



Call for applications for the Young European Lawyers Academy

JUST-2022-JTRA

Dear Members,

On 22 March 2022 the Academy of European Law (ERA), together with the European Young Bar Association, and other co-Beneficiaries¹ and supporting institutions², submitted a project proposal in response to the 2022 European Commission's call for proposals on judicial training (JUST-2022-JTRA) addressing the training needs of young lawyers in private practice in the area of EU law.

The application was declared successful in July 2022.

Objectives of the project:

- provide young professionals with the necessary tools to improve the respect of and uniform application of EU law;
- develop key skills in litigating EU law;
- exchange ideas and discuss new perspectives in areas of common interest and improve cross-border cooperation;
- give participants a unique opportunity to develop the spirit of a European judicial culture;
- contribute to the effective and coherent application of EU law.

Project output:

Implementation of **four training events** (2 per year) **of ten-days duration** in English, held in the cities of Trier, Luxembourg, and Strasbourg (including a visit to the CJEU and the ECHR), with 30 participants per course:

- 1st Edition - 12 - 21 June 2023
- 2nd Edition - 27 November - 6 December 2023
- 3rd Edition - 3 - 12 June 2024
- 4th Edition - 14-23 October 2024

¹ Barcelona Bar Association (ICAB), Slovak Bar Association, Paris Bar Association.

² National Association of the Romanian Bars (UNBR), Budapest Bar Association, German Bar (DAV), Slovenian Bar Academy, Czech Bar Association.

Structure and activities:

Each course will be practice-oriented and will offer a mixture of training methods, varying from lectures and e-learning to interactive workshops presented by EU and national legal experts – amongst other experienced lawyers in private practice. All in all, thirteen half-day sessions of effective learning per course. The organizers will use the extensive database of training material developed during previous EU-funded projects (see, for example, the EU litigation project library: <https://era-comm.eu/litigating-eu-law/library/>, EU Charter project library: <https://era-comm.eu/charter-of-fundamental-rights/library/>) and produce a body of written training material which will be made available online to all interested parties for an indefinite period.

The participants will have training credits recognized (CPD points).

As to the content, **each course** will include cross-cutting topics on EU law and will be divided into five parts:

1. The **first part** will be devoted to **EU Law litigation**. Participants will learn about the enforcement mechanisms of EU law, the relationship between EU and national law (supremacy, direct and indirect effect), and the practical aspects of CJEU proceedings. They will acquire practical knowledge on how to prepare an action and submit procedural documents, how to present pleas effectively before the General Court of the EU, and how to take into account and solve language problems in written and oral pleas. This first part will be concluded by a visit to the CJEU, including the possibility to attend a hearing and an exchange with a judge from the Court.
2. The **second part** will be devoted to the protection of **Fundamental rights in the European Union** (including ECHR). Participants will learn about the legal value of the EU Charter, how to apply and interpret the EU Charter at domestic level, about the scope of application of Article 47 of the EU Charter in practice and possible restrictions, as well as its relationship with Article 6 of the ECHR, how access to a lawyer and legal representation is safeguarded before Union courts, and finally about relevant EU legislation and case law on legal aid. A visit to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg will round up this part.
3. The **third part** will be devoted to **Data Protection and Privacy Law**. The aim here is to give participants all the necessary tools for successful implementation of the GDPR in their daily practice. It will provide them with comprehensive knowledge of the fundamentals of European data protection law through the interactive study of both relevant legislation and case law.

4. The **fourth part** will deal with the **Rule of Law** – including the related CJEU and ECtHR rulings. Participants will be explained how/when fair trial guarantees are violated and how European standards regarding judicial independence are implemented in practice.

5. The last and **fifth part** will focus on **Non-legal skills**, such as online legal databases research, professional secrecy, the regulation of lawyers and their mobility in Europe, as well as the future of legal professions in Europe.

All information about the project will be centralized in a specially developed subsite of the ERA website.

The project is innovative from the fact that no comparable course is offered to young lawyers from different EU Member States at EU level. A new methodological approach will be adopted by organizing courses of ten days' duration, which will include visits to the two major international jurisdictions in Europe, the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU) in Luxembourg and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) in Strasbourg, and, if possible, the European Parliament's seat in Strasbourg. Another novelty is the use of cross-cutting topics which will be presented during the training, including EU litigation, the rule of law, fundamental rights, data protection, as well as other topics affecting the European legal profession, as the use of online legal databases, professional secrecy, the regulation of lawyers and their mobility in Europe.

EYBA Contribution

As agreed in the letter of support to the project signed by the EYBA, we are committed to send **4 participants** to the seminars offered within the project.

For these 4 people, the costs for accommodation in Trier (8 nights) and in Strasbourg (2 nights), the bus transfers to Luxembourg and Strasbourg, catering during the seminar days (except Sunday in Strasbourg) and the training documentation are covered by the contribution of the EYBA as agreed with ERA.

The travel costs for each participant can be reimbursed by ERA, following to the new standardised procedure (unit costs) from the EU Commission which refers to the distance between the working place and the training location, after each seminar.

The participants' accommodation in Trier and Strasbourg will be booked and paid by ERA directly. Transfers by bus from Trier to the CJEU and the ECtHR will also be provided by ERA.



Application procedure and selection of participants - Eligibility criteria:

The call for applications is open ONLY to EYBA members (individual member OR member of an organization member) who fall into one of the following categories:

- Trainee lawyers

OR

- Newly qualified lawyers with less than three years of experience (ONLY for those jurisdictions where initial training does not include a period of legal practice).

A person is considered a “trainee lawyer” if they are recognized as such under national law, including in the form of an induction or apprenticeship period, and if they have not attended initial training activities for more than three years.

! Also, according to the JUST-2022-JTRA rules, **only EU citizens can apply, except for Denmark.**

Participant profile:

- have an interest in EU Law;
- is available to travel to attend the ten-day course in person;
- speaks English fluently.

How to apply:

Candidates shall send a CV and a cover letter detailing their motivation to attend the Course by email to info.eyba@gmail.com **before 16 February 2024 at 7 PM CET**. In the letter, candidates shall specify:

Whether they are an individual member of EYBA or a member of an EYBA-affiliated organization (indicating which organization they belong to);

- Country of origin and current residence;
- Languages spoken;
- Which of the 2 editions of the course they wish to attend (3-12 June 2024 OR 14-23 October 2024).

The applications will be evaluated by the EYBA executive committee guaranteeing gender and geographic balance.

We believe that this is a unique opportunity to gain international experience, to become part of a diverse group of young lawyers, network and to develop key skills.

For any further clarification, please contact us at info.eyba@gmail.com in due time considering the above deadline for applications.