



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova/Republic of Kosovo
Instituti Gjyqësor i Kosovës/Kosovski Institut za Pravosudje/Kosovo Judicial Institute

Legal Education for Justice

May 2011, Prishtina

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Kosovo Judicial Institute (KJI) marked 10 (ten) anniversary of its establishment. The results achieved during this time were an inspiration for increased activities in the future.

Despite many challenges of administrative and financial nature, in cooperation with local and international institutions, KJI has managed to begin implementing new programs for the preparation of candidates for future judges and prosecutors and further develop existing programs for sitting judges and prosecutors.

The KJI's training programs, without a doubt, contribute to the consolidation of a professional judicial and prosecutorial system in Kosovo.

I feel privileged and honored that on behalf of the KJI, can communicate with you through this brochure, which outlines a summary of the functioning and mission to provide quality services in the context of legal education.

I am convinced that the KJI's services will help building a professional judicial and prosecutorial system that protects individual rights, general welfare and increase public confidence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. K. ...', written on a white background.

Introduction

Within the mandate of building the local institutions, the OSCE mission in Kosovo based on human rights principles and rule of law helped Kosovo in developing the judicial system.

The OSCE mission, the Department of Human Rights and Rule of Law established a judicial training sector, who later in February 2000, was renamed as the Kosovo Judicial Institute.

On 24 April 2006, the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations approved the Regulation 2006/23 on the promulgation of the Law on Establishing the Kosovo Judicial Institute. The Assembly passed this law in February 2006, according to which the KJI became an independent institution and the main institution for professional training within the judicial system of Kosovo, which should perform its functions based on principles of legality, impartiality and efficiency.

Mission and functions of the Kosovo Judicial Institute

The purpose of KJI is that through applying the most advanced and effective teaching techniques, to provide the highest quality of legal education and professional preparation for judges and prosecutors in Kosovo.

As part of this goal, KJI will provide training for all judges and prosecutors in Kosovo. Moreover, this goal includes the aspiration to create the most advanced magistrate school in the region for the preparation of new generations of judges and prosecutors.

In support of this goal, KJI will develop further the cooperation with all its partners with the purpose of promoting and conveying best practices of professional legal education programs for its beneficiaries.

The KJI main responsibilities set out in Article 2 of the Law on its Establishment are: training of the office holders and potential office holders in the judiciary (judges and prosecutors), assessment and organization of the Preparatory Exam for judges and prosecutors, special training courses for promotion of judges and prosecutors, basic training for lay judges and training courses for other professionals in the area of judiciary as identified by the KJI.

In addition, during its work, the KJI develops; short, medium and long-term training plans for an efficient, effective and impartial judiciary, and perform other professional activities as a professional and research institution for the development of judiciary in Kosovo in line with international standards.

Continuous Legal Education Program (CLEP)

Continuous Legal Education Program is a training program dedicated to judges and prosecutors who are currently exercising their function.

The KJI's staff, experts and trainers, using specific techniques and methodologies that provide a comprehensive and diverse program, draft this training program.

After drafting, the KJI' program Council discusses and elaborates the respective program and than is submitted to the Managing Board for the final approval.

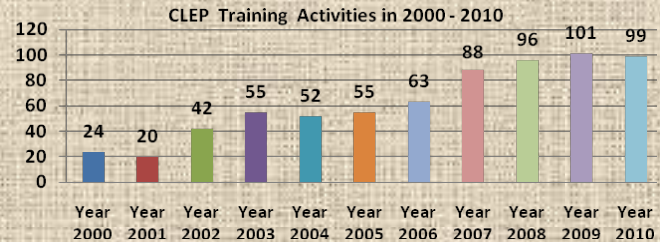
The main purpose of this training program is the development and professional capacity building and legal expertise for judges and prosecutors who exercise their function.

CLEP consists of issues from the:

- Criminal Law (material and procedural)
- Juvenile Justice,
- Civil Law (general part and civil procedure),
- Constitutional and Administrative Law,
- European Law and European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedom,
- Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for judges and prosecutors, and
- Minor Offence Filed.

The beneficiaries of the CLEP training are:

- *Judges and prosecutors of all instances who are currently exercising their functions, and,*
- *In some training courses of the common interest, training beneficiaries are also defence counsels, Kosovo Police officers, Probation Officers and Social Workers.*



Initial Legal Education Program (ILEP)

Initial Legal Education Program (ILEP) is a training Program dedicated to the candidates for future judges and prosecutors who after having passed the Preparatory/Entry Exam, shall follow the Initial Program that consists a number of modules in duration of specific period.

- The first phase lasts 6 months. During this period, the candidates for judges and prosecutors are trained together. This phase covers training courses on general basis of the legal system and the judiciary.
- The second phase lasts 3 months. In the course of this phase, the candidates for judges are trained separately from those that have chosen the profile of prosecutor. This phase is implemented based on the candidate's job specifications.

- The third phase lasts 6 months. This is a specific phase because the candidates for judges and prosecutors in the course of this period are transferred in courts and prosecution offices, where they practically work overseen by their mentors (judges/prosecutors).

The characteristic of the third phase is that upon its commencement the KJI can start with the preparation for the admission of the next generation of candidates, considering that the candidates from the previous generation would not be any longer (physically) at KJI. The feasibility of this program is based on 34 training modules (training Program) which in fact, are classes consisted of subjects on which the candidates receive training while on KJI

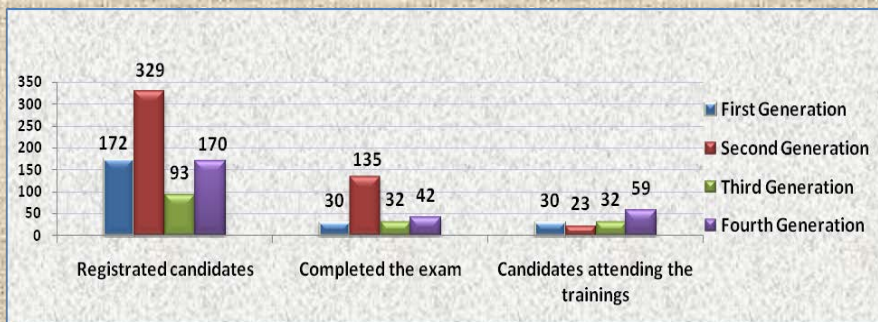
The ILEP first and second generation have been already appointed as judges or prosecutors, whereas currently the third generation (32 candidates) and fourth (57 candidate) are following the training.



Preparatory Entry/Exam

According to the Law on Establishing of the Kosovo Judicial Institute (Article 2.1.a and 7), the KJI is responsible for the organization and assessment of the Preparatory/Entry Exam for judges and prosecutors, which is a prerequisite for the respective candidates to attend ILEP classes.

This exam is organized for the purpose of professional evaluation of all potential candidates who intend to become future judges or prosecutors.



In 2011, 42 candidates were entitled to attend the Initial Legal Education Program, however the KJC decided the right to attend the training should have also the candidates who passed the exam in 2009, because of this decision, in 2011, 59 candidates start attending the respective training.

Training Program for Promotion (TPP)

This training program includes the organization of special training courses for judges and prosecutors who have or will be promoted within the judicial or prosecutorial system in Kosovo; this program is drafted in consultation with the KJC and PCK.

TPP is based on the Article 10 of the Law and Article 16 of the KJI Statute.

Under the KJI law, recently appointed judges and prosecutors are entitled and obliged to attend special training courses for promotion without any secession from work and in accordance with applicable provisions.

Pursuant to Article 16 of the KJI Statute, training courses will be offered for two categories of beneficiaries:

For judges and prosecutors who are currently exercising their functions and whom the Kosovo Judicial Council and Prosecutorial Council decides to be promoted from junior to senior position.

Just appointed judges and prosecutors who have never before exercised respective functions

Training Program for Promotion is a specific program as it is being organized for the first time and it consists of special training courses for judges and prosecutors of different instances who are promoted on from junior to senior positions



Training for Lay-judges

Pursuant to Article 2.1. (d) of the Law on its establishment, the KJI is responsible for organizing basic training courses for lay-judges.

The Purpose of these training courses is to build lay-judges decision-making capacities during court proceeding in accordance with their competency provided by law.

These training courses are of basic and advanced level. They are organized in the form of seminars and workshops and are of regional character.

Training for other professionals in the area of judiciary

Pursuant to Article 2. 1. (e) of the Law on the Establishment of the KJI, the KJI is mandated to organize training courses for other professionals in the area of judiciary.

The purpose of this training program is to strengthen the role of professional associates and support staff of courts and prosecution offices so that through them to ensure greater support for judges and prosecutors.

Research & Publication

The KJI carries a number of publications that outline the institute's activities and research conducted on various legal issues of judicial practice. The following are its most important publications:



Brochures

Newsletter



Webpage

Training evaluation by participants

1. Trainings are very useful for the development of professional knowledge.
2. Practical approach of advanced learning is very useful method for the future.
3. KJI shall continue hosting regional training with greater involvement of judges and conduct kind of seminars on the interpretation of law.
4. Conduct training of such type in order to have qualified and professional generations.
5. To conduct more training courses on the European Convention on Human Rights, since the judges have less knowledge on this field.



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