

AIKOS PROGRAMME

POLAND – National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution



Description and objectives of the AIKOS Programme

The EJTN AIKOS Programme is addressed specifically to future and early-career judges, giving them the opportunity to learn about other judicial systems and training curricula, enhance their knowledge of EU law and judicial cooperation instruments as well as meet with their counterparts and develop useful contacts for their future professional life.

The AIKOS Programme's objectives are:

- To bring together future or newly appointed judges from different EU Member States;
- To foster mutual understanding of different European judicial cultures and systems;
- To raise awareness of the European dimension of their (future) work.

Specificity of the host institution

The National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution is a legal entity that serves as the only central institution in Poland responsible for the initial training of future judges and prosecutors. The National School is also responsible for continuous training and education, as well as personal development of judges, prosecutors, assessors, court law clerks (referendaries), probation officers, judge's assistants and prosecutors assistant's, court's and prosecution office's staff in the Republic of Poland in order to improve their specialist knowledge and professional skills as well as other court and prosecution clerks in order to improve their professional knowledge; managing analyses and research in order to determine competences and qualifications attributed to positions in courts and prosecution offices which would be used in training activities.

The National School has its own teaching and hotel facilities located in Kraków's city centre. The main headquarter of the National School is also located in Kraków which is also the place where the autumn term of the AIKOS Exchange Programme takes place. Krakow is the second largest and one of the oldest cities in Poland. Situated on the Vistula River in the Lesser Poland region. However, the Centre for Continuous Training and International Cooperation is located in Lublin. Lublin is also a city where the spring term of the AIKOS Exchange Programme takes place. It's the ninth largest city in Poland and the capital as well as the centre of Lublin Voivodeship with a population of 349,103. Lublin is the largest Polish city east of the Vistula River and is approximately 170 kilometres to the southeast of Warsaw by road.



Key points for the host institution's programme

Main points of the AIAKOS Programme in Kraków/Lublin (Poland):

- Legal professions in Poland.
- Civil and criminal court proceedings in Poland.
- Polish penitentiary system.
- Human rights and the Holocaust.
- European Legal Instruments in criminal and/or civil law.
- Science, Forensic and Justice.

Content of the host institution's programme

First Day (ca. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.):

On that day participants take part in a series of lectures and presentations that focus mainly (but not exclusively) on the following topics:

- Becoming a judge and a prosecutor in Poland and other European countries.
- Basic principles of the Polish legal system. Polish judicial system.
- Outline of Polish civil and criminal substantive law and procedure.

Usually on that day, after the lectures/presentations, there is a guided tour either in Kraków or in Lublin.

Second Day (ca. 5:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.):

- Field trip plus lectures and workshops (Kraków – Auschwitz or Lublin – Majdanek).

On that second-day applicants take part in a trip two Auschwitz (when in Lublin it is Majdanek) to learn about Holocaust and human rights. Usually, after the visit, there is a lecture and workshop part (that take place on the premise of the concentration camp – Auschwitz or Majdanek) which consists of legal, psychological and cultural aspects of both human rights as well as issues regarding Holocaust. That day usually belongs to the longest one during the programme: in Kraków, it starts at around 5:45 a.m. and ends at around 7:30 p.m.; in Lublin, it starts at around 8:00 a.m. and ends at 6/7 p.m.

Third Day (ca. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.):

During the third day of the exchange, participants visit the prison facility in Kraków or in Opole Lubelskie (when in Lublin). They learn more about the penitentiary system in Poland as well as the living conditions in a prison, regulations regarding the penal system (penal reforms), issues regarding the rights of prisoners etc.

When in Krakow the group (which consists of around 40 foreign participants + 8/10 national participants) is usually split into smaller groups and goes from the prison facility either to the Institute of National Remembrance or Institute of Forensic Research.



Fourth Day (ca. 8:30 a.m.-5:30/6:30 p.m.):

‘Court/prosecutor’s office day’

The fourth day is dedicated to the court proceeding and/or visit the prosecutor’s office. Usually, participants attend both civil and criminal proceeding and/or they have the opportunity to visit the prosecutor’s office. In Kraków on that day participants also take part in a simulated court proceeding that is prepared by the national participants. In Lublin, after the court hearings, participants take part in a series of workshops and lectures that are dedicated to the European Legal Instruments (ELI) like European Arrest Warrant, European Small Claim Procedure, European Investigation Order etc.

Fifth Day (8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.):

The fifth day is usually the shortest one due to the fact that most of the participants are living earlier. In both cases – Lublin and Krakow – there is an organized visit either to the Department of Forensic Medicine in Collegium Medicum at Jagiellonian University in case of Krakow or Criminal Laboratory and Police Dogs Training Facility in case of Lublin.

Additional information

Please be aware of the following:

- AIAKOS Programme in Poland takes place in two editions (spring/May in Lublin and autumn/November in Kraków);
- In each case (Krakow and Lublin) the agenda/schedule is ‘very dense’ meaning that the applicants should be aware that they may have little time for themselves especially if they will take into account that almost every evening during the programme there are different non-compulsory social activities;
- The content of the programme targets both criminal and civil law (as well as human rights and European law), however, there are no activities regarding the administrative law;
- AIAKOS Programme in Lublin accommodates ca. 20 foreign participants and 5 national participants whereas in Krakow we accommodate each year around 40 foreign participants and 10 national participants.

