

EDUCATION & TRAINING

The T.M.C. Asser Instituut is a leading and authoritative provider of executive and postgraduate education to students and professionals operating in the judicial sector. The institute has a long-standing reputation for quality and excellence and is accomplished in recognising the unique challenges faced by today's legal practices.

Our tailor-made training programmes are designed specifically to address the unique demands of our clients. Each programme has a high degree of flexibility and competence, taking advantage of our academic integration and our extensive network of excellent and renowned speakers and teaching staff.

Working with partners from complimentary fields we are successful in creating truly unique and highly relevant programmes on a variety of subjects and levels for a diverse range of participants including among others students, judges, prosecutors, legislators, civil servants, diplomats and lawyers.

The breadth and impact of Asser's training programmes range from capacity building in developing countries judiciaries towards strengthening the rule of law to interdisciplinary knowledge development for students and professionals through providing the legal framework pillar for topics including war reporting, CRBN issues, counterterrorism as well as providing contributions to curricula of international (USA & Lebanon) law degree programmes.

Our accomplishments in 2011 have helped further establish Asser (internationally) as a proficient provider of quality expertise. A total of 16 tailor-made training programmes were developed and delivered (in The Hague and abroad).

Overview of training programmes 2011

Training courses G2G Programme Vietnam (March 2011)

Within the framework of the G2G Programme of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, 2 training courses were organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The first seminar took place from 16 to 18 March in Vung Tau, near Ho Chi Minh City, and was geared at sharing best practices of the Dutch Consumer Authority (CA) in implementing consumer protection law. The beneficiaries were experts from the Vietnam Competition Authority (VCA) and representatives from the Ministry of Industry and Trade in 11 provinces of South Vietnam. The Dutch experts were Anne Le Guellec (Head of the Legal Service of the CA) and Joanna Luzak (UvA). The second seminar took place from 22 to 24 March in Ha Long, near Hanoi, and benefitted VCA officials from the competition law department. The course was devoted to strengthening the investigation skills of the VCA in competition law cases. The Dutch experts were Dennis Hesseling (NMa) and Pim Smits (NMa). The training teams were led by Prof. Steven Blockmans (Asser).

Training for Lebanese Judges and Lawyers (April 2011)

On 18 April 2011, the T.M.C Asser Instituut organized a seminar for 40 Lebanese judges and lawyers in cooperation with the Lebanese NGO Justice without Frontiers (Lebanon) and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. The training aimed to provide participants with information about international criminal law and the role of the relevant international institutions with a seat in The Hague.

The 5th Annual Summer Law Program in The Hague (June, 2011). This ABA accredited, 4 week long summer programme ran in collaboration with the War Crimes Research Office of the American

University's Washington College of Law and the participants were LL.M and J.D. students from a number of top American universities.

Second Summer School on Disarmament & Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World (August/September 2011). This programme was organised in cooperation with the Organisation for the Prevention of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). This unique programme attracted some 28 participants from 14 countries. It received sponsorship in the form of student stipends from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Kiev Training- Legislation for Kiev Academy of Legislation: MATRA (October 2011)

In October 2011, The T.M.C. Asser Instituut delivered this training in Kiev in support of the Legislation Institute of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine. The training was part of a larger project to be implemented in Kiev and The Hague, from September 2011 to April 2012. The Netherlands Embassy in Kiev has been instrumental in helping realize this MATRA funded project.

The Right to Judicial Protection: Administration of Justice in Cross-border disputes, Belgrade, Serbia (October 2011)

We were also successful in winning one of the last MATRA tenders and delivered the first of three planned training programmes were delivered by Asser Researchers in October and November 2011 to staff of the Serbian Judiciary at the Judicial Academy in Belgrade. This is the second edition of this MATRA project which started in 2010 when two trainings were delivered.

In November 2011 the Inter-university programme on international criminal law and procedure started. This unique programme enables law students from no less than eight different universities in Lebanon to follow a 2-semester module (14 lectures) on international criminal law and procedure, from a central location in Lebanon.

Not only does this initiative fill an obvious gap in the current curricula of the individual participating universities, but it provides a unique academic experience for all involved as the individual lectures (every other week) are delivered by prominent (international) academics and practitioners in the field, via internet streaming, from the T.M.C. Asser Instituut in The Hague, the Netherlands, to the lecture theatre where the students are gathered, in Lebanon.

Fourteen lectures were delivered during the period from 15 November 2011 until May 2012.

1 November International Criminal Law and Procedure Lecture 1 History of the law of international tribunals David Bagaranawath

15 November International Criminal Law and Procedure Lecture 2 Gilbert Bitti, Senior Legal Advisor, Pre-Trial Division, ICC Sources of International criminal (procedural) law

29 November International Criminal Law and Procedure Lecture 3 Substantive law: Genocide Larissa van den Herik, Associate Professor of Public International Law, Leiden University

13 December International Criminal Law and Procedure Lecture 4 Substantive law: Crimes Against Humanity, Michelle Jarvis, Senior Appeals Counsel, OTP, ICTY

MTEC Administration of Justice (November 2011)

Training for judges, prosecutors and civil servant from national ministries of Justice and other (governmental) organisations involved in the Rule of Law. The training programme addressed the deficiency of knowledge and practical experience among potential EU member state candidates in the area of redefining/repositioning the organisation of their judicial procedures and as such addressed issues

such as The Lisbon Treaty and EU External Relations, Current Developments in Justice and Home Affairs issues in the European Union and European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial Matters.

This two-week long course focused on training participants such that they would be in a position to develop their own judicial systems on both the organisational and policy fronts.

MTEC -Legislation (November 2011)

Training for senior civil servants, experts and policy makers with relevant working experience in the area of legislation, from the various line ministries in the new EU member states and potential candidate countries. The training programme addressed the need to align national legislation with the '*acquis communautaire*,' in the target countries with a view to capacity building within the respective government and government related organizations such that these units are better equipped to respond to policy and implementation issues. EU law: instruments, decision-making procedures, Effects of EU law in the legal orders of member states and third countries, The impact of international treaties on the EU's *acquis*.

Both training programmes facilitated network building among participants, lecturers and host institutions such that a sustainable basis has been established for the exchange of knowledge and practical tips, post training.

Training programme Inside International Justice, (December 2011).

In cooperation with the RNTC (an international training institute serving media professionals working in broadcast, print and online media) we organised a 1 week training for professional journalists reporting or intending to report on the work of the various international tribunals and courts in The Hague. The training will be repeated in a more elaborated 4 week training course in the Fall of 2012.

Training course: How to find EU documentation online (April & November 2011)

This interactive course for librarians, information specialists and anyone interested in using European legal materials to find the right tools and means to improve their skills in navigating the EU's online resources was successfully delivered twice in 2011.

The Hague Forum for Judicial Expertise

On behalf of the Hague Academic Coalition we continued in 2011 to develop and deliver training programmes on international law for the Judiciary.

In April we organised 2 trainings on "International Law". From 4 to 8 **April 2011** we organized a **course on international law for Sri Lankan judges**. The course was sponsored by the Dutch Embassy in Colombo and the Dutch Council for the Judiciary. The training focused on international law and international human rights law and international criminal law.

From 12 to 20 **April 2011** we organized a **course on International Law for 20 judges from Jordan**. Finance was provided by the Dutch Embassy in Amman. The course focused on international law and international human rights law. The course also had a special focus on the International Criminal Court, since Jordan is one of the few countries in the region to have signed the Rome Statute.

In October, we welcomed a group of judges and prosecutors from Rwanda for a training on "International Criminal Law".

In November The Hague Forum for Judicial Expertise successfully organised its **first "Open Course on International Law"** for Judges and other professionals working in the Justice sector.