



# Catalogue of EASO judicial workshops

2021





# Catalogue of EASO judicial workshops

Training and/or deciding in international protection cases as a judge is a challenging task. This is because of the complexity of this area of the law, the ever-evolving global geopolitical situation and the potential human consequences that are at stake. To respond to this, judicial practitioners in the field need to **rely on high quality tools to support them in their daily tasks**.

As a **complement to judicial training organised at national level**, the European Union centre for expertise in the field of international protection, EASO, in fulfilment of its mandate (Article 6 EASO Regulation), develops and supports judicial training materials and activities for members of courts and tribunals.

This dedicated support is the result of close collaboration between EASO, a dedicated Network and the EASO Judicial Trainers' Pool. This support is intended entirely for the benefit of the thousands of members of courts and tribunals across Europe who are working in this highly specialised, yet fascinating, area of the law.

## 1. What is the role of the EASO Courts and Tribunals Network?

EASO, through the Courts and Tribunals Sector, has developed a Network which has grown consistently over the years. **Courts and tribunals from all Member States of the EU and Associated Countries** (EU+ countries) are now represented in the Network as well as the following key stakeholders:

- the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR);
- judicial associations such as the Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ) and the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges (IARMJ);
- other bodies, such as the Academy of European Law (ERA), the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Since 2013, the Network has been meeting every year at EASO headquarters in Malta to discuss strategic and thematic issues, most importantly in the field of judicial training. In that respect, the Network has achieved remarkable results by contributing to the development of *the EASO Professional development series for members of courts and tribunals* (the PDS) on which all EASO judicial workshops are based.



## 2. Why is the EASO judicial training material unique in its kind?

In close collaboration with the Network, EASO supports the creation, review, update and translation of the PDS, a set of training materials developed exclusively ‘by judges for judges’. These publications are intended to **foster convergence and consistency in the application of international protection law** with a great array of topics covering the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). The PDS is available [in more than nine languages](#).

Although the PDS is increasingly referred to in leading cases by both national courts and tribunals and the European courts, its primary objective remains that of a **unique collection of high-quality judicial training materials**.

Each judicial workshop organised by EASO is based on a **judicial analysis** or **judicial practical guide**. In addition, **judicial trainers’ guidance notes** provide **points for discussion, case studies, moot court exercises** and other **interactive exercises** aimed to support those who deliver training on the respective topics.

## 3. Who will act as my trainer in the workshop?

In order to carry out professional development activities, EASO relies on the **EASO Judicial Trainers’ Pool**, which was established in 2017. It serves as a source of national judicial trainers who are deployed to train their fellow members of courts and tribunals from across EU+ countries.

Members of the pool are all serving members of a court or tribunal or trainers from national judicial training bodies, who, as from today, are from 16 EU+ countries. They all have extensive knowledge of the field of international protection and practical insights into the decision-making process in the field.

## 4. What are the requirements for me to participate in the workshops?

In line with the **inclusive approach taken by the Network**, anyone working in the field of international protection – whether as a judicial trainer, a serving member of a court or tribunal or as a legal rapporteur, assistant or research officer working under their direct supervision – can take part in EASO judicial workshops.

Once or twice a year, EASO circulates a **call of expression of interest** to participate in EASO professional development workshops amongst the members of the EASO Network of Courts and Tribunals. The network contact points (NCPs) are responsible for disseminating all the required information and for the nomination of participants for any given workshop. As such, your **NCP is your focal point**.

Ultimately, your participation is subject to the **compliance with the founding principles of the PDS methodology**. These are namely, the demonstration that you are a serving member of a court and/or a tribunal and/or a judicial trainer in the field of international protection; possess relevant knowledge and experience of asylum law; and a good working knowledge of both spoken and written English. In the event the nominations exceed the number of places available, EASO will draft the final list of participants in order to ensure a **balanced geographical and gender representation amongst the participants**.

Please note that distinct nominations from **National Judicial Training Bodies (NJTB)** directly or via the **European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)** can also take place.



Participation in EASO judicial workshops is **free of charge**. EASO provides a financial contribution to cover expenses relating to participation in face-to-face workshops, including travel and accommodation costs as well as a daily subsistence allowance, in accordance with the applicable EASO rules.

## 5. What is the format of the workshop?

All workshops contained in this catalogue are delivered by **two judicial trainers from the EASO Judicial Trainers' Pool**, usually from two different nationalities and with complementary experience on the topic.

The workshops are designed for an attendance of around **20 participants**, 25 being the maximum to encourage interaction with the judicial trainers and exchanges amongst participants.

Whether the workshops are taking place **face-to-face** or **remotely** via the WebEx application (or any alternate), **interaction is always encouraged** based on:

- presentations by the judicial trainers (listening and asking questions);
- case studies (participants split into two groups; judicial trainers act as facilitators; help finding questions and may ask questions; groups will 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 exercise (facts are given to members of several groups – the court; the appellant; the state; third party intervener – with the aim to encourage participants to find questions / possible answers, elaborate a strategy and innovate);
- exchanges on respective relevant national case and best practises.

In addition, participants are expected to answer a pre-workshop survey aimed at identifying specific areas of focus to be covered by the judicial trainers.

Although the exact number of hours that are required to follow any given workshops might vary slightly, they include a **maximum of 20 hours of training, including the preparatory phase**. Face-to-face workshops that are hosted either at EASO premises in Malta or in Member State locations last **2 days**, whereas remote workshops are spread out over **1 day and a half**.

## 6. How do I know which workshop is best suited for me?

All workshops are **based on one of the chapters of the PDS** that can be downloaded from EASO website [here](#).

The topics have been divided into three categories: core, horizontal and expert.

The **core** topics of the PDS are the following:

- Qualification for international protection (Directive 2011/95/EU);
- Evidence and credibility assessment in the context of the Common European Asylum System;
- Asylum procedures and the principle of *non-refoulement*.



Before considering taking part in any other workshops outlined in this catalogue, especially those covering expert topics, it is advisable that potential participants can demonstrate they have the necessary knowledge in these core topics.

In addition, you will also find workshops in this catalogue that cover topics with a more **horizontal dimension**. These are:

- Introduction to the Common European Asylum System for courts and tribunals;
- Country of origin information;
- Vulnerability in the context of international protection applications.

Assuming you already have extensive knowledge and experience in the field of international protection law, the following **expert workshops** might address your needs as a judicial trainer and/or member of a court and tribunal:

- Detention of applicants for international protection in the context of the Common European Asylum System;
- Reception of applicants for international protection (Reception Conditions Directive 2013/33/EU);
- Article 15(c) Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU);
- Exclusion: Articles 12 and 17 Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU);
- Ending international protection: Articles 11, 14, 16 and 19 Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU).

## 7. Are there any other EASO judicial activities that I may benefit from as a member of a court or tribunal?

An increasing number of EASO professional development workshops have been organised over the years with a very high satisfaction rate among participants (more than 90 %). These workshops remain the **core of EASO's support to the EU+ members of courts and tribunals** and, as such, only these are contained within this catalogue.

However, as a judicial trainer and/or a member of a court or tribunal, you might also benefit from a wide range of professional development activities that are being offered by EASO. These include **national workshops in a language other than English, ad hoc workshops under ongoing EASO Operational and Technical Assistance Plans to Member States**, judicial workshops organised within the **External Dimension** (third countries) and **high-level conferences** aimed to foster horizontal dialogue amongst members of courts and tribunals.

Furthermore, EASO is currently developing **workshops dedicated to judicial training methodology** with the aim to build capacity for judges to become trainers in the field of international protection law in the future or simply strengthen their current skills. Further, a webinar series for judicial professionals, the **EASO Expert Panels**, allows for members of courts and tribunals to exchange views, interpretations, recent national case law, best practices on challenging topics and recent developments in the case law of the CJEU and ECtHR.





## 8. Who can answer my questions?

Your NCP remains your focal point for any questions you may have. Should you require any additional clarifications concerning any of the information contained in the catalogue, kindly contact the EASO Courts and Tribunals Sector at [judicialsupport@easo.europa.eu](mailto:judicialsupport@easo.europa.eu).

In the next pages you will find details of the scope and content of no less than 11 specialised workshops for members of courts and tribunals in the field of international protection.

All the team of the EASO Courts and Tribunals Sector is looking forward to welcoming you to one of EASO's judicial training activities!

\* \* \*

**Core Topics**

**Horizontal Topics**

**Expert Topics**

## 1. Core topic **QUALIFICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION (DIRECTIVE 2011/95/EU)**

### ***What are the key topics covered?***

- qualification for refugee status or subsidiary protection: sources of law and legal concepts
- acts and actors of persecution
- acts and actors of protection
- internal protection alternative
- well-founded fear and reasons for persecutions
- the rules of interpretation of the Qualification Directive (QD (recast))

### ***What are the learning outcomes?***

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- identify and understand the inclusion clauses for qualification for refugee status
- identify and understand the inclusion clauses for qualification for subsidiary protection
- understand the need for a structured approach to the assessment of qualification for international protection
- understand and apply the relevant case law of the CJEU and ECtHR
- acquire an increased capacity to identify other relevant jurisprudence and doctrine

### ***What are the reference materials?***

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on ***Qualification for international protection (Directive 2011/95/EU)***, available for download **here**: [\[EN\]](#) [\[BG\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[EL\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#) [\[MK\]](#) [\[RU\]](#) [\[SR\]](#)

### ***Who should attend?***

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases

## 2. Core topic

## EVIDENCE AND CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM

### ***What are the key topics covered?***

- the evidence and credibility assessment process
- the EU legal framework for evidence assessment and credibility indicators
- the specific principles and standards applicable to evidence and credibility assessment

### ***What are the learning outcomes?***

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- use the legal concepts and case law applicable in the field
- identify the factors that could lead to distortions in the decision-making process
- apply a structured method with regards to evidence and credibility assessment

### ***What are the reference materials?***

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on ***Evidence and credibility assessment in the context of the Common European Asylum System*** and the corresponding compilation of jurisprudence, both available for download **here**:

Judicial analysis: [\[EN\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#)

Compilation of jurisprudence: [\[EN\]](#)

### ***Who should attend?***

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases





### 3. Core topic

## ASYLUM PROCEDURES AND THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-REFOULEMENT

#### ***What are the key topics covered?***

- the concepts of procedures and *non-refoulement*
- the basic principles, safeguards and procedural guarantees for applicants for international protection laid down in the Asylum Procedures Directive (APD (recast)), including the right to remain (*non-refoulement*)
- the rules governing asylum procedures and appeal against transfer decisions in the framework of the determination of the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection under the Dublin III Regulation No 604/2013
- the rules of the APD (recast) governing the examination of applications for international protection at first instance and the right to an effective remedy
- the scope of the Return Directive (Directive 2008/115/EC) of relevance to asylum

#### ***What are the learning outcomes?***

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- make use of the leading case law applicable in the field
- identify the different steps and types of asylum procedures
- have a clear understanding of the procedural safeguards, including the rules governing the application of the principle of *non-refoulement*

#### ***What are the reference materials?***

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on ***Asylum procedures and the principle of non-refoulement*** and the corresponding **Compilation of jurisprudence**, both available for download **here**:

Judicial analysis: [\[EN\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#)

Compilation of jurisprudence: [\[EN\]](#)

#### ***Who should attend?***

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases

#### 4. Horizontal topic

### INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM FOR COURTS AND TRIBUNALS

#### ***What are the key topics covered?***

- overview of the CEAS, how it has developed and evolved, as well as prospects on its future development
- in depth examination of the relevant legal instruments: EU primary and secondary law, case law of the CJEU and the ECtHR

#### ***What are the learning outcomes?***

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- define the legal basis of the CEAS
- understand and apply the provisions of the CEAS
- be aware of the CJEU and ECtHR relevant case law

#### ***What are the reference materials?***

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on ***Introduction to the Common European Asylum System for courts and tribunals***, available for download here: [\[EN\]](#) [\[BG\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[EL\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#)

#### ***Who should attend?***

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases



## 5. Horizontal topic

## THE PRACTICAL USE OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN INFORMATION

### *What are the key topics covered?*

- the definition of country of origin information (COI), its sources and specific methodology
- the practical needs of members of courts and tribunals with regards to COI
- the use of COI in the judicial decision-making process, focusing on areas of expertise, such as the evaluation of future risk, the notion of state protection, internal protection alternative, etc.

### *What are the learning outcomes?*

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- define what is COI
- properly evaluate COI and distinguish it from other material such as country guidance or other policy documents
- address the challenges in using COI, including procedural issues, sharing the information and asking appropriate COI questions
- make use of COI in the decision-making process

### *What are the reference materials?*

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial practical guide on **Country of origin information** and corresponding Compilation of jurisprudence, both available for download **here**:

Judicial practical guide: [\[EN\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#) [\[MK\]](#) [\[SR\]](#)

Compilation of jurisprudence: [\[EN\]](#)

### *Who should attend?*

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases





## 6. Horizontal topic

## VULNERABILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF APPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

### ***What are the key topics covered?***

- the definition and content of the concept of vulnerability in the framework of international protection law
- the identification of applicants with special reception needs and/or special procedural guarantees
- specific issues such as medical evidence and age assessment
- vulnerability in the context of qualification for and content of international protection (impact on evidence and credibility assessments)
- specific categories of vulnerability (minors, sexual orientation and gender identity)
- special procedural guarantees in administrative procedures and before courts and tribunals

### ***What are the learning outcomes?***

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- understand the concept of vulnerability in the context of international protection
- identify and assess the impact of special procedural or reception on the applications for international protection

### ***What are the reference materials?***

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on ***Vulnerability in the context of applications for international protection***, available for download **here**:

Judicial analysis [\[EN\]](#)

Compilation of jurisprudence [\[EN\]](#)

### ***Who should attend?***

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases



## 7. Expert topic

## DETENTION OF APPLICANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM

### *What are the key topics covered?*

- what is meant by detention within the CEAS and how does it relate to other restrictions to liberty
- the grounds for detention and its duration
- detention conditions
- the alternatives to detention and their applicability
- specific safeguards particularly in relation to minors and other vulnerable applicants

### *What are the learning outcomes?*

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- master the theoretical and practical knowledge on detention of applicants for international protection
- identify and apply the legal provisions relevant to the detention of applicants for international protection
- have an overview of the current state of the law on the detention of applicants for international protection
- apply the major sources of primary and secondary EU law concerning the detention of applicants for international protection

### *What are the reference materials?*

Based on the EASO judicial analysis on ***Detention of applicants for international protection in the context of the Common European Asylum System*** and corresponding Compilation of jurisprudence, both available for download **here**:

Judicial analysis [\[EN\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#)

Compilation of jurisprudence: [\[EN\]](#)

### *Who should attend?*

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases

Participants willing to follow this workshop ideally should have an in-depth knowledge of the CEAS





## 8. Expert topic

### RECEPTION OF APPLICANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION (RECEPTION CONDITIONS DIRECTIVE 2013/33/EU)

#### ***What are the key topics covered?***

- the scope, the aim and the interrelation between the Reception Conditions Directive (RCD (recast)) and other sources of law
- the assessment of special reception needs for vulnerable applicants
- the content of non-material and material reception conditions
- the reduction or withdrawal of reception conditions
- the procedural guarantees and the right to appeal

#### ***What are the learning outcomes?***

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

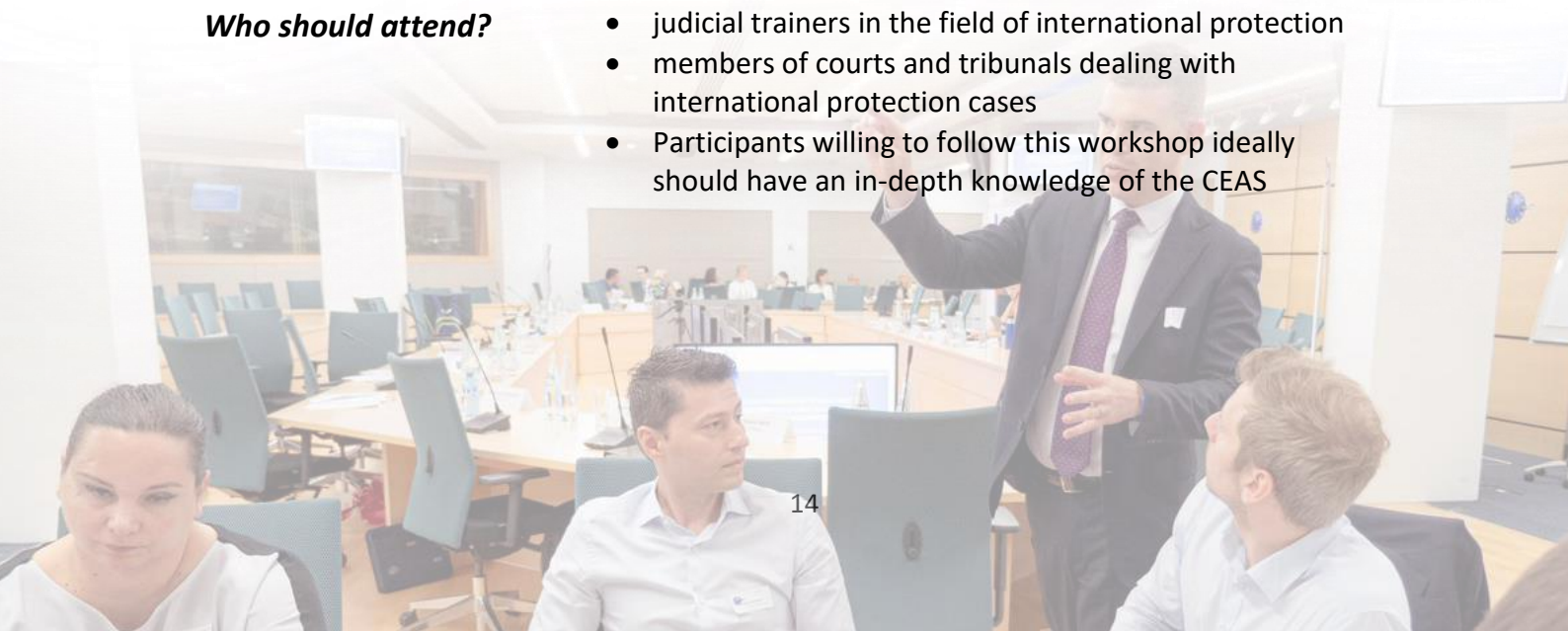
- understand the position of the RCD (recast) within the wider framework of international protection
- approach more comprehensively the analysis of appeals against decisions taken with respect to the right to reception
- understand in depth CJEU case law on this topic
- identify relevant jurisprudence and other materials
- use the judicial analysis as a 'helpful tool' in relation to the key questions covered

#### ***What are the reference materials?***

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on ***Reception of applicants for international protection (Reception Conditions Directive 2013/33/EU)***, available for download [here: \[EN\]](#)

#### ***Who should attend?***

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases
- Participants willing to follow this workshop ideally should have an in-depth knowledge of the CEAS



## 9. Expert topic

## ARTICLE 15(C) QUALIFICATION DIRECTIVE (2011/95/EU)

### *What are the key topics covered?*

- the context of Article 15(c) QD (recast) in deciding applications for international protection
- an overview of the application of Article 15(c)
- an in depth analysis of the meaning of real risk of serious harm, armed conflict, indiscriminate violence, serious and individual threat, notion of civilian

### *What are the learning outcomes?*

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- understand the position of Article 15(c) QD (recast) within the wider framework of international protection law
- master the elements of Article 15(c) and identify the main challenges that arise from its application
- understand the need for a structured approach to analyse Article 15(c)
- understand and apply the case law of the CJEU and ECtHR in relation to Article 15(c)
- identify relevant jurisprudence and other relevant materials on Article 15(c)

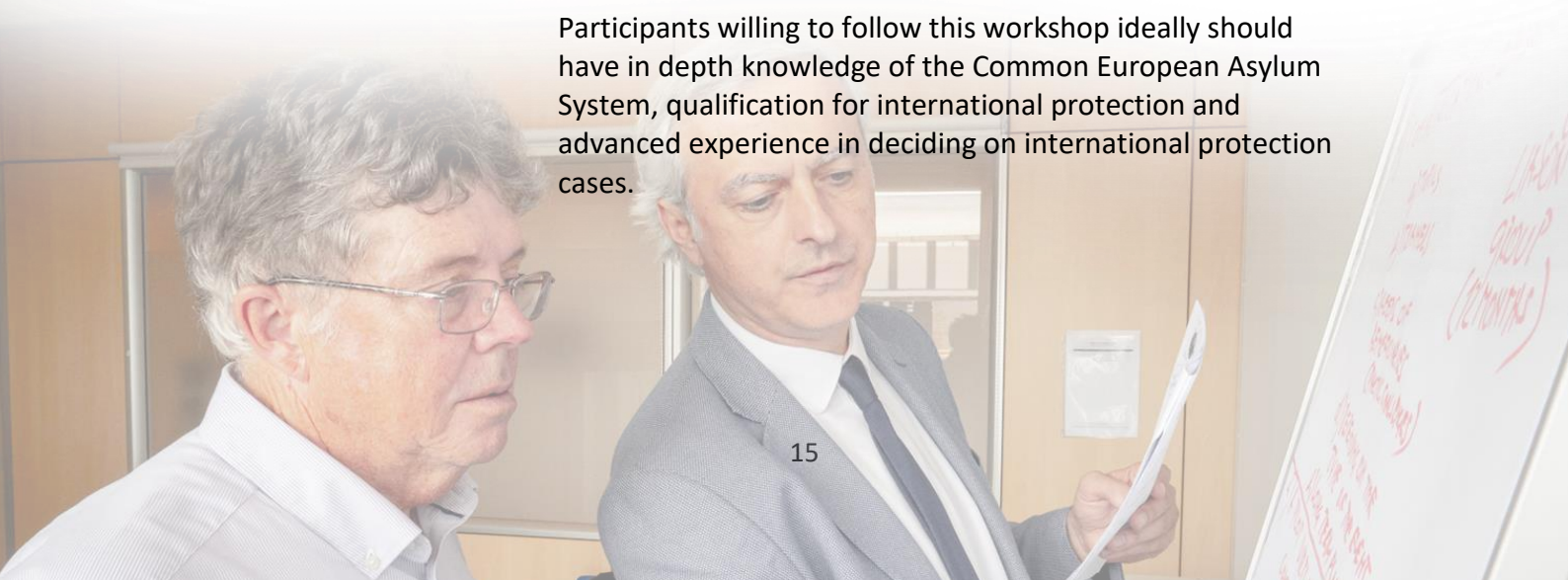
### *What are the reference materials?*

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on **Article 15(c) Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU)**, available for download [here](#): [\[EN\]](#) [\[BG\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[EL\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#) [\[MK\]](#) [\[SR\]](#)

### *Who should attend?*

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases

Participants willing to follow this workshop ideally should have in depth knowledge of the Common European Asylum System, qualification for international protection and advanced experience in deciding on international protection cases.



## 10. Expert topic

## EXCLUSION: ARTICLES 12 AND 17 QUALIFICATION DIRECTIVE (2011/95/EU)

### *What are the key topics covered?*

- the EU legal framework relevant to the exclusion clauses contained in Articles 12 and 17 QD (recast) and the relevant case law
- how to identify cases in which the exclusion clauses apply and how to analyse them
- an understanding of the correct approach to the burden of proof and standard of proof applicable in the context of the exclusion clauses
- the basic principles, safeguards and procedural guarantees applying in cases involving the application of the exclusion clauses
- focus on specific evidential issues that may arise in exclusion cases

### *What are the learning outcomes?*

At the end of the workshop participants will be able to:

- understand in depth Articles 12 and 17 QD (recast) and their position within the wider framework of international protection
- analysis of 'exclusion cases'
- apply CJEU case law on this topic
- identify relevant jurisprudence and other materials
- use the judicial analysis as a 'helpful tool' in relation to the key questions covered

### *What are the reference materials?*

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on **Exclusion: Articles 12 and 17 Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU), 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition** and the corresponding Compilation of jurisprudence, available for download **here**:

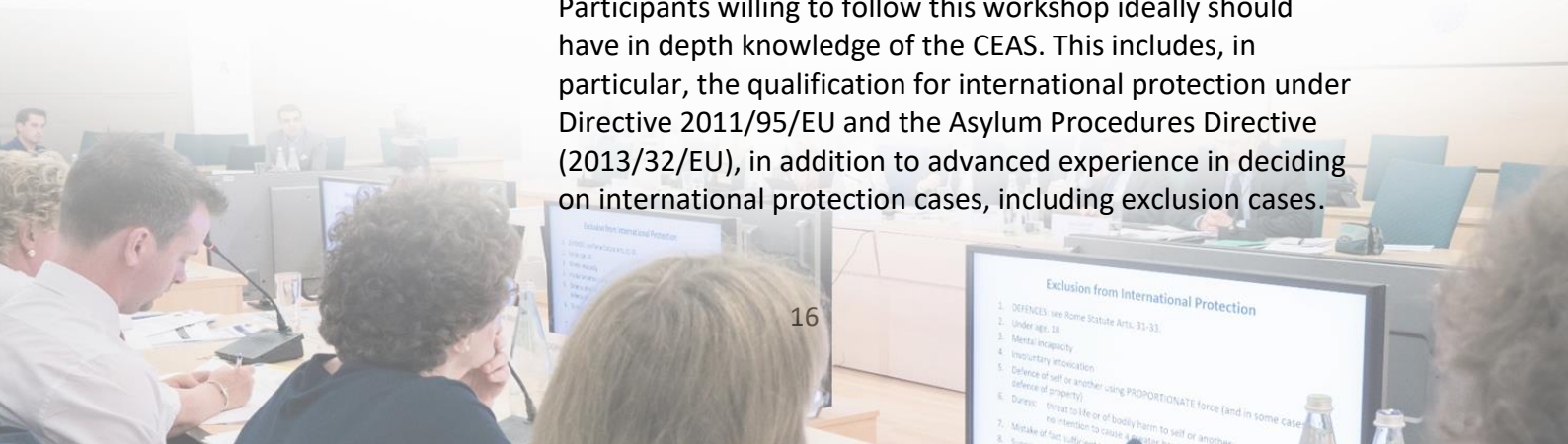
Judicial analysis 2<sup>nd</sup> edition: [\[EN\]](#)

Compilation of jurisprudence: [\[EN\]](#)

### *Who should attend?*

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases

Participants willing to follow this workshop ideally should have in depth knowledge of the CEAS. This includes, in particular, the qualification for international protection under Directive 2011/95/EU and the Asylum Procedures Directive (2013/32/EU), in addition to advanced experience in deciding on international protection cases, including exclusion cases.





## 11. Expert topic

### ENDING OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION ARTICLES 11, 14, 16 AND 19 QUALIFICATION DIRECTIVE (2011/95/EU)

#### ***What are the key topics covered?***

- understanding the differences between cessation, revocation, ending or refusing to renew protection and withdrawal of refugee status as well as subsidiary and temporary protection
- procedural aspects related to ending international protection
- grounds for ending protection, such as:
  - individual actions
  - change of circumstances
  - misrepresentation
  - danger to security and conviction for serious crime
- specific grounds relating to subsidiary protection

#### ***What are the learning outcomes?***

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- apply the legal framework applicable to the end of protection and identify the different grounds on which the decision of ending protection are based
- understand in depth the leading case law on this topic
- use the judicial analysis as a 'helpful tool' in relation to the key questions covered

#### ***What are the reference materials?***

The workshop is based on the EASO judicial analysis on ***Ending international protection: Articles 11, 14, 16 and 19 Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU)***, available for download here: [\[EN\]](#) [\[BG\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#) [\[EL\]](#)

#### ***Who should attend?***

- judicial trainers in the field of international protection
- members of courts and tribunals dealing with international protection cases

Participants willing to follow this workshop ideally should have in depth knowledge of the CEAS. This includes, in particular, qualification for international protection under Directive 2011/95/EU and the Asylum Procedures Directive (2013/32/EU), in addition to advanced judicial experience in international protection cases, including exclusion cases.

