



# Lawyers training systems in the EU

## Italy

Information provided by: **Scuola Superiore dell'Avvocatura**

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### DESCRIPTION OF THE NATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM FOR LAWYERS in Italy

#### 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"> <li>• Registration with the Bar</li> <li>• State exam</li> <li>• Completion of an induction period</li> </ul>
Alternative routes to the profession:	<p>YES, there are transfer routes from other professions.</p> <p>Judges, State attorneys and Academics may be registered as lawyers (Art. 2 <a href="#">Law n. 247/12</a>)</p>

#### 2. Training during induction period

Is there an induction period?	YES	<a href="#">Law 31.12.2012 n. 247 (Art. 41, comma 5)</a> (Nuova disciplina dell ordinamento della professione forense – Legge 31 Dicembre 2012, N.247)
Compulsory	YES	<b>Set length:</b> <b>18 months</b>
Types of structures responsible for organising induction training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bar</li> <li>• Private training providers</li> <li>• Private training providers accredited by the Bar</li> <li>• Universities</li> <li>• Lawyers' academies and training structures established by the Bar</li> </ul>	

Form of induction training	Apprenticeship supervised by the Bar	
Entrance exam / check before induction period	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check/verification of diploma</li> </ul>
Set curriculum during induction period	<p>No set curriculum</p> <p>No requirements regarding EU law and linguistic training</p> <p>No differentiated stages according to topics or methods</p>	
Post-induction period assessment / exam	NO	<p>When the professional law reform will enter into force on the 01.01.2015, the time limit for the end-of-induction period assessment will be <b>6 years</b>. This is the time limit within which the applicant must pass the State Exam.</p> <p>After <b>6 months</b> from registering as a trainee lawyer, the applicant is allowed to ask for rights of audience (in restricted cases) for his supervising lawyer (s.c. "<i>praticante abilitato</i>" – qualified trainee).</p> <p>After the expiration of a period of <b>6 years</b> from the inscription as a "qualified trainee", the candidate will be automatically eliminated from the registry of lawyers if he has not passed the State Exam.</p> <p>Overall, the time limit to become a fully-fledged lawyer is <b>6 years</b>.</p> <p>However, elimination from the trainees register does not prevent the applicant from a new inscription, upon evaluation by the competent Bar.</p>
<b>3. Continuous training system</b>		
Differentiation between continuous training / specialisation training	YES, from the 01/01/2015 (see below)	
Obligations regarding continuous training	YES	<p><u>Legal basis after 01.01.2015:</u></p> <p><a href="#">Reform law n. 247/12</a> (art.11) – Continuous training is going to become mandatory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compulsory training obligations as stipulated in the state law</li> <li>• Compulsory training obligations as stated in the internal regulations of the bar/law society</li> </ul>

Obligations regarding specialized training	YES	<p><u>Legal basis:</u></p> <p>Specialization training will be regulated by <a href="#">State law n.247/12</a>, art.9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialization training obligations as stipulated in the state law</li> <li>• Specialization training obligations as stipulated in the internal regulations of the bar/law society</li> </ul>
Obligations regarding learning foreign languages	No obligations	
Obligations regarding EU law content in relation to continuous / specialization training	NO	
<b>4. Accreditation systems and training providers</b>		
Possibility for accreditation	YES	<p><u>Legal basis</u> (from 01.01.2015):</p> <p>Art. 9,11, <a href="#">Law n.247/12</a></p>
Number of training providers offering continuous training activities	More than 50 training providers	
Type of training providers developing accredited continuous training activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bar</li> <li>• Organisation managed or established by Bar (including law centres or local groupings of lawyers)</li> <li>• Accredited private commercial training provider (including law firms)</li> <li>• Accredited private or public non-for-profit training provider (including universities, foundations)</li> <li>• Non-accredited private commercial training provider</li> <li>• Non-accredited private or public non-for-profit training provider</li> </ul>	
Number of training providers organizing training activities in preparation for specialization	More than 50 training providers	
Type of training providers developing accredited training activities in preparation for specialization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bar</li> <li>• Organisation managed or established by Bar (including law centres or local groupings of lawyers)</li> <li>• Accredited private commercial training provider (incl. law firms)</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accredited private or public non-for-profit training provider (incl. universities, foundations)</li> <li>• Non-accredited private commercial training provider</li> <li>• Non-accredited private or public non-for-profit training provider</li> </ul>
<b>Activities and methods</b>	
Type of training activities accepted under the obligations of continuous or specialization training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attending face to face training sessions</li> <li>• Completing distance training sessions</li> <li>• Completing e-learning modules</li> <li>• Watching a webinar</li> <li>• Completing blended-learning activities</li> <li>• Attending training conferences</li> <li>• Participating in training activities as trainer or teacher</li> <li>• Writing/publishing</li> <li>• Self-training activities through the lawyer's initiative under Bar supervision</li> </ul>
	<p>participation in training activities in other Member States:</p> <p><b>Yes</b>, training obligations can be fulfilled through participation in training activities in another MS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It depends on the activity being accredited in the Member State of the participant before participation</li> <li>• It depends on the activity being accredited in the Member State of the participant after participation</li> </ul>
<b>5. Supervision of training activities</b>	
Organizations involved in supervising continuous training activities	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p>Continuous training activities are supervised by <b>the Bar</b></p>
Supervision process	<p>The supervision process includes the assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of contents</li> <li>• Quality of training methods</li> </ul> <p>How written requirements of the Bar are met</p>
Organizations involved in supervising training activities towards specialization	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p>The Bar. However, the law on specialization training has not yet entered into force</p>

## 6. National reform of training system

### Training system reform foreseen

The professional law reform ([Law 31.12.2012, n. 247 – Nuova disciplina dell’ordinamento della professione forense](#)) will enter into force even for the training activities (s.c. **pratica forense**, lawyer apprenticeship) on the **1st of January 2015** (regulations to be adopted within the 2nd February 2014). The length of the training period is currently **24 months** and it will be **reduced to 18 months** when the new system enters into force.

### EU law training

No further information at this stage; hopefully there will be provisions regarding EU law training.

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)