

AIKOS PROGRAMME

FRANCE – NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE JUDICIARY



- **Brief description of the AIKOS Programme:**

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

- **General objectives of the AIKOS programme:**

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

- **Specificity of the host institution**

The French national school for the judiciary, *Ecole nationale de la magistrature (ENM)*, founded in 1958, is the only school in France for judges and prosecutors. It is a national public administrative body under the supervision of the ministry of justice. Thanks to its status, the school is autonomous in the management of its administrative and financial resources. The ENM has a budget of around 34 million euro.

The school has several missions:

- Organising competitive examinations for admission to the judiciary;
- Providing professional training for future French judges and prosecutors;
- In-service training for serving judges and prosecutors in France;
- Training judges and prosecutors from foreign States which have cooperation agreements with France;
- Training for non-professional judges and those who contribute to the justice system.

These missions are divided up between two main departments:

- The Recruitment, Initial Training and Research Department based in Bordeaux
- The In-Service Training, International Relations and Professional Training Department, based in Paris



- **Key points for the host institution's programme**

One of the aims of the ENM is to allow the construction of a common European culture and identity.

A varied programme is proposed to the trainees who may be around 300 (around one hundred foreign trainees and 200 French trainees): round tables, interactive workshops, mock trials, English, German, Italian and Spanish classes, visits to local courts and to a detention centre, movies, cultural visits and social activities.

French tutors are foreseen to coach the trainees every day. National and international experts come to the ENM to hold the round tables, seminars and workshops.

- **Content of the host institution's programme**

The provisional programme is as follows:

- Round table on fighting terrorism
- Round table on building a European professional judicial identity
- Workshop on "Becoming a judge or a prosecutor": comparative aspects on specific aspects
- Workshop on Ethics and Professional Conduct
- Workshop on Judgecraft
- Conference on "Mutual legal assistance in criminal matter and the role of Eurojust"
- Movie(s) about European criminal cooperation
- Mock trials
- Visit to courts
- Visit to the Bordeaux detention centre

- **Additional information**

The ENM only hosts during the second term of the year.

The activities proposed to the trainees are based on seminar-like activities and working groups rather than peer-to peer.

