



Lawyers training systems in the EU

Greece

Information provided by: Athens & Piraeus Bar Associations

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DESCRIPTION OF THE NATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM FOR LAWYERS in Greece

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"> • Registration with the Bar • Examination organized by the Ministry of Justice • Completion of an induction period
Alternative routes to the profession:	Former lawyers can be reappointed within 5 years of their resignation; if more than 5 years have passed, the former lawyer should prove that he/she was carrying out duties relevant to the legal profession.

2. Training during induction period

Is there an induction period?	YES	Legal basis: Code of Lawyers : Law no. 4194/2013 (Κώδικας Δικηγόρων)
Compulsory	YES	Set length: 18 months
Types of structures responsible for organising induction training	Bar Association / Ministry of Justice	

Form of induction training		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeship supervised by private practice • Law training with specific curriculum common to all trainee lawyers. The curriculum is set by each Bar Association and it is common for all trainees in the same Bar; however there is no set curriculum for the whole country. • Apprenticeship at the Legal Council of State, at the Bar Associations or the Ministry of Justice, 6 months apprenticeship to Courts (elective)
Entrance exam / check before induction period	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check/verification of Diploma • Copy of Criminal Record
Set curriculum during induction period	NO	The curriculum is set by each Bar Association (see above)
Specificities regarding EU law and linguistic training:	NO	
Induction period divided into different stages	NO	
Post-induction period assessment/exam	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exams (the examination previously included an oral part but the system has changed with the new code of lawyers)
3. Continuous training system		
Differentiation between continuous training / specialisation training	NO	
Obligations regarding continuous training	NO	Continuous training is not stated either in State law or in internal Bar regulations
Obligations regarding specialization training	NO	<p>Specialisation is not stated either in State law or in the internal Bar regulations.</p> <p>However, the only specialisation currently available for lawyers is mediation.</p> <p>Legal basis: Law 3898/2010 on “Mediation in civil and commercial disputes” which transposes the Directive 2008/52/EC</p>
Obligations regarding learning foreign languages	No obligations	

Obligations regarding EU law content in relation to continuous / specialization training	N/A	
4. Accreditation systems and training providers		
Possibility for accreditation	N/A	
Number of training providers offering continuous training activities	N/A	
Type of training providers developing accredited continuous training activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bar • Non-accredited private commercial training provider • Non-accredited private or public non-for-profit training provider 	
Number of training providers organizing training activities in preparation for specialization	N/A	
Type of training providers developing accredited training activities in preparation for specialization	<p>There is no specialisation training in Greece apart from mediation</p> <p>Specialisation in Mediation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bar Associations (in cooperation with mediation centres and institutes) • Mediation centres and institutes (under the form of non-profit civil partnerships) <p>this specialisation is currently offered by the Piraeus Mediation Centre (ΚΕ.ΔΙ.Π.), the Mediation training Institute of Thessaloniki as well as by the Greek Mediation Institute -GMI "Synesis"</p>	
Activities and methods		
Type of training activities accepted under the obligations of continuous or specialization training	N/A	Participation in training activities in another Member State: N/A
5. Supervision of training activities		
Organizations involved in supervising continuous training activities	N/A	

Supervision process	N/A
Organizations involved in supervising training activities towards specialization	N/A
Supervision process	N/A

6. National reform of training system

The new Code of Lawyers came into force on 27 September 2013.

Changes:

- A central examination system has been established in order to assess the trainees, replacing the Bar exams (articles 18- 22 of the [Code of Lawyers - law No 4194/2013](#))
- A “Morgenbesser” Committee will be assessing applications from lawyers qualified in other Member States who wish to practise law in Greece (articles 15-17 of the [Code of lawyers - law No 4194/2013](#))
- Bar Associations have the power to organise and promote mediation and to act as training providers for mediation services (article 130 of the [Code of Lawyers - law No 4194/2013](#))

Reinforcement of EU law aspects: No changes planned for the time being

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)