



# The EUAA Judicial Experts' Pool

## The EUAA support to courts and tribunals

The EUAA is entrusted by its founding regulation with a specific mandate to support members of courts and tribunals with training and professional development in the field of international protection and reception.

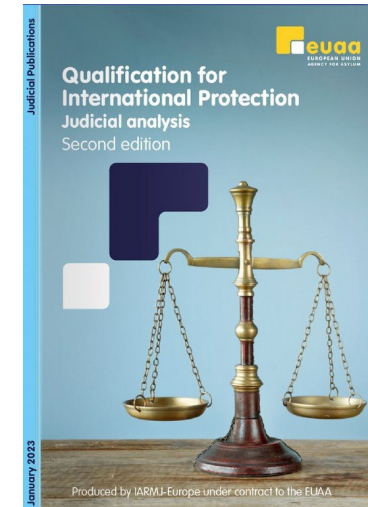
To that end, a dedicated cooperation network was initiated by its predecessor, EASO, back in 2012. The aim was to develop and encourage the deepening of judges' knowledge in the field of international protection law.

### The EUAA Judicial Experts' Pool



With the support of the Courts and Tribunals Network, the EUAA has supported the development of tailor-made materials 'by judges for judges'. You can find the catalogue of the EUAA judicial publications (and their translations) [here](#).

The agency organises professional development activities with the aim of fostering convergence and judicial dialogue in the field of international protection law. To achieve this, the EUAA relies on a dedicated Pool of Judicial Experts.



## The Judicial Experts' Pool

The EUAA Judicial Experts' Pool currently consists of 84 experts from 16 EU+ countries, who by currently serving or having served as members of a court or tribunal, have deep-rooted knowledge of the Common European Asylum System





and first-hand experience in the asylum decision-making process. With a truly transnational character, the pool further reflects the diversity of members of courts and tribunals working in the field of international protection, from all levels of the judiciary. These experts design and deliver judicial workshops in addition to ad hoc capacity building activities.

The objectives and the purpose governing the function of the JEP, as well as the framework of its activities and the role of its members are governed by its Terms of Reference (1).

### Why join the Judicial Experts' Pool?

The judicial workshops are intended to primarily enhance knowledge in international protection law, while at the same time offering a space for all participants to share experiences and exchange views on practices followed in their own Member State.

Through their involvement in the design and facilitation of these workshops, the experts can benefit repeatedly from



such horizontal dialogue and strengthen their expertise in judicial training methodology, which can then be used in their home court, tribunal or training body. In addition, workshops constitute an excellent opportunity to update the knowledge of each subject, in line with recent developments in legislation and jurisprudence.

### The judicial workshops

Each workshop is based on the corresponding EUAA judicial analysis or practical guide. They are delivered by two members of the pool having specific experience on the topic covered.

Indicatively, you can consult the 2024 schedule of the EUAA judicial workshops through this [link](#).

The workshops are designed for an attendance of around 20 participants, 25 being the maximum. They usually last two days and take place at the EUAA Headquarters in Malta. They can also be organised in other countries, on an ad hoc basis.

A half-day preparatory meeting between the experts is always planned before the start of a workshop. Most of the workshops are held in English but they can also be delivered in other EU languages based on specific requests received by the Agency. When circumstances so require, workshops can take place remotely or in a hybrid format.

(1) EUAA/AKC/ARCU/CTS/2024/081





## What the judicial experts do

The judicial experts are expected to present on the topic of the workshop and encourage interaction amongst participants.

This is achieved through:

- presentations by the judicial trainers and case studies (participants split into breakout groups and judicial trainers act as facilitators to guide the groups towards answers to the questions asked or they pose new questions and let groups find their way to possible answers);
- group discussions (smaller groups will discuss one or two questions and results are reported back to the plenary);
- moot court exercises (with the aim to encourage participants to come up with possible answers to the questions posed, elaborate a strategy and innovate);
- exchanges on respective relevant national case-law and best practises.

The experts are also responsible for selecting and adapting the material for the workshops, utilising a dedicated EUAA judicial trainers' guidance note.

To that end, they are informed in due time of their selection as trainers to allow them to prepare the material and the agenda of the workshop, with the constant support of the EUAA Courts and Tribunals Sector.

Furthermore, the judicial experts may be requested to contribute to the implementation of technical assistance measures to courts or tribunals in Member States with which the agency has operational support plans, for instance to provide peer-to-peer advice regarding case flow management or other issues relevant to performance of judicial duties.

## How are the judicial experts selected to deliver a workshop?

By the end of every year, the EUAA calls on members of the pool to express their interest and availability to lead the workshops planned for the following year.

Following a review of the expressions of interest received, the EUAA contacts the experts to offer them to lead the workshops on pre-determined dates.





## Rules for reimbursement of expenses incurred by the expert

The experts are entitled to a financial contribution which aims to cover the expenses incurred by their travelling to the place of delivery of the workshop. This financial participation is composed of the following:

1. An all-inclusive flat rate for travel expenses, the amount of which varies according to the distance travelled (linear distance between the place of departure and the place where the activity is held, calculated with [www.distancefromto.net](http://www.distancefromto.net)).

The current applicable flat rate amounts are:

- no reimbursement if the distance is 50 km or less;
- for distances between 51 km and 2000 km, the flat rate is set at 350 EUR;
- for distances above 2000 km, the flat rate is set at 600 EUR.

2. An accommodation allowance anticipated to contribute towards The contribution is made in the form of an all-inclusive flat rate calculated on the basis of the duration of the activity.
3. A daily subsistence allowance (DSA), that contributes to cover the costs at the place where the activity takes place. It is reimbursed in the form of an all-inclusive flat rate calculated for the exact duration of the activity plus one additional travel day. The DSA is reduced by 25 % for each offered lunch or dinner.



It should be noted that the allowances vary from one country to another. Indicatively, for Malta, the accommodation allowance is currently set at 138 EUR and the DSA at 88 EUR. Moreover, for the delivery of a two-day workshop, an expert is entitled to a DSA for 3.5 days and an accommodation allowance for 2 nights, plus the flat rate for their travel expenses.





## What the Judicial Experts are saying...

Learning about the other EU Member State asylum systems, networking, meeting other trainers, refreshing oneself on the materials and case-law is always useful.

S.G. 23 March 2022

It is extremely rewarding to do good substantive work with a dedicated and good-natured team. Working with judges and decision-makers and lawyers from around the EU is deeply enriching. One gets to compare all sorts of substantive and procedural approaches. And one simply gets to swap ideas and perspectives and question things anew in all sorts of ways. It's a great pleasure to meet all the people concerned in this way.

J.S. 29 May 2022

I met lots of new judges - cross-pollination of knowledge and horizontal judicial dialogue. It was also a good refresher for me.

M.T. 12 April 2022





## Eligibility criteria, as per the JEP Terms of Reference

To become a member of the JEP, a candidate needs to fulfil certain essential criteria cumulatively, while the advantageous criteria mentioned below are also taken into consideration during the selection process.

Essential	Advantageous
1. Be a currently serving or retired judge or be currently serving as a dedicated judicial assistant supporting the decision-making process.	1. Have experience in drafting publications for members of courts and tribunals and/or publications in the field of international protection law.
2. Have proven professional experience of at least three years in the field of international protection and asylum.	2. Have demonstrable experience in providing judicial training.
3. Have proven knowledge of adult-learning principles and techniques, including experience in designing and delivering training activities.	3. Be fluent in other EU languages.
4. Have an excellent command of both written and spoken English.	





## Application and selection procedure

You can submit your application to join the pool by following [this link](#) and filling out the form according to the instructions provided therein. Please open the link using Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee, composed of three representatives of judicial associations (AEAJ, IARMJ and EJTN, respectively) and two representatives of EU+ courts or tribunals.

Selected applicants will be contacted as soon as possible following the review of their application.

Should you need any further clarifications as to the EUAA Judicial Experts' Pool, the Judicial Workshops and the relevant to this call procedures, get in touch with us at: [judicialsupport@euaa.europa.eu](mailto:judicialsupport@euaa.europa.eu)

