

Key areas of work

Judicial exchanges

EJTN has been granted a monopoly for the provision of judicial exchanges by the European Commission. Under the direction of the Working Group Exchange Programmes, the Exchange Programme department organises and coordinates exchanges and workshops for judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers across Europe.

Participants benefit from an immersion in a foreign judicial environment, exchanges of best practices and knowledge and a stronger feeling of belonging to a common judicial culture.

Since 2005, the number of exchanges has grown an average of 21% per year. The exchange participant satisfaction rates consistently remain high at over 95%.

"The exchange programme reinforces the feeling that our judicial systems are very similar. It is also an opportunity to get to know other European judges and realise that we are as much a German, Italian or European judge as we are a German, Italian or European citizen."

—German judge on exchange in Italy

Courses and seminars

Judicial training courses, and seminars are planned by the Working Group Programmes. These activities, coordinated and disseminated by the Programmes department, are produced by EU national training institutions or co-financed by the EU.

Training topics include EU law, criminal and civil law, legal language, professional practices and societal issues. The number of activities continues to grow, with some 200 activities on offer in 2009 Catalogue.

Under the direction of the Working Group Programmes, the Programmes department also launches key EU-level judicial training initiatives within the framework partnership of the European Commission, or in answer to specific calls for projects.

Learn more from our website

For more information about EJTN, the judicial exchange and training opportunities, go to our website:

www.ejtn.eu



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EJTN has an annual operating budget of approximately €1 million (2009), funded as to 70% by the EU and as to 30% from membership subscriptions.



The European Judicial Training Network



About the EJTN, its activities and achievements and future outlook

Dedicated to excellence in European judicial training



About the EJTN

The European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) is the principal platform and promoter for the development, training and exchange of knowledge and competence of the EU judges and prosecutors in EU law and case law. Founded in 2000, EJTN is a non-profit international organisation.

EJTN develops training standards and curricula, coordinates judicial training exchanges and programmes and fosters cooperation between EU national training bodies.

EJTN's strategy helps to foster a common legal and judicial European culture, to develop the area of freedom, security and justice and to promote mutual recognition of judgements.



EJTN coordinates programmes in EU law through the national schools responsible for training the 160,000 judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers across Europe. EJTN's scope covers EU, civil, criminal, labour and commercial law along with linguistics and societal issues

Activities

EJTN's activities include:

- Identifying EU judicial training needs
- Producing authoritative judicial training standards and curricula
- Developing and coordinating judicial exchange programmes
- Researching and disseminating training expertise and know-how
- Promoting the exchange of information and best practices between judicial training institutions
- Advocating EU judicial issues, directives and legislation

Governance and operation

The EJTN governance and operation, designed to promote internal democracy and stimulate cooperation, is overseen by several bodies.

- The General Assembly, composed of representatives from all member institutions, meets annually
- Steering Committee, composed of 9 Members
- The Working Groups (WG) plan and implement programmes within their fields
- EJTN works with the EC and nearly 40 EU national judicial bodies, which are Members and Observers of EJTN
- The WGs are responsible for developing programmes within their fields



Key achievements

- Since 2005, EJTN has coordinated 1150 judge, prosecutor and trainer exchanges
- EJTN's annual Catalogue of judicial training offers some 200 activities
- Establishment of 4 focussed Working Groups to drive key initiatives
- Creation of influential networks with other European judicial bodies

Future outlook

While celebrating its growth and achievements, EJTN continues to improve and widen its field of work.



EJTN is pursuing both ongoing and new initiatives, including:

- Producing and implementing authoritative judicial training standards and curricula under the October 2008 Resolution of the French Presidency
- Implementing and promoting a common technology environment, guidelines and methods for eLearning
- Strengthening cooperation and ties with national EU judicial bodies, non-EU states and other judicial networks worldwide through the Working Group External Relations
- As a recognised key stakeholder, furthering the EU e-Justice strategy
- Working in cooperation with the EU in implementing the 2009 Stockholm Programme, providing the EU framework from 2010 to 2014
- Developing an eLearning capacity and encouraging technological innovations across its membership through the Working Group Technologies