

# Working together to promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law

## Programmatic Cooperation Framework for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus

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Funded  
by the European Union  
and the Council of Europe



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Implemented  
by the Council of Europe

# Continuous Training In Finland

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Finnish Bar Association

# Special Features of Finnish System

- No monopoly for lawyers in court proceedings or in giving legal advice
- No compulsory use of lawyers in court proceedings
- An advocate is a member of the Bar Association
- Advocates enjoy no other privileges but the sole right to the title “advocate”

# Finnish Bar Association

- Ca. 2100 members
- Only Bar members are advocates
- 10 % of Lawyers are members
- One national Bar, no local Bars
- In-house lawyers, civil servants (except public legal aid attorneys) can't be members

# Continuing Training in Finland

- Guidelines concerning the continuing education of lawyers
- Obligation: 18 hours per year
- Not possible to transfer surplus hours
- Independent of experience or age
- Has to relate to and benefit the practice of law

# Training activities

- Studies in
  - Law
  - Professional ethics
  - Other topics relating to practice of law
- Language studies relating to profession
- In the field of law:
  - Research
  - Teaching
  - Publishing

# Training activities

- Preparation of:
  - legal opinions
  - Statements relating to drafting of law
- The annual number of hours per activity is not provided

# Continuous Training

- Bar provided 48 courses in 2015
  - Ca. 600 participants
  - Mainly in Finnish, some in English
- Some together with the Universities
- Usually situated in Helsinki (capital city)
- Possibility to attend online



# Online courses

- Possible in nearly all courses
- Go To Webinar-software
- Webcasts are not recorded
- Report of attendance
- Possibility to ask questions (chat)

# Facilities

- Participants: computer and speakers
- Organizer:
  - Laptop (1-2)
  - Internet connection
  - Microphones (1-3)
  - Mixer
  - Meeting rooms (provided by third parties)

# Recourses

- Education committee
  - Appointed by the Board of the Bar
  - Chairperson + 8 members
  - Advocates
- Head of Training
  - Lawyer
  - Responsible for continuous training
  - Rapporteur
- Training Secretary
  - Practical matters

# Trainers

- No permanent trainers
- Fee of EUR 350 per hour
- Reimbursement of travel and accomodation costs
- No daily allowance

# Reporting and supervision

- No annual reporting system
- No register of hours
- Ca. 50 office inspections each year
- Non-compliance -> opportunity to fulfill the obligation within one year

THANK YOU!

[www.barassociation.fi](http://www.barassociation.fi)

Twitter: @asianajajat

[youtube.com/asianajajat](https://youtube.com/asianajajat)