

Lawyers training systems in the EU

Bulgaria

Information provided by: Висш адвокатски съвет / Supreme Bar Council

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DESCRIPTION OF THE NATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM FOR LAWYERS in Bulgaria

1. Access to the Profession

Higher education / university education	YES
A law degree is compulsory	YES
Steps to becoming a fully-fledged lawyer:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2 years of legal service record as a jurist (e.g. as judge, prosecutor) • Written and oral examination organised by the Supreme Bar Council • Registration with the Bar <p>Legal basis:</p> <p>Bulgarian Bar Act</p>
Alternative routes to the profession:	<p>YES</p> <p>Legal basis:</p> <p>Article 3 of the Attorneys' Act (Закон за адвокатурата)</p> <p>Candidates holding an educational and scientific degree of "Doctor of laws", as well as individuals who have a legal service record of more than 5 years may be register with the Bar without passing an examination.</p>

		<p>Legal basis:</p> <p>Article 6 (3) of the Attorneys' Act. In such cases candidates must just to prove the relevant requirement in order to be entered into attorneys' register.</p>
2. Training during induction period		
Is there an induction period?	NO	
Compulsory	NO	There is no induction training system in Bulgaria
Types of structures responsible for organising induction training	N/A	
Form of induction training	N/A	
Entrance exam / check before induction period	N/A	
Set curriculum during induction period	N/A	
Specificities regarding EU law and linguistic training:	N/A	
Post-induction period assessment / exam	N/A	
3. Continuous training system		
Differentiation between continuous training / specialisation training	NO	Continuous training is mandatory for the lawyers in Bulgaria (art. 28 of the Attorneys' Act). There is no specialization training system in Bulgaria. The onus is therefore on the individual solicitor to specialize in fields which are relevant to their own practice.
Obligations regarding continuous training	YES	<p>Compulsory training obligations as stipulated in State law and internal regulation of the Bar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulgarian Bar Act, Article 27. Attorneys-at-law shall be obligated to maintain and develop their qualifications.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulgarian Bar Act, Article 28. (1) In order to maintain and develop the qualifications of attorneys-at-law the Supreme Bar Council shall set up an Attorney-at-law Training Centre. <p>After the above articles from the Attorneys' Act the Supreme Bar Council founded Center for the Attorneys' Training, which provides the compulsory and continuous training.</p>
Obligations regarding specialisation training	YES	Specialization training obligations as stated in the internal regulations of the Bar
Obligations regarding learning foreign languages		No obligations stipulated in the Attorneys' Act. During university studies students are obliged to undertake a certain number of courses in foreign languages
Obligations regarding EU law content in relation to continuous / specialisation training		No obligations
4. Accreditation systems and training providers		
Possibility for accreditation		<p>The training system in Bulgaria does not provide such possibility.</p> <p>The Attorneys' Training Center is financed by the Supreme Bar Council and issues only certificates of attendance of seminars.</p>
Number of training providers offering accredited continuous training activities		Between 11 and 20 training providers
Type of training providers developing accredited continuous training activities		<p>There is no accreditation system for the continuous training of lawyers. Seminars are offered by the following training providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bar Organisation managed or established by the Bar Non-accredited private commercial training provider Non-accredited private or public non-for-profit training provider

Number of training providers involved in training towards specialization	N/A	
Type of training providers developing accredited training activities for specialization training	N/A	
Activities and methods		
Type of training activities accepted under the obligations of continuous training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending face to face training sessions • Attending training conferences • Participating in training activities as trainer or tutor • Writing/publishing 	Participation in training activities in another member state: Yes, training obligations can be fulfilled through participation in training activities in another member state
5. Supervision of training activities		
Organisations involved in supervising continuous training activities	N/A	There is no supervision system in Bulgaria
Supervision process checks:	N/A	

Source: Pilot Project - European Judicial Training: "Lot 2 – Study on the state of play of lawyers training in EU law", carried out by the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE) and the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)