and a webmaster and an assistant of the Secretary to the EJM.

As the managerial body of the Network, the EJM Secretariat enjoys autonomy, as stated in paragraph 20 of the Council Decision 2008/426/JHA of 16 December 2008 on the strengthening of Eurojust.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The EJM has been dealing with judicial training for a long time through different actors (EJM contact points, the Secretariat) and through different means (in addition to seminars and training events also through the EJM website about tools on judicial cooperation):

- The EJM contact points are experts of judicial cooperation in criminal matters and are in close contact with the practitioners in their Member States as they are part

of them,

- The EJM meetings provide fora for discussions (incl. in training matters),
- The EJM Secretariat acts as a bridge between the practitioners and judicial training providers (by i.e. analyzing questionnaires & feedback from the contact points and by being regularly involved in seminars),
- Due to its decentralized and horizontal structure, the EJM reaches the widest platform of criminal law practitioners within the EU (judges, prosecutors, ministries of justice and is completely decentralized).

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

Already its first legal basis, Article 4 (2) of the Joint Action provided for that one of the functions of the EJM contact points are to act as trainers and experts in the field of judicial cooperation in criminal matters:

"The contact points shall provide the legal and practical information necessary to the local judicial authorities in their own country, to the contact points in the other countries, to the local judicial authorities in the other countries, to enable them to prepare an effective request for judicial cooperation or to improve judicial cooperation in general".

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

Over the years of existence the EJM has had contacts with other judicial Networks and similar structures. Being a pioneering Network the first operational judicial Network, the EJM has also played an active role in creating Networks in other parts of the world. The EJM has become a worldwide respected voice in the field of judicial cooperation, and a model for similar Networks and structures established within the EU and in neighborhood regions of Europe and overseas. The advantages of such a structure of judicial cooperation to fight transnational crime have been considered as the main argument for establishing similar judicial Networks.

The EJM Secretariat considers that it is its duty to assume any steps needed in order to strengthen EJM’s capacity to tackle crime; and this infers the support to global networking as well as informal cooperation with other partners having the same goal and working together in a decentralised and informal manner.

Fact Sheet No. 6 – European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters (EJN-Civil)

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters (EJN-Civil)
Date of constitution	2001
Legal Basis	Council Decision No 2001/470/EC of 28 May 2001 amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 18 June 2009
Secretariat	European Commission DG Justice, Unit A.1 (Civil Justice Policy) Rue Montoyer 59, 1049 Brussels, Belgium
Website	http://ec.europa.eu/civiljustice/index_en.htm
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The EJN-civil is a flexible, non-bureaucratic structure, which operates in an informal way and aims to simplify and strengthen judicial cooperation between Member States to the benefit of citizens and businesses in cross-border cases.</p> <p>The Network aims to improve simplify and expedite effective judicial cooperation between Member States in civil and commercial matters. The EJN-civil is a concrete and practical response to simplify cross-border access to justice and judicial cooperation.</p> <p>It supports national central authorities established by specific Union law instruments and facilitates contacts between different courts through a network of national contact points.</p> <p>The EJN-civil improves the practical application and implementation of EU civil justice instruments. The EJN-civil became the most important tool for judicial cooperation in the area of EU civil justice instruments.</p> <p>The EJN's activities are based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. direct contacts and case handling between contact points; b. informing the public on cross-border access to justice via factsheets and publications available at the European e-Justice portal in all Union languages; c. evaluating and sharing experience on the operation of specific Union law instruments in matters of civil justice; d. regular meetings of the Contact Points (mainly in Brussels), including Central Authorities meetings under the Brussels IIa Regulation and Maintenance Obligations Regulation. <p>In order to promote access to justice, using the information supplied and updated by</p>	

the contact points, the EJN has put in place a specific website containing legal information for the general public. The content of the website is available in all Union languages and is in the process of being revised in the framework of its current migration into the European e-Justice Portal.

C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)

Members:

The EJN-civil is composed of contact points and bodies from the EU Member States of the European Union. Denmark does not participate in the EJN-civil.

In July 2013, the 503 members of the EJN-civil fall under the five categories mentioned below.

The Network is composed of:

- 113 contact points designated by Member States;
- bodies and central authorities specified in Union law, in international instruments whereby Member States are party, or in domestic law relating to judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters;
- liaison magistrates with responsibilities for cooperation in civil and commercial matters;
- other judicial or administrative authorities responsible for judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters whose membership is deemed to be useful by the Member State;
- professional associations representing legal practitioners directly involved in the application of Union law and international instruments in civil and commercial matters at national level in the Member States.

The contact points play a key role in the EJN-civil Network. They are available to contact points of other Member States and to local judicial authorities in their Member State. They are also at the disposal of authorities provided for in Union or international instruments relating to judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters. The contact points assist these authorities.

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The European Commission operates the secretariat of the Network. The selection of items to be discussed and dealt with in the network is done informally and directly between the Commission and the EJN Contact Points.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

Concerning activities on judicial training, the EJN contact points are regularly informed on activities on EU-level relating to training. Also the EJN-civil's legal basis (Council Decision No 2001/470/EC as amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC) refers in Article 12a to relations with other networks and mentions in particular the EJTN. The cooperation with the EJTN is now deepened in the framework of the current Pilot project.

F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

The Network shall maintain relations and share experience and best practice with the other European networks that share its objectives, such as the European Judicial Network in criminal matters.

The Network shall also maintain relations with the European Judicial Training Network with a view to promoting, where appropriate and without prejudice to national practices, training sessions on judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters for the benefit of the local judicial authorities of the Member States.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

Concerning activities on judicial training, the EJM contact points are regularly informed on activities on EU-level relating to training. Also the EJM-civil's legal basis (Council Decision No 2001/470/EC as amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC) refers in Article 12a to relations with other networks and mentions in particular the EJTJN. The cooperation with the EJTJN is now deepened in the framework of your project. The EJTJN Secretary General, Mr. Pereira participated at the last EJM annual meeting in Brussels on 29 January 2014. To support that exercise, the EJM created a small task force composed of the Contact points from DE, FR and PT which is consulted on developments relating to the current EJTJN project. Based on Art 12a of Decision No 2001/470/EC as amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC, the EJM-civil also maintains informal relations with other judicial/legal practitioner's networks such as IberRed, the European Notarial Network (ENN/CNUE), the European Chamber of Judicial Officers and Union International des Huissiers de Justice or the European Bar Council CCBE.

Fact Sheet No. 7 – Association of European Administrative Judges

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)
Date of constitution	2000
Legal Statute	Eingetragener Verein under German law
Legal Seat	Metzer Allee 4, D – 54259 Trier, Germany
Website	http://www.aeaj.org/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Association shall pursue the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to advance legal redress for individuals vis-à-vis public authority in Europe and to promote the legality of administrative acts, thereby helping Europe to grow together in freedom and justice, • to respect the legal cultures in the various Member States of the European Union and the Council of Europe on the way towards attaining this objective; • to help broaden the knowledge of legal redress in administrative matters among administrative judges in Europe, and for this purpose, to have an intensive exchange of information on pertinent legislation and case law; • to strengthen the position of administrative judges in Europe which is growing together, and • to promote the professional interests of administrative judges at national and European level. <p>The Association shall pursue these objectives in particular by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • defending the interests of European administrative judges vis-à-vis the institutions of the European Union and the Council of Europe; • holding meetings of administrative judges; • publishing a newsletter for members of the Association. 	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>Members:</p> <p>The Association is a European apex organization. National associations of administrative judges from Member States of the European Union and of the Council of Europe can become members.</p> <p>In all the AEAJ represents (via its member associations) more than 4000 administrative judges.</p> <p>Member Associations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austria – Vereinigung der Finanzakademiker • Austria – Vereinigung der Finanzrichterinnen und Finanzrichter • Austria – Verwaltungsrichter – Vereinigung • Austria – Vereinigung der Richter/innen des Bundesverwaltungsgerichtes 	

- Austria – Verein der Richterinnen und Richter des Verwaltungsgerichtshofes
- Azerbaijan – Association of Judges of Specialized Courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- Bulgaria – Association of Bulgarian Administrative Judges
- Estonia – Eesti Kohtunike Ühing
- Finland – Finnish Association of Judges
- France – Syndicat de la Juridiction Administrative
- Germany – Bund Deutscher Verwaltungsrichter und Verwaltungsrichterrinnen
- Greece – Association of Greek Administrative Judges
- Hungary – Magyar Közigazgatási Birak Egyesülete
- Italy – Associazione nazionale di Magistrati Amministrativi
- Lithuania – Association of Judges, Division of Judges of the Administrative Courts of Lithuania
- Luxembourg – Association Luxembourgeoise des Magistrats Administratifs
- Portugal – Association of Judges of the Administrative and Tax Jurisdiction
- Slovenia – Slovenian Association of Judges
- Slovakia – National Association of Slovakian Administrative Judges
- Sweden – Sveriges Domareförbund

If national associations of administrative judges don't exist in a given country, an option is open between admission of organisations including ordinary as well as administrative judges and admission of individuals, providing that they are entrusted with the responsibilities of an administrative judge.

Individual members:

- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Malta
- The Netherlands
- Poland
- Spain
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is managed by a General Assembly, a Board, consisting of President and four Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary General and Auditors.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The activities of the AEAJ are the following:

- Annual General Assembly

Annual Meetings of our four working groups, dealing with:

- Independence and Efficiency of Administrative Jurisdiction
- Environmental Law
- Taxation Law
- Asylum and Immigration Law

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

The Association is preponderantly active in international judicial training.

The Association considers the following issues as most important:

- It should be clear that the costs for judicial training (in particular on international level) should not be carried by the judges themselves. Otherwise colleagues from countries with low salaries would be excluded from any international training and/or contacts.
- Judicial training, be it on national or international level should be considered as a part of judges’ duties. This includes that training activities should be seen as part of a judges’ work and therefore taken into account to figure out the appropriate work load for a judge. Otherwise judges simply won’t have the time to join training activities.
- According to our point of view, judicial training should not be organised similar to “training” of other professions, in particular of civil servants. It must be taken into account that administrative judges are not part of a hierarchic system, but individually independent and as such competent to control the legality of the administration. In this function they are competent and obliged to interpret, implement and even develop administrative law of all levels. This is also true for the very important issue of EU-law. Under the guidance of the EU’s Court of Justice they have to further clarify the meaning of provisions of EU-law and even participate in the control of validity of secondary EU-law with respect to primary EU-law. These important tasks make necessary that Administrative Judges are not only “trained”, but that they have the possibility to have regular international contacts in order to discuss problems of application of EU-law between peers. The working group meetings of our Association try to fulfil this important task. We think that activities of that kind should be enhanced and offer you cooperation, not only concerning judicial training in general, but in particular in this specific field.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

The Association has experience concerning cooperation with the EJTN by organizing workshops in the field of environmental law and public procurement.

Fact Sheet No. 8 – Association of European Competition Law Judges (AECLJ)

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	Association of European Competition Law Judges (AECLJ)
Date of constitution	2002
Legal Statute	company limited by guarantee incorporated under the law of E&W
Legal Seat	Bloomsbury Place, London, WC1A 2EB, United Kingdom
Website	http://www.aeclj.com/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Association's objects are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to act as an Association of judges and other persons exercising jurisdiction who are concerned with or interested in the competition law of the European Union or its Member States; • to provide a forum for the exchange of information and views in relation to competition law in the judicial context; • to act as a resource of information relating to judicial decisions and applicable rules, whether national or international, in the field of competition law, and to operate databases and other sources of information for judges dealing with competition law; • to promote, provide, or assist in providing courses, seminars, education and training on competition law and the practical management of competition law cases from the judicial perspective; • to promote, undertake, co-ordinate and sponsor research into competition law issues from a judicial perspective and generally to disseminate the results thereof; • to discuss problems relating to competition law and its enforcement from the judicial point of view with national or international authorities or organisations; • to co-operate with or assist any national or international organisation with similar objects to some or all of the objects of the Association or objects considered by the Association to be beneficial to the Association; • to undertake similar activities to those set out in the previous sub-clauses in connection with the competition laws of states and/or organisations which are outside the European Union; • to undertake all and any action or activity which the Association shall consider to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the Objects. 	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>Membership: Conferences are open to judges from the EU courts and to judges from EU member states; the Association is also ready to welcome, judges from the EFTA courts and from courts in the EEA. By virtue of coming to the conference, and, by paying a</p>	

subscription of 50 euro (or by virtue of their court being a corporate member), each judge becomes a member of the Association.

The Association has a mailing list of around 300 judges – this includes judges from each Member State - and between 30 and 60 judges from outside the host Member State attend the conference along with between 20 and 30 judges from the host Member State.

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is managed by a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and other Executive Committee Members who are supported by the Secretary General who is the Registrar of the UK’s Competition Appeal Tribunal and by his colleagues at the Tribunal.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The AECLJ facilitates communications between judges and the European Commission. There are regular meetings of judges with the Commission to inform each other about and to discuss developments in competition law, policy, application and procedure. Recent topics have included the quantification of damages, access to leniency material held by competition authorities, warrants for searches and issues of legal personality in follow on claims after Commission infringement decisions. The next meeting in Bucharest (2014) will focus upon collective actions in the light of the Commission’s proposed Directive on private actions and Recommendation on collective actions.

There are opportunities for national updates on case law and excellent networking opportunities through the social programme.

Apart from its annual conference the role of the Association is usually to support, advertise, enable and to encourage activities that DG Comp or DG Connect fund rather than such activities being functions of the Association. These activities include training in competition law and in competition economics.

The Association has to date held twelve conferences: in Luxembourg (2002, 2003, 2013), Paris (2004), London (2005), Berlin (2006), Rotterdam and the Hague (2007), Malta (2008), Rome (2009), Athens (2010), Dublin (2011) and Helsinki (2012).

Recent topics have included:

- 2013 - Competition Law within a Framework of Rights: Applying the Charter and the Convention
- 2012 – Adapting 20th Century Law to 21st Century Technology
- 2011 – Vertical Restraints
- 2010 – Cartels: Economics and Justice

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

Judicial training and comparative work have a high priority in the work of the Association. It encourages work, co-operation and best practice on both competition law and economics at national and international levels.

Note on the role of the UK Competition Appeal Tribunal in the Association:
By virtue of the Enterprise Act 2002, Schedule 2 paragraph 8, the President of the Tribunal must arrange such training for its members as he considers appropriate. A programme has been developed for training members and for keeping them abreast of developments nationally, in the EU and overseas. The Tribunal supports Association activities and provides a secretariat for the Association. It uses Association activities in training its own members and it also hosts inbound visitors from within and beyond the EU, sometimes providing internships.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

It is only as part of the current process that the Association, as such, has become involved in networking with sibling organisations. That said some of our members are engaged in other judicial networks though not as representatives of the Association. The Association has been working hard, with support from the Commission, to involve judges from each and every Member State. However experience suggests that getting away to engage in Association activities is often hard for national judges who may not get support or encouragement from their court administration. We have established regular meetings with the Commission but these meetings with the EJTN would be a first for us.

Fact Sheet No. 9 – European Association of Judges for Mediation

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME)
Date of constitution	2003
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit International Association under French law
Legal Seat	5 quai de l’Horloge, 75001 Paris, France
Website	http://www.gemme.eu/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Association's goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote within each EU and EFTA member State a national association of judges supporting mediation and strengthening and improving its practice; • to promote the exchange of information within each member State concerning practice and experience in the field of mediation, conciliation or any other alternative method of dispute resolution; • to contribute to the development of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution by participating in conferences and activities at European institutions; promoting the teaching of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution within studies in Law and training judges and lawyers, acquainting professionals and citizens with mediation and participating in setting up training programmes; • to use any means to assist judges with their individual moves to support mediation and encourage training for the purpose of a relevant and effective practice of mediation and other legal alternative methods of dispute resolution. 	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>The Members of the association are grouped in national sections established in each EU and EFTA Member State. The Group has national sections in 12 countries of the European Union and EFTA, and contacts in 21 countries and includes 450 judges.</p> <p>Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judges, professionals and non-professionals, either practicing or honorary; • Courts in which these judges work, subject to the possibilities given to them by the provisions that govern them; • Honorary members appointed by the General Assembly based on services rendered to the association; • Associate members, upon agreement of the Executive Committee: attorneys, academics and other qualified individuals who have demonstrated an interest in mediation and work to promote it. 	

The **national sections** are in the following countries:

- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hungary
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Romania
- United Kingdom
- Spain
- Switzerland

Observers:

- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Greece
- Norway
- Poland
- Russia
- Slovenia

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is governed by a board of directors composed of at least five members elected by the General Assembly, to whom shall be added a member appointed by each national section established in the EU and EFTA.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The purpose of this association is to bring together judges from the member States of the European Union and the member States of the European Free Exchange Group (A.E.L.E), including Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland, which use or wish to use recourse to alternative methods of dispute resolution and consider that effective and peace inducing justice involves, among other requirements, promotion and development of these alternative methods, especially judicial mediation.

Over the past ten years, its actions have included:

- Thinking work with national, European and international institutions (brainstorming sessions, participation in national discussions on the implementation of the EU Directive);
- The identification and dissemination of good practice (in the context of conferences initiated by different sections);
- Information on alternative methods of conflict resolution (website, forums, books, articles in the press, handbooks, colloquia, films);
- Education of mediation prescribers (through organization or simple participation in training workshops).
- A new impetus was given to the action of GEMME by the European Directive of May 21, 2008.

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

The Association’s goals are:

- to contribute to the development of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution, by participating in conferences and activities in the area of European institutions and those of A.E.L.E., working to promote teaching of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution in the course of legal studies and training of judges and lawyers, familiarizing professionals and citizens with mediation and participating in defining training of collaborating mediators.
- to use any means to assist judges with their individual steps to support mediation and encourage training for the purpose of relevant and effective practice of it, as for any other alternative method of dispute resolution that is legally permitted.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

Awaiting information.

Fact Sheet No. 10 – European Association of Labour Court Judges

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Association of Labour Court Judges (EALCJ)
Date of constitution	1996
Legal Statute	company limited by guarantee, incorporated under UK law
Legal Seat	11 Elgin park, BS6 6 RU Bristol, United Kingdom
Website	http://www.ealcj.org/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>Under the Constitution of the Association, the objects are stated as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to act as an association of judges and other judicial officers and those acting as judicial officers in matters concerning employment and labour law within the states which are members of the European Union and the European Economic Area; • to provide a forum for the exchange of information and views in relation to the fields of Social Policy and Labour Law; • to provide a technical forum in which to compare and contrast national practice as to the adjudication of employment and labour disputes; • to discuss problems relating to the law and its enforcement of the law of the European Union in member states and of similar international bodies or organisations; • to act as a channel of information to and from the European Union and the European Economic Area and the members of the Association and others as the operation and enforcement of the European law and other sources of law and legal rules; • to act as a source and resource of information relating to employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area to members of the Association and others; • to assist in the formation of associations and organisations of judicial offices and those acting as judicial officer in matters concerning employment and labour law within the States which are members of the European Union and the European Economic Area; • to promote the provision and to provide courses, seminars, education and training on employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area; • to act as an expert and nominate experts and act as a forum of experts on matters relating to employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area and their Members States; • to operate libraries, databases, and other sources of information as to employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area and generally; • to publish by way of literature, film, electronic and other publishing media items relating to employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area and generally; • to promote, undertake, co-ordinate and sponsor research into employment and 	

labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area and generally to disseminate the results thereof;

- to fund, associate with, co-operate with, support, or assist in any way, any organisation with similar objects to some or all of the objects of the Association or objects considered by the Association to be beneficial to the Association;
- to carry out the above activities in connection with any organisation or organisations which may (or may be proposed) at any time to replace, be developments of, act in similar manner to, discharge similar functions to, or be associated with the European Union or the European Economic Area or any replacement thereof (whether in whole or in part) or which is or may be or is proposed to be from time to time undertaking any similar activities thereto (whether in whole or in part);
- to undertake similar activities to those set out in the previous sub-clauses in connection with the laws of all states and in connection with international organisations whether in being at the date hereof or not;
- to invest, borrow, and lend money on such terms as the Council of management of the Association shall consider fit;
- to undertake all and any action or activity which the Association shall consider to be conducive to its objectives.

C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)

Membership is open to:

- Judges of a Specialist National Labour Court
- Judges of a Supreme Court with specialist jurisdiction in labour law

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The EALCJ is subject to the company law of the United Kingdom. The Board of Directors is subject to the duties provided for in English Law. Day-to-day running of the Association is delegated to the Officers, who comprise the President, the Immediate Past-President, the Secretary-General, the Convenor, the Treasurer and the General Reporter.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The main activities of the Association consist of an annual Conference at which we discuss a topic of general interest to Labour Judges.

The inaugural Conference was in Bath, England in 1996. Since then we have held the following Conferences:

- Seville 1997: "Fundamental Social Rights at Work in the European Community"
- Rome 1998: "The practical enforcement of rights in respect of equal opportunities"
- Tenerife 1999: "The Changing Workplace – New Forms of Employment and Organising Work"
- Trier 2000: "The European Court of Justice and the Labour Court Judge – working together now and in the future"
- Dublin 2001: "Individual Rights in Employment: The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and Article 13 of the Treaty"
- Stockholm 2002: Business meeting
- Paris 2003: "Termination of employment at the initiative of the employer: the

Challenge for corporate social responsibility"

- Budapest 2004: "Termination of employment at the initiative of the employer: the Challenge for corporate social responsibility" – Follow-up to 2003 meeting targeted at New Entrant EU Member States.
- Luxembourg 2005: "Corporate Restructuring, Striking the Balance between flexibility and Employee Protection"
- Beijing, China 2006: Visit of an EALCJ delegation to the Chinese Ministry of Labour and Social Security
- Paris 2006: Business Meeting
- Oslo 2007: "Collective Agreements – a hindrance or a support for social protection?"
- Vienna 2008: "Harassment and violence at work"
- Liverpool 2009: "The impact of Mobility of Workers and Enterprises on Employment Rights"
- Rome 2010 "Protecting Marginal Workers – identifying who is a worker with particular reference to the scope of the Part Time Workers, Fixed Term Workers and Agency Workers Directive"
- Malta 2011: "Access to Justice for Posted and other Vulnerable Workers"
- Berlin 2012: "Equality and Employment for Older and Disabled People"
- Brussels 2013: "Independent workers – Freedom or enslavement?"
- The next conference of the EALCJ will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 6-7 June 2014. It will address the subject of "Integration and Interpretation of ECJ judgments in National Law".

F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

Under the Constitution of the Association, training is part of the objects:

- To promote the provision and to provide courses, seminars, education and training on employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

The EALCJ has developed links with the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA). Members of the EALCJ are participating on a regular basis in working groups of the International Labour Organization (ILO). Members of the EALCJ contribute to the European Labour Law Network (ELLN). Members of the EALCJ work together with their national Council of the Judiciary.

Fact Sheet No. 11 – International Association of Refugee Law Judges

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ)
Date of constitution	1997
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit International Association under Dutch law
Legal Seat	P.O. Box 1621, 2003 BR Haarlem, The Netherlands
Website	http://www.iarlj.org/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The International Association of Refugee Law Judges seeks to foster recognition that protection from persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion is an individual right established under international law, and that the determinations of refugee status and subsidiary protection are subject to the rule of law.</p> <p>To these ends the Association commits itself:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote within the judiciary and quasi-judicial decision makers world-wide a common understanding of refugee law principles and to encourage the use of fair practices and procedures to determine refugee law issues; • to foster judicial independence and to facilitate the development within national legal systems of independent institutions applying judicial principles to refugee law issues; • to encourage the sharing of information and databases relating to conditions in countries of origin and countries of transit of asylum seekers; • to encourage the development of norms of access by asylum seekers to judicial systems that are compatible with international law standards; • to promote or undertake research initiatives, publications and projects that further the attainment of the objects of the Association. <p>While keeping in mind the independence of the members of the Association in their judicial functions, to co-operate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other agencies, both international and national, that are concerned with the promotion of an understanding of refugee law issues.</p> <p>The European Chapter of the IARLJ has expanded its field of interest, expertise and discussions within its network from law on international protection to immigration law, because the majority of the members of the European Chapter of the IARLJ who deal with refugee law cases deal also with immigration disputes no matter whether they provide judicial services at specialised refugee and immigration tribunals or at general administrative courts.</p>	

C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)

The IARLJ is a global association of individual judges, which has around 420 individual members that form the American Chapter, the African Chapter, the AustralAsian Chapter and the European Chapter, because judges all over those continents apply the same international treaty - the 1951 Convention relating to the status of refugees. Among them, around 180 are members of the European Chapter. The European Chapter of the IARLJ has its own Constitution due to specific recent developments in EU law on international protection.

Membership of the European Chapter of the IARLJ is open to any person who:

- satisfies the requirements for qualification for membership of the IARLJ under its Constitution;
- is (or has concurrently made application to be) a member of the IARLJ;
- supports the objects of the Association;
- tenders payment of any membership dues for the then current year established by, or determined in accordance with, a resolution of Council; and,
- approved by or on behalf of the Council as being qualified to be a member.

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is governed by a Chair, a Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

A Survey of selected events either organised by or in cooperation with the International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ) European Chapter is provided.

Recent events:

The events set out below are not exhaustive and do not include regular attendance by judiciary from the IARLJ at workshops etc. organised by EASO since its inception and other ad hoc conferences and meeting by other organisations to which members of the IARLJ have been invited. The list is intended to provide a broad survey of principal events between 2013 and the middle of 2014. In addition the IARLJ participates in and enables ad hoc judicial exchanges in the EU.

- Bulgaria, 2-4 June 2014: EASO Operating Plan to Bulgaria in collaboration with the IARLJ, measure 3.13. “Support with decision at second instance”
- Malta, 6 December 2013: “Advanced workshop on the Implementation of Article 15c of the Qualification Directive” organized by EASO and IARLJ
- Gothenburg, 21-22 November 2013: European Chapter Conference of the IARLJ entitled: “Recent Developments in European Asylum Law in co-operation between the Association and the Migration Courts in Sweden. London 13-14 November: IARLJ were co-partners in “On the borders of Refugee Protection? The Impact of Human Rights Law on Refugee Comparative Practice and Theory” organised by the Refugee Law Initiative of the School of Advanced Legal Studies London University.
- Minsk, 19-21 June: Seminar/Workshop of Asylum Procedures organised by TAIEX:

number of judges, lawyers, UNHCR representatives and administrative decision-makers: around 35.

- Budapest, 27-28 May 2013: presentations entitled: “Preliminary Reference to the CJEU: When to Refer a Question and How to Formulate It” and “Suggestions from the Judiciary Concerning Third Party Intervention in Judicial Procedures in Slovenia”; judicial engagement working group meeting of the UNHCR's offices in Europe (“Developing a proactive judicial engagement strategy in Europe”); number of UNHCR's lawyers participants: around 45.
- Brussels, 13 May 2013: closing event of the CREDO project, organised by the European Commission, Hungarian Helsinki Committee, UNHCR and IARLJ; number of judges and lawyers participants: around 40.
- Nijmegen, 16 April 2013: Seminar at Radboud University on Assessment of Credibility under the EU Qualifications Directive attended by 24 judges².
- Skopje (FYR of Macedonia), 10-12 April 2013: “The Use of Undisclosed Evidence in Asylum procedures: From War on Terrorism Towards the Rule of Law”, Workshop on Regional Cooperation between Refugee Law Judges, organised by the Judicial Academy of FYR of Macedonia and Regional Office of the UNHCR; number of judges participants: around 30.
- Zagreb (Croatia), 14-15 February 2013: “Extradition and Principle of Non-Refoulement in Slovenian Jurisprudence”, presentation at the training event for criminal court judges of Croatia organised by the Judicial Academy of Croatia and UNHCR office; number of judges participants: around 20.

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

The objectives of the Association are to be pursued through the following means:

- by establishment of direct interaction between judges, judicial associations, judicial training providers, UNHCR, experts, public authorities and civil society organisations;
- by organising or assisting in the organising of relevant judicial training events;
- by undertaking or assisting in the development of judicial training materials and programmes designed to ensure effective implementation of the CEAS in accordance with the rule of law and independence of the judiciary;(including judicial check-lists or guidelines concerning the criteria for assessment of country of origin information, credibility assessment, formulation of preliminary references, use of expert evidence)
- to undertake, promote or assist with the training of judges and other refugee decision-makers and the development and delivery of suitable judicial training programmes and their contents in a manner that fully respects the principle of the independence of the judiciary.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

The IARLJ has a good cooperative relationship with the AEAJ (Working Party on Asylum and Immigration). The IARLJ traditionally works closely with UNHCR, EASO, TAIEX; members of the IARLJ are also on the list of judges-trainers of the EASO, TAIEX, EIPA, ERA. The IARLJ has contacts with National Training Institutions, especially from the Central and East European Countries and from the Western Balkan. The IARLJ has contacts with the ACA-Europe and has established biennial

meetings with the judges of the ECtHR and CJEU. The IARLJ also cooperates with NGOs, for example, the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and cooperates with the respective Unit of the European Commission for the purpose of professional development of judges in the field of asylum.

Fact Sheet No. 12 – European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE)

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE)
Date of constitution	2004
Legal Statute	Non-for-profit International Association a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law
Legal Seat	Place Royale 7, B – 1000 Brussels, Belgium
Website	http://www.eufje.org/
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The purpose of the association is to promote, in the perspective of sustainable development, the implementation of National, European and International Environmental law.</p> <p>The Association seeks more particular to: share experience on judicial training in environmental law; foster the knowledge of environmental law among judges; share experience on environmental case law; contribute to a better implementation and enforcement of International, European and national environmental law. Recognising each other's independence, the association shall promote contacts and exchanges of information between its Members and Observers and with the European Union authorities. At intervals to be established by the General Assembly, it shall organise a colloquium to consider matters falling within its terms of reference.</p>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>Members: The following judge can be a member of the Association:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who is interested in environmental law; • who is a member of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Court of Human Rights or a court or tribunal of a Member State of the European Union or a Member State of the European Free Trade Association. <p>Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities): 113</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austria: 3 • Belgium: 8 • Bulgaria: 3 • Croatia: 1 • Cyprus: 2 • Czech Republic: 2 • Denmark: 3 	

- Estonia: 2
- Finland: 6
- France: 4
- Germany: 4
- Greece: 2
- Hungary: 2
- Ireland: 3
- Italy: 3
- Latvia: 5
- Luxembourg: 2
- Malta: 3
- Norway: 2
- Netherlands: 3
- Poland: 3
- Portugal: 3
- Slovakia: 6
- Slovenia: 3
- Spain: 4
- Sweden: 5
- Turkey: 1
- Others: 2

Observers:

- Similarly empowered judges of States which are engaged in negotiations with a view to their actually joining the European Union can be admitted as Observers. As soon as the State to which it belongs has joined the European Union, the Observer becomes automatically at his/her request a Member of the Association.
- A representative of the European Commission, of the Council of Europe, of the United Nations Environmental Program and, subject to approval of the general assembly, other international organisations, can participate in the activities of the Association in an observer capacity.

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is administered by a Board. The present Board is composed of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary General, a Treasurer and an Auditor.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The Forum was created with a view to raising the awareness of judges of the key role of the judicial function in the effectiveness of sustainable development.

The EUFJE has endeavoured to get involved into the process of EU legislation. The EUFJE is mindful that matters of policy are not matters for judges. A number of EUFJE suggestions have been adopted by the rapporteur of the European Parliament Committee for Environment.

The Forum can build on this experience and discuss during the annual conference on EU legislation in the making. The experience gathered by the Forum on EU environment law is of practical value for EU judges as well as for EU institutions.

The EUFJE has also taken part in the work of the UN, with the Aarhus convention on

access to justice in the field of environment law.

Recent events:

2012:

- The Hague, Annual Conference: EU – Support for cooperation with national judges in the field of Environmental Law
- UNECE – Aarhus Convention – Task force on access to justice
- UNEP – World Congress on justice, governance and law for environmental sustainability

Other activities:

- Cooperation with the newly established ‘European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment’
- Cooperation with Pace university New-York and others in view of the creation of an ‘International Judicial institute for Environmental Adjudication’

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

The Association seeks more particularly to: share experience on judicial training in environmental law; foster the knowledge of environmental law among judges; share experience on environmental case law; contribute to a better implementation and enforcement of international, European and national environmental law.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

The EUFJE is collaborating on a regular basis with the Working Party on Environmental Law of the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ) and the European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE) by inviting representatives of both networks to the annual conferences and sending representatives to their general meetings or workshops. Furthermore EUFJE is, together with the AEAJ and the Association of the Councils of State (ACA), represented in the general assembly and the steering committee of the by the EC supported “Cooperation with national judges and prosecutors in the field of EU environmental law’ training program, which is now executed by Academy of European Law. EUFJE will also continue to work with the Working Party on Environmental Law of the AEAJ in the framework of the Commission Expert Group of National Judges on Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. EUFJE will also develop some links with the EJTN and its main partners in the framework of the current project.

Fact Sheet No. 13 – European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE)

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE)
Date of constitution	September 2012
Legal Statute	Non-for-profit International Association a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law – pending
Legal Seat	Gulledelle 96, B – 1200 Brussels, Belgium
Website	http://www.basel.int/Default.aspx?tabid=2940
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Network seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the operative work of environmental prosecutors; • promote the exchange of information and experience of the enforcement and prosecution of environmental crime between members; • foster knowledge of environmental law among prosecutors and promote the development of environmental criminal law as an integral part of criminal law enforcement generally; • share experience of investigations, prosecutions and sanctions in the field of environmental criminal law; • contribute to better understanding, implementation and enforcement of environmental criminal law; • encourage and support co-operation between Members and facilitate capacity building in relation to the prevention and prosecution of environmental crime; • facilitate collection of data about environmental crime across Europe and enforcement action taken in relation to environmental crime; • identify and develop good, and whenever possible, best practice, for successful prosecutions and produce guidance, tools, common standards and approaches to the prosecution of environmental offences; • share training programmes in relation to environmental criminal law. 	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>Members:</p> <p>A Member of the Association can be any organisation involved in the criminal prosecution of environmental crime within a Member State of the European Union or a Member State of the European Free Trade Association.</p> <p>‘Organisation’ is to be defined widely as any body of qualified lawyers involved to some extent in the prosecution of environmental crime.</p> <p>In the absence of any formal organisation representing prosecutors of environmental</p>	

crime in a jurisdiction, then a representative from a Member State may become a Member of the Association.

There are two categories of Members: Working Members and Corresponding Members.

The Board decides upon and approves applications for Working and Corresponding membership. There shall be only one Working Member per Member State.

A request to become a Member of the Association is made by sending a letter to the President of the Board of the Association who shall inform all Working members.

Observers:

Organisations representing prosecutors in States which are engaged in negotiations with a view to their actually joining the European Union (or, in the absence of such an organisation, prosecutors themselves) can be admitted as an Observer. Decisions concerning the admission of an Observer are made by the Board.

As soon as the State to which it belongs has joined the European Union, the Observer becomes automatically, at its request a Member of the Association.

A representative of the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the United Nations Environmental Programme and, subject to approval of the General Assembly, other International organisations and networks in particular INECE, can participate in the activities of the Association in an Observer capacity.

D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is governed by the General Assembly, administered by a Board which comprises the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary General and the Treasurer.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

ENPE was established in September 2012

In November 2013 ENPE hosted a conference jointly with Eurojust on the regulation enforcement and prosecution of environmental crime. The network is seeking funding arrangements for a programme of activities which will include development and delivery of training for prosecutors and judges in relation to environmental crime.

F. Highlight of the Partners’ statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training

The association seeks to share training programs in relation to environmental criminal law.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project

ENPE works closely with IMPEL (European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law) relating to international waste regulation.

ENPE has a good relationship with EUFJE, the EU Forum for Judges in the Environment.

Annex five: memorandum of understanding (MoU)

Memorandum of Understanding

As a result of LOT 4 of the Tender Contract JUST/2012/JUTR/PR/0064-04/A4, signed with the European Commission, envisaging the *Promotion of Cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial training*,

The European Judicial Training Network, hereinafter referred to as “EJTN”,

Agrees with:

The *European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary*

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

The *Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdiction of the European Union*

And with:

The *European Judicial Network*

And with:

The *Association of European Administrative Judges*

The *Association of European Competition Law Judges*

The *European Association of Judges for Mediation*

The *European Association of Labour Court Judges*

The *International Association of Refugee Law Judges*

The *European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment*

The *European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment*

All together hereinafter referred to as “Partners”,

The following

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The EJTN and the undersigned Partners,

Considering that:

- a) Judicial training is a matter of public interest and closely linked to the independence of the judiciary, the co-related independence of the authority responsible for drawing up syllabuses and deciding on what kind of training should be provided and remain preserved from direct influence from the Executive or the Legislative, notwithstanding the national rules and competences in judicial training;
- b) The independence of the judiciary imposes ethical duties, in which the duty to perform judicial work professionally and diligently implies the development of a high professional ability, acquired, maintained and enhanced by the training which judges and public prosecutors have a duty, as well as a right, to undergo;
- c) In order to allow the members of the judiciary to undertake such training, it is indispensable to make available the financial resources and the time considered adequate for the said purpose;
- d) All concerned national institutions should encourage their members to attend initial or in-service training in close reference to its practical application in the participant’s daily work in view of the enhancement of the quality of the service they will, or they do already, provide to the general public;
- e) International judges and public prosecutors’ associations and networks can play a valuable role while encouraging and facilitating training, working in conjunction with the body which has direct responsibility for its planning and execution;

f) Good cooperation also exists with the European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters relating to the promotion of training on judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters.

1. Reaffirm that the training of judges and public prosecutors constitutes a responsibility and competence of the relevant national judicial authorities and judicial training institutions;
2. Recognise the important added value of the complementarity of the training provided at the international level within the European Union, as an indispensable tool for the build-up of a European judicial culture as well as the reinforcement of mutual trust and the establishment of a European area of justice;
3. Recognise, as priority areas where such a training should be developed within the mentioned context, namely the training of judges and public prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions of other Member States, in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, as well as on their linguistic abilities as in so far this facilitates judicial cooperation, which areas are confirmed in the European Commission Communications on Judicial Training;
4. Consider that the entrustment of those tasks to an authority responsible for drawing up the curriculum, providing for its execution and supervising its provision will considerably enhance the effectiveness of training;
5. Recognise the European Judicial Training Network as the main promoter of European judicial training.

Therefore,

6. As the European Judicial Training Network recognises the:
 - a) Role that the *European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary*, the *Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European*

Union, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union, while organisations linked to the highest hierarchy of the judiciaries in each one of the European Union member States, could play as key contributors towards an increasingly efficient judicial training at the European level,

- b) Added value for its activities resulting from regular consultations with the Secretariats of the *European Judicial Network* and the *European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters*, as institutionalised European actors with the aim to facilitate international cooperation, and with the Boards of *the Partners* as judicial organisations gathering special expertise on their own areas of knowledge,

And,

7. The other above mentioned Partners express their availability and will to contribute to the enhancement of the quality of the training provided by the EJTN and its members at the European level,

And,

8. All Parties acknowledging the benefit resulting from a platform of understanding that, in the respect of each Party’s vocations, missions and capabilities may contribute to a higher quality and efficiency of the training addressed to the European judiciary,

They commonly agree that:

Article 1

The EJTN and the undersigned Partners will cooperate on a strategic level in order to improve the training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions, as well as in European Union Law and judicial cooperation procedures.

Article 2

This cooperation will:

1. Target the following areas according to each Partner’s competences and capacities:
 - a) The share of information in relation to training needs’ assessment;
 - b) The specific identification of training needs;
2. Include the dissemination of information on training activities and materials; envisage the identification of experts and the exchange of experts’ data.

Article 3

For the purposes settled in Article 2:

- a) Each of the signing Partners will adopt the necessary internal mechanisms indispensable to allow a good execution of the present agreement, including the appointment of a contact point for all the purposes therein.
- b) Notwithstanding other lines of action that may be identified in due course, the EJTN will promote a yearly meeting with the heads of the undersigned Partners and contact points appointed by these in order to discuss matters of common interest in relation to the areas specified in Article 2 above, namely seeking the identification of actual training

needs and co-related suggestions of training activities to be organised, and in order to evaluate the state of execution of this Memorandum of Understanding and to eventually identify other forms of possible cooperation.

- c) Should a Partner be involved in the implementation of a training project an appropriate reference will be made to its contribution.

Article 4

For the avoidance of doubt, this Memorandum does not create a financial obligation to any of the signing Partners.

Article 5

Although this Memorandum is envisaged to remain in force as long as a significant change of the circumstances leading to its signature does not occur, any Partner is entitled to denounce it by the means of a notification addressed to the other Partners.

Article 6

The EJTN shall formally notify each Partner if it intends to include in this platform of cooperation any other judicial entity.

Article 7

Signed in one original copy to be deposited with the EJTN Secretariat.

Done in Brussels, 27 June 2014

Signed by:



Wojciech Postulski, Secretary General

European Judicial Training Network



Paul Gilligan, President

European Network of Councils for the
Judiciary



Dominique Hascher, Secretary General

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




Eric Thibaut, Deputy Secretary General

Association of the Councils of State and
Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of
the European Union



Maria João Almeida Gomes, Head of Unit

European Judicial Network



Edith Zeller, President

Association of European Administrative
Judges



Jaqueline Riffault-Silk, President

Association of European Competition
Law Judges



Dawn Catherine Shotter, Treasurer

European Association of Labour Court
Judges



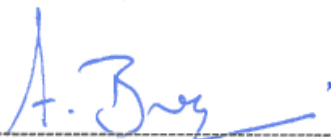
Katelijne Declerck, Vice President of the
European Chapter

International Association of Refugee Law
Judges



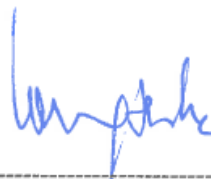
Eric Battistoni, Vice President

European Association of Judges for
Mediation



Anne Brosnan, Co-President

European Network of Prosecutors for the
Environment



Luc Lavrysen, President

European Union Forum of Judges for the
Environment

Annex six: deliverable two – minutes of the meetings

- **Kick off meeting with the Commission – 10 September 2013**



Réseau Européen de Formation Judiciaire European Judicial Training Network

**Minutes of the kick off meeting of the EU Pilot Project on Judicial training LOT 4 –
Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial
training**

**Held on Tuesday 10 September 2013 at 10:30
at EJTN European Judicial Training Network
Rue du Luxembourg 16B, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DG JUSTICE

WAGNER Heiko

European Commission DG Justice

EJTN – EUROPEAN JUDICIAL TRAINING NETWORK

PEREIRA Luis

EJTN Secretary General

SIPOS Sara

EJTN Secretariat

1. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Report on the first activities of the execution calendar:

Mr. PEREIRA reported that EJTN invited the first level associations identified in the work plan to appoint their representatives to the Project Steering Committee. The first meeting of the Steering Committee will take place on the 2 October, 2013. Mr Pereira handed over a copy of the invitation letters to Mr. WAGNER.

Mr. PEREIRA informed that EJTN members of the Project Steering Committee considered inviting the European Commission to become part of the Steering Committee and to attend the first meeting on 2 October. The decision is pending but Mr. PEREIRA assumes that most likely the Commission will be invited. In this event Mr. PEREIRA will invite the European Commission by email. At the meeting a work plan on how to best reach the deliverables and final results of LOT 4 will be drafted.

Mr. PEREIRA underlined that EJTN commits itself to fully implement deliverable 1 (point 6.2 a.) of the tender proposal); i.e. a report on the current state of play of the roles performed by the EJTN and the associations identified at the European level linked with the judiciary concerning the training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions, in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, as well as of the current cooperation between them. EJTN will provide a full report (i) on its mission, programmes and activities regarding the areas listed above and (ii) on EJTN’s cooperation with the named associations. EJTN will invite the associations to produce similar partial reports and EJTN will consolidate all received partial reports into a full report on deliverable 1. EJTN should not, however be held responsible if any of the associations will not provide a partial report.

During its first meeting, the Steering Committee will try to establish an inventory as complete as possible of the second and third level associations that, in the view of the Project Steering Committee, should be invited to participate in the project. Those identified as susceptible of bringing an effective added value to the project will also be asked to produce the partial report of deliverable 1 and might be invited to participate in further meetings of the Steering Committee.

Mr. PEREIRA expressed that EJTN will seek to establish with all associations that will be identified as performing an effective role on judicial training future forms of cooperation which should be as simple and flexible as possible in order to create the proper environment to enhance the quality of training. He added that – as the project’s aim is a long-term institutionalized cooperation which has not been attempted before at the European level – it would be advisable to take a step-by-step approach and not being excessively ambitious in bringing together entities that are different in nature, composition and goals.

Mr. PEREIRA recalled that these associations often are high level international organisations which concentrate on various tasks other than legal training. They mostly leave the operational judicial training works to the national institutions. They may thus not always be in a position to comment on legal training from first-hand experience and may not always have the structure or means to report on legal training as required. It may thus be doubtful whether all associations are actually willing to fully commit to the work required by this LOT 4 but EJTN is of course willing to cooperate with these networks in terms of judicial training in as far as this helps delivering the best results for this LOT 4.

Submission of the project schedule /progress table:

Mr. PEREIRA handed over the project schedule and the progress table.

Mr. WAGNER inquired about the possibility to join a judicial conference in May or June 2014 (neither the form nor the date of the event has been settled yet) and present the results of LOT 4 (memorandum of understanding / future roadmap) together with the results of the other three Lots. **Mr. PEREIRA** had no objections regarding this – in fact, such a conference for LOT 4 is foreseen in the work plan – but told that it depends on how the work progresses and if results can already be presented then.

2. NEXT MEETING AND ADDITIONAL ITEMS

The first meeting of the Project Steering Committee is scheduled to 2 October 2013.

- **First meeting of the project steering committee – 2 October 2013**



**Réseau Européen de Formation Judiciaire
European Judicial Training Network**

**Minutes of the first meeting of the Project Steering Committee
EU Pilot Project on Judicial training LOT 4 – Promotion of cooperation between judicial
stakeholders by European judicial training**

Held on Wednesday 2 October 2013 from 10 am
EJTN European Judicial Training Network
Rue du Luxembourg 16B, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CRETIN-MAGAND Emmanuelle	European Commission DG Justice
WAGNER Heiko	European Commission DG Justice
PEREIRA Luis	EJTN Secretary General
SIPOS Sara	EJTN Secretariat
JANSEN Rosa	SSR – Studiecenter Rechtspfleging
RAGEADE Jean-Philippe	ERA – Academy for European Law
WILLIAMS Michael	Judicial College UK
VAN DEN BROECK Edith Judiciaire	IFJ- IGO – Institut de Formation
MERLIN Chantal Judiciaire	IFJ- IGO – Institut de Formation
VAN DER GOES Monique	ENCJ
BRAZITSOVA Alexandra	ENCJ trainee
HASCHER Dominique	NPSJCEU
KREINS Yves	ACA-Europe

1. INTRODUCTION

- **Welcome and apologies for absence**

Mr. PEREIRA welcomed the participants. One apology of absence has been noted, Mr Harald Lange the President of the Network of Public Prosecutors could not attend the meeting. He had nevertheless informed the EJTN by email that his organisation has considered this project very interesting and will be available to participate in it according to its possibilities. The EJTN indicated that the organisation will be notified about the further developments of the project.

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- **Information about the terms of the awarded contract**

Mr. PEREIRA recalled that the project is being implemented by the European Commission based on a proposal of the European Parliament. He provided an overview and further explained the organisational structure of the project as submitted and approved by the European Commission.

The present project steering committee is composed of four EJTN members (the chair of the EJTN Steering committee, the convener of the EJTN WG Programmes, the convener of the EJTN WG technologies, the convener of the EJTN WG Exchange Programme) and the four representatives of the ‘first level institutions’ – i.e. the four main partners of the EJTN, the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ), the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union (NPSJCEU), the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union (ACA-Europe) and the Network of Public Prosecutors, or equivalent institutions, at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union.

While it is a standard procedure for the Commission to establish a separate steering committee (comparable committees have been established for the three other LOT’s) the Commission has decided not to do so with regard to LOT 4. **Ms. CRETIN MAGAND** explained that LOT 4 is slightly different from the three other LOT’s which is why the Commission considered it is appropriate in the present project to join the meetings of the project’s steering committee as observers and not to set up any other instance. The Commission will thus not so much monitor but rather observe the implementation of the project, the execution of which is the responsibility of the participating organisations in the framework of the contract signed with the Commission.

Mr. PEREIRA recaptured the project’s main goals, the main tasks and the deliverables.

DELIVERABLE 1: A State of play of the **respective roles** of the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, regarding training of

judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, as well as of the **current cooperation** between them.

DELIVERABLE 2: The organisation of meeting(s) of representatives of the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, **to discuss their cooperation** regarding the improvement of training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures.

DELIVERABLE 3: A roadmap for the **cooperation** between the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, in order to improve training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, **in line with the respective mandates** of the networks.

- **Presentation of participating organisations**

Each participating organisation gave an overview of their activities:

- **The European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary – ENCJ**

The ENCJ is a not for profit international organisation according to the Belgian Law. Membership is open to all national institutions of Member States of the European Union which are independent of the executive and legislature, or which are autonomous, and which ensure the final responsibility for the support of the judiciary in the independent delivery of justice.

The ENCJ further declared not to be involved in training as such and explained that no reference to training can be found in the statutes of the organization. However, they assume that, in addition to their specific positions on European judicial training, some of their recommendations and any other statutes issued by the organization may have an impact on judicial training.

- **The Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union**

The Network of the Presidents provides a forum through which European institutions are given an opportunity to request the opinions of Supreme Courts and to bring them closer by encouraging discussion and the exchange of ideas. The members gather for colloquiums to discuss matters of common interest which the network doubts that they may be qualified, in substance, as training events. Also no reference to training can be found in their statutes.

The organization has 30 members (31 including Liechtenstein). Further, the Presidents of the Supreme courts of Croatia, Liechtenstein, Montenegro and Norway have been admitted as observers to the Network.

Approximately 15 internships are organized by the NPSJCEU annually for the Members of the Supreme Courts, as part of the Exchange Programme of European judicial authorities being run in a similar way to those organised by the European Judicial Training Network.

- **The Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union – ACA Europe**

ACA-Europe is composed of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the Councils of State or the Supreme administrative jurisdictions of each of the members of the European Union.

The organization has 29 members. Croatia and Turkey are admitted as observers and Norway and Switzerland are invited as guests.

ACA-Europe also organises exchanges – for around 12 judges per year from (administrative) Supreme Courts, taking the form of working visits lasting 2 weeks to a court in another Member State. The guest judge follows their counterparts' activities in person, attends hearings, and takes part in both the deliberations on the verdict and the writing of judgments.

- **The European Judicial Training Network - EJTN**

The EJTN's mandate is to help build a genuine European area of justice and to promote knowledge of legal systems, thereby enhancing the understanding, confidence and cooperation between judges and prosecutors within EU states.

Charged with this mandate, the EJTN promotes training programmes with a genuine European dimension for members of the judiciary in Europe.

Analysing and identifying training needs, designing programmes and methods for collaborative training, developing exchanges, and disseminating experiences in the field of judicial training, coordinating programmes and providing training expertise and know-how, is developed at the EJTN working group's level.

The EJTN works with the European Commission (EC) and nearly 40 EU national judicial bodies (including at least one from each EU Member State), which are Members and Observers of the EJTN.

The participants summarized that only the EJTN is primarily involved in training while the other three organisations' main profile is not training as such.

- **The project's added value**

Having in mind the statements just provided by the representatives of the other three organisations, and verifying the absence of any activity performed directly concerned with the judicial training, **Mr.PEREIRA** has notwithstanding suggested that the participating organisations could still add substantial value to this project as they are linked to the highest hierarchy of the judiciaries in each of the EU member States. Therefore, they could bring considerable input to overcome some deficits that the EJTN has identified on what training is concerned and, while doing so, could become key contributors to increasingly efficient judicial training at the national and European levels.

As an example, **Mr. PEREIRA** noted that in a considerable number of EU countries, the national structures in charge of judicial training have no legal competence towards other areas beyond the simple delivery of the training itself.

The following areas of competences on many occasions are entrusted not to the national training institutions but to the highest level of the judiciary (e.g.: the superior councils of the judiciary, presidents of the local courts etc.):

- a.) to establish the criteria on how to promote equal conditions of access to training,
- b.) to disseminate information on the training resources available,
- c.) to ensure better uptake by practitioners,
- d.) to establish standards for the selection of participants of training activities
- e.) to evaluate the relevance of training contents, methodologies and its results in a magistrate’s daily work

- **Discussion of activities to be executed in the next months**

As a result of a discussion that followed, and agreeing that according with the project timetable the interim report will have to be submitted by the end of February 2014, it has been decided that by then the following items have to be executed:

- **Preparation of deliverable 1 – report on ‘state of play of the roles’**

It has been agreed that all four organisations will produce a report on their activities and send it to the EJTN by the end of December. To facilitate the preparation of the report and to assure a necessary uniformity the EJTN will provide guidelines setting out the essential aspects to be covered by the report. These guidelines will be communicated to the involved organisations as soon as possible.

- **Memorandum of understanding**

It has been agreed that the organisations will also cooperate on a strategic level and issue *guidelines/recommendations* which will take the form of a *joint declaration/a memorandum of understanding* in order to improve their cooperation regarding the training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union Law and judicial cooperation procedures.

It has been also agreed that the said memorandum of understanding for future cooperation shall be restricted to the following main aspects:

- (i) A declaration on the importance of training (promoting of equal conditions to access to training, establishing of standards for selection of participants, ensuring of better uptake by practitioners),
- (ii) A common agreement on sharing information regarding training needs’ assessment

The Networks will cooperate on the identification of training needs within the extent allowed by their own statutes.

(iii) A common agreement on the dissemination of information on training activities and training resources available and

(iv) The exchange of experts’ data.

The EJTN will prepare the first draft of this memorandum of understanding for future cooperation and will distribute it to the participating organisations for their review and internal discussion. The idea is to reach a common, final text that may be jointly agreed at a later stage.

- **Inventory and selection of the second and third level organisations**

Second level organisations

It has been decided that the European Judicial Network (EJN) and the European Judicial Network on Civil and Commercial matters (EJNCC) will be involved in the project. The EJTN will ask the organisations to deliver similar reports as the first level organisations.

After careful consideration, and with the agreement of the representatives of the European Commission present, it was decided that it was not necessary to involve the Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE) and the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE) in the current project.

Third level organisations

The EJTN will invite third level organisations (the ENCJ indicated that for this purpose a list of associations of the judiciary on the ENCJ’s webpage could be used) to present themselves and to set out the type of activities they are involved in, the number and identity of their members, their statutory goals and their involvement in judicial training, if any.

The project steering committee will evaluate the replies in its second meeting. On this basis the steering committee will establish an inventory of the third level organisations which in view of the steering committee should be called to participate in the project. Those identified as susceptible of bringing added value will also be asked to produce the report of Deliverable 1 and might be invited to participate in further meetings of the steering committee.

3. NEXT MEETING AND ADDITIONAL ITEMS

The next meeting will be held on **Friday 13 December 2013 in Brussels.**

- **Second meeting of the project steering committee – 13 December 2013**



**Réseau Européen de Formation Judiciaire
European Judicial Training Network**

**Minutes of the second meeting of the Project Steering Committee
EU Pilot Project on Judicial training LOT 4 – Promotion of cooperation between judicial
stakeholders by European judicial training**

Held on Friday 13 December 2013 from 10 am to 13 pm
EJTN European Judicial Training Network
Rue du Luxembourg 16B, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CRETIN-MAGAND Emmanuelle	European Commission DG Justice
WAGNER Heiko	European Commission DG Justice
PEREIRA Luis	EJTN Secretary General
SIPOS Sara	EJTN Secretariat
RAGEADE Jean-Philippe	ERA – Academy for European Law
WILLIAMS Michael	Judicial College UK
MERLIN Chantal	IFJ- IGO – Institut de Formation Judiciaire
TELLIER Stephane	ACA – Europe
VAN DER GOES Monique	ENCJ
HASCHER Dominique	NPSJCEU
MATYK Stephan	EJNCC

1. INTRODUCTION

- **Welcome and apologies for absence**

Mr. PEREIRA welcomed the participants. He apologised for the impossibility of attendance of Mrs Rosa Jansen from the SSR Netherlands. He remarked also that *EJN* has sent a message expressing their unavailability to attend the meeting although expressing their wish to join the project as invited. No information or remarks were received from the *Network of Public Prosecutors, or equivalent institutions, at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union*.

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- **Analysis of the documents provided by the organisations**

Mr. PEREIRA informed the participants that, according to the work plan, the EJTN has contacted the organisations and invited them to present themselves and to set out the type of activities they are involved in, the number and identity of their members, their statutory goals and their involvement in judicial training. The EJTN has received responses from ten organisations while two had not put forward any response. He further explained that the responses will be analysed during the present meeting, the result of which will be transmitted to the EJTN Steering Committee. On this basis in its meeting of 21-22 February 2014 the EJTN Steering Committee will make the final selection of the organisations participating in the project.

Mr. WAGNER recommended inviting a newly established organisation, namely the European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment, to participate in the project. The meeting participants asked the EJTN to invite this organisation to present itself.

- **Discussion of cooperation between the organisations**

Mr. PEREIRA recalled that under the projects’ framework the EJTN seeks to cooperate with the organisations on a strategic level in order to improve the training of judges and prosecutors. The aim is to establish a link between the organisations on a bilateral basis within an extended framework. Although the EJTN had proposed other areas of possible cooperation he reminded that in the last meeting consensus was only reached for the following areas: a) the share of information in relation to training needs’ assessment, b) the specific identification of training needs, c) the dissemination of information on training activities and available training resources and d) the exchange of experts’ data and the identification of experts.

Mr. MATYK asked for further explanation regarding how this cooperation will be applied in practice.

Mr. PEREIRA explained that the aim is to put into practice a platform of exchanging information, via two channels:

- ✓ The first is that each organisation will be asked to appoint a contact point for the purpose of the project. A network of contact points will be created within all participating organisations with the objective of facilitating cooperation in those fields: for example, if the EJTN would ask for help in the identification of experts it should therefore approach the contact point of the appropriate organization for information.
- ✓ The second is to promote a yearly meeting of the heads of the signing organisations in order to evaluate the state of execution of the memorandum and to identify other forms of possible cooperation.
- **Selection of the organisations that should be called to participate in the project**

According to **Ms. CRETIN-MAGAND**'s proposal the selection criteria included the following aspects: type of membership, size, national/international scope of the organisation, whether training is part of the statutes and of the activities of the organisation (which also determines the extent to which the organisation in question can cooperate with the EJTN).

As a result of the discussion that followed, the group's advice was in the sense that the following organisations should join the project:

- ✓ **The European Forum of Judges for the Environment – EFJE,**
- ✓ **International Association of Refugee Law Judges – IARLJ,**
- ✓ **Association of European Administrative Judges – AEAJ,**
- ✓ **European Association of Judges for Mediation – EAJM – GEMME,**
- ✓ **Association of European Competition Law Judges – AECLJ,**
- ✓ **European Association of Labour Court Judges – EALCJ.**

On the contrary, an advice of non-invitation concerned the following organisations:

- **International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates -IAYFJM**

The organisation has an international scope that surpasses the EU and has only recently developed a European section which is currently limited to 12 European countries. **Mr. HASCHER** proposed and the participants agreed to reconsider inviting this organisation if its European section would develop further.

- **European Union of Judges in Commercial Matters - EUJCM**

The organisation was considered to be too limited in size. It also seemed like that it is mainly an organisation of lay judges.

- **International Association of Judges / European Association of Judges - EAJ/IAJ**

The organisations' activities go beyond the European Union. Membership is not only for the members of the judiciary as it is possible for other associations.

- **International Association of Tax Judges – IATJ**

The organisation was considered to be too small. Also it appeared that most members come from mainly one EU Member State (The Netherlands).

- **Discussion of the proposed draft of the Memorandum of Understanding**

The meeting participants welcomed the draft and proposed the following changes:

Mr. WILLIAMS asked for clarification regarding the meaning of the definitions “special body” on page 3 under point d) and “interlocutors” on page 4 under point 4 a).

Mr. PEREIRA explained that the expression “special body” refers to the national institutions specialized in training activities for the judges and prosecutors. “Interlocutors” refers to a key partner who can provide high quality input. It has been decided that the term “interlocutor” will be replaced with the term contributor according to **Mr. WILLIAMS’s** suggestion.

The participants agreed that on page 3 under point c) the text in italics will be changed to standard and slightly redrafted to avoid any confusion.

Ms. CRETIN-MAGAND suggested adding an additional article (article 6) governing the involvement of future additional parties. **Mr. PEREIRA** will introduce such article.

Mr. WAGNER proposed to rephrase Article 2 according to the following: in point b) the comment in brackets “within the extent statutorily allowed to each one of the partners” will be deleted and the phrase “according to each partner’s competences” will be added to the beginning of the section.

Mr. WILLIAMS will review the text as he is a native English speaker.

- **Determination of the project’s future stages of execution**

The EJTN will amend the draft Memorandum of Understanding according to the meeting participants’ suggestions and distribute it to the organisations for their internal discussions.

During the next project steering group’s meeting the contents of the final memorandum of understanding will be discussed. To this meeting the representatives of the finally selected organisations will also be invited. It will be convenient that the attending representatives will have the authority to negotiate and to agree on the final text during that meeting.

3. ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND NEXT MEETING

- **Date and time of the next meeting**

After looking at the progress table **Mr. PEREIRA** suggested that a third meeting is scheduled before the final conference takes place and the initially foreseen fourth meeting is kept in reserve in case needed. **Mr. WAGNER** mentioned that possibly there will be a joint judicial conference to present the good practices identified in other LOTs of the project; however it is not clear yet whether and when the conference will take place.

The next (third) meeting of the steering group will be held on **Tuesday 6 May 2014 in Brussels.**

- **Progress meeting with the European Commission – 28 March 2014**



**Réseau Européen de Formation Judiciaire
European Judicial Training Network**

**Minutes of the progress meeting of the EU Pilot Project on Judicial training LOT 4 –
Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial
training**

**Held on Tuesday 28 March 2014 at 14:00
at EJTN European Judicial Training Network
Rue du Commerce 123, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DG JUSTICE

CRETIN MAGAND Emmanuelle	European Commission DG Justice
WAGNER Heiko	European Commission DG Justice

EJTN – EUROPEAN JUDICIAL TRAINING NETWORK

POSTULSKI Wojciech	EJTN Secretary General
SIPOS Sara	EJTN Secretariat
BALTHAZART Quentin	EJTN Secretariat

1.1 Welcome:

Mr. POSTULSKI welcomed the participants at the new premises of the EJTN.

1.2 Approval of the agenda:

The agenda was approved by the participants.

1.3. Discussion of the Project Workshop (Building upon good practices in European judicial Training):

- **LOT 1 presentation**

Mr. WAGNER provided information on the Judicial Conference ‘Building upon good practices in European judicial Training’ which will be held on 26-27 June in Brussels. He explained that the one-and-a-half-day conference will consist both of presentations and workshops. Working group sessions will be dedicated to specific training issues and provide a forum for discussing various topics on judicial training.

The EJTN will give an overview of the results of LOT 1 of the Pilot Project during the plenary session. The presentation (timeframe approximately 20 minutes) should include the recommendations and provide an explanation on the different categories of identified practices.

The presentations on training practices will take place in subgroups working sessions during the afternoon. There will be approximately 3 to 5 working groups including the training-the-trainers seminars, the linguistic seminars on linguistic obstacles in cross-border training and the criminal justice seminars on the EAW/MLA simulations (the use of simulations in training activities). There are additional subgroups envisaged covering topics such as training needs assessment, e-learning, cross-border cooperation of training providers, decentralised training and evaluation of training activities.

Mr. WAGNER added that for the above mentioned topics it would be important to invite a presenter who has been closely involved in the implementation of the presented practice.

Mr. POSTULSKI proposed that the EJTN will select the presenters during the EJTN Steering Committee meeting on 28-29 April in Brussels. **Mr. WAGNER** agreed with this approach.

- **Possible integration of the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding – (MoU) into the event:**

Mr. POSTULSKI proposed that LOT 4 of the Pilot Project could be part of the conference as the project will come to its end by mid-July.

Mr. WAGNER informed that LOT 4 will be on the agenda of the conference. The European Commission will present LOT 4 and one project partner (probably the EJTN) will be invited to provide an overview of the main achievements of the project.

Mr. POSTULSKI proposed that the impact of the presentation of LOT 4 at the conference could be even higher if the project was to be presented as finalized, i.e. if the parties were asked to sign the Memorandum of Understanding already on June 26 during the last Project Steering Committee meeting.

Ms. CRETIN-MAGAND agreed however considered that the act of signing the Memorandum of Understanding at the conference might equally enhance the project’s visibility. No decision has been taken.

Mr. POSTULSKI explained that on the 3rd of April the first draft of the roadmap for the future cooperation will be prepared during an internal Project Steering Committee meeting where the EJTN committee members will be present. This draft roadmap will be distributed by the end of April amongst all project partners for their internal discussions. The aim is to finalize the text on the 6th of May on the third Project Steering Committee meeting to which all project partners have been invited. The roadmap will be approved at the latest by the end of May.

- **Possible execution and follow up on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU):**

Mr. POSTULSKI informed that the EJTN has distributed the draft Memorandum of Understanding to all project partners and is currently awaiting comments. Several partners have expressed their concerns about the exact interpretation of the possible future cooperation, whether the cooperation could influence their autonomy and independence, what kind of financial burden and other contributions they are expected to make in case of committing themselves to the project and whether they have to commit to concrete activities by signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

All these issues will be further discussed during the third Project Steering Committee meeting on the 6th of May.

- **Practical / financial issues related to the conference:**

Mr. WAGNER explained that the Judicial Conference will host over 200 participants.

With regard to the logistics, **Mr. WAGNER** informed the EJTN that the European Commission will reimburse the costs and provide travel and hotel arrangement for one participant per training provider. A travel agency collaborating with the European Commission will arrange for the bookings and logistics.

Mr. WAGNER underlined that there are more training providers than EJTN members since in e.g. Germany there are many various training providers for training of judges and prosecutors because all the individual states have separate training providers.

With regard to the EJTN the Commission will provide travel and accommodation for the four subgroup session presenters.

Any additional participants per training provider are welcomed to attend the conference at their own costs.

With respect to the participants engaged only with LOT 4 the EJTN will cover their travel and accommodation costs. It is up to the EJTN’s discretion how this will be executed. Travel and accommodation for these participants will not be booked by the Commission’s agency. **Mr. WAGNER** will provide the EJTN with the contact details of the hotel chosen by the Commission’s contractor in order to enable the representatives of the network to book at the same hotel, if they wish.

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the Project Steering Committee will be held on 6 May 2014 in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 16:45 pm.

- **Third meeting of the project steering committee – 6 May 2014**



Réseau Européen de Formation Judiciaire
European Judicial Training Network
Minutes of the Project Steering Committee meeting
EU Pilot Project on Judicial training LOT 4 – Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders by European judicial training

Held on Tuesday 6 May 2014 from 10 am to 16 pm
EJTN European Judicial Training Network
Rue de Commerce 123, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CRETIN-MAGAND Emmanuelle	European Commission DG Justice
WAGNER Heiko	European Commission DG Justice
POSTULSKI Wojciech	EJTN Secretary General
SIPOS Sara	EJTN Secretariat
RAGEADE Jean-Philippe	ERA – Academy for European Law
WILLIAMS Michael	Judicial College UK
VAN DEN BROECK Edith	IFJ- IGO
ORAL Umit	IFJ- IGO
VAN DER GOES Monique	ENCJ
TAMOSIUNAITE Judita	ENCJ – stagiaire
HASCHER Dominique	NPSJCEU
MATYK Stephan	EJN-Civil
JANSEN Rosa	SSR
EOMOS Ele-Marit	EJN
WINTER Karin	AEAJ
SCHNEEBALG Avi	GEMME
ZALAR Bostjan	IARLJ
BROSNAN Anne	ENPE
VAN DER BERGHE Jan	EUFJE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome and apologies for absence

Mr. POSTULSKI welcomed the participants. He noted three apologies of absence. He apologised for the impossibility of attendance of the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions (ACA-Europe), the European Association of Labour Court Judges and the Association of European Competition Law Judges. He remarked that *these project partners* sent a message expressing their unavailability to attend the meeting although expressing their wish to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as invited and attend the next steering committee meeting. ACA-Europe nevertheless informed the EJTN by email that the approval of the MoU will take place on the next General Assembly in June.

Mr. POSTULSKI added that according to the tender call the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union are indicated as horizontal project partners. Mr Harald Lange the President of the Network of Public Prosecutors did not attend any of the previous meetings. He had informed the EJTN by email that his organisation has considered this project very interesting but the commitment of the Network should be regarded by its members first. The network will have the opportunity to discuss the matter only during the next Annual Meeting in October 2014.

The EJTN indicated that all absent project partners will be notified about the further developments of the project.

1.2 Approval of the agenda

Mr. POSTULSKI presented the agenda which the meeting participants approved.

1.3 Presentation of the meeting participants/ project partners

All meeting participants shortly introduced themselves.

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2.1 Overview of the project

Mr. POSTULSKI provided a brief overview of the project. He recalled that the project is being implemented by the European Commission based on a proposal of the European Parliament. The pilot project is divided into four LOTs.

He further shared that the objective of LOT four of the call for tender is to support the work of the European Judicial Training Network when organising its cooperation with its relevant partners and networks at European level, such as the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions and the Network of the General Prosecutors of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU.

He recaptured the project’s main goals, the main tasks and the deliverables as contained in article 6.2 of the original invitation to tender (Description of the deliverables of LOT 4).

DELIVERABLE 1

- **State of play** of the **respective roles** of the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, regarding training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, as well as of the **current cooperation** between them.

DELIVERABLE 2

- **Organisation of meeting(s)** of representatives of the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, **to discuss their cooperation** regarding the improvement of training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures.

DELIVERABLE 3

- **Roadmap** for the **cooperation** between the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, in order to improve training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, **in line with the respective mandates** of the networks.

2.2 Description of the activities carried out so far/ Status of the progress table

Ms. SIPOS summarized the milestones achieved so far:

- Kick off meeting with Commission – 10 September 2013
- Inception note – 30 September 2013
- First meeting of the PSC – 2 October 2013
- Second meeting of the PSC – 13 December 2013
- Submission of Interim report – 14 January 2014
- Third meeting of the PSC – 3 April 2014
- Forth meeting of the PSC – 6 May 2014

She further explained the organisational structure of the project.

The present project steering committee is composed of:

- EJTN members:
 - ✓ the chair of the EJTN Steering committee,
 - ✓ the convener of the EJTN WG Programmes,
 - ✓ the convener of the EJTN WG Technologies,
 - ✓ the convener of the EJTN WG Exchange Programme and

- Representatives of the four horizontal project partners as listed in the call for tender:
- ✓ the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)
- ✓ the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union (NPSJCEU)
- ✓ the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union (ACA-Europe)
- ✓ the Network of Public Prosecutors, or equivalent institutions, at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union

- Representatives of:
- ✓ The European Judicial Network in criminal matters
- ✓ The European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters

The above mentioned partners have been invited to join the project on the first meeting of the PSC.

The EJTN invited further organisations to present themselves and to set out the type of activities they are involved in, the number and identity of their members, their statutory goals and their involvement in judicial training, if any. After careful consideration the following seven project partners have been invited to join the project and become part of its Steering Committee.

- Representatives of:
- ✓ Association of European Administrative Judges – AEAJ
- ✓ Association of European Competition Law Judges – AECLJ
- ✓ European Association of Judges for Mediation – EAJM – GEMME
- ✓ European Association of Labour Court Judges – EALCJ
- ✓ International Association of Refugee Law Judges – IARLJ
- ✓ The European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment – EUFJE
- ✓ The European network of Prosecutors for the Environment – ENPE

Ms. SIPOS further explained that the European Commission considered it is appropriate in the present project to join the meetings of the project’s steering committee as observers and not to set up any other instance. The Commission will thus not so much monitor but rather observe the implementation of the project, the execution of which is the responsibility of the participating organisations in the framework of the contract signed with the Commission.

2.3 Review of the project deliverables

- Presentation and discussion of the report on the ‘State of play of the respective roles’ - deliverable 1

Mr. POSTULSKI pointed out that the document has been reedited and a second version has been prepared by the EJTN which reflects a so called ‘fact sheet’ style, presenting each individual project partner separately.

Ms. CRETIN MAGAND informed the participants that, due to the lack of knowledge experienced with respect to the participating project partners among the parliamentarians, the aim of the Commission is to publish these fact sheets via the e-Justice portal.

Some meeting participants have raised concerns about the content which will be published i.e. easily accessible contact information of the organisation which might expose the partner to excessive inquiries.

Mr. WAGNER reassured the partners that a link to the webpage of the partner will be sufficient to indicate.

On this occasion some other participants expressed that they would like to revise their submissions before the publication.

Ms. EOMIS, Ms. VAN DER GOES, Ms. BOSNAN, Mr. MATYK and Mr. ZALAR promised to send to the EJTN Secretariat their comments while **Mr. HASHER** has provided his adjustments already right on the spot.

Ms. CRETIN-MAGAND ensured all participants that before such publication the final text will be jointly aligned and sent back to the partners for revision.

Mr. POSTULSKI asked the project partners to send their comments to the EJTN secretariat with regard to their respective parts on the report on the State of play until the end of May.

Ms. WINTER indicated that the AEAJ will be providing its final comments in June after their General Assembly takes place.

- Presentation and approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Mr. ZALAR presented the comments of the IARLJ.

First he asked for clarification with respect to the categorization of the project partners.

Mr. POSTULSKI underlined that there is no difference between the project partners, the four horizontal partners are listed in the tender call therefore they are referred to as horizontal.

The expression ‘financial resources’ as part of point b) of the preamble has created opposing views between the participants.

The EJM and EJNCC representatives **Ms. EOMIS** and **Mr. MATYK** shared the view of replacing these words with adequate means while **Ms. JANSEN** and **Ms. VAN DEN BROECK** on behalf of the EJTN members underlined the importance of the word ‘financial’.

No final decision has been taken.

The meeting participants agreed to introduce several adjustments and corrections to the text which the EJTN subsequently implemented and distributed the final version to the participants.

- Presentation and discussion of the ‘Roadmap for the future cooperation’ – deliverable 3

Mr. POSTULSKI shared that the EJTN project steering committee members have drafted the roadmap.

The meeting participants agreed to add the phrase ‘within the scope of their competences’ to Chapter II – to the special cooperation of the horizontal project partners. According to the preparatory material of the IARLJ, the following point has been added to chapter II:

- The recognition/promotion of the added value of the participation in training – pursuant to the recommendations of the Study prepared by the EJTN and ERA on judicial Training in the European Union Member States (2011) for the European Parliament:

(See link: [https://www.era.int/cgi-](https://www.era.int/cgi-bin/cms?_SID=04c106ea0438cb7b737f8d7b82d49216abe0160f00292409151998&_sprache=en&_bereich=artikel&_aktion=detail&_persistant_variant=/About%20ERA/Study%20on%20Judicial%20Training%20in%20the%20EU&_template_variant3=Study%20on%20Judicial%20Training%20in%20the%20EU&idartikel=122256)

[bin/cms?_SID=04c106ea0438cb7b737f8d7b82d49216abe0160f00292409151998&_sprache=en&_bereich=artikel&_aktion=detail&_persistant_variant=/About%20ERA/Study%20on%20Judicial%20Training%20in%20the%20EU&_template_variant3=Study%20on%20Judicial%20Training%20in%20the%20EU&idartikel=122256](https://www.era.int/cgi-bin/cms?_SID=04c106ea0438cb7b737f8d7b82d49216abe0160f00292409151998&_sprache=en&_bereich=artikel&_aktion=detail&_persistant_variant=/About%20ERA/Study%20on%20Judicial%20Training%20in%20the%20EU&_template_variant3=Study%20on%20Judicial%20Training%20in%20the%20EU&idartikel=122256))

3. FINAL MEETING OF THE PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE AND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

3.1 Further steps to the final approval of the ‘Roadmap’

It has been agreed by the meeting participants that the EJTN will implement the adjustments and will distribute the document to all meeting participants for their review and comments. The deadline to submit the final comments is 30 May 2014.

3.2 Discussion and decision on the date and place of signing the ‘MoU’

Mr. POSTULSKI informed the meeting participants that the MoU will be signed during the Judicial Conference that will also enhance the project’s visibility.

He asked the project partners to declare the intention in signing the document and confirm their availability for the Judicial Conference via an email sent to the EJTN latest by the end of May 2014.

3.3 Presentation of the Judicial Conference – Project workshop “Building upon good practices in European Judicial Training” by the European Commission

Mr. WAGNER provided information on the Judicial Conference ‘Building upon good practices in European judicial Training’ which will be held on 26-27 June in Brussels. He explained that the one-and-a-half-day conference will consist both of presentations and workshops. Working group sessions will be dedicated to specific training issues and provide a forum for discussing various topics on judicial training.

The EJTN will give an overview of the results of LOT 1 of the Pilot Project during the plenary session. The presentation will include the recommendations and provide an explanation on the different categories of identified practices.

The presentations on training practices will take place in subgroups working sessions during the afternoon. There will be approximately 3 to 5 working groups including the training-the-trainers seminars, the linguistic seminars on linguistic obstacles in cross-border training and the criminal justice seminars on the EAW/MLA simulations (the use of simulations in training activities). There are additional subgroups envisaged covering topics such as training needs assessment, e-learning, cross-border cooperation of training providers, decentralised training and evaluation of training activities.

3.4 Presentation of LOT 4 at the Judicial Conference

Mr. WAGNER informed that LOT 4 will be on the agenda of the conference. The European Commission will present LOT 4 and one project partner will be invited to provide an overview of the main achievements of the project.

4. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Date and time of the next meeting

The next (final) meeting of the Project Steering Committee will be held on **Thursday 26 June 2014 from 10 am to 13 pm in Brussels.**

The meeting will continue with the project workshop “Building upon good practices in European Judicial Training” as of **14 pm on Thursday 26 June 2014** and end on **Friday 27 June 2014 at 17 pm.**

- **Fourth meeting of the project steering committee – 26 June 2014**



**Réseau Européen de Formation Judiciaire
European Judicial Training Network**

Minutes of the Project Steering Committee meeting

EU Pilot Project on Judicial training LOT 4 – Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders by European judicial training

Held on Thursday 26 June 2014 from 10 am to 12:30 pm

EJTN European Judicial Training Network

Rue de Commerce 123, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CRETIN-MAGAND Emmanuelle	European Commission DG Justice
POSTULSKI Wojciech	EJTN Secretary General
SIPOS Sara	EJTN Secretariat
HEUSEL Wolfgang	ERA – Academy for European Law
COOPER Jeremy	Judicial College UK
VAN DEN BROECK Edith	IFJ- IGO
ORAL Umit	IFJ- IGO
VAN DER GOES Monique	ENCJ
GILLIGAN Paul	ENCJ
HASCHER Dominique	NPSJCEU
MATYK Stephan	EJN-CC
JANSEN Rosa	SSR
ZELLER Edith	AEAJ
BATTISTONI Eric	GEMME
ZALAR Bostjan	IARLJ
DESAEGHER Kathleen	ENPE
LAVRYSEN Luc	EUFJE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome and apologies for absence

Mr. POSTULSKI welcomed the participants. He noted two apologies of absence. He apologised for the impossibility of attendance of the European Judicial Network. He remarked that *the EJM project partners* sent a message expressing their unavailability to attend the meeting due to their General Assembly that is held simultaneously to the present meeting in Athens. The European Association of Competition Law Judges informed the EJM that the association will be only represented on the second day of the meeting on the 27 June.

The EJM indicated that all absent project partners will be notified about the further developments of the project.

1.2 Approval of the agenda

Mr. POSTULSKI presented the agenda which the meeting participants approved.

1.3 Presentation of the meeting participants/ project partners

All meeting participants shortly introduced themselves.

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2.1 Presentation of the final Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Mr. POSTULSKI provided a brief overview of the Memorandum of Understanding. He recalled that during the last project steering committee meeting the partners provided their comments and agreed to introduce several adjustments and corrections which the EJM subsequently implemented to the document and distributed the final version to the participants.

He further shared that the EJM-Civil has contacted the EJM regarding the network's position on the signing of the MoU. Mr. Postulski asked Mr. Matyk representing the EJM-civil network to provide further information to the participants.

Mr. MATYK explained that mainly due to institutional reasons, namely the lack of legal personality of the EJM-Civil, signing the memorandum of understanding will be not possible for the network.

However the EJM-Civil emphasised the wish to continue and even strengthen the cooperation with the EJM.

The EJM-Civil suggested the following specific recital reflecting Article 12a of Council Decision 2001/470/EC (amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council to be added to the text of the MoU:

“Good cooperation also exists with the European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters relating to the promotion of training on judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters.”

2.2 Discussion on the procedure of signing the MoU

Mr. POSTLULSKI recalled that the EJTN and the project partners will sign the Memorandum of Understanding during the second day (on June 27 2014) of the project workshop “Building upon good practices in European judicial training” organised by the European commission.

Ms. CRETIN MAGAND informed the participants that according to the agenda the signature of the MoU is scheduled for the afternoon. She further shared that Mr. Postulski will hold a presentation on LOT 4. He will provide an overview of the project and will present its main achievements. The signature of the document will take place right after this presentation.

Mr. POSTULSKI added that the only one copy of the document will be signed due to logistical/practical reasons as it would be troublesome and lengthy to sign 13 copies on the spot. The signed document will be deposited with the EJTN and all project partners will receive a copy.

2.3 Presentation of the final report on the State of play – (deliverable 1)

Ms. SIPOS provided an overview on the report. She recalled that the Commission suggested the EJTN to edit the report to separate factsheets, creating an individual factsheet for each project partner. Subsequently the report has been reedited and a second version has been prepared by the EJTN which reflects the so called ‘fact sheet’ style.

In a view of publishing complete and correct information via the e-Justice portal and the EJTN website, she reminded the European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME) and the Association of European Competition law Judges (AECLJ) to provide the EJTN with the missing information on section G: *‘Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project’*.

2.4 Discussion on the dissemination of the report

Mr. POSTULSKI informed the participants that the LOT 4 final report and the fact sheets will be published both via the European e-Justice portal and via the EJTN website.

Ms. CRETIN-MAGAND further explained that the Commission plans to publish the executive summary of the report which will be extracted from the report and all the relevant documents which have been drafted by the partners during the project execution, namely the

Memorandum of Understanding, the roadmap and the fact sheets of the report on the state of play. The documents will be published in English while the text of the webpage will be translated to all EU languages.

Some of the meeting participants expressed their preference that they would be in favour of the factsheets being translated to all EU languages.

Ms. CRETIN-MAGAND shared that it is not foreseen to publish the report on the state of play/factsheets in all EU languages for budgetary reasons however she will check this possibility.

She informed the project partners that they will be contacted once a year by the Commission when the yearly updates of the e-Justice portal is due, to review and provide updates on the factsheets, if applicable.

On this occasion the EJTN offered to act as a contact point between the Commission and the project partners for such updates.

The meeting participants proposed to include information on their web access to the header of the fact sheets. The EJTN will locate the webpages and update the factsheets accordingly, and will only contact the partners in case clarification is needed.

2.5 Approval of the final text of the Roadmap for the future cooperation – (deliverable 3)

Mr. POSTULSKI provided an overview of the roadmap. He recaptured that the roadmap is divided into four chapters.

Chapter one covers the cooperation between all the project partners which targets the share of information in relation to training needs assessment, the dissemination of information on training activities and resources, the exchange of experts' data and the identification of experts and consortia in specific areas.

Chapter two describes a specific cooperation between the EJTN and the four horizontal project partners while chapter three covers the specific cooperation between the EJTN and the EJT and EJT-Civil. Finally, chapter four regulates the procedures.

Mr. LAVRYSEN suggested to add the following phrase 'training courses organised by the partners' to Chapter I to point B – cooperation between the project partners, in order to emphasise the mutual nature of the cooperation.

There has no further comments been made and the participants approved the final text of the roadmap.

2.6 Discussion of the first action items of the Roadmap

Mr. POSTULSKI recalled that according to Chapter IV point 1 of the roadmap: within three month after signing the memorandum of Understanding each partner will appoint a representative responsible for the exchange of information on all fields of cooperation. These representatives are referred to as national contact points.

Subsequently, he asked the participants to provide the EJTN the details of their contact points latest by 27 September 2014.

He ensured the project partners that by November 2014 the EJTN will provide them with detailed information on trainings organised or coordinated by the EJTN. According to the principle of mutual collaboration the EJTN will be looking forward to receive the details of the training courses facilitated by the project partners. This information will be published via the EJTN website.

Mr. POSTULSKI invited all representatives to the EJTN's next general assembly which will be held on 15-16 June in Riga, Latvia.

2.7 Information on the preparation of the draft final report

Ms. SIPOS informed the participants that according to the call for tender the EJTN has certain reporting obligations to the European Commission.

Within twelve months of the signature of the contract the EJTN must submit a draft final report. The EJTN is now preparing the draft final report which has to be submitted by 14 July 2014.

The draft final report shall comprises an executive summary, the draft report on the implementation of the contract, a complete description of the implementation of the contract, the methodology followed, conclusions and main findings, recommendations on follow-up and the project deliverables.

She further shared that within forty-five calendar days of receipt of the draft final report, the Commission will inform the EJTN of its acceptance or of any comments or requests for supplementary work.

3. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- **Additional points**

The present meeting will continue with the Commission project workshop “Building upon good practices in European Judicial Training” as of **14 pm on Thursday 26 June 2014** and end on **Friday 27 June 2014 at 17 pm**.

Annex seven: deliverable three – roadmap for cooperation

This report represents ‘deliverable 3’ of the Tender JUST/2012/JUTR/PR/0064/A4 – Implementation of the Pilot Project – European Judicial Training – Lot 4 “Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial training”.

DELIVERABLE 3

- **Roadmap for the cooperation** between the European Judicial Training Network and its relevant partners and networks at European level, in order to improve training of judges and prosecutors in national legal systems and traditions as well as in European Union law and judicial cooperation procedures, in line with the respective mandates of the networks

List of Project Partners

Name of Project Partner
I. European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)
II. European Network of Councils for the Judiciary – (ENCJ)
III. Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union
IV. Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union (ACA – Europe)
V. European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters (EJN – Civil)
VI. European Judicial Network in Criminal matters – (EJN)
VII. Association of European Administrative Judges – (AEAJ)
VIII. Association of European Competition Law Judges – (AECLJ)
IX. European Association of Judges for Mediation– (GEMME)
X. European Association of Labour Court Judges – (EALCJ)
XI. International Association of Refugee Law Judges – (IARLJ)
XII. European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment – (EUFJE)
XIII. European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment – (ENPE)

In order to secure the adequate implementation of deliverable 3 the roadmap for future cooperation is divided into three chapters.

Chapter I (applicable to all Project Partners)

A. The cooperation between the Project Partners will target the following areas according to each partner’s competences:

The sharing of information in relation to training needs’ assessment:

- The project partners will gather relevant information from their members regarding the need for judicial training
- At the first quarter of each year the EJTN will invite all Project Partners:
 - to present their findings regarding training needs in their respective field of specialization, both at the European and the national level, with a description of the corresponding reasons (i.e. factual/legal reasons for the emerging needs);
 - to present their proposals with regard to training (i.e. suitable target group for training, length of training, need for training).
- The EJTN will present the information received to its working and sub-working groups;
- The EJTN will invite the Project Partners for discussions in case their proposals are selected to be further developed by the EJTN working groups; and
- The EJTN will invite such Project Partners to cooperate in the events organized on the basis of their proposals.

The specific identification of training needs includes the following four elements:

- subject of training
- target of training
- level of training (basic, advanced)
- financial scheme

B. The cooperation between the Project Partners will include the dissemination of information on training activities and available training resources.

- Each year (October/November) the EJTN will provide all Project Partners with general information on its annual training plan/activities;
- The EJTN will inform the Project Partners on the vacant training places;
- If needed the EJTN will assist in the allocation of participants for Project Partners’ training courses;
- The EJTN will assist in the dissemination of training information by publishing information on the training courses organized by the partners on its website.

C. The cooperation between the Project Partners will include the exchange of experts’ data and the identification of experts.

1. The Project Partners will outline a common definition of the ‘expert’ (minimum qualifications, eligibility)
2. The Project Partners will feed the EJTN’s a database of experts which will be a living instrument, subject to continuous update based on the yearly exchange of information.

D. The cooperation between the Project Partners will include consortia in specific areas.

Should the EJTN identify on the basis of the information provided by the Project Partners regarding judicial training need, the need for organising an event within the field of competence of one of the Project Partners, the EJTN will invite the Project Partner to join a consortium for its execution.

Chapter II (applicable only to three horizontal Project Partners)

The cooperation between the EJTN and the European Network of the Councils for the Judiciary, the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions.

Special cooperation:

- The cooperation with the horizontal Project Partners will target – within the scope of their competences:
 - The exchange of the strategic papers published by the horizontal Project Partners;
 - The determination of training needs in specific areas (i.e. judicial ethics)
 - The support of networks of experts in the field of EU law at the national level – (i.e. GAIUS, EURINFRA) – pursuant to the European Parliament resolution on judicial training – court coordinators:
(See link: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+MOTION+B7-2013-0053+0+DOC+PDF+V0//EN>)
 - The recognition/promotion of the added value of the participation in training – pursuant to the recommendations of the Study prepared by the EJTN and ERA on judicial Training in the European Union Member States (2011) for the European Parliament :
(See link: https://www.era.int/cgi-bin/cms? SID=04c106ea0438cb7b737f8d7b82d49216abe0160f00292409151998& sprache=en& bereich=artikel& aktion=detail& persistent_variant=/About%20ERA/Study%20on%20Judicial%20Training%20in%20the%20EU& template_variant3=Study%20on%20Judicial%20Training%20in%20the%20EU&idartikel=122256)

Chapter III

Cooperation with the European Judicial Network (EJN) and the European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters (EJNCC)

- The EJTN will inform the EJN and the EJNCC regularly on the training events in order to provide their contact points with the opportunity to attend the trainings

Chapter IV – Procedures (applicable to all Project Partners)

1. Within three month after signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) each Project Partner will appoint a contact point responsible for the exchange of information on all fields of cooperation settled in this roadmap.
2. The Project Partners will provide the contact details of such contact points including email address and phone number.
3. The EJTN will promote a yearly meeting of the contact points and other representatives of the Project Partners in order to:
 - Discuss matters of common interest including development of a common methodology for evaluation of quality of training services
 - Evaluate the outcome of the previous year’s cooperation;
 - Identify possible shortages/ areas subject to improvement;
 - Introduce new tools of cooperation in new areas;
 - Evaluate the state of execution of the present roadmap.

The EJTN will grant funding for one representative per project partner.

4. The EJTN will invite the heads of the Project Partners to its General Assembly. The exact allocation of costs will be determined at a later stage.

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