



Best Practices in training of judges and prosecutors

Category of practice: **Innovative Curricula or Training Plan in any Given Area**

Type of practice: **Best Practice**

Country: **Germany**

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Title of practice	Planning a Comprehensive and Needs-orientated Annual Training Curriculum
<i>Key features:</i>	<p>In Germany, section 2 of the Administrative Agreement of the Federation and the 16 States of 1 March 1993 on the German Judicial Academy states that judges and public prosecutors should be provided with further training in their respective areas of expertise, but also 'with knowledge and experience of political, social, economic and other scholarly developments'. This regulation defines fixed percentages in relation to the different fields of training.</p> <p>Accordingly, only 45-50% of the courses can be allocated to strictly legal issues conferences, some 25-30% of the annual events should adopt a multi-disciplinary approach (e.g. law and medicine, law and internet, law and ethics, law and religion, etc.) while the remaining should be geared towards the improvement of other soft skills.</p> <p>The justification for this practice is that the programme planners should not only take into account as many detected training needs as possible, but also have a system in place to maintain them as protected training categories.</p>
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<p><i>Other comments</i></p>	<p>It is now widely recognised across Europe that adequate training of judges and prosecutors should not rely only on <i>hard skills</i> (legal and purely judicial topics) but that it should also focus on <i>soft skills</i> (multidisciplinary approaches, other areas of knowledge, ethics, rhetoric, communication, media training, memory training, vocal training, mediation, psychology of the testimony and so on). The BEST PRACTICE mentioned above reflects a good example of how such an approach should be followed.</p>

Source: Pilot Project - European Judicial Training: "Lot 1 – Study on best practices in training judges and prosecutors", carried out by the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)