



Training Project >

Criminal defence in the context
of European criminal justice and
judicial cooperation in the EU

The project

This EU-wide project will offer defence counsel training on EU criminal justice instruments and judicial cooperation. While most training projects at EU level in recent years have exclusively addressed judges and prosecutors, this project close the gap by offering training to defence lawyers in the EU Member States. The project will also feed into the step-by-step approach agreed by the EU on the establishment of certain procedural safeguards by presenting this approach and discussing the proposed safeguards with defence lawyers throughout the EU.

The concept

The project will consist of six seminars conducted throughout the EU. Each will be targeted at different groups of selected member states (approx. 25 participants from 4-5 Member States per seminar). The training will last 1 ½ days from midday on Friday to late afternoon on Saturday.

Timeline

The project will last 22 months starting from May 2011. The seminars are scheduled to take place in October 2011, December 2011, February 2012, April 2012, June 2012 and September 2012.

Venues

In order to cover as many Member States as possible, the six seminars are distributed around the EU and will take place in Barcelona, Brussels, Edinburgh, Helsinki, Prague and Vienna.

Costs

The project is co-financed by the European Commission under the Criminal Justice Programme.

Seminar fee including documentation	€150 - €350	The fee will vary depending on the event.
Travel	€ 0	Travel costs are reimbursed by ERA up to €300 for participants from abroad and up to €150 for those from the Member State where the seminar takes place..
Accommodation	€ 0	Accommodation for 2 nights will be booked and covered by ERA.
Catering	€ 0	Coffee breaks are included. ERA will invite all participants for a joint dinner.

Registration

The number of places for the seminars is limited (5-10 places/national group/ seminar; 25 places/seminar). These places will be allocated among the eligible applicants on a first-come, first served basis.



Seminars

Where?	When?	Target group	Language(s)
Vienna, Austria	October 2011	Defence lawyers from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Austria (10 places)• Germany (7 places)• Hungary (6 places) Open to defence lawyers from Luxembourg and Slovenia (2 places).	German
Helsinki, Finland	9-10 December 2011	Defence lawyers from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finland (10 places)• Denmark (6 places)• Sweden (6 places) Open to defence lawyers from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Norway (3 places).	English
Brussels, Belgium	February 2012	Defence lawyers from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Belgium (7 places)• France (10 places)• Romania (7 places). Open to defence lawyers from Luxembourg (1 place).	French
Edinburgh, Scotland	April 2012	Defence lawyers from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UK (10 places)• Ireland (7 places)• The Netherlands (7 places). Open to defence lawyers from Malta (1 place).	English
Prague, Czech Republic	15-16 June 2012	Defence lawyers from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Czech Republic (10 places)• Poland (7 places)• Slovakia (6 places). Open to defence lawyers from Bulgaria and Greece (2 places).	Czech Polish (English)
Barcelona, Spain	28-29 September 2012	Defence lawyers from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spain (10 places)• Portugal (6 places)• Italy (6 places)• Romania (3 places).	Spanish Italian

Travel and accommodation

Accommodation for 2 nights will be booked and covered by ERA.

Travel costs will be reimbursed by ERA upon receipt of the original invoices up to €300 for participants from abroad and up to €150 for those from the Member State where the seminar takes place. Participants are asked to book their own travel.

Contact



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E-learning

To benefit to a maximum from participation in the training programme, participants will have the opportunity to prepare in advance through an introductory e-learning course via the ERA website.

Methodology

The programme will offer a mixture of training methods, varying from lectures to interactive workshops.

In order to guarantee valuable practical training, the topics will be dealt with by means of "national" workshops. In these workshops, a national expert will present and analyse the topics and conduct a case study based on the individual national criminal justice system. In this way, participants will benefit from training that is tailor-made to deal with the questions and problems arising in their daily practice when dealing with cross-border cases.

In order to benefit from different perspectives, the groups of experts conducting the seminars will also consist of judges, prosecutors and academics with long-standing experience in judicial cooperation in criminal matters in the EU.

Programme

The impact of the developing area of European criminal law, especially with regard to the increasing use of instruments based on the principle of mutual recognition, on the daily work of the defence in the EU Member States will form the main content of training.

At the heart of the training will be problems and questions arising from the perspective of the defence with regard to cross-border cases that involve investigative measures where EU instruments are already in force – namely the European Arrest Warrant and freezing and confiscation orders – or are planned, especially in the field of obtaining evidence across internal EU borders.

Networking opportunities

The increased European dimension of criminal law also calls for increased networking between defence lawyers in the EU. This project will support such networking in two ways: first, defence lawyers from different EU Member States will be given the opportunity to make personal contacts and to exchange best practice and experience in the course of the training; second, part of the training will be dedicated to informing participants about the most effective ways to get in contact with their colleagues from other EU Member States.

Organiser

The project is organised by the Academy of European Law (ERA).

ERA is a non-profit public foundation that provides training to legal practitioners in European criminal justice cooperation and in other areas of European law. Find more information on our website www.era.int.

Partners

The project is supported by the European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA), the Czech Bar Association, the Délégation des barreaux de France (DBF), the Finnish Bar Association, the Österreichischer Rechtsanwaltskammertag (Austrian Bar), the Scottish Faculty of Advocates, and the Spanish Bar.

Partners support the project by advising on the programmes and speakers.