




## Contact

For further information on the EJTN Exchange Programme, please visit the EJTN website at <http://www.ejtn.eu>

You may also contact the Exchange Programme team at EJTN: [exchanges@ejtn.eu](mailto:exchanges@ejtn.eu), or +32 2 280 22 42

## About EJTN

The European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) is the principal platform and promoter for the development, training and exchange of knowledge and competence of the EU judiciary.

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## Feedback

The Exchange Programme is evaluated by both the participants and their tutors. Results of the evaluation for the exchanges realised in 2011 show that **90%** of participants and tutors generally considered the Exchange Programme as very satisfactory or satisfactory.

Whether undertaken in the language of the hosting country (**43.7%**) or in a different common language (**56.3%**) an exchange provides a unique experience from a linguistic point of view, as participants become directly acquainted with legal terminology in a different European language.



Most participants (**99%**) were very satisfied or satisfied with the impact of the exchange regarding their improved knowledge of the hosting jurisdiction and the feeling of pertaining to a common judicial culture and mutual trust (**98%**).

Study visits implemented in 2011 should also be seen as a great success. Expectations of **92%** of the participants at a study visit at ECHR and Eurojust resulted in **99%** expressing themselves to be satisfied or very satisfied with the content of these activities.

All participants and tutors alike requested the continuation of the Programme.

## According to an Italian judge on exchange in Bulgaria:

*"The exchange has helped me to understand that the Bulgarian system of criminal law and criminal procedure is really very similar to the Italian one. For this reason now I have a higher confidence in the Bulgarian system, in their sentences and of course in the possibility to cooperate with that country's magistrates".*

## According to an Austrian judge in a study visit at ECHR:

*"A big plus of the study visit is the mixture of participants (...) this fact enriches the discussions very much. The study visit is to be recommended for judges and prosecutors from all levels of the judiciaries. [...] The personal contact and confrontation of judges and prosecutors with the European institutions is the best way to produce confidence and acceptance for Europe and European law."*



## Practical details

### Application and selection procedure

A call for applications to the Exchange Programme is circulated annually through partner training institutions and the EJTN website. EJTN works with its partners to pre-select and allocate applicants according to available places in the participating countries.

Participants' costs during the exchange as well as their travel expenses are covered by EJTN.

Read all the practicalities of the Exchange Programme in the **Practical Guide to the Exchange Programme**, available in 4 languages from the Exchange Programme section of EJTN's website: <http://www.ejtn.eu>



# Exchange Programme for Judicial Authorities

  
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## What is the EJTN Exchange Programme?

The European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) has been running the Exchange Programme for judicial authorities for several years. Dedicated to the European judiciary, it allows European judges, prosecutors, judicial trainers as well as future judges and prosecutors to become immersed in the work of their counterparts in another European country.

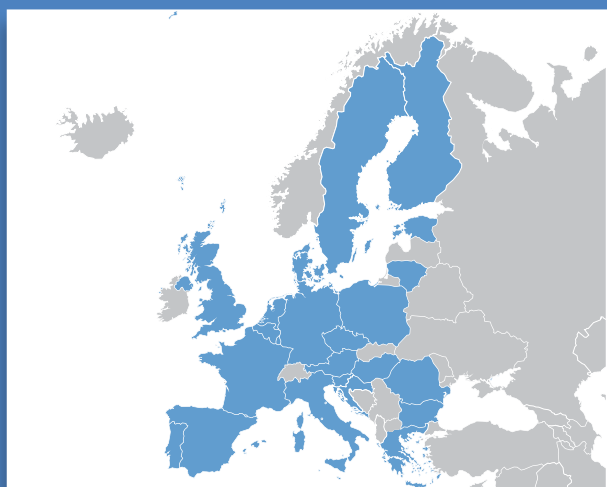
The Exchange Programme was initiated by the European Parliament with the objective to develop mutual trust between judicial authorities by getting to know each others' judicial systems better and by working together. This Programme is financed by the European Commission through an annual grant awarded to EJTN.

The first Exchange Programme was implemented in 2005. In 2006, the European Commission granted EJTN a de-facto monopoly position for the implementation of exchanges between judicial authorities.

In 2012, 1185 judges and prosecutors from all over Europe benefited from the EJTN Exchange Programme. In 2013, this number should rise to approximately 1350.

## Participating countries

Through a network of 33 partner training institutions, EJTN can offer exchanges in 23 European states:



## Exchange Programme Activities

The Exchange Programme is open to judges and public prosecutors at all levels and pertains to all jurisdictions (including civil, criminal and administrative), judicial trainers as well as to future judges and prosecutors. They can take part in different activities:

- Short-term exchanges** in the court/prosecutor's office/judicial institution of another country. The general length of short-term exchanges is **10 working days**. They are organised either on an **individual** basis where the visiting judge/prosecutor shadows a counterpart in his/her daily practice or as a **group exchange**, where the visiting judges/prosecutors learn about the hosting country's legal system and jurisdiction with similar professionals from around Europe. Judicial trainers can also take part in an exchange in another training institution.
- Long-term exchanges** (3 months to 1 year) at the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) and Eurojust. Selected judges and prosecutors are assigned to the office of a National Member (Eurojust), to the Cabinet of a Member of the Court (CJEU) or to the Registry (ECHR) to become acquainted with the work, procedures and decisions of these Europe-wide bodies.
- Study visits in European bodies:** these two-day to one-week study visits allow judges and prosecutors to improve their knowledge of the functioning of institutions such as the ECHR, the CJEU or Eurojust.
- Initial training scheme:** this scheme is specifically designed for future judges/prosecutors and enables them to participate in the training given to judicial students in the judicial training institution of another country and exchange with them on common judicial issues.

## Facts and figures

### Exchange Programme growth

Over the period 2005–2012, almost 4300 European judges and prosecutors have benefited from an exchange through the Exchange Programme.

The number of exchanges has significantly increased over the last 3 years, with a rise by almost 50% between 2010 and 2012.

In the meantime, important efforts have been made to develop new activities within the Exchange Programme.

From 2007 onwards, long-term exchanges were offered at Eurojust, the Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Court of Human Rights.

2010 was another landmark for the Exchange Programme with the launch of two new initiatives. A specific initial training scheme was developed and allowed future judges and prosecutors from 14 European countries to participate in judicial exchanges. Meanwhile, study visits were organised for the first time in cooperation with EU bodies (ECHR, Eurojust). In 2012, this scheme was extended to the CJEU.

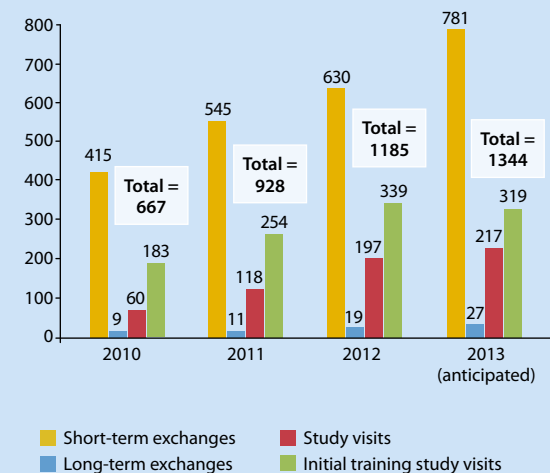


Figure 1: Growth of activities within the Exchange Programme over the period 2010–2013 (anticipated)

## Representation of European judges and prosecutors

Judges and prosecutors from across Europe and pertaining to all levels and types of jurisdictions (including criminal, civil and administrative) directly benefit from the project by participating in a judicial exchange. Since 2010, the Exchange Programme contains a specific initial training scheme, which allows future judges and prosecutors from 14 European states to participate in judicial exchanges.

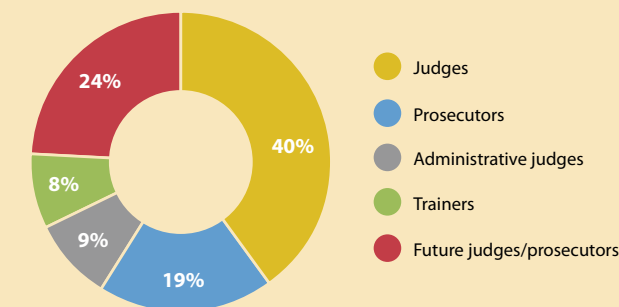


Figure 2: Breakdown of exchanges by categories of participants (in 2011)

