



Universiteit
Leiden



NETHERLANDS
HELSINKI
COMMITTEE

The Hague Academy for
local governance

The administration of justice

A 10 DAY- TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR 36 CIVIL SERVANTS FROM THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:

**ALBANIA, ARMENIA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, GEORGIA, KOSOVO, MACEDONIA, MOLDOVA,
MONTENEGRO, SERBIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE**

13 – 22 March, 2019

LEIDEN AND THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands

In short

The *Matra Rule of Law Training Programme* is designed to strengthen institutional capacity in the field of rule of law within government organisations in Albania, Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, and Ukraine. To this end seven training programmes are offered per year, each introducing the participants to best practices in a wide range of rule of law themes. Through interactive sessions combining theory, practical skills and study visits, policy advisors, members of the judiciary and other civil servants working in the government and justice sectors acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to drive reforms in their home countries. In addition, by taking part in the training programme, participants become part of a large transnational network of alumni, lecturers and relevant government departments in the Netherlands and in the target countries. This network offers a platform for learning, exchange and collaboration. As members of this network, all trainees are invited to participate in an Alumni Day, organised in one of the participating countries, between six to ten months after the training programme.

The Matra Rule of Law Training Programme is designed and delivered by the Netherlands Helsinki Committee, Leiden Law School, and The Hague Academy for Local Governance. It is financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, for a period of four years (2017- 2020).

This training on the administration of justice is intended for:

Senior judges and civil servants as well as policy makers with responsibilities for court management and the organisation of the administration of justice *in the area of criminal law* are invited to apply. Participants will be selected who can offer a valuable and active contribution to the learning process and who are in the position to implement the newly gained knowledge and insights in their respective organisations.

The maximum number of participants is 36. The total will represent a balance in gender and a balance in the number of participants from the individual countries.

Eligible countries:	Albania, Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine
Application:	Application will open on www.nhc.nl/matrarolt on 15 November 2018. Application deadline is 13 January 2019 – 12:00 pm (CET)
Training period:	13 – 22 March 2019
Language:	English
Programme costs:	The Netherlands Government will provide full fellowships to selected participants. Each fellowship will cover the cost of international travel (economy), full board and lodging, visa and insurance, tuition fees, lecture materials and excursions. The participant will have to cover any other costs.
Location:	Leiden and The Hague, the Netherlands
Training venues:	Leiden Law School, Leiden Leiden University Campus The Hague, and others
Hotel accommodation:	Ibis Leiden, Leiden https://bit.ly/2z93vMQ Ibis Den Haag City Centre, The Hague https://bit.ly/2My8206

Introduction

The European Union in its relations with pre-accession and Eastern Partnership countries requires stable government institutions that should be able to guarantee democracy, rule of law, human rights and protection of minorities. In this respect independent and impartial courts are of crucial importance since they provide the very foundation for the rule of law. It is of tremendous importance that the courts enjoy the confidence of both the parties appearing before them and the public at large. This applies certainly in the area of criminal justice. What is needed, therefore, is continuous reflection on key themes such as efficiency, professional ethics, the rights of the defence, transparency, communication and court management. The training programme *Administration of Justice* allows judges and policy makers to discuss these and other issues with leading academics and practitioners from the Dutch judiciary.

Objectives

The training programme aims to increase understanding of the European standards relating to the right to a fair trial, more in particular in the area of criminal law, and of factors that determine the legitimacy, integrity and transparency of the administration of justice. Presentations on the Dutch approach in dealing with these standards will encourage the participants to reflect on the situation in their own country and to identify areas for reform. In addition, knowledge and skills to develop a sustainable policy for the improvement of the administration of justice will be enhanced. Special attention will be paid to obstacles and dilemmas in the implementation process and how to overcome them.

Approach and structure

By being demand-driven in nature and by stimulating active participation, the training programme strives to achieve lasting results. When participants leave, they are sufficiently equipped to implement the newly gained knowledge and insights in their respective organisations. The training programme offers a careful balance between the following three, mutually reinforcing, components:

- Theory
- Practical skills (change management, organisational culture)
- Study visits (incl. district court, regional court, Supreme Court, ICC, Eurojust)

A social programme will facilitate network development between the participants from the various countries as well as between the participants and their Dutch counterparts.

Upon successful completion of the programme – which includes attendance to all components of the programme – participants will receive a certificate.

On completion of the training, participants will:

- Have insight in the importance of independent and impartial courts as the foundation for the rule of law;
- Know how the Dutch policy for administration of justice is shaped and organised;
- Have studied the recent case-law of the European Court of Human Rights in the area of criminal justice;
- Have gained understanding of the development of the law of the European Union in the area of criminal justice;
- Be able to use the acquired knowledge and best practices as a source of inspiration for dealing with challenges related to administration of justice 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.

Experts

All contributors to the programme are carefully selected. They include leading academics and experienced judges and prosecutors

Admission requirements

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

- The participant should clearly demonstrate their professional interest in a training on the administration of justice, and the use they would make of the insights gained from such as training.
- The participant should have practical experience either as a (senior) judge or as a civil servant/policy maker in the area of administration of justice.
- The participant should have a good command of spoken and written English.
- The participant should be highly motivated and enthusiastic.
- The participant should be comfortable sharing his/her knowledge with fellow participants (solo presentation during the programme and regular knowledge sharing in the digital learning environment will be required).
- The participant should be in the position to devote time and attention to the training programme prior to and after the 10-day training in the Netherlands, by working on preparatory assignments and a Back Home Action Plan.
- Participant should submit a signed employer's statement granting permission to participate in the training programme.

How to apply

Please read the admission requirements carefully. Candidates who satisfy all of the requirements may proceed to complete the application form which is available at www.nhc.nl/matrarolt.

Application forms need to be submitted in full to be eligible for selection. Applicants are required to up-load their Curriculum Vitae and a letter from their supervisor authorizing participation. Admission will be on a merit and competitive basis.

Successfully uploaded applications will receive an automatic e-mail confirmation.

Information and training programme organisation

Netherlands Helsinki Committee

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