

EJTN STUDY VISITS 2024
PRESENTATION, CALENDARS AND REQUIREMENTS

1. **STUDY VISITS WITH THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ECtHR)**

Presentation

The study visits will be organised in collaboration with the European Court of Human Rights. The aim of these visits is to provide a deeper knowledge of the Court, its functioning and its case law.

The study visits includes:

- Presentations on the Court's competencies, procedures, and case law
- Possibility to attend a hearing session (to be confirmed)
- Meeting with a Judge from the Court
- Presentation of the HELP Programme of the Council of Europe and the Commissioner for Human Rights
- Presentation of the European Ombudsman
- Visit to the European Parliament

Requirements

To participate in study visits at the ECtHR, you need to be:

- A judge, prosecutor, court/prosecution staff or judicial trainer

Calendar

Five study visits will be organised during 2024 with the ECtHR, amongst which three in the 1st semester:

Period	Location	Length	Working Language	Number of places available
4 – 6 March 2024	Strasbourg, France	2.5 days	English	40
15 – 17 April 2024 (to be confirmed)	Strasbourg, France	2.5 days	French	40
3 – 5 June 2024 (to be confirmed)	Strasbourg, France	2.5 days	English	40

Financial conditions

A daily allowance of 190 € will be paid to participants by EJTN during the whole period of the study visit. Transport costs will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis up to a maximum of 500 € upon receipt of original transport documents. National participants will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis. Further information can be found in the Financial conditions document.

Deadline for applications

The deadline for applications is **Friday, 15 December 2023, 18:00 Brussels time.**

A second call for applications for the study visits of the 2nd semester will be issued in April 2024.

2. STUDY VISITS WITH THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (CJEU)

Presentation

The study visits will be organised at the Court of Justice of the European Union. The aim of these visits is to provide a deeper knowledge on the powers, organisation and functioning of the Court.

The study visit will focus on:

- Presentations on the Court's competencies, procedures, and case law
- Participation in a Court hearing

Requirements

To participate in study visits at the CJEU, you need to be:

- A judge, prosecutor, court/prosecution staff or judicial trainer

Calendar

Three study visits will be organised during 2024 with the CJEU, amongst which two in the 1st semester:

Period	Location	Length	Working Language	Number of places available
6-7 May 2024 (to be confirmed)	Luxembourg	1.5 days	English	40
8-9 July 2024 (to be confirmed)	Luxembourg	1.5 days	French	40

Financial conditions

A daily allowance of 180 € will be paid to participants by EJTN during the whole period of the study visit. Transport costs will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis up to a maximum of 500 € upon receipt of original transport documents. National participants will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis. Further information can be found in the Financial conditions document.

Deadline for application

The deadline for application is **Friday, 15 December 2023, 18:00 Brussels time**.

A second call for applications for the study visits of the 2nd semester will be issued in April 2024.

3. SPECIALISED STUDY VISIT AT THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Presentation

The study visit will be organised at the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO). The EPPO is the independent public prosecution office of the European Union. It is responsible for investigating, prosecuting and bringing to judgment crimes against the financial interests of the EU. The aim of these visits is to provide specialised training and case studies for criminal law and investigative judges, and prosecutors who deal with Financial and Economic crimes.

The study visit will focus on:

- Presentations on EPPO's functions, procedures and competences
- A case study

Requirements

To participate in study visits at the EPPO, you need to be:

- A criminal law judge or an investigative judge, or a prosecutor working on Financial and Economic crime cases

Calendar

One specialised study visit will be organised during 2024 with EPPO:

Period	Location	Length	Working Language	Number of places available
1-2 July 2024 (to be confirmed)	Luxembourg	1.5 days	English	25

Financial conditions

A daily allowance of 180 € will be paid to participants by EJTN during the whole period of the study visit. Transport costs will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis up to a maximum of 500 € upon receipt of original transport documents. National participants will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis. Further information can be found in the Financial conditions document.

Deadline for application

The deadline for application is **Friday, 15 December 2023, 18:00 Brussels time.**

4. COMBINED STUDY VISIT COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EU/ EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Presentation

The study visit will be organised at the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) and the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO). The aim of this visit is to provide a first-hand insight into the visited institutions.

The study visit will focus on:

- A general introduction to CJEU and to EPPO
- Participation in a Court hearing at CJEU
- A case study brought before the Court by EPPO

Requirements

To participate in study visits at the CJEU and EPPO, you need to be:

- A judge, prosecutor or court staff

Calendar

Two combined study visits at the CJEU and EPPO will be organised during 2024, among which one in the first semester:

Period	Location	Length	Working Language	Number of places available
4 – 6 March 2024 (to be confirmed)	Luxembourg	2.5 days	English	40

Financial conditions

A daily allowance of 180 € will be paid to participants by EJTN during the whole period of the study visit. Transport costs will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis up to a maximum of 500 € upon receipt of original transport documents. National participants will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis. Further information can be found in the Financial conditions document.

Deadline for application

The deadline for application is **Friday, 15 December 2023, 18:00 Brussels time**.

A second call for applications for the study visit of the 2nd semester will be issued in April 2024.

5. STUDY VISIT WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS

Presentation

The study visit will be organised with the European Commission, the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament, the European Anti-fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS). The study visit is designed to provide beneficiaries with an insight into the EU law making process and the host institution's functioning and procedures. The role of the EDPS and OLAF will also be explained.

Requirements

To participate in study visits in EU Institutions, you need to be:

- A judge, prosecutor, court/prosecution staff or judicial trainer

Calendar

Two study visits are organised during 2024 with the EU institutions, amongst which one in the 1st semester:

Period	Location	Length	Working Language	Number of places available
8 – 10 April 2024 (to be confirmed)	Brussels, Belgium	3 days	English	35

Financial conditions

A daily allowance of 180 € will be paid to participants by EJTN during the whole period of the study visit. Transport costs will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis up to a maximum of 500€ upon receipt of original transport documents. National participants will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis. Further information can be found in the Financial conditions document.

Deadline for applications

The deadline for applications is **Friday, 15 December 2023, 18:00 Brussels time.**

A second call for applications for the study visit of the 2nd semester will be issued in April 2024.

6. STUDY VISIT WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (FRA)

Presentation

The study visit will be organised with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) in Vienna, Austria. It will be complemented by a visit at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The aim of the study visit is to introduce the participants to the work of the visited institutions in the judicial context. Among the topics tackled will be the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, FRA's work in the area of Non-Discrimination, LGBTI, Access to Justice, Asylum and Migration, Hate Crime, the Rights of the Child and Data Protection.

Requirements

To participate in this study visit, you need to be:

- a judge, prosecutor, court staff/prosecution or judicial trainer

Calendar

Two study visits will be organised with FRA in 2024, amongst which one in the 1st semester:

Period	Location	Length	Working Language	Number of places available
23-24 May 2024 (to be confirmed)	Vienna, Austria	1.5 days	English	40

Financial conditions

A daily allowance of 170 € will be paid to participants by EJTN during the whole period of the study visit. Transport costs will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis up to a maximum of 500 € upon receipt of original transport documents. National participants will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis. Further information can be found in the Financial conditions document.

Deadline for applications

The deadline for application is **Friday, 15 December 2023, 18:00 Brussels time.**

A second call for applications for the study visit of the 2nd semester will be issued in April 2024.

7. STUDY VISIT AT EUROJUST

Presentation

This visit aims at raising the participants' awareness of the role of Eurojust and its organisation as well as increasing their understanding of the powers given to Eurojust National Members and judicial cooperation instruments in criminal matters. A visit to Europol and to the International Criminal Court will also be organised.

Requirements

To participate in the study visit at Eurojust, you need to be:

- A prosecutor or investigating judge
- Court/prosecution staff working with criminal issues

Calendar

One study visit will be organised at Eurojust in 2024:

Period	Location	Length	Working Language	Number of places available
Week 3-7 June 2024 (exact dates to be confirmed)	The Hague, Netherlands	3 days	English	40

Financial conditions

A daily allowance of 200 € will be paid to participants by EJTN during the whole period of the study visit. Transport costs will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis up to a maximum of 500 € upon receipt of original transport documents. National participants will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis. Further information can be found in the Financial conditions document.

Deadline for applications

The deadline for application is **Friday, 15 December 2023, 18:00 Brussels time.**

8. STUDY VISIT AT MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY “Addressing Cultural and Religious Diversity in the Courtroom”

Presentation

The study visit will be organised at the **Department ‘Law & Anthropology’ at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology**. The Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, located in the city of Halle in Eastern Germany, is a leading centre for research in socio-cultural anthropology. The Department ‘Law & Anthropology’ aims to offer a stimulating interdisciplinary forum where both anthropologists and lawyers can engage constructively and conduct cutting-edge, policy-relevant research linked to intensified interactions within and between societies, communities, and cultures in contemporary Europe and beyond. These interactions call for an in-depth assessment of the ways in which different normative orders and systems of morality coexist at various levels of decision-making. The Department strives to systematically involve legal practitioners in researching and theorizing concepts of justice and the accommodation of diversity in rapidly changing contemporary pluralistic European societies. To this end, the Department organizes an annual one-week study visit for up to 15 judges, prosecutors and court staff in collaboration with the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN).

Through a mixture of presentations, collaborative team-work exercises with Department researchers, self-study and joint discussion sessions, participants are offered the opportunity to develop in-depth contextual understanding of diversity dimensions that are of direct relevance to their judicial practice. The visit is structured around a core exercise, called *Rethinking Judgments*. Each participant is required to submit a case from their home jurisdiction and relevant to discuss the study visit’s theme two weeks before the start of the visit. During the week in Halle, participants will be invited to rethink – and, if they wish, to rewrite parts of – the decision of the case they submitted, in light of the exposure to Law and Anthropology they have had. On the last day of the visit, participants will be invited to present the findings of their *Rethinking Judgments* exercise to the rest of the group. This last session will be made accessible by a wider audience of colleagues as part of an EJTN-MPI advanced webinar. Academic materials in preparation for the *Rethinking Judgments* exercise will be shared with participants before the visit starts.

For the year 2024, the following study theme will be offered for participants:

“Religious and cultural diversity in the EU: the principle of non-discrimination and its limits”

"United in diversity" is the motto of the European Union (EU), emblematic of the ways in which countries with different cultures, traditions and languages have joined together in the European Union to work for peaceful coexistence. In addition to the enrichment and opportunity that diversity brings, however, it also represents an unprecedented challenge in European history. Respect for cultural and linguistic diversity is laid down in Article 3(3) of the Treaty on European Union and in Article 22 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights under the Title III Equality. In order to fully grasp the substance of the motto, emphasis must be placed on the principle of non-discrimination and on the concept of equality in combination with values that are common to the Member States and on which, therefore, the EU is founded. Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) lists seven: respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons

belonging to minorities. The TEU emphasizes that these values are common to the Member States “in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail”.

How does the judiciary throughout Europe address this challenge?

The study visit will enable judges, from all over Europe, to exchange views on how they adjudicate individual cases involving questions of inclusion of religious and cultural diversity and to what extent the principle of non-discrimination and all that it entails enables them to offer adequate solutions in individual cases. Whilst much attention is paid to the jurisprudence of the international courts, much less is known about developments in the domestic legal systems of EU Member States on the implementation of the principle of non-discrimination and the judicial interpretation of the equality principle. Particularly little is known about the decisions of the lower courts, although they often contain the relevant considerations that explain why, in a specific case, the principle of non-discrimination played a decisive role. The study visit will offer an opportunity to discuss how legal solutions are found in everyday legal practice for the most diverse conflicts that are related to religious and cultural diversity and raise questions of discrimination.

The purpose of the visit week is to enable judges from all over the European Union to discuss - across language barriers - how, in the light of what is prescribed in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), they see themselves contributing to the shaping of the future of European societies when it comes to securing religious and cultural diversity, and the extent to which the principle of non-discrimination actually helps them to appropriately address situations of (unjustified) unequal treatment as they arise on a daily basis.

Requirements

Judges, prosecutors and court/prosecution staff with a **keen interest in questions of sociocultural and religious diversity in judicial practice (especially in relation to the visit's theme)** as well as a strong motivation to building bridges between legal practice and academia. One of the primary aims of the Judicial Study Visit Programme is to enable judges to jointly explore some of the questions they are confronted with in their home jurisdictions. Participants are therefore expected to **actively contribute** to in-class debates, in line with an understanding of learning as a collective endeavour. Prospective applicants are asked to submit **a short letter of motivation** in which they indicate how and why the theme of the study visit is relevant to their own judicial practice and experience, including – if possible – references to cases which could be suitable for the *Rethinking Judgment* exercise. **Good working knowledge of English** is required as the selected participants will be expected to actively contribute throughout the study visit, including but not limited to, presenting case materials from their own jurisdiction, comparative background information on their home jurisdictions and the findings of their *Rethinking exercise* on the last day of the visit.

Calendar

One study visit will be organised at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in 2024:

Period	Location	Length	Working Language	Number of places available
13-17 May 2024	Halle (Saale), Germany	5 days	English	15

Financial conditions

A daily allowance of 160 € will be paid to participants by EJTN during the whole period of the study visit. Transport costs will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis up to a maximum of 500 € upon receipt of original transport documents. National participants will be reimbursed on a real-cost basis. Further information can be found in the Financial conditions document.

Deadline for applications

The deadline for application is **Friday, 15 December 2023, 18:00 Brussels time.**