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## EU training networks & structures

ERA's objective is to promote the understanding and best practice of EU law by providing legal practitioners from across Europe with training and a forum for discussion and exchange.

### Target groups

ERA works with all practitioners of law:

Judges

Prosecutors

Lawyers in private practice

Notaries

In-house counsel and lawyers in business

Law enforcement officers

Lawyers in public administration

### Types of training activities developed

As the European Commission's communication on judicial training of September 2011 explains, ERA "has extensive experience in successfully organising Union law seminars for multicultural audiences". It offers conferences and courses at different levels at its centre in Trier (near the EU's judicial capital in Luxembourg), in Brussels and around Europe:

Annual **conferences and forums** to review and debate the latest developments

**Seminars** focused on a specific development for practitioners to explore in detail

**Basic training courses** as an introduction to a specific area of EU law

**Briefings** in Brussels to analyse topical developments in EU law

Legal language courses

ERA also provides:

### E-learning courses and resources

**E-presentations** featuring top experts on EU law

A quarterly **legal journal** called *ERA Forum*

ERA's training programmes cover the full range of EU law:

European public law, e.g. institutional law, fundamental rights, asylum and immigration, environmental law, taxation

European private law, e.g. consumer protection, labour and social law, private international law, judicial co-operation in civil matters

European business law, e.g. competition law, public procurement, intellectual property rights, company law, financial services

European criminal law, e.g. judicial cooperation in criminal matters, police cooperation

### Activities 2015

In 2015 ERA organised **157 training events** attended by **6903 legal practitioners from 54 countries**. It also offered **7 e-learning courses** and about 60 e-presentations.

Participants' **professional background** was:

Judges: 27%

Prosecutors: 5%

Lawyers in private practice: 24%

In-house counsel: 5%

Law enforcement officers: 1%

EU officials: 7%

Ministry officials: 6%

Other civil servants: 9%

Academics: 5%

Foundation/NGO representatives: 4%

Other: 6%

### International partnerships/agreements

A founding member of the [European Judicial Training Network \(EJTN\)](#), ERA was re-elected to the EJTN Steering Committee in 2013 for the period 2014-2017. For the same period, ERA was elected Convenor of the Network's Working Group on Programmes and member of its Working Group on Technologies. It also has strong relationships with individual national judicial training institutions, with several of which it has framework agreements for the joint organisation of training activities for judges and prosecutors.

ERA also works regularly on a project-by-project basis with the [Council of the Bars and Law Societies of Europe \(CCBE\)](#), the

[Council of the Notariats of the European Union \(CNUE\)](#), the [European Company Lawyers Association \(ECLA\)](#) as well as other lawyers' organisations at European and national level.

As a public-benefit foundation, ERA is a member of the [European Foundation Centre](#).

### History

ERA was established in 1992 on the initiative of the European Parliament. The founding patrons were the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the *Land of Rhineland-Palatinate*, the City of Trier and the Friends of ERA Association. In the intervening years, 25 of the 28 EU Member States, among others, have joined the foundation.

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**Related link**

[ERA's website](#)

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