

Court staff training systems in the EU

Belgium

Information provided by: IGO –IFJ (Instituut voor Gerechtelijke Opleiding - Institut de Formation Judiciaire)

May, 2014

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM FOR COURT STAFF in Belgium 1. Training of court staff Legal basis/ regulatory Article 3 de la Loi du 31 janvier 2007 sur la formation judiciaire et portant création de l'institut de formation documents on training judiciaire (in Flemish: 31 JANUARI 2007. - Wet inzake de gerechtelijke opleiding en tot oprichting van het Instituut voor gerechtelijke opleiding) Arrêté royal du 18 mai 2009 fixant les droits et obligations en matière de formation judiciaire, ainsi que les modalités d'exécution des formations pour les personnes visées à l'article 2, 4° à 10°, de la loi du 31 janvier 2007 sur la formation judiciaire et portant création de l'Institut de formation judiciaire (in Flemish: 18 MEI 2009. - Koninklijk besluit tot vaststelling van de rechten en plichten op gerechtelijke opleiding, evenals de uitvoeringsmodaliteiten van de opleidingen ten aanzien van de personen bedoeld in artikel 2, 4° tot 10°, van de wet van 31 januari 2007 inzake de gerechtelijke opleiding en tot oprichting van het Instituut voor gerechtelijke opleiding) Categories/ professions Judicial staff: court staff and secretaries at the prosecutor's office concerned 2. Induction period Is there an induction YES period? Structure responsible for National Training Provider (IGO –IFJ) rules

Compulsory	YES
Description	Length: It depends of the level of the staff member
	Form:
	 Training courses on legal professional skills (procedures, drafting)
	 Training courses on non legal professional skills On-the-job training: It is not centrally organised but it is a local initiative depending on the good will of colleagues at the respective court service. The team chief is responsible for the content and the intensity of the training
	Set curriculum: YES
	Main topics:
	 Responsibilities for certain judicial decisions Judicial procedures in civil and commercial matters Judicial procedures in criminal matters Judicial administrative procedures Substantive law Enforcement of court decisions
	EU law content: NO
Options	Linguistic training
	N/A
	Training in another member state
	No, this is not possible in the Belgian training system. It is not part of the working culture and the workload would not allow for this possibility.
3. Continuous training :	system
Continuous training available?	YES
Financial support by	National Training Provider (IGO –IFJ)

Specificities	Compulsory: NO
	Specific obligations to fulfil
	Courses related to the position held
	Methods used:
	Attending face-to-face training sessions
	Continuous training programme:
	Yes, however it is not compulsory
	Programme available at / disseminated at:
	National levelRegional levelCourt level
	Includes EU law aspects: NO
Training in another MS	NO
	There is no demand and no offer.
	The possibility of training in another member state is not excluded.
	It is certain that this activity would have an added-value for the court staff for the following reasons:
	 Increase knowledge of EU law and the judicial culture of the EU member states Collaboration with other member states Way to improve linguistic skills
	Conditions to fulfil: N/A
Exchanges (time spent in a court or another MS)	NO
	Reasons:
	 There are not direct contacts with courts in other EU member states It is too costly
Continuous training	Yes, but it depends on the level of the post, on the members of the

impact on professional
evaluation of a person

evaluation jury and the Chief who is giving advice.

4. Evaluation of training activities

Regarding induction period training activities

YES

Evaluation is made through an evaluation form that participants have to fulfil at the end of the training.

It's been analysed to increase the quality and quantity of the training.

Regarding continuous training activities

YES

Evaluation is made through an evaluation form that participants have to fulfil at the end of the training.

It's been analysed to increase the quality and quantity of the training.

5. Assessment of needs

Assessment scheme description

YES

Through evaluation of skills which are currently provided and evaluation of skills which are still lacking in each position. Based on this, a range of targeted training programs can be offered to the court staff in the future. Also, competences which are needed in order to carry out tasks efficiently are specified.

6. Foreseen reform

N/A

Source: Pilot Project - European Judicial Training: "Lot 3 – State of play of training of court staff in EU law and promotion of cooperation between training providers at EU level", carried out by the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) together with a consortium