

Best Practices in training of judges and prosecutors

Category of practice: Implementation of Training Tools to Favour the Correct Application of EU Law and International Judicial Co-operation

Type of practice: Best Practice Institute: European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)

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Title of practice	Criminal Justice I — International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters –'EAW and MLA Simulations'
Key features:	The EJTN Project Criminal Justice - International Judicial Co-operation in Criminal Matters - "European Arrest Warrants and MLA (Mutual Legal Assistance) simulations" was initially conceived by the Centre for Judiciary Studies from Portugal and consists of a series of training seminars, each involving two or three different EU countries.
	These seminars aim to recreate as accurately as possible a realistic environment of judicial co-operation in criminal matters between the participating Member States, counting on the presence of EUROJUST and EJN (European Judicial Network) representatives.
	In the first stage, participants are gathered in national groups in order to examine the progress of cases based upon actual or fictional facts, each one of them suggesting the use of judicial co-operation legal tools. They are then asked to issue international requests for co-operation to the other countries participating in the seminar that they would regard as appropriate; this is done by filling in the relevant forms (normally, European Arrest Warrants, Letters Rogatory, mutual recognition certificates etc.).
	In the second stage, still in national groups, participants examine the requests made by the other national groups in the seminar which were addressed to their country. They are requested to produce, in relation to each of them, a decision according to the applicable EU and national laws.
	In the third stage, participants merge into internationally mixed groups to explain and understand the grounds for the national decisions made on the international requests initially issued. They are also informed of any unusual aspects in relation to the execution of those requests in the other Member States. This sometimes takes place simultaneously in two

different Member States, via video-conferencing.

Finally, on the basis of the answers provided (in national groups again), participants are asked to find the best solution for their own cases.

The course is rounded off by two lectures on related issues.

This training model serves the following main purposes: it assists participants in drafting and executing international co-operation requests on EAW, MR Freezing orders or common MLAs demands; in how to apply and use EJN and EUROJUST (while simulating their roles); provides them the theoretical background to the requests and, finally, it provides them with an international forum for discussion on the above related issues.

Available direct internet link

http://www.ejtn.eu/en/About/Criminal-Justice-Project/

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Other comments

The mechanism undoubtedly consists of a **BEST PRACTICE**, although it may only apply in an international environment.

Source: Pilot Project - European Judicial Training: "Lot 1 - Study on best practices in training judges and prosecutors", carried out by the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)