



Baltic Network of EU Law Experts Project

A practical approach to judicial training for judges
and prosecutors in the Baltic states



Co-funded by
the European Union

 <https://baltic-network.era.int>

About the project



Under the Justice Programme 2021-2027, ERA is implementing a new training project for judges and prosecutors from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in partnership with the Office of the Prosecutor General in Estonia, the Latvian Judicial Training Centre, the National Courts Administration in Lithuania, and with the support of the Supreme Court of Estonia, the Prosecution Office of the Republic of Latvia and the Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Lithuania.

The aim of this project co-funded by the European Union is to deepen the knowledge of Baltic judges and prosecutors on EU law, to improve their skills in the application of EU law, enhance mutual trust among members of their judiciaries, and pave the way for the creation of a pool of experts who can deliver training at national level and come together in a network of EU court coordinators.

The training project consists of a series of regional cross-professional and trans-national seminars, a series of in-depth webinars on topics focusing on digital skills and cross-border cooperation, and a study visit in Trier and Luxembourg.

Detailed Objectives

- To train ca. 165 judges and prosecutors by organising 3 one-and-a-half-day transnational, cross-professional interactive and practical legal training courses focusing on the rule of law, the preliminary reference procedure and the Charter of Fundamental Rights
- To enhance the digital skills of ca. 150 judges and prosecutors with a special focus on cross-border procedures and the taking of evidence by organising 5 half-day webinars
- To organise a three-and-a-half-day study visit for ca. 40 judges and prosecutors in Trier and Luxembourg
- To provide a platform for exchange of best practices, information and knowledge in a practice-oriented way, which could lead to creating a network of EU experts among the Baltic judiciaries

Methodology

The content of the seminars will be carefully adapted to the level of knowledge of an advanced group of participants. Judges' and prosecutors' particular needs will be taken into account, so each training session will consist of a mixture of advanced-level introductory presentations and a practice-oriented session. The practical session will be either cases studies or exchange of best practice and experience from the everyday work of a national judge and prosecutor.

Content

Advanced legal training courses will cover the following topics:

- Rule of law in the EU
- Preliminary ruling procedure before the CJEU
- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU

Webinars will cover:

- Legislative databases and search tools: Curia, HUDOC, ECHR-KS, EUR-Lex
- FRA's online tools: EU Fundamental Rights Information System - EFRIS, Criminal Detention Database, Case-law Database, Charterpedia and Charter e-guidance
- European Investigation Order (EIO) and e-CODEX
- E-evidence
- ECRIS

The study visit will consist of:

- debates on key issues for judiciary in the EU
- exchange of best practice among judiciary
- meeting with CJEU judges and European Public Prosecutors
- sessions on preliminary ruling procedure before the CJEU in practice
- sessions on cooperation with the EPPO in practice
- meeting with court coordinators in European law from selected Members States
- workshops on training methodology



Our project in numbers

Our mission is to train 355 judges and prosecutors by organising interactive and practical legal training activities on European Law. Events are partly open to legal assistants. For more information please refer to the relevant project partner.

9
training events:
3 regional seminars
5 webinars
1 study visit

3
Baltic states

40
judges and
prosecutors
participating in the
study visit

150
judges and
prosecutors trained
in webinars

4
different venues

355
judges and
prosecutors
participating



Calendar of activities



Series of regional and trans-national seminars

During each regional seminar the programme will cover the following EU law topics of fundamental importance for judges and prosecutors: preliminary ruling procedure, the rule of law and judicial independence, the Charter of Fundamental Rights.

2024		
Riga	19-21 June 2024	Advanced seminar
Tallinn	30 Sept - 2 Oct 2024	Advanced seminar

2025		
Vilnius	12-14 May 2025	Advanced seminar

Study visit

The study visit will facilitate exchange of experience among judges and prosecutors and enable them to meet and discuss with judges from the Court of Justice of the EU, with prosecutors from the European Public Prosecutor’s Office and with Court Coordinators in European Law from other Member States. The programme, apart from topics on EU law of general importance for judges and prosecutors, will elaborate on judicial training methodology.

Series of in-depth webinars

The webinars will cover EU-wide search engines, such as: Curia, HUDOC, ECHR-KS, the EUR-Lex database, FRA tools, and cross-border cooperation tools, such as: EIO, e-CODEX, e-evidence, ECRIS.

2024		
Online	12 June 2024	EU legislative search tools, judicial portals
Online	30 October 2024	EU Agency for Fundamental Rights
Online	10 December 2024	Digital skills: focus on the EIO and e-CODEX

Two further webinars will be organised in the first half of 2025, the dates of which will be confirmed in the second half of 2024.

2025		
Trier & Luxembourg	14-17 October 2025	Study visit

Participation conditions

Participation

Participation will be subject to a selection procedure by the project partners, since the number of places is limited. In addition, you will need to register online on ERA’s website in order to participate in the seminar. We strongly advise you not to make any travel arrangements before your registration is confirmed by ERA.

Registration fee

There is no registration fee.

Travel & Accommodation

- Travel and accommodation contributions will be calculated according to the EU unit cost calculation guidelines (https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/unit-cost-decision-travel_en.pdf), which are based on the distance from the participant’s place of work to the seminar location and will not take account of the participant’s actual travel costs.
- Either the institution organising a combined trip for its participants or single participants will receive a fixed contribution towards their travel and accommodation expenses based on the EU unit costs calculation – please consult your institution (project partner) for more details. Booking your own travel is advised only after receiving confirmation from ERA.

- Please note that no contribution will be paid for travel under 50km. For more information, please consult p.10 on <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel>.
- The accommodation will be booked by the project partner.
- The condition for payment of the travel and accommodation contribution is to sign all attendance sheets at the event. No supporting documents are needed.
- Please note that no payment is possible if the registered participant cancels their participation for any reason.

Partnership



Project partners

Estonia

Supreme Court of Estonia



Latvia

Prosecution Office of the Republic of Latvia



Lithuania

Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Lithuania



Beneficiaries

Estonia

Office of the Prosecutor General



Latvia

Latvian Judicial Training Centre



Lithuania

National Courts Administration (NCA)



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