

## Fact Sheet No. 2 – European Network of Councils for the Judiciary

A. General Information	
<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Legal Statute</b>	<b>Not-for-profit International Association (since 2008) a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law</b>
<b>Legal Seat</b>	<b>Rue de la Croix de Fer 67, B – 1050 Brussels, Belgium</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.encj.eu/">http://www.encj.eu/</a></b>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Association has as its aim the improvement of cooperation between, and good mutual understanding amongst, the Councils for the Judiciary and the members of the judiciary of both the European Union Member States and of any European Union candidate member states.</p> <p>The Association shall exclusively and directly pursue international objectives of a non-profit making nature.</p> <p>Within the framework of the creation of the European Area of freedom, security and justice, the objectives of the Association are co-operation between members on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• analysis of and information on the structures and competencies of members, and exchanges between the members;</li><li>• exchange of experience in relation to how the judiciary is organised and how it functions;</li><li>• provision of expertise, experience and proposals to European Union institutions and other national and international organisations.</li></ul> <p>ENCJ's Vision is that the ENCJ will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A unique body representing the judicial perspective to European Institutions</li><li>• The centre of a vibrant forum for the judiciary across Europe</li><li>• The main support for independent Councils for the Judiciary</li></ul> <p>All to enable the judiciary to optimize the timely and effective delivery of justice for the benefit of all.</p> <p>Mission Statement: The ENCJ is the body which unites all Councils for the Judiciary of the EU member states and represents them in the EU. It reinforces an independent yet accountable judiciary and promotes best practices to enable the judiciary to deliver timely and effective justice for the benefit of all.</p>	

## C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)

The ENCJ membership is open to all national institutions of Member States of the European Union which are independent of the executive and legislature, or which are autonomous, and which ensure the final responsibility for the support of the judiciary in the independent delivery of justice.

### **Members:**

- Belgium – Hoge Raad voor de Justitie/ Conseil Supérieur de la Justice
- Bulgaria – Supreme Judicial Council JC
- Denmark – Domstolsstyrelsen
- England and Wales – Judges Council
- France – Conseil Supérieure de la Magistrature
- Ireland – Courts Service
- Italy – Consiglio Superiore della Magistratura
- Italy – Consiglio di Presidenza della Giustizia Amministrativa
- Latvia – Tieslietu Padome
- Lithuania – Teiseju Taryba
- Malta – Commission for the Administration of Justice
- Netherlands – Raad voor de rechtspraak
- Northern Ireland – Judges Council
- Poland – Krajowa Rada Sadownictwa
- Portugal – Conselho Superior da Magistratura
- Romania – Consiliul Superior al Magistraturii
- Scotland – Judicial Council
- Slovakia – Sunda Rada
- Slovenia – Sodni Svet
- Spain – Consejo General del Poder Judicial

### **Observers: (15 Observers)**

The status of observer may, at its request, be granted by a unanimous decision of the General Assembly to: the Ministry of Justice in European Union Member States where institutions as specified in Article 6.1 do not exist; the Institutions as specified in Article 6.1 from European Union candidate states [and the Member States of the European Economic Area] (GA 29 May 2009); the institutions of the European Union; advisory bodies of European organizations in particular the Council of Europe, dealing with matters related to justice.

#### i. Ministries of Justice of:

- Austria

- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- Finland
- Germany
- Luxembourg

ii. The Councils for the Judiciary or similar or similar autonomous bodies of:

- Croatia
- Hungary
- Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Norway
- Sweden
- Turkey

iii. The Court of Justice of the European Union

#### **D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

The Association consists of a General Assembly and an Executive Board.

##### **General Assembly**

The General Assembly is endowed with all the powers necessary to achieve the aims and objectives of the Association.

The General Assembly shall comprise representatives of each member of the Association. It shall meet regularly, at least once in each calendar year.

##### **Executive Board**

The Executive Board will consist of the President and of 7 Member Institutions elected by the General Assembly for two years. It functions as a collegial board. The Executive Board has all powers that are expressly vested in it by these Statutes. Without prejudice to its other powers in these Statutes, the Executive Board shall:

- a. take all necessary measures for the implementation of the Association's programme of activities,
- b. be responsible for ensuring the proper functioning of the Permanent Office,
- c. be responsible for calling and preparing ordinary or special meetings of the General Assembly,
- d. propose statements and policy positions to the General Assembly,

- e. undertake all legal formalities and publicity in respect of appointments and the annual financial statements, and
- f. submit an annual report of its activities to the General Assembly.

### **Permanent Office**

The Association has a Permanent Office independent of any member of the Association. The Office functions as an administrative unit under the authority of the President and the Executive Board.

## **E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

The ENCJ brings together the national institutions in the Member States of the European Union which are independent of the executive and legislature and which are responsible for the support of the Judiciaries in the independent delivery of justice.

At the national level, some ENCJ members are fully competent for judicial training. Some other ENCJ members have close relations with their national judicial training institute or school: either the training institute reports directly to them or they decide on the guidelines for the judicial training.

The ENCJ does not itself provide training but aims to improve cooperation between the councils for the judiciary and members of the judiciary in the European Union, including through the promotion of best practices to enable the judiciary to deliver timely and effective justice.

### **The ENCJ's opinion on judicial training is that Councils for the Judiciary should actively promote the activities mentioned below:**

- guaranteeing a fixed place in initial and continuous training for EU law, as well as the understanding of other systems;
- enabling judges to meet colleagues from other Member States, either through training seminars for judges from various EU Member states or by participation in the exchange programmes;
- promoting the establishment of 'jumelages' between courts (twinning of courts) of EU Member States;
- encouraging judges who specialise in certain areas of law to participate in judicial networks (i.e. European Association of Labour Court Judges, European Commercial Judges Forum);
- organising bilateral study-visits also enhances mutual understanding and mutual confidence.

### **The ENCJ opinion on what concerns EU law and networks of experts on EU law is that:**

On the national level the dissemination of EU knowledge could be either done by putting in place a network of EU law specialists or by appointing judges who provide access to information on EU Law (information intermediary) with a view to its practical application. The aim is that the available information is easily accessible for all judges.

The challenge is to organise these specialists or court coordinators so that they are easily found and approachable by their colleagues.

The ENCJ itself should promote the connection of national networks of Court coordinators or experts in EU law throughout Europe.

On the European level, it is necessary to promote the development of judicial networks that focus on improving mutual understanding of specialist issues and problems and on how the Member States' judiciaries identify and address these common concerns through sharing experience and through improved communication channels.

It is important that these networks are developed in a coordinated way. The ENCJ could and should promote the setting up of these networks and support the management of these networks by ensuring they are properly structured and facilitate contacts between Members.

**The ENCJ has organised a seminar on Timeliness. If for the purpose of the present project the seminar should be perceived as a training activity, it is introduced here:**

The ENCJ has organised Regional Seminar on Timeliness for Baltic and Nordic countries, 22-23 April 2013, Poland. The seminar was organised at a regional level with participants from countries with comparable culture and legal traditions and this allowing for a concrete and operational approach. The aim of the seminar was to increase awareness of the problem of timeliness, to deepen the understanding of causes and remedies, and to discuss the recommendations and the cooperation between stakeholders, and thus to further the implementation of the recommendations.

A second Regional Seminar on Timeliness for another region will be organised in 2014 as a follow-up to the pilot seminar on the same topic.

**The ENCJ is running an internship programme which could be seen as a form of exchange.**

The ENCJ started its Internship programme in 2009. Its aim is to reinforce the links and the mutual confidence between the ENCJ Office and the Members. It also offers an opportunity to staff working for a Member of the ENCJ to gain experience in dealing with the various EU institutions and working in a multinational team. Each intern is a temporary member of the ENCJ Office and is selected for a different period but in principle for two months. Shorter or longer internships are also possible. In most cases, the intern will provide assistance to the functioning of the Office depending on the work available, but sometimes he/she can be assigned with a specific topic or dossier that needs to be researched.

Since its creation in 2009, 13 staff members of the ENCJ Members completed the two-month internship at the ENCJ Office. After the management assistant of ENCJ left in the summer of 2013, this position is now filled by interns.

**F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

In the Statutes, Rules and Regulations of the ENCJ there is no specific reference to any form of judicial training. The aim of the Association is the exchange analysis of and information on the structures and competencies of members, and exchanges between the members; exchange of experience in relation to how the judiciary is organised and how it functions and provision of expertise, experience and proposals to European Union institutions and other national and international organisations.

**G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

The ENCJ has developed links with the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN), the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union and the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union (ACA Europe). The ENCJ participates in the meetings of these organisations.

The ENCJ initiated a joint reaction with ACA and the Network of President of Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU on Judicial Training in 2010.

In 2013, the cooperation between the ENCJ and the other three judicial networks is mainly determined by their mutual work on the EU Pilot Project on Judicial training LOT 4 – Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders by European judicial training.

## Fact Sheet No. 3 – Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union
Date of constitution	2004
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit Association under French law
Legal Seat	5, quai de l'Horloge, F – 75001 Paris, France
Website	<a href="http://reseau-presidents.eu/">http://reseau-presidents.eu/</a>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The main purposes of the Network are to promote exchanges of views and experience on all matters concerning the case law, organisation and functioning of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union in the performance of their judicial or advisory functions, particularly with regard to EU law.</p> <p>It also promotes contacts and exchanges of information between its Members or Observers as well as between them and the European Institutions, by providing the latter with the opportunity to consult its members on all questions regarding the harmonisation of substantive and adjective law.</p>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p><b>Members:</b> The membership is open to the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union. All 28 Member States of the European Union are represented among the members.</p> <p><b>Observers:</b> The Presidents of other Supreme Judicial Courts of States can be admitted as Observers by the General Assembly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Liechtenstein</li><li>• Montenegro</li><li>• Norway</li></ul>	
D. Governance and bodies of the Partner	
<p>The Network is managed by the Board which may take any measure required for the functioning of the Network in the interval between General Assemblies.</p>	

The Board comprises the President, two or more Vice-presidents, the Secretary General and the Treasurer.

#### **E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

The Network has promoted:

- The creation of a common Portal of Jurisprudence;
- The creation of a discussion forum for the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts;
- The consideration of topics common to the European Supreme Judicial Courts with the organisation of conferences and colloquia;
- The integration of the Supreme Judicial Courts into the European judicial architecture and the development of relations with the European Institutions;
- A comparison between the different methods of judging, the creation of a new common approach and system of values between the different legal systems of European Union Member States;
- The strengthening of relations between the Supreme Judicial Courts themselves.

In addition to offering conditions for a dialogue between the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts, the Network has since 2010 organised a Judges' Exchange Programme with a view to promoting working relationships and mutual knowledge among Supreme Judicial Courts.

The Network is also equipped with a website, which was completely remodelled in 2011 after the launch of the European e-Justice Portal, on which it is listed. The website may be consulted by the public to find out about the Network's activities and for information on the Supreme Judicial Courts. The Intranet site, restricted to Members of the Network, seeks to increase contacts between Judges of Supreme Judicial Courts.

#### **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

Under Article 3 of its Articles of Association, the main purposes of the Network are to promote exchanges of views and experience on all matters concerning the case law, organisation and functioning of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union in the performance of their judicial or advisory functions, particularly with regard to EU law.

It also promotes contacts and exchanges of information between its Members or Observers as well as between them and the European Institutions, by providing the latter with the opportunity to consult its members on all questions regarding the harmonisation of substantive and adjective law.

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

The Network develops its activities in partnership with the following European Networks: the Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union (ACA-Europe) and the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ). These Networks are invited to participate in the conferences and colloquia of the Network and the later also participates in the manifestations they organized.

## Fact Sheet No. 4 – Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union (ACA-Europe)

A. General Information	
<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>Association of the Councils of State and Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions of the European Union – (ACA-Europe)</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Legal Statute</b>	<b>Not-for-profit International Association a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law</b>
<b>Legal Seat</b>	<b>Rue de la Science, 33 B – 1040 Brussels, Belgium</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.aca-europe.eu/index.php/en">http://www.aca-europe.eu/index.php/en</a></b>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The main purposes of the Network are to promote exchanges of views and experience on all matters concerning the case law, organisation and functioning of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union in the performance of their judicial or advisory functions, particularly with regard to EU law.</p> <p>It also promotes contacts and exchanges of information between its Members or Observers as well as between them and the European Institutions, by providing the latter with the opportunity to consult its members on all questions regarding the harmonisation of substantive and adjective law.</p>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p><b>Members:</b></p> <p>The members of the ACA-Europe are: the Court of Justice of the European Union and the supreme jurisdictions and Councils of State of the Member States of the European Union which are empowered to adjudicate in the final instance in disputes concerning the activities of public administrative bodies or which are acting in an all-round legal advisory capacity as far as the drawing up of normative texts is concerned.</p> <p>There shall not be more than two Members from each State.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Union – The Court of Justice of the European Union</li> </ul>	

- Austria – The Administrative Court
- Belgium – The Council of State
- Bulgaria – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Croatia – The High Administrative Court
- Cyprus – The Supreme Court
- Czech Republic – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Denmark – The Supreme Court
- Estonia – The Supreme Court
- Finland – The Supreme Administrative Court
- France – The Council of State
- Germany – The Federal Administrative Court
- Greece – The Council of State
- Hungary – the Curia
- Ireland – the Supreme Court
- Italy – the Council of State
- Latvia – The Supreme Court
- Lithuania – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Luxembourg – The Council of State the Administrative Court
- Malta – The Court of appeal
- Netherlands – The Council of State
- Poland – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Portugal – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Romania – The High Court of Cassation and Justice the Legislative Council
- Slovakia – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Slovenia – The Supreme Court
- Spain – The Supreme Administrative Court
- Sweden – The Supreme Administrative Court
- United Kingdom – The Supreme Court

**Observers:**

The Jurisdictions and Councils of State similarly empowered of States which are engaged in negotiations with a view to their actually joining the European Union can be admitted as Observers. As soon as the State to which it belongs has joined the European Union, the Observer becomes automatically at its request a Member of the Association.

Observers:

- Montenegro – The Supreme Court
- Turkey – The Council of State

Guest courts:

- Norway – The Supreme Court
- Switzerland – The Federal Supreme Court

**D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

The Association is managed by a General Assembly, a Board and a General Secretary.

**E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

The activities of the ACA-Europe are specifically oriented towards the training of judges in particular to:

- Enhance access to knowledge in the implementation and application of European law, particularly with regard to the effective implementation of the fundamental rights of the European Charter. This Charter is a fundamental part of all European law. The national judge ensures compliance with this Charter as a trial judge of Union law (environment/telecommunication/foreigners/public health, etc.). (Databases/ periodical "REFLETS" /Forum/meetings);
- Improve knowledge about the judicial system of each member court (Tour of Europe) and to deepen the *acquis* by comparing experiences and practices (meetings / exchange of judges / Forum);
- Organise an exchange programme for judges between member supreme courts targeting the continuous training of judges. This programme gives the judges a concrete experience in all phases of the judicial procedure of concrete cases handled by the supreme court host;
- In-depth study of the knowledge tools (*self-learning/exchange of good practices*): *updating the databases* (DEC-NAT/JURIFAST)/ boosting the Forum.

The knowledge tools mentioned above are organised in two axis.

### **1. First axis: access to the knowledge tools**

- **Database DECNAT**

A collection of about 27,000 national judicial decisions is available on the ACA-Europe website ([www.aca-europe.eu](http://www.aca-europe.eu)) (possible access via Eur-Lex).

Ongoing project to realise a link between DECNAT data and national databases and vice versa, carried out on an experimental basis with 3 member high courts.

Target group: all of the judges of the member supreme courts, the European citizens and specially the entire community of law practitioners (academics and firms of the public or private sector)

- **Databank JURIFAST**

A collection of 1,500 judicial decisions is also available on the ACA-Europe website ([www.aca-europe.eu](http://www.aca-europe.eu)) (possible access via Eur-Lex).

Target group: the same like DECNAT

- **Forum**

ACA-Europe Internal network of corresponding judges (in way of dynamisation): each member court appoints a corresponding judge for "Forum" with a double mission: management and animation of the Forum;

Regarding the management, the corresponding judge shall attend to a fast answer questions;

Regarding the animations, the corresponding judges mention once a month topical legal subjects and draw attention of the others judges on interesting events about EU law (new statute of the Court of justice, major judgments of the Court or of the ECtHR or

of their court, assumption of a position by the constitutional courts in relation with EU law, etc...)

- The corresponding judges for Forum play a role for the input stimulation of **JURIFAST**.

Targeted public: the community of the judges of the supreme courts

### **“Reflets” review**

Reflets is an online document published by the CJEU that gives readers an overview of recent national and international case law, of new national legislation, and of some articles of doctrine. This document originally only existed in French, but ACA-Europe and the CJEU agreed that it will be translated into English and made available via its website [www.aca-europe.eu](http://www.aca-europe.eu).

Targeted public: ditto DEC.NAT and JuriFast

## **2. Second axis: learning by knowledge exchange**

- **Organisation of seminars (two or three times a year) and a colloquium (every two years)**

Topical legal theme closely linked with the implementation of EU law.

Targeted public:

By seminar: 40 ACA-Europe judges (direct effect of participation except external/internal benefits)

By colloquium: 75 ACA-Europe judges (direct effect of participation except external/internal benefits)

- **Organisation of a judicial exchange**

Active participation of the trainee judge in the works of the host Court (training in methods of operation of the host court/ access to cases file/ formative support to the apprehension and understanding of the object of appeal/ access to hearings / organisation of the hearings feedback) ended by a training report published on the website [www.aca-europe.eu](http://www.aca-europe.eu).

Targeted public: 12 judges (direct effect except external/internal benefits)

Internal benefit is to understand as the dissemination of information by the trainee judge inside his court.

External benefit is to understand as the access, via the website, especially for the whole community of law's practitioners (academic sector and firms from private/public sector), to the exchanged datas for and during the event.

## **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

Under Article 3 of its Articles of Association, the main purposes of the Network are to promote exchanges of views and experience on all matters concerning the case law, organisation and functioning of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union in the performance of their judicial or advisory functions, particularly with regard to EU law.

It also promotes contacts and exchanges of information between its Members or Observers as well as between them and the European Institutions, by providing the latter with the opportunity to consult its members on all questions regarding the harmonisation of substantive and adjective law.

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

ACA-Europe closely collaborates with the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, the European Network of the Councils of Justice and the European Judicial Training Network.

ACA-Europe attends the general assemblies of the two first networks and has with them regular exchanges of views in the context of judicial training. ACA-Europe is taking part, via member courts of the Association, in training cycles organised by the EJTN, besides the judges exchange programme set up by ACA-Europe.

### **Fact Sheet No. 5 – European Judicial Network (EJN)**

#### **A. General Information**

<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>European Judicial Network in Criminal matters</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>1998</b>
<b>Legal Basis</b>	<b>Council Decision 2008/976/JHA of 16 December 2008. (Created by the Joint Action 98/428 JHA of 29 June 1998)</b>
<b>Legal Seat</b>	<b>Maanweg 174, 2516 AB, The Hague, Netherlands</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.ejn-crimjust.europa.eu/ejn/">http://www.ejn-crimjust.europa.eu/ejn/</a></b>

#### **B. Goals of the Partner**

The EJN aims to create more effective judicial co-operation, particularly in combating serious crime, by means of:

- Acting as active intermediaries to facilitate judicial co-operation;
- Providing legal and practical information to competent local authorities including through our website;
- Providing support with requests for judicial cooperation;
- Creating a European Union judicial culture; and
- Cooperating with other Judicial Networks, third countries and judicial partners.

The main goals of the EJN towards the facilitation of judicial co-operation are also achieved through the useful website and its judicial tools such as the Atlas, Fiches Belges, Library and Compendium. Part of the judicial training of the contact points and practitioners is to know how to handle those tools.

The Council Decision states that the EJM shall organize periodic meetings of the Member States' representatives. The members of the EJM would meet in order to get to know each other, to gather knowledge on the legal systems of each one and implementation of EU measures, and to provide a forum for discussion of practical and legal problems encountered by the Member States.

The plenary meetings are organised at least three times a year as follows: one Plenary meeting, commonly called the "Regular Meeting" is held in The Hague and is initiated by the Member State holding the Presidency of the Council. The other two plenary meetings are organised by the Member State holding the Rotating Presidency of the Council, and should be held in their respective Member State.

### **C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)**

The EJM is composed of contact points from the 28 EU Member States, from EU candidate countries (FYROM, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey) and EU associated countries (Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), as well as of the European Commission and of a Secretariat based in The Hague.

The EJM contact points are designated by each Member State among: central authorities in charge of international judicial co-operation, judicial authorities and other competent authorities with specific responsibilities in the field of international judicial co-operation, both in general and for certain forms of serious crime, such as organized crime, corruption, drug trafficking or terrorism.

The appointment of contact points takes place according to the constitutional rules, legal traditions and internal structure of each country. The only condition is that it provides effective coverage for all forms of crimes throughout the country.

The result is the existence of almost 400 national contact points across Europe, together with the sub-networks.

Among each Member State's contact points a National Correspondent and a Tool Correspondent are appointed; the former being responsible for the functioning of the Network within their own Member State and for the contacts with the Secretariat; the latter being responsible for the updating of information of their Member State and of the EJM website. Once a year both a National Correspondent Meeting as well as a Tool Correspondent Meeting is organized.

### **D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

Article 2 (8) of the Council Decision provides that the EJM Secretariat is responsible for the administration of the network. Furthermore, Articles 7 and 9 empower the EJM Secretariat with providing and updating judicial informatics tools on the EJM website. The EJM Secretariat represents the EJM in close consultation and coordination with the Member State, which holds the Presidency of the EU Council, and with the EJM Trio Presidencies.

The main tasks of the EJM Secretariat are:

- Enabling the EJM contact points to fulfil their tasks;

- Setting up, maintaining and improving the EJM website and its operational e-tools;
- Disseminating information to the contact points and stakeholders on the EJM activities and on judicial co-operation;
- Ensuring representation and establishing relations with other Judicial Networks and structures in the field of judicial co-operation within and beyond the EU.

The EJM Secretariat is composed of a Secretary to the EJM, a secretariat coordinator, two legal specialists and a webmaster and an assistant of the Secretary to the EJM.

As the managerial body of the Network, the EJM Secretariat enjoys autonomy, as stated in paragraph 20 of the Council Decision 2008/426/JHA of 16 December 2008 on the strengthening of Eurojust.

#### **E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

The EJM has been dealing with judicial training for a long time through different actors (EJM contact points, the Secretariat) and through different means (in addition to seminars and training events also through the EJM website about tools on judicial cooperation):

- The EJM contact points are experts of judicial cooperation in criminal matters and are in close contact with the practitioners in their Member States as they are part of them,
- The EJM meetings provide fora for discussions (incl. in training matters),
- The EJM Secretariat acts as a bridge between the practitioners and judicial training providers (by i.e. analyzing questionnaires & feedback from the contact points and by being regularly involved in seminars),
- Due to its decentralized and horizontal structure, the EJM reaches the widest platform of criminal law practitioners within the EU (judges, prosecutors, ministries of justice and is completely decentralized).

#### **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

Already its first legal basis, Article 4 (2) of the Joint Action provided for that one of the functions of the EJM contact points are to act as trainers and experts in the field of judicial cooperation in criminal matters:

*"The contact points shall provide the legal and practical information necessary to the local judicial authorities in their own country, to the contact points in the other countries, to the local judicial authorities in the other countries, to enable them to prepare an effective request for judicial cooperation or to improve judicial cooperation in general".*

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

Over the years of existence the EJM has had contacts with other judicial Networks and similar structures. Being a pioneering Network the first operational judicial Network, the EJM has also played an active role in creating Networks in other parts of the world. The EJM has become a worldwide respected voice in the field of judicial cooperation, and a model for similar Networks and structures established within the EU and in neighborhood regions of Europe and overseas. The advantages of such a structure of judicial cooperation to fight transnational crime have been considered as the main argument for establishing similar judicial Networks.

The EJM Secretariat considers that it is its duty to assume any steps needed in order to strengthen EJM's capacity to tackle crime; and this infers the support to global networking as well as informal cooperation with other partners having the same goal and working together in a decentralised and informal manner.

## Fact Sheet No. 6 – European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters (EJN-Civil)

A. General Information	
<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial matters (EJN-Civil)</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Legal Basis</b>	<b>Council Decision No 2001/470/EC of 28 May 2001 amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 18 June 2009</b>
<b>Secretariat</b>	<b>European Commission DG Justice, Unit A.1 (Civil Justice Policy) Rue Montoyer 59, 1049 Brussels, Belgium</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://ec.europa.eu/civiljustice/index_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/civiljustice/index_en.htm</a></b>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The EJN-civil is a flexible, non-bureaucratic structure, which operates in an informal way and aims to simplify and strengthen judicial cooperation between Member States to the benefit of citizens and businesses in cross-border cases.</p> <p>The Network aims to improve simplify and expedite effective judicial cooperation between Member States in civil and commercial matters. The EJN-civil is a concrete and practical response to simplify cross-border access to justice and judicial cooperation.</p> <p>It supports national central authorities established by specific Union law instruments and facilitates contacts between different courts through a network of national contact points.</p> <p>The EJN-civil improves the practical application and implementation of EU civil justice instruments. The EJN-civil became the most important tool for judicial cooperation in the area of EU civil justice instruments.</p> <p>The EJN's activities are based on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>direct contacts and case handling between contact points;</li><li>informing the public on cross-border access to justice via factsheets and publications available at the European e-Justice portal in all Union languages;</li><li>evaluating and sharing experience on the operation of specific Union law instruments in matters of civil justice;</li><li>regular meetings of the Contact Points (mainly in Brussels), including Central Authorities meetings under the Brussels IIa Regulation and Maintenance Obligations Regulation.</li></ol>	

In order to promote access to justice, using the information supplied and updated by the contact points, the EJN has put in place a specific website containing legal information for the general public. The content of the website is available in all Union languages and is in the process of being revised in the framework of its current migration into the European e-Justice Portal.

### **C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)**

#### **Members:**

The EJN-civil is composed of contact points and bodies from the EU Member States of the European Union. Denmark does not participate in the EJN-civil.

In July 2013, the 503 members of the EJN-civil fall under the five categories mentioned below.

The Network is composed of:

- 113 contact points designated by Member States;
- bodies and central authorities specified in Union law, in international instruments whereby Member States are party, or in domestic law relating to judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters;
- liaison magistrates with responsibilities for cooperation in civil and commercial matters;
- other judicial or administrative authorities responsible for judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters whose membership is deemed to be useful by the Member State;
- professional associations representing legal practitioners directly involved in the application of Union law and international instruments in civil and commercial matters at national level in the Member States.

The contact points play a key role in the EJN-civil Network. They are available to contact points of other Member States and to local judicial authorities in their Member State. They are also at the disposal of authorities provided for in Union or international instruments relating to judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters. The contact points assist these authorities.

### **D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

The European Commission operates the secretariat of the Network. The selection of items to be discussed and dealt with in the network is done informally and directly between the Commission and the EJN Contact Points.

### **E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

Concerning activities on judicial training, the EJN contact points are regularly informed on activities on EU-level relating to training. Also the EJN-civil's legal basis (Council Decision No 2001/470/EC as amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC) refers in Article 12a to relations with other networks and mentions in particular the EJTJN. The

cooperation with the EJTN is now deepened in the framework of the current Pilot project.

#### **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

The Network shall maintain relations and share experience and best practice with the other European networks that share its objectives, such as the European Judicial Network in criminal matters.

The Network shall also maintain relations with the European Judicial Training Network with a view to promoting, where appropriate and without prejudice to national practices, training sessions on judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters for the benefit of the local judicial authorities of the Member States.

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

Concerning activities on judicial training, the EJM contact points are regularly informed on activities on EU-level relating to training. Also the EJM-civil's legal basis (Council Decision No 2001/470/EC as amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC) refers in Article 12a to relations with other networks and mentions in particular the EJTN. The cooperation with the EJTN is now deepened in the framework of your project. The EJTN Secretary General, Mr. Pereira participated at the last EJM annual meeting in Brussels on 29 January 2014. To support that exercise, the EJM created a small task force composed of the Contact points from DE, FR and PT which is consulted on developments relating to the current EJTN project. Based on Art 12a of Decision No 2001/470/EC as amended by Decision No 568/2009/EC, the EJM-civil also maintains informal relations with other judicial/legal practitioner's networks such as IberRed, the European Notarial Network (ENN/CNUE), the European Chamber of Judicial Officers and Union International des Huissiers de Justice or the European Bar Council CCBE.

## Fact Sheet No. 7 – Association of European Administrative Judges

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)
Date of constitution	2000
Legal Statute	Eingetragener Verein under German law
Legal Seat	Metzer Allee 4, D – 54259 Trier, Germany
Website	<a href="http://www.aeaj.org/">http://www.aeaj.org/</a>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Association shall pursue the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to advance legal redress for individuals vis-à-vis public authority in Europe and to promote the legality of administrative acts, thereby helping Europe to grow together in freedom and justice,</li><li>• to respect the legal cultures in the various Member States of the European Union and the Council of Europe on the way towards attaining this objective;</li><li>• to help broaden the knowledge of legal redress in administrative matters among administrative judges in Europe, and for this purpose, to have an intensive exchange of information on pertinent legislation and case law;</li><li>• to strengthen the position of administrative judges in Europe which is growing together, and</li><li>• to promote the professional interests of administrative judges at national and European level.</li></ul> <p>The Association shall pursue these objectives in particular by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• defending the interests of European administrative judges vis-à-vis the institutions of the European Union and the Council of Europe;</li><li>• holding meetings of administrative judges;</li><li>• publishing a newsletter for members of the Association.</li></ul>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p><b>Members:</b> The Association is a European apex organization. National associations of administrative judges from Member States of the European Union and of the Council of Europe can become members.</p> <p>In all the AEAJ represents (via its member associations) more than 4000 administrative judges.</p> <p><b>Member Associations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Austria – Vereinigung der Finanzakademiker</li><li>• Austria – Vereinigung der Finanzrichterinnen und Finanzrichter</li></ul>	

- Austria – Verwaltungsrichter – Vereinigung
- Austria – Vereinigung der Richter/innen des Bundesverwaltungsgerichtes
- Austria – Verein der Richterinnen und Richter des Verwaltungsgerichtshofes
- Azerbaijan – Association of Judges of Specialized Courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- Bulgaria – Association of Bulgarian Administrative Judges
- Estonia – Eesti Kohtunike Ühing
- Finland – Finnish Association of Judges
- France – Syndicat de la Juridiction Administrative
- Germany – Bund Deutscher Verwaltungsrichter und Verwaltungsrichterrinnen
- Greece – Association of Greek Administrative Judges
- Hungary – Magyar Közigazgatási Birak Egyesülete
- Italy – Associazione nazionale di Magistrati Amministrativi
- Lithuania – Association of Judges, Division of Judges of the Administrative Courts of Lithuania
- Luxembourg – Association Luxembourgeoise des Magistrats Administratifs
- Portugal – Association of Judges of the Administrative and Tax Jurisdiction
- Slovenia – Slovenian Association of Judges
- Slovakia – National Association of Slovakian Administrative Judges
- Sweden – Sveriges Domareförbund

If national associations of administrative judges don't exist in a given country, an option is open between admission of organisations including ordinary as well as administrative judges and admission of individuals, providing that they are entrusted with the responsibilities of an administrative judge.

**Individual members:**

- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Malta
- The Netherlands
- Poland
- Spain
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

**D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

The Association is managed by a General Assembly, a Board, consisting of President and four Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary General and Auditors.

**E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

The activities of the AEAJ are the following:

- Annual General Assembly
- Annual Meetings of our four working groups, dealing with:
- Independence and Efficiency of Administrative Jurisdiction

- Environmental Law
- Taxation Law
- Asylum and Immigration Law

#### **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

The Association is preponderantly active in international judicial training.

The Association considers the following issues as most important:

- It should be clear that the costs for judicial training (in particular on international level) should not be carried by the judges themselves. Otherwise colleagues from countries with low salaries would be excluded from any international training and/or contacts.
- Judicial training, be it on national or international level should be considered as a part of judges' duties. This includes that training activities should be seen as part of a judges' work and therefore taken into account to figure out the appropriate work load for a judge. Otherwise judges simply won't have the time to join training activities.
- According to our point of view, judicial training should not be organised similar to "training" of other professions, in particular of civil servants. It must be taken into account that administrative judges are not part of a hierarchic system, but individually independent and as such competent to control the legality of the administration. In this function they are competent and obliged to interpret, implement and even develop administrative law of all levels. This is also true for the very important issue of EU-law. Under the guidance of the EU's Court of Justice they have to further clarify the meaning of provisions of EU-law and even participate in the control of validity of secondary EU-law with respect to primary EU-law. These important tasks make necessary that Administrative Judges are not only "trained", but that they have the possibility to have regular international contacts in order to discuss problems of application of EU-law between peers. The working group meetings of our Association try to fulfil this important task. We think that activities of that kind should be enhanced and offer you cooperation, not only concerning judicial training in general, but in particular in this specific field.

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

The Association has experience concerning cooperation with the EJTN by organizing workshops in the field of environmental law and public procurement.

## Fact Sheet No. 8 – Association of European Competition Law Judges (AECLJ)

A. General Information	
<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>Association of European Competition Law Judges (AECLJ)</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Legal Statute</b>	<b>company limited by guarantee incorporated under the law of E&amp;W</b>
<b>Legal Seat</b>	<b>Bloomsbury Place, London, WC1A 2EB, United Kingdom</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.aeclj.com/">http://www.aeclj.com/</a></b>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Association's objects are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to act as an Association of judges and other persons exercising jurisdiction who are concerned with or interested in the competition law of the European Union or its Member States;</li> <li>• to provide a forum for the exchange of information and views in relation to competition law in the judicial context;</li> <li>• to act as a resource of information relating to judicial decisions and applicable rules, whether national or international, in the field of competition law, and to operate databases and other sources of information for judges dealing with competition law;</li> <li>• to promote, provide, or assist in providing courses, seminars, education and training on competition law and the practical management of competition law cases from the judicial perspective;</li> <li>• to promote, undertake, co-ordinate and sponsor research into competition law issues from a judicial perspective and generally to disseminate the results thereof;</li> <li>• to discuss problems relating to competition law and its enforcement from the judicial point of view with national or international authorities or organisations;</li> <li>• to co-operate with or assist any national or international organisation with similar objects to some or all of the objects of the Association or objects considered by the Association to be beneficial to the Association;</li> <li>• to undertake similar activities to those set out in the previous sub-clauses in connection with the competition laws of states and/or organisations which are outside the European Union;</li> <li>• to undertake all and any action or activity which the Association shall consider to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the Objects.</li> </ul>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p><b>Membership:</b>            Conferences are open to judges from the EU courts and to judges from EU member states; the Association is also ready to welcome, judges from the EFTA courts and from</p>	

courts in the EEA. By virtue of coming to the conference, and, by paying a subscription of 50 euro (or by virtue of their court being a corporate member), each judge becomes a member of the Association.

The Association has a mailing list of around 300 judges – this includes judges from each Member State - and between 30 and 60 judges from outside the host Member State attend the conference along with between 20 and 30 judges from the host Member State.

#### **D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

The Association is managed by a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and other Executive Committee Members who are supported by the Secretary General who is the Registrar of the UK's Competition Appeal Tribunal and by his colleagues at the Tribunal.

#### **E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

The AECLJ facilitates communications between judges and the European Commission. There are regular meetings of judges with the Commission to inform each other about and to discuss developments in competition law, policy, application and procedure. Recent topics have included the quantification of damages, access to leniency material held by competition authorities, warrants for searches and issues of legal personality in follow on claims after Commission infringement decisions. The next meeting in Bucharest (2014) will focus upon collective actions in the light of the Commission's proposed Directive on private actions and Recommendation on collective actions.

There are opportunities for national updates on case law and excellent networking opportunities through the social programme.

Apart from its annual conference the role of the Association is usually to support, advertise, enable and to encourage activities that DG Comp or DG Connect fund rather than such activities being functions of the Association. These activities include training in competition law and in competition economics.

The Association has to date held twelve conferences: in Luxembourg (2002, 2003, 2013), Paris (2004), London (2005), Berlin (2006), Rotterdam and the Hague (2007), Malta (2008), Rome (2009), Athens (2010), Dublin (2011) and Helsinki (2012).

Recent topics have included:

- 2013 - Competition Law within a Framework of Rights: Applying the Charter and the Convention
- 2012 – Adapting 20th Century Law to 21st Century Technology
- 2011 – Vertical Restraints
- 2010 – Cartels: Economics and Justice

#### **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

Judicial training and comparative work have a high priority in the work of the Association. It encourages work, co-operation and best practice on both competition law and economics at national and international levels.

Note on the role of the UK Competition Appeal Tribunal in the Association:

By virtue of the Enterprise Act 2002, Schedule 2 paragraph 8, the President of the Tribunal must arrange such training for its members as he considers appropriate. A programme has been developed for training members and for keeping them abreast of developments nationally, in the EU and overseas. The Tribunal supports Association activities and provides a secretariat for the Association. It uses Association activities in training its own members and it also hosts inbound visitors from within and beyond the EU, sometimes providing internships.

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

It is only as part of the current process that the Association, as such, has become involved in networking with sibling organisations. That said some of our members are engaged in other judicial networks though not as representatives of the Association. The Association has been working hard, with support from the Commission, to involve judges from each and every Member State. However experience suggests that getting away to engage in Association activities is often hard for national judges who may not get support or encouragement from their court administration. We have established regular meetings with the Commission but these meetings with the EJTN would be a first for us.

## Fact Sheet No. 9 – European Association of Judges for Mediation

A. General Information	
Name of Partner	European Association of Judges for Mediation (GEMME)
Date of constitution	2003
Legal Statute	Not-for-profit International Association under French law
Legal Seat	5 quai de l'Horloge, 75001 Paris, France
Website	<a href="http://www.gemme.eu/">http://www.gemme.eu/</a>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The purpose of this association is to bring together judges from the member States of the European Union and the member States of the European Free Trade Area (EFTA ), including Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland, which use or wish to use recourse to alternative methods of dispute resolution and consider that effective and peace inducing justice involves, among other requirements, promotion and development of these alternative methods, especially judicial mediation.</p> <p>The Association's goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to promote within each EU and EFTA member State a national association of judges supporting mediation and strengthening and improving its practice;</li><li>• to promote the exchange of information within each member State concerning practice and experience in the field of mediation, conciliation or any other alternative method of dispute resolution;</li><li>• to contribute to the development of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution by participating in conferences and activities at European institutions; promoting the teaching of mediation and alternative methods of dispute resolution within studies in Law and training judges and lawyers, acquainting professionals and citizens with mediation and participating in setting up training programmes;</li><li>• to use any means to assist judges with their individual moves to support mediation and encourage training for the purpose of a relevant and effective practice of mediation and other legal alternative methods of dispute resolution.</li></ul>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p>The Members of the association are grouped in national sections established in each EU and EFTA Member State.</p> <p>The Group has national sections in 12 countries of the European Union and EFTA, and contacts in 21 countries and includes 450 judges.</p> <p><b>Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Judges, professionals and non-professionals, either practicing or honorary;</li></ul>	

- Courts in which these judges work, subject to the possibilities given to them by the provisions that govern them;
  - Honorary members appointed by the General Assembly based on services rendered to the association;
- Associate members, upon agreement of the Executive Committee: attorneys, academics and other qualified individuals who have demonstrated an interest in mediation and work to promote it.

The **national sections** are in the following countries:

- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hungary
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Romania
- United Kingdom
- Spain
- Switzerland

**Observers:**

- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Greece
- Norway
- Poland
- Russia
- Slovenia

#### **D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

The Association is governed by a board of directors composed of at least five members elected by the General Assembly, to whom shall be added a member appointed by each national section established in the EU and EFTA.

#### **E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

Over the past ten years, its actions have included:

- Thinking work with national, European and international institutions (brainstorming sessions, participation in national discussions on the implementation of the EU Directive);
- The identification and dissemination of good practice (in the context of conferences initiated by different sections);
- Information on alternative methods of conflict resolution (website, forums, books, articles in the press, handbooks, colloquia, films);

- Education of mediation prescribers (through organization or simple participation in training workshops).
- A new impetus was given to the action of GEMME by the European Directive of May 21, 2008.

#### **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

Over the past ten years, its actions have included:

- Thinking work with national, European and international institutions (brainstorming sessions, participation in national discussions on the implementation of the EU Directive);
- The identification and dissemination of good practice (in the context of conferences initiated by different sections);
- Information on alternative methods of conflict resolution (website, forums, books, articles in the press, handbooks, colloquia, films);
- Education of mediation prescribers (through organization or simple participation in training workshops).
- A new impetus was given to the action of GEMME by the European Directive of May 21, 2008.

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

Awaiting information.

## Fact Sheet No. 10 – European Association of Labour Court Judges

A. General Information	
<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>European Association of Labour Court Judges (EALCJ)</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>1996</b>
<b>Legal Statute</b>	<b>company limited by guarantee, incorporated under UK law</b>
<b>Legal Seat</b>	<b>11 Elgin park, BS6 6 RU Bristol, United Kingdom</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.ealcj.org/">http://www.ealcj.org/</a></b>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>Under the Constitution of the Association, the objects are stated as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to act as an association of judges and other judicial officers and those acting as judicial officers in matters concerning employment and labour law within the states which are members of the European Union and the European Economic Area;</li><li>• to provide a forum for the exchange of information and views in relation to the fields of Social Policy and Labour Law;</li><li>• to provide a technical forum in which to compare and contrast national practice as to the adjudication of employment and labour disputes;</li><li>• to discuss problems relating to the law and its enforcement of the law of the European Union in member states and of similar international bodies or organisations;</li><li>• to act as a channel of information to and from the European Union and the European Economic Area and the members of the Association and others as the operation and enforcement of the European law and other sources of law and legal rules;</li><li>• to act as a source and resource of information relating to employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area to members of the Association and others;</li><li>• to assist in the formation of associations and organisations of judicial offices and those acting as judicial officer in matters concerning employment and labour law within the States which are members of the European Union and the European Economic Area;</li><li>• to promote the provision and to provide courses, seminars, education and training on employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area;</li><li>• to act as an expert and nominate experts and act as a forum of experts on matters relating to employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area and their Members States;</li><li>• to operate libraries, databases, and other sources of information as to employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area and generally;</li><li>• to publish by way of literature, film, electronic and other publishing media items relating to employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area and generally;</li></ul>	

- to promote, undertake, co-ordinate and sponsor research into employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area and generally to disseminate the results thereof;
- to fund, associate with, co-operate with, support, or assist in any way, any organisation with similar objects to some or all of the objects of the Association or objects considered by the Association to be beneficial to the Association;
- to carry out the above activities in connection with any organisation or organisations which may (or may be proposed) at any time to replace, be developments of, act in similar manner to, discharge similar functions to, or be associated with the European Union or the European Economic Area or any replacement thereof (whether in whole or in part) or which is or may be or is proposed to be from time to time undertaking any similar activities thereto (whether in whole or in part);
- to undertake similar activities to those set out in the previous sub-clauses in connection with the laws of all states and in connection with international organisations whether in being at the date hereof or not;
- to invest, borrow, and lend money on such terms as the Council of management of the Association shall consider fit;
- to undertake all and any action or activity which the Association shall consider to be conducive to its objectives.

#### **C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)**

Membership is open to:

- Judges of a Specialist National Labour Court
- Judges of a Supreme Court with specialist jurisdiction in labour law

#### **D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

The EALCJ is subject to the company law of the United Kingdom. The Board of Directors is subject to the duties provided for in English Law. Day-to-day running of the Association is delegated to the Officers, who comprise the President, the Immediate Past-President, the Secretary-General, the Convenor, the Treasurer and the General Reporter.

#### **E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

The main activities of the Association consist of an annual Conference at which we discuss a topic of general interest to Labour Judges.

The inaugural Conference was in Bath, England in 1996. Since then we have held the following Conferences:

- Seville 1997: "Fundamental Social Rights at Work in the European Community"
- Rome 1998: "The practical enforcement of rights in respect of equal opportunities"
- Tenerife 1999: "The Changing Workplace – New Forms of Employment and Organising Work"
- Trier 2000: "The European Court of Justice and the Labour Court Judge – working together now and in the future"
- Dublin 2001: "Individual Rights in Employment: The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and Article 13 of the Treaty"

- Stockholm 2002: Business meeting
- Paris 2003: "Termination of employment at the initiative of the employer: the Challenge for corporate social responsibility"
- Budapest 2004: "Termination of employment at the initiative of the employer: the Challenge for corporate social responsibility" – Follow-up to 2003 meeting targeted at New Entrant EU Member States.
- Luxembourg 2005: "Corporate Restructuring, Striking the Balance between flexibility and Employee Protection"
- Beijing, China 2006: Visit of an EALCJ delegation to the Chinese Ministry of Labour and Social Security
- Paris 2006: Business Meeting
- Oslo 2007: "Collective Agreements – a hindrance or a support for social protection?"
- Vienna 2008: "Harassment and violence at work"
- Liverpool 2009: "The impact of Mobility of Workers and Enterprises on Employment Rights"
- Rome 2010 "Protecting Marginal Workers – identifying who is a worker with particular reference to the scope of the Part Time Workers, Fixed Term Workers and Agency Workers Directive"
- Malta 2011: "Access to Justice for Posted and other Vulnerable Workers"
- Berlin 2012: "Equality and Employment for Older and Disabled People"
- Brussels 2013: "Independent workers – Freedom or enslavement?"
- The next conference of the EALCJ will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 6-7 June 2014. It will address the subject of "Integration and Interpretation of ECJ judgments in National Law".

#### **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

Under the Constitution of the Association, training is part of the objects:

- To promote the provision and to provide courses, seminars, education and training on employment and labour issues within the European Union and the European Economic Area

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

The EALCJ has developed links with the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA). Members of the EALCJ are participating on a regular basis in working groups of the International Labour Organization (ILO). Members of the EALCJ contribute to the European Labour Law Network (ELLN). Members of the EALCJ work together with their national Council of the Judiciary.

## Fact Sheet No. 11 – International Association of Refugee Law Judges

A. General Information	
<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ)</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>1997</b>
<b>Legal Statute</b>	<b>Not-for-profit International Association under Dutch law</b>
<b>Legal Seat</b>	<b>P.O. Box 1621, 2003 BR Haarlem, The Netherlands</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.iarlj.org/">http://www.iarlj.org/</a></b>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The International Association of Refugee Law Judges seeks to foster recognition that protection from persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion is an individual right established under international law, and that the determinations of refugee status and subsidiary protection are subject to the rule of law.</p> <p>To these ends the Association commits itself:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to promote within the judiciary and quasi-judicial decision makers world-wide a common understanding of refugee law principles and to encourage the use of fair practices and procedures to determine refugee law issues;</li><li>• to foster judicial independence and to facilitate the development within national legal systems of independent institutions applying judicial principles to refugee law issues;</li><li>• to encourage the sharing of information and databases relating to conditions in countries of origin and countries of transit of asylum seekers;</li><li>• to encourage the development of norms of access by asylum seekers to judicial systems that are compatible with international law standards;</li><li>• to promote or undertake research initiatives, publications and projects that further the attainment of the objects of the Association.</li></ul> <p>While keeping in mind the independence of the members of the Association in their judicial functions, to co-operate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other agencies, both international and national, that are concerned with the promotion of an understanding of refugee law issues.</p> <p>The European Chapter of the IARLJ has expanded its field of interest, expertise and discussions within its network from law on international protection to immigration law, because the majority of the members of the European Chapter of the IARLJ who deal with refugee law cases deal also with immigration disputes no matter whether they provide judicial services at specialised refugee and immigration tribunals or at general administrative courts.</p>	

### C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)

The IARLJ is a global association of individual judges, which has around 420 individual members that form the American Chapter, the African Chapter, the AustralAsian Chapter and the European Chapter, because judges all over those continents apply the same international treaty - the 1951 Convention relating to the status of refugees. Among them, around 180 are members of the European Chapter. The European Chapter of the IARLJ has its own Constitution due to specific recent developments in EU law on international protection.

**Membership** of the European Chapter of the IARLJ is open to any person who:

- satisfies the requirements for qualification for membership of the IARLJ under its Constitution;
- is (or has concurrently made application to be) a member of the IARLJ;
- supports the objects of the Association;
- tenders payment of any membership dues for the then current year established by, or determined in accordance with, a resolution of Council; and,
- approved by or on behalf of the Council as being qualified to be a member.

### D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is governed by a Chair, a Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer.

### E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

A Survey of selected events either organised by or in cooperation with the International Association of Refugee Law Judges (IARLJ) European Chapter is provided.

Recent events:

The events set out below are not exhaustive and do not include regular attendance by judiciary from the IARLJ at workshops etc. organised by EASO since its inception and other ad hoc conferences and meeting by other organisations to which members of the IARLJ have been invited. The list is intended to provide a broad survey of principal events between 2013 and the middle of 2014. In addition the IARLJ participates in and enables ad hoc judicial exchanges in the EU.

- Bulgaria, 2-4 June 2014: EASO Operating Plan to Bulgaria in collaboration with the IARLJ, measure 3.13. "Support with decision at second instance"
- Malta, 6 December 2013: "Advanced workshop on the Implementation of Article 15c of the Qualification Directive" organized by EASO and IARLJ
- Gothenburg, 21-22 November 2013: European Chapter Conference of the IARLJ entitled: "Recent Developments in European Asylum Law in co-operation between the Association and the Migration Courts in Sweden. London 13-14 November: IARLJ were co-partners in "On the borders of Refugee Protection? The Impact of Human Rights Law on Refugee Comparative Practice and Theory" organised by the Refugee Law Initiative of the School of Advanced Legal Studies London University.

- Minsk, 19-21 June: Seminar/Workshop of Asylum Procedures organised by TAIEX: number of judges, lawyers, UNHCR representatives and administrative decision-makers: around 35.
- Budapest, 27-28 May 2013: presentations entitled: "Preliminary Reference to the CJEU: When to Refer a Question and How to Formulate It" and "Suggestions from the Judiciary Concerning Third Party Intervention in Judicial Procedures in Slovenia"; judicial engagement working group meeting of the UNHCR's offices in Europe ("Developing a proactive judicial engagement strategy in Europe"); number of UNHCR's lawyers participants: around 45.
- Brussels, 13 May 2013: closing event of the CREDO project, organised by the European Commission, Hungarian Helsinki Committee, UNHCR and IARLJ; number of judges and lawyers participants: around 40.
- Nijmegen, 16 April 2013: Seminar at Radboud University on Assessment of Credibility under the EU Qualifications Directive attended by 24 judges<sup>2</sup>.
- Skopje (FYR of Macedonia), 10-12 April 2013: "The Use of Undisclosed Evidence in Asylum procedures: From War on Terrorism Towards the Rule of Law", Workshop on Regional Cooperation between Refugee Law Judges, organised by the Judicial Academy of FYR of Macedonia and Regional Office of the UNHCR; number of judges participants: around 30.
- Zagreb (Croatia), 14-15 February 2013: "Extradition and Principle of Non-Refoulement in Slovenian Jurisprudence", presentation at the training event for criminal court judges of Croatia organised by the Judicial Academy of Croatia and UNHCR office; number of judges participants: around 20.

#### **F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

The objectives of the Association are to be pursued through the following means:

- by establishment of direct interaction between judges, judicial associations, judicial training providers, UNHCR, experts, public authorities and civil society organisations;
- by organising or assisting in the organising of relevant judicial training events;
- by undertaking or assisting in the development of judicial training materials and programmes designed to ensure effective implementation of the CEAS in accordance with the rule of law and independence of the judiciary;(including judicial check-lists or guidelines concerning the criteria for assessment of country of origin information, credibility assessment, formulation of preliminary references, use of expert evidence)
- to undertake, promote or assist with the training of judges and other refugee decision-makers and the development and delivery of suitable judicial training programmes and their contents in a manner that fully respects the principle of the independence of the judiciary.

#### **G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

The IARLJ has a good cooperative relationship with the AEAJ (Working Party on Asylum and Immigration). The IARLJ traditionally works closely with UNHCR, EASO, TAIEX; members of the IARLJ are also on the list of judges-trainers of the EASO, TAIEX, EIPA,

ERA. The IARLJ has contacts with National Training Institutions, especially from the Central and East European Countries and from the Western Balkan. The IARLJ has contacts with the ACA-Europe and has established biennial meetings with the judges of the ECtHR and CJEU. The IARLJ also cooperates with NGOs, for example, the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and cooperates with the respective Unit of the European Commission for the purpose of professional development of judges in the field of asylum.

## Fact Sheet No. 12 – European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE)

A. General Information	
<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment (EUFJE)</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Legal Statute</b>	<b>Non-for-profit International Association a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law</b>
<b>Legal Seat</b>	<b>Place Royale 7, B – 1000 Brussels, Belgium</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.eufje.org/">http://www.eufje.org/</a></b>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The purpose of the association is to promote, in the perspective of sustainable development, the implementation of National, European and International Environmental law.</p> <p>The Association seeks more particular to: share experience on judicial training in environmental law; foster the knowledge of environmental law among judges; share experience on environmental case law; contribute to a better implementation and enforcement of International, European and national environmental law. Recognising each other's independence, the association shall promote contacts and exchanges of information between its Members and Observers and with the European Union authorities. At intervals to be established by the General Assembly, it shall organise a colloquium to consider matters falling within its terms of reference.</p>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p><b>Members:</b> The following judge can be a member of the Association:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• who is interested in environmental law;</li> <li>• who is a member of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Court of Human Rights or a court or tribunal of a Member State of the European Union or a Member State of the European Free Trade Association.</li> </ul> <p>Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities): 113</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Austria: 3</li> <li>• Belgium: 8</li> <li>• Bulgaria: 3</li> <li>• Croatia: 1</li> <li>• Cyprus: 2</li> </ul>	

- Czech Republic: 2
- Denmark: 3
- Estonia: 2
- Finland: 6
- France: 4
- Germany: 4
- Greece: 2
- Hungary: 2
- Ireland: 3
- Italy: 3
- Latvia: 5
- Luxembourg: 2
- Malta: 3
- Norway: 2
- Netherlands: 3
- Poland: 3
- Portugal: 3
- Slovakia: 6
- Slovenia: 3
- Spain: 4
- Sweden: 5
- Turkey: 1
- Others: 2

**Observers:**

- Similarly empowered judges of States which are engaged in negotiations with a view to their actually joining the European Union can be admitted as Observers. As soon as the State to which it belongs has joined the European Union, the Observer becomes automatically at his/her request a Member of the Association.
- A representative of the European Commission, of the Council of Europe, of the United Nations Environmental Program and, subject to approval of the general assembly, other international organisations, can participate in the activities of the Association in an observer capacity.

#### D. Governance and bodies of the Partner

The Association is administered by a Board. The present Board is composed of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary General, a Treasurer and an Auditor.

#### E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners

The Forum was created with a view to raising the awareness of judges of the key role of the judicial function in the effectiveness of sustainable development.

The EUFJE has endeavoured to get involved into the process of EU legislation. The EUFJE is mindful that matters of policy are not matters for judges. A number of EUFJE suggestions have been adopted by the rapporteur of the European Parliament Committee for Environment.

The Forum can build on this experience and discuss during the annual conference on EU legislation in the making. The experience gathered by the Forum on EU environment law is of practical value for EU judges as well as for EU institutions.

The EUFJE has also taken part in the work of the UN, with the Aarhus convention on access to justice in the field of environment law.

**Recent events:**

2012:

- The Hague, Annual Conference: EU – Support for cooperation with national judges in the field of Environmental Law
- UNECE – Aarhus Convention – Task force on access to justice
- UNEP – World Congress on justice, governance and law for environmental sustainability

**Other activities:**

- Cooperation with the newly established 'European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment'
- Cooperation with Pace university New-York and others in view of the creation of an 'International Judicial institute for Environmental Adjudication'

**F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

The Association seeks more particularly to: share experience on judicial training in environmental law; foster the knowledge of environmental law among judges; share experience on environmental case law; contribute to a better implementation and enforcement of international, European and national environmental law.

**G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

The EUFJE is collaborating on a regular basis with the Working Party on Environmental Law of the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ) and the European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE) by inviting representatives of both networks to the annual conferences and sending representatives to their general meetings or workshops. Furthermore EUFJE is, together with the AEAJ and the Association of the Councils of State (ACA), represented in the general assembly and the steering committee of the by the EC supported "Cooperation with national judges and prosecutors in in the field of EU environmental law' training program, which is now executed by Academy of European Law. EUFJE will also continue to work with the Working Party on Environmental Law of the AEAJ in the framework of the Commission Expert Group of National Judges on Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. EUFJE will also develop some links with the EJTN and its main partners in the framework of the current project.

## Fact Sheet No. 13 – European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE)

A. General Information	
<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE)</b>
<b>Date of constitution</b>	<b>September 2012</b>
<b>Legal Statute</b>	<b>Non-for-profit International Association a.i.s.b.l. under Belgian law – pending</b>
<b>Legal Seat</b>	<b>Gulledelle 96, B – 1200 Brussels, Belgium</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.basel.int/Default.aspx?tabid=2940">http://www.basel.int/Default.aspx?tabid=2940</a></b>
B. Goals of the Partner	
<p>The Network seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support the operative work of environmental prosecutors;</li> <li>• promote the exchange of information and experience of the enforcement and prosecution of environmental crime between members;</li> <li>• foster knowledge of environmental law among prosecutors and promote the development of environmental criminal law as an integral part of criminal law enforcement generally;</li> <li>• share experience of investigations, prosecutions and sanctions in the field of environmental criminal law;</li> <li>• contribute to better understanding, implementation and enforcement of environmental criminal law;</li> <li>• encourage and support co-operation between Members and facilitate capacity building in relation to the prevention and prosecution of environmental crime;</li> <li>• facilitate collection of data about environmental crime across Europe and enforcement action taken in relation to environmental crime;</li> <li>• identify and develop good, and whenever possible, best practice, for successful prosecutions and produce guidance, tools, common standards and approaches to the prosecution of environmental offences;</li> <li>• share training programmes in relation to environmental criminal law.</li> </ul>	
C. Membership structure of the Partner – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)	
<p><b>Members:</b></p> <p>A Member of the Association can be any organisation involved in the criminal prosecution of environmental crime within a Member State of the European Union or a Member State of the European Free Trade Association.</p> <p>'Organisation' is to be defined widely as any body of qualified lawyers involved to some extent in the prosecution of environmental crime.</p>	

In the absence of any formal organisation representing prosecutors of environmental crime in a jurisdiction, then a representative from a Member State may become a Member of the Association.

There are two categories of Members: Working Members and Corresponding Members.

The Board decides upon and approves applications for Working and Corresponding membership. There shall be only one Working Member per Member State.

A request to become a Member of the Association is made by sending a letter to the President of the Board of the Association who shall inform all Working members.

**Observers:**

Organisations representing prosecutors in States which are engaged in negotiations with a view to their actually joining the European Union (or, in the absence of such an organisation, prosecutors themselves) can be admitted as an Observer. Decisions concerning the admission of an Observer are made by the Board.

As soon as the State to which it belongs has joined the European Union, the Observer becomes automatically, at its request a Member of the Association.

A representative of the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the United Nations Environmental Programme and, subject to approval of the General Assembly, other International organisations and networks in particular INECE, can participate in the activities of the Association in an Observer capacity.

**D. Governance and bodies of the Partner**

The Association is governed by the General Assembly, administered by a Board which comprises the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary General and the Treasurer.

**E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the Partners**

ENPE was established in September 2012

In November 2013 ENPE hosted a conference jointly with Eurojust on the regulation enforcement and prosecution of environmental crime. The network is seeking funding arrangements for a programme of activities which will include development and delivery of training for prosecutors and judges in relation to environmental crime.

**F. Highlight of the Partners' statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the Partner referring to judicial training**

The association seeks to share training programs in relation to environmental criminal law.

**G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the Partner with major Judicial Networks involved in the current project**

ENPE works closely with IMPEL (European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law) relating to international waste regulation.

ENPE has a good relationship with EUFJE, the EU Forum for Judges in the Environment.

