



Matra Pre-Accession Training on Rule of Law (Matra PATROL)

Strengthening government institutional capacity in the area of the Rule of Law

10 day training programme on the subject

Quality, Application and Enforcement of Legislation

for a total of 25 civil servants from the following countries:

Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey

12 – 22 April 2015

The Hague, the Netherlands

Developed and delivered by: T.M.C. Asser Instituut www.asser.nl

Financed by: The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

This training programme is one of a series of eight individual training programmes being delivered per year in the period 2012-2015

Core Information

This training on the Quality, application and enforcement of legislation is intended for:

Senior civil servants, Public Prosecutors and Officers employed by the national Ministries of Justice/(semi) governmental organisations and charged with the development of new legislation and improving the quality of existing legislation, and/or with the organisation and supervision of the applicability and/or enforceability of legislation in their respective countries are invited to apply. This training on the quality, application and enforcement of legislation is thus intended for key figures in a position to apply and make sustainable the newly gained knowledge and insights in their respective organisations.

The maximum number of participants is 25. The total will represent a balance in the number of participants from the individual countries.

Objectives:

The general aim of this training programme is to stimulate and support the government of the Netherlands policy on European integration by aiding and promoting institutional capacity building in the fields of *Rule of Law* within government organisation in the target countries by sharing the necessary knowledge and skills with policy advisors, members of the judiciary and other civil servants working in the legislative sector and helping them to lead and inspire the modernisation of the judicial systems of their home countries building from the Dutch experience (*strict and fair*).

The secondary objective of the training is the creation of networks among the participants and between the participants and the (guest) lecturers and relevant government departments in order to promote the transfer of knowledge and the strengthening of local expertise in the various areas of policy; to stimulate collaboration amongst participants and participants and lecturers; to promote the development of sustainable, transnational and transnational networks of experts, enabling the local exports, possibly together with consortium partners, to train new experts in the region (Train the trainer).

Eligible countries:	Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro Serbia and Turkey.
Application deadline:	15 February 2015
Training period:	12 – 22 April 2015
Language:	English
Programme Costs:	The Netherlands Government will provide full fellowships to selected participants. Each fellowship will cover the cost of international travel (economy), board and lodging, visa and insurance, tuition fees, lecture materials and excursions.
Location:	The Hague, the Netherlands
Training venue:	T.M.C. Asser Instituut R.J. Schimmelpennincklaan 20-22, 2517 JN The Hague www.asser.nl
Hotel accommodation:	Hotel Court Garden, The Hague (or similar) www.hotelcourgarden.nl

Introduction

The target countries are all actively modernising and adapting their respective legislation. New and/or modified legislation is, however, not enough to comply with the demands imposed by the rule of law. This also requires the correct application and enforcement of legislation in the area of civil, administrative and penal law. In many of the areas considerable improvements have to be made in the target countries. Enforcement of legislation in the area of economic and of environmental law will be among the specific topics dealt with during the training because these areas of legislation still need improving. Legislation can only be effectively applied and enforced if it was properly designed, paying attention to the aspects of applicability and enforceability through regulatory impact assessments. Once adopted, evaluations need to tell whether legislation brings about desired effects and works efficiently. Those involved in the process of creating the said legislation need to have the necessary knowledge, skills and competences to do so. In many of the target countries there is still work to be done in this area. The active participation of stakeholders in the process of the creation of legislation is vital for the acceptance, quality, applicability and enforceability of legislation. In many of the target countries this important part of the legislative process merits improvement.

Training programme goal

The course is characterised by interaction and a practical approach. The training is composed of three complementary elements. During lectures the theoretical part concerning instruments available to the government, the (im) possibilities of use thereof, the improvement of the quality of legislation, participation in legislative procedures and the application and enforcement thereof will be explained. The second, practical, component existing of study visits will show how in The Netherlands high quality legislation is devised, applied and enforced. Participants will visit Dutch organisations and institutions involved in the various stages of this process. These qualities are not yet fully developed in the target countries. The third component, the development and furthering of personal skills and competences by discussion and group activities, will complement the knowledge gained throughout the theoretical and practical part of the training.

Approach

The training programme will have a practical and interactive character. This is in line with the objective to share knowledge and strengthen the co-operation between the public servants and magistrates of the participating countries.

Training programme structure

The programme will stimulate much participant interaction and is built around three balanced, mutually supportive and integrated components, namely:

- Theory
- Practical Skills
- Study visits/Social programme

On completion of the training, participants will:

- Have insight in actual developments that influence the field of adopting effective pieces of legislation;
- Know how in the Netherlands and in the European Union legislative procedures ensure applicability and enforceability of legislation;
- Be able to use the acquired knowledge and best practices as a source of inspiration for dealing with challenges related to the improving the applicability and enforceability of legislation in their own countries;
- Be trained in the practical application of specific subjects and in a number of needed practical skills;
- Have had the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences;
- Have had the opportunity to create new professional cross-border networking relations.

Lecturers

All programme lecturers are carefully selected and have broad European experience, particularly in the target countries, with respect to the many aspects of legal reform. They have an open eye for differences in national systems and have a thorough understanding for and practical experience with the problems the participants face at home.

Lecturers are drawn from:

- Ministries of the Netherlands and other Dutch policy departments
- Academic Institutions and NGOs
- The courts and tribunals in The Hague

Admission Requirements

Important points on which the selection of participants will largely be based are:

- The applicant must be a professional working at a (semi) governmental organisation;
- The applicant should clearly demonstrate an immediate need for this specific;
- The applicant should have experience with the current legislative practices and the many aspects of the legal reform in his/her country;
- The applicant should command a good level of spoken and written English;
- The applicant should be highly motivated and enthusiastic;
- The applicant should be comfortable sharing his/her knowledge with fellow participants (solo presentations during the programme and regular knowledge sharing in the digital learning environment will be required);
- The applicant should have at least 3 years of working experience and preferably be in a decision-making function;
- Signed letter of recommendation of current employer.

How to Apply

Please read the [admission requirements](#) carefully. Applicants who satisfy all of the requirements may proceed to complete the [application form](#).

Qualified applicants must obtain permission to attend this training programme and need to submit a signed letter of recommendation from their current employer/superior.

Applications should be submitted **before 15 February 2015**.

Only fully documented applications will be considered. Admission will be on a merit and competitive basis. The applicants will be selected by the applicant's National Government and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the applicants' country. Staff at the Embassy will also assist with visa requirements where applicable.

Successfully uploaded applications will receive an automatic e-mail confirmation. Please contact matrapatrol@asser.nl if you have not received an automatic e-mail within one hour.

Applicants will be informed of the result of their application some three to four weeks before commencement of the training programme.

T.M.C. Asser Instituut

Located in the 'international zone' of The Hague – the City of Justice, Peace and Security, The T.M.C. Asser Instituut (1965) is a unique, strongly networked, inter-university centre. The Institute harbours extensive knowledge on actual developments in the law. This knowledge is created and maintained in the areas of public and private international law, European Law and International and European sports law. The Institute is specialised in research, training and education and valorisation. It is a leading and authoritative provider of quality (executive) education and training to students and professionals operating in the judicial sector with a focus on International Law. The T.M.C. Asser Instituut has a long and rich tradition in successfully developing and delivering topical and quality training programmes to participants from the (international) judiciary and civil servants.

Its core activities of fundamental and applied research, postgraduate education/ PhD candidate guidance, executive training, publishing and knowledge dissemination and valorisation are predominantly carried out from its premises in The Hague but the Asser Institute also delivers various services abroad (capacity building, technical support and "on demand" training).

Building on more than forty five years of experience, the institute has an excellent track record and real-world experience at national and international level in serving its diverse population of stakeholders (e.g. policy research for governments, capacity building in developing countries judiciaries and the development and delivery of innovative education models).

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