



# Best Practices in training of judges and prosecutors

Category of practice: **Innovative Training Methodology**

Type of practice: **Good Practice**

Country: **Bulgaria**

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Title of practice	<b>Organisation of Decentralised Training to Reflect Local Training Needs and Issues</b>
<i>Key features:</i>	<p>With this practice, national training centres and judicial academies aim to provide a solution to local training needs and issues and/or to make face-to-face training more accessible to judges and prosecutors working in regions that are some distance from the central training body (thus reducing the logistical costs while targeting a potentially higher number of participants).</p> <p>The normal approach is to have these decentralised activities included in the annual training plan of the national training centre as part of a global national strategy. However, the existence is recognised of locally organised independent training at the discretion of local services or courts.</p> <p><b>Bulgaria</b> has presented an interesting mixed example of both systems. Every year, the Academy provides the opportunity for the district courts, administrative courts and district prosecution offices to apply for the Academy's pre-defined grants to facilitate the organisation of regional training on specific topics of general or local interest. If approved, this budget is regionally managed and the expenditure incurred is subsequently reviewed and approved by the Academy.</p> <p>Applicants submit a draft budget within the pre-set deadline. They also either choose a topic from the Institute's overall curriculum or suggest a new one, if there is a particular regional training need. If the proposal is accepted and if the Academy has already developed the subject in one of its training activities, it makes its own training materials available. If this is not the case, the Academy provides assistance in identifying or recommending potential trainers and establishing the necessary contact between the latter and the applicant. The logistics and all other details</p>

	<p>relevant to the organisation of the venue are the responsibility of the applicant.</p> <p>This practice contributes to maintaining the balance between training demand and supply, as every Bulgarian magistrate has the right to attend three training courses of their own choice per year and the Academy in Sofia cannot cope with such a large number of potential participants on its premises.</p>
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<i>Other comments</i>	<p>The organisation of these decentralised training activities is a well-known standard <b>GOOD PRACTICE</b> that is applied in most EU training institutions.</p> <p>The Bulgarian example described above, although not transferable in itself, may be applied as an idea for a hypothetical improvement in existing schemes in countries that have an identical legal framework that allows local courts or prosecution services to undertake training activities on behalf of or under the supervision of the national training centres.</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)