Reseau Européen de Formation Judiciaire
European Judicial Training Network

General Assembly, 9 – 10 June 2016, Amsterdam

Judicial Training Principles

Background:

The Steering Committee, which met on in February and April 2016 in Paris and Berlin, decided of the following principles to be recommended for adoption by EJTN’s General Assembly (9 – 10 June 2016, Amsterdam) as a European statement relating to the core principles of judicial training.

Decision:

The General Assembly unanimously approved the judicial training principles while acknowledging that this applies to the Prosecutors in so far as they belong to the national “corps judiciaire”.

Judicial Training Principles

1. Judicial training is a multidisciplinary and practical type of training, essentially intended for the transmission of professional techniques and values complementary to legal education.

2. All judges and prosecutors should receive initial training before or on their appointment.

3. All judges and prosecutors should have the right to regular continuous training after appointment and throughout their careers and it is their responsibility to undertake it. Every Member State should put in place systems that ensure judges and prosecutors are able to exercise this right and responsibility.

4. Training is part of the normal working life of a judge and a prosecutor. All judges and prosecutors should have time to undertake training as part of the normal working time, unless it exceptionally jeopardises the service of justice.

5. In accordance with the principles of judicial independence the design, content and delivery of judicial training are exclusively for national institutions responsible for judicial training to determine.

6. Training should primarily be delivered by judges and prosecutors who have been previously trained for this purpose.

7. Active and modern educational techniques should be given primacy in judicial training.

8. Member States should provide national institutions responsible for judicial training with sufficient funding and other resources to achieve their aims and objectives.

9. The highest judicial authorities should support judicial training.