



Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)

Information provided by the AEAJ

July, 2014

A. General information

Name of network	Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)
Date of constitution	2000
Legal Statute	Eingetragener Verein under German law
Legal Seat	Metzer Allee 4, D – 54259 Trier, Germany
Website	http://www.aej.org/

B. Goals of the network

The Association shall pursue the following objectives:

- to advance legal redress for individuals vis-à-vis public authority in Europe and to promote the legality of administrative acts, thereby helping Europe to grow together in freedom and justice,
- to respect the legal cultures in the various Member States of the European Union and the Council of Europe on the way towards attaining this objective;
- to help broaden the knowledge of legal redress in administrative matters among administrative judges in Europe, and for this purpose, to have an intensive exchange of information on pertinent legislation and case law;
- to strengthen the position of administrative judges in Europe which is growing together, and
- to promote the professional interests of administrative judges at national and European level.

The Association shall pursue these objectives in particular by:

- defending the interests of European administrative judges vis-à-vis the institutions of the European Union and the Council of Europe;
- holding meetings of administrative judges;
- publishing a newsletter for members of the Association.

C. Membership structure of the network – Overall number of current members (with a breakdown by nationalities)

Members:

The Association is a European apex organization. National associations of administrative judges from Member States of the European Union and of the Council of Europe can become members. In all the AEAJ represents (via its member associations) more than 4000 administrative judges.

Member Associations:

- Austria – Vereinigung der Finanzakademiker
- Austria – Vereinigung der Finanzrichterinnen und Finanzrichter
- Austria – Verwaltungsrichter – Vereinigung
- Austria – Vereinigung der Richter/innen des Bundesverwaltungsgerichtes
- Austria – Verein der Richterinnen und Richter des Verwaltungsgerichtshofes
- Azerbaijan – Association of Judges of Specialized Courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- Bulgaria – Association of Bulgarian Administrative Judges
- Estonia – Eesti Kohtunike Ühing
- Finland – Finnish Association of Judges
- France – Syndicat de la Juridiction Administrative
- Germany – Bund Deutscher Verwaltungsrichter und Verwaltungsrichterinnen
- Greece – Association of Greek Administrative Judges
- Hungary – Magyar Közigazgatási Bírak Egyesülete
- Italy – Associazione nazionale di Magistrati Amministrativi
- Lithuania – Association of Judges, Division of Judges of the Administrative Courts of Lithuania
- Luxembourg – Association Luxembourgeoise des Magistrats Administratifs
- Portugal – Association of Judges of the Administrative and Tax Jurisdiction
- Slovenia – Slovenian Association of Judges
- Slovakia – National Association of Slovakian Administrative Judges
- Sweden – Sveriges Domareförbund

If national associations of administrative judges don't exist in a given country, an option is open between admission of organisations including ordinary as well as administrative judges and admission of individuals, providing that they are entrusted with the responsibilities of an administrative judge.

Individual members:

- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Malta
- The Netherlands
- Poland
- Spain
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

D. Governance and bodies of the network

The Association is managed by a General Assembly, a Board, consisting of President and four Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary General and Auditors.

E. Brief resume of the judicial training activities developed (if applicable) by the network

The activities of the AEAJ are the following:

- Annual General Assembly

Annual meetings of our four working groups, dealing with:

- Independence and Efficiency of Administrative Jurisdiction
- Environmental Law
- Taxation Law
- Asylum and Immigration Law.

F. Highlight of the network's statutory provisions that make reference to judicial training / Concerns of the network referring to judicial training

The Association is preponderantly active in international judicial training.

The Association considers the following issues as most important:

- It should be clear that the costs for judicial training (in particular on international level) should not be carried by the judges themselves. Otherwise colleagues from countries with low salaries would be excluded from any international training and/or contacts.
- Judicial training, be it on national or international level should be considered as a part of judges' duties. This includes that training activities should be seen as part of a judges' work and therefore taken into account to figure out the appropriate work load for a judge. Otherwise judges simply won't have the time to join training activities.
- According to our point of view, judicial training should not be organised similar to "training" of other professions, in particular of civil servants. It must be taken into account that administrative judges are not part of a hierarchic system, but individually independent and as such competent to control the legality of the administration. In this function they are competent and obliged to interpret, implement and even develop administrative law of all levels. This is also true for the very important issue of EU-law. Under the guidance of the EU's Court of Justice they have to further clarify the meaning of provisions of EU-law and even participate in the control of validity of secondary EU-law with respect to primary EU-law. These important tasks make necessary that Administrative Judges are not only "trained", but that they have the possibility to have regular international contacts in order to discuss problems of application of EU-law between peers. The working group meetings of our Association try to fulfil this important task. We think that activities of that kind should be enhanced and offer the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) cooperation, not only concerning judicial training in general, but in particular in this specific field.

G. Brief resume of the trends of cooperation and/or regular contacts established by the network with major judicial networks involved in the current project

The Association has experience concerning cooperation with the EJTN by organizing workshops in the field of environmental law and public procurement.

Source: Pilot Project - European Judicial Training: "*Lot 4 – Promotion of cooperation between judicial stakeholders concerned by European judicial training*", carried out by the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)