



Lawyers training systems in the EU

Slovenia

Information provided by: **Slovenian Bar Association (Odvetniška zbornica Slovenije)**

April, 2014

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM FOR LAWYERS in Slovenia

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"> • Completion of an induction period • Examinations (there are 2 State exams The first state exam, organized by the State, includes an oral and a written part The second exam- organized by the Bar, testing knowledge of the law regulating the legal profession, lawyer's fees and the Code of Conduct for lawyers) Assessment of candidates by the Board of the Slovenian Bar • Registration with the Bar (it is not mandatory for all categories. Apprentices employed by a lawyer or a law firm before passing the State exam and employees at a law office after passing the Bar exam must be registered with the Bar.)
Alternative routes to the profession:	<p>Candidates having at least 3 years of practical experience as a University Bachelor of Law in companies or employed in the courts services can pass the state exam to become lawyers\</p> <p>Transfer routes from other professions apply to PhD holders, professors from law, paralegals (see below induction period section for details)</p>

2. Training during induction period		
Is there an induction period?	YES	Legal basis: Bar Act as adopted in 1993 and last amended in 2009 – article 25
Compulsory	YES	Set length: 4 years A candidate must have four years' practical experience as a University Bachelor of Law graduate, of which at least one year after having passed the state examination of legal profession with a lawyer or a Law Firm, in court, the state prosecutor's office, the public attorney's office or notary's office, as a regular employee under a full-time employment contract.
Types of structures responsible for organising induction training	N/A	
Form of induction training	Internship according to article 45 to 47 of the Bar Act (see above legal basis)	
Entrance exam / check before induction period	NO	The State exam is a part of the induction period.
Set curriculum during induction period	YES	Topics tested in State exam: The induction training period is oriented to the preparation of candidates for this kind of exam. Written exam: drafting two judgments (one in civil law and one in criminal law) Oral exam: knowledge test in criminal law, civil law, commercial law, labour law, administrative law, administrative procedures and administrative disputes, constitutional system of the Republic of Slovenia, organisation of the judiciary and public administration of Slovenia, EU legal system

		<p>The State exam takes place during the induction period.</p> <p>Candidates have to pass the state exam of legal profession during the induction period and a test of knowledge of the law regulating the legal profession, lawyer's fees and the Code of Conduct after the induction period.</p>
Specificities regarding EU law and linguistic training:	YES	The oral part of the State exam includes questions on the EU legal system.
Induction period divided into different stages	YES	<p>Stage before passing the state exam</p> <p>- a candidate must acquire practical experience after obtaining the University Bachelor of Law</p> <p>Stage after passing the state exam</p> <p>- a candidate must obtain one year's practical experience as a University Bachelor of Law graduate with a lawyer or a Law Firm, in court, the state prosecutor's office, the public attorney's office or notary's office.</p>
Post-induction period assessment / exam		After receiving an application for entry in the directory of lawyers, the Bar assesses whether the applicant fulfils all the requirements for entry in the directory of lawyers (Art. 25 of the Bar Act)
3. Continuous training system		
Differentiation between continuous training / specialisation training	YES	
Obligations regarding continuous training	NO	<p>Continuous training is not stated in state law or in the internal regulations of the Bar</p> <p>However, the Slovenian Bar organises a "Lawyer's school" once per year (one-day event addressed to all lawyers). Also, optional continuous training for lawyers was launched in September 2012. It is organised by the Regional lawyers Assembly (območni zbor) or in cooperation with other bodies.</p> <p>At least 5 courses per year – training will become compulsory in the future.</p>
Obligations regarding specialization training	YES	Specialization training obligations as stipulated in the State law (article 33 of the Bar Act).

	<p>Status of specialist lawyer: May be acquired by lawyers who have been awarded the title of specialist in a certain subject or the academic title of Master of Law shall be recognised upon demand, provided that he has practised as a lawyer and/or has held a judicial post in the claimed domain for at least 5 years.</p> <p>The lawyer who has been elected assistant senior lecturer, associate professor or full professor of the Faculty of Law, shall obtain the status of lawyer specialised in the legal domain where he practiced by doing pedagogical and scientific work, even if he does not fulfil the conditions of the 5-year practice required in the preceding paragraph.</p> <p>The requirement referred to in the first paragraph of article 33 of the Bar Act shall be subject to the decision of the Board of the Bar Association. There is no appeal process for these decisions.</p>	
Obligations regarding learning foreign languages	No obligation	
Obligations regarding EU law content in relation to continuous / specialization training?	No obligation	
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	N/A	
Activities and methods		
Type of training activities accepted under the obligations of continuous or specialization training	As continuous training is not compulsory in Slovenia, there are no specificities regarding training activities	<p>Participation in training activities in another Member State:</p> <p>YES - Lawyers can participate in training activities in another Member State of their own choice</p>

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

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)