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May 2019

Activities from Continuous Training Program (CTP)

Interpretation of the tax legislation in Kosovo

May 7-8 2019, Academy of Justice within Continuous Training Program (CTP) organized training on Interpretation of tax legislation in Kosovo.

Purpose of this training was to extend the participants knowledge in correct application of the tax legislation in practice.

Issues that were covered and highlighted in this training were the following: Law on Corporate income, Administrative Instruction for transfer of Prices, provisions of the Law on personal income tax. Particular attention was paid to the Law on tax administration and its procedures,

dilemmas and challenges that are faced in various situations in the judicial practice.

Training methodology was combined with lectures and interactive discussions, where trainers through practical cases and interpretation of legal provisions offered the right solutions.

Beneficiaries of this two-days training were judges and professional associates from Basic Courts and the Appeals Court of the Republic of Kosovo.



Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code

May 8-11 2019, Academy of Justice in cooperation with the US Embassy in Kosovo (The US Department of Justice) conducted training on the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code.

Purpose of this training was to acquaint beneficiaries with new provisions of the Criminal Code for correct application in practice.

This three-days training elaborated on legislative changes analyzing the novelties that relate to crimes against utilities, crimes of official corruption and crimes against official duty, as well as new articles included in the Criminal Code that has entered into force.

Particular attention was paid to changes that are expected to take place in the Criminal Pro-

cedure Code, like the mandatory defense, defense attorney with public funds, when the defense is not mandatory and the rights of injured parties or of the victim, dismissal of the indictment, the right to appeal dismissal, special investigative opportunities, examination in preliminary procedure, statement in preliminary procedure and the special investigative opportunity. Also, new provision that regulates suspension of the official person from duty, public access to the indictment and publication of the indictment, trial in absence, hearing for setting the punishment, etc.

Beneficiaries of this training were judges, prosecutors, lawyers and victim advocates of Peja region.



Gender equality in disputes for inheritance rights and labor disputes

May 10 2019, Academy of Justice within CTP conducted training on the topic of “Gender equality in disputes for inheritance and in labor disputes”.



Purpose of this right was to enhance the judge’s knowledge on disputes over the right to inheritance and labor disputes.

First part of this training elaborated on: infringement of the indispensable part and court proceedings in cases of violation, non-declaration of inheritors and procedure after the announcement of inheritance, discrimination in the right of inheritance in other forms such as the violation of life or including factual separation, discrimination at work and the manner of gender discrimination. Whereas in the second part of the training were addressed: Judicial protection in cases of discrimination on a gender basis and drafting and justification of court decisions according to the procedural and case specifics.

At the beginning it was emphasized that indispensable part is a right of a physical person that according to provisions of the Law on inher-

itance is entitled to inherit but which is in contradiction with the wish-will of the testator in cases of availability of the property after his/her death. Content and extent of the right in the indispensable part of the property is set forth by norms of imperative character. The indispensable part is not set by default, but this is set and realized only upon request of the heir that is classified as necessary heir according to the law.

This training emphasized that the judgment taken in the inheritance procedure has the declarative character and the person - legal heir has no obstacles to initiate the dispute against the heir announced as heir by will to request the rights to the inheritance property, just like the person that has property claims in the inherited property to initiate the civil dispute. Heirs not included in the inheritance procedure have the right to initiate a civil dispute with inheritance lawsuit, against legal heirs included in the inheritance procedure and against whom they have been announced as heirs.

This training used combined methods of teaching through theoretical lecturing, and case studies, followed by interactive discussions facilitated by trainers, analysis of the topic, with focus on implementation of the gender equality in disputes over the inheritance right and in labor disputes as well.

Beneficiaries of this training were basic court judges and professional associates in the Republic of Kosovo.

Implementation of the Law on Asylum in Kosovo

May 13 2019, Academy of Justice with the support of UNHCR in its Continuous Training program organized training on Implementation of the Law on Asylum in Kosovo.



Purpose of this training was to improve the judge's knowledge on the role of international acts on asylum and the applicable legislation and role of parties in the asylum procedure that takes place in the Republic of Kosovo.

First part of the training was dedicated to the following: International Law on Refugees – International Convention on Asylum and importance of implementing the Kosovo law on Asylum. Second day elaborated on: application of legislation on asylum and asylum matters – cases from practice, study cases and examples from the national level and regional countries.

Initially it explained the role of the International Convention on Asylum and relation of the Kosovo Law on Asylum with this convention. Comprehensive elaboration was made on the procedure that relates to asylum seekers requests that are filed with the Department on Citizenship, Asylum and Migration of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the National Committee for Refugees in Kosovo, as well as the administrative conflict procedure within the competent court.

Focus was also on dilemmas that relate to the status and stay of persons that require international protection, legal procedure for keeping them and their expulsion from the Republic of Kosovo based on provisions of the Law on Asylum, and its correct implementation by competent authorities of the Republic of Kosovo.

This training highlighted that Republic of Kosovo shall in no way evict or return the refugee in territories where life and liberty of the asylum seeker is endangered because of the race, religion, nationality, membership to a certain social group or his/her political convictions. Republic of Kosovo, recognizes the right of asylum to foreign citizens or persons without citizenship upon their request, and if they meet the refugee criteria set forth in the Law on Asylum. But Republic of Kosovo, may withdraw the right of asylum to persons on the following grounds: if they committed crimes against peace, war crimes or crimes against humanity, as per the UN Chart.

This training used methods of theoretical explanation, based on case studies and accompanied with interactive discussions facilitated by trainers, and it analyzed the topic that focused on asylum issues.

Beneficiaries were judges of the Administrative Department of the Basic Court and of the Appeals Court, prosecutors from Basic Prosecutions instance, professional associates in courts and prosecution offices, UNHCR officials and civil society (CRPK).

International legal cooperation in criminal matters

May 14 2019, Academy of Justice within its Continuous Training Program with the help of GIZ conducted training on “International Legal cooperation in criminal matters”.

Purpose of this training was to increase the professional capacities of judges and prosecutors on correct implementation of legal provisions related to international legal assistance in criminal matters, starting from outgoing legal aid applications, and handling of the incoming, requests by other states requesting states, and drafting decisions in the extradition procedure.

During the training it was elaborated on the legal basis and definitions of certain actions of international legal cooperation, emphasizing the extradition, role of the Ministry of

Justice in this process, and opportunities for cooperation with different states.

Also, by examples from the judicial practice it was elaborate don the following: extradition, role of basic prosecution after receipt of the request for extradition, judicial proceeding for extradition, simplified procedure for extradition, court decisions related to extradition requests, decisions of the Ministry of Justice about the same, competitive requests for extradition, transfer of the criminal proceeding, transfer of the sentenced persons, recognitions and enforcement of the judgments, and the mutual legal assistance.

Beneficiaries of this training were judges and prosecutors of the basic and appeals instances from all regions of the Republic of Kosovo.



Allowing enforcement and decision on objection

May 16 2019, Academy of Justice organized the two-days training on Allowing enforcement and decision on objection, within its continuous training program.



Purpose of this training was to extend the judges knowledge on review of the enforcement proposal and decisions that are taken in the stage of the objection review.

First part of the training elaborated on the following: titles of enforcement – enforcement document and reliable document and conditions to allow enforcement. Whereas second part elaborated on competence to decide about objection and causes for objection, as well as court decisions related to this.

Beginning of the training emphasized that Law on Enforcement Procedure regulates the procedure through which the courts and private enforcement officials determine and implement enforcement based on enforcement documents and reliable documents, except is a particular law says otherwise.

It was further elaborated on the fact the Law on Enforcement procedure foresees objection as legal remedy by which parties may attack decision of the enforcement body that allows enforcement. Implementation of the enforcement procedure by private enforcement officers has the advantage of removing the responsibility of managing the enforcement process by judges and the court enforcement officials, which usu-

ally consumes a great deal of their time.

It was emphasized that great delays in enforcement of civil judgments in Kosovo courts severely damage the correct and duly trial, which in general hinders the rule of law. In this context, European Commission in the Progress Report for 2019 says that “unenforced judgments have damaged the public trust to capacity, professionalism, and accuracy of the judiciary, limiting this way the effective access to justice.

Also, it was emphasized that private system of enforcement has also the advantage of removing the responsibility of the enforcement process management from judges and court enforcement agents. These responsibilities pass to private enforcement agents, but role of courts remains very important because more sensitive issues, like family cases remain under the courts exclusive competence; also, legal remedies remain under the court’s competence, and another important functions is supervision, because parties that consider that private enforcement agent has violated their rights may address to the court. Therefore, it was emphasized that enforcement systems carried out by private enforcement agents have become a practice in largest part of the western Europe, and in former socialist countries, as well is South and Eastern Europe.

This training used combined methods of teaching, using theoretical lectures based in cases from the judicial practice, followed by exercises, interactive discussions, handouts, and analysis of case studies, that elaborated on legal provisions that regulate this area.

Beneficiaries of this training were basic court judges, Appeals Court judges, professional associates and private enforcement officials.

War crimes

May 16-17 2019, Academy of Justice within its Continuous Training Program conducted training on War Crimes.

Purpose of this training was to extend the participants knowledge through discussions and presentation of best practices, on how to draft and represent in courts the crimes according to the international criminal law on to armed conflicts, and countries involved in war, how to investigate, witness handling, etc. From the perspective of judges and prosecutors.

International trainers initially presented crimes as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civil population, with the purpose of entire or partial destruction of a national group, ethnic or religious, as stipulated in the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and additional Protocols.

First session elaborated on main forms of responsibility, incitement, perpetration, co-perpetration, joint criminal actions (VPK), "systematic forms, organized system of maltreatment, commanding responsibility, superior-

subordinate relation, as well as supervisor responsibilities for their subordinates in commission of criminal acts during the armed conflict.

Second session elaborated on investigation, collection of evidence and detention, requests for legal aid – including cooperation with Mechanisms of International Criminal Tribunals, protection of vulnerable sources and witnesses, examination of witnesses, of suspects, and information management including handling, processing and storing of testimonies, testimony analysis and the burden of proof, circumstantial cases, remedies for diminishing the risk of intimidating the witness (including legal novelties proposed in the Criminal Code).

This training used combined method of lecturing and interactive discussion, elaborating different cases from the judicial practice.

Beneficiaries of this training were judges, prosecutors and professional associates from the Serious Crimes Department of Courts and Prosecution offices.



Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code

May 16-18 2019, Academy of Justice in cooperation with the US Embassy in Kosovo (The US Department of Justice) conducted training on the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code.

Purpose of this training was to acquaint beneficiaries with new provisions of the Criminal Code for correct application in practice.

This three-days training elaborated on legislative changes analyzing the novelties that relate to crimes against utilities, crimes of official corruption and crimes against official duty, as well as new articles included in the Criminal Code that has entered into force.

Particular attention was paid to changes that are expected to take place in the Criminal Procedure Code, like the mandatory defense, defense attor-

ney with public funds, when the defense is not mandatory and the rights of injured parties or of the victim, dismissal of the indictment, the right to appeal dismissal, special investigative opportunities, examination in preliminary procedure, statement in preliminary procedure and the special investigative opportunity. Also, new provision that regulates suspension of the official person from duty, public access to the indictment and publication of the indictment, trial in absence, hearing for setting the punishment, etc.

Beneficiaries of this training were judges, prosecutors, lawyers and victim advocates of Ferizaj region.



The right to liberty and security – Article 5 of the European Convention of Human Rights and liberties

May 23 2019, Academy of Justice within its CTP conducted training on the ECHR Article 5 – The right to liberty and security.



Purpose of this training was to extend the judges knowledge on the role, structure and positive obligations deriving from Article 5 of the European Convention of Human Rights and Liberties (ECHR).

First part of this training covered the following: content of provisions and basic notions of the ECHR Article 5, and main standards in provisions of the ECHR Article 5, in cases when the person is detained by state. Whereas the second part of the training elaborated on: specific legal basis and provisions that regulate situation of the deprivation of liberty, and the judicial case law, and novelties that it brings with regard to provisions of the HER Article 5.

Initially it elaborated on requirements of the ECHR Article 5 – the right to liberty and security in the context of the European court on Human Rights (ECtHR) case law. Comprehensive approach was given to practical dilemmas about implementation of provision of Article 5 and in this light, lawfulness of detention, the permitted grounds, procedural guarantees, detention after conviction, detention in awaiting deportation and the right to compensation.

This training emphasized that Article 5 of the ECHR includes main elements in protection of the human rights of an individual. Deprivation from these rights has direct relation and effect with regard to enjoying many other rights, like the right to family and privacy, the right to join, freedom of expression and of movement. This session also covered the standards that protect the physical liberty, particularly the liberty from arrest and arbitrary detention, all this accompanied with examples from the ECtHR case law.

It was concluded that judges should constantly have in mind that in order for these rights to be meaningful, every deprivation shall always be made only in exceptional circumstances, be justifiable objectively, and duration not be longer that it is absolutely necessary.

This training used combined methods of adult learning with theoretical lecturing, based on case studies and examples from the ECtHR case law, followed by discussions facilitated by the trainers, and analyzing and elaborating the topic with focus on correct application of the right to liberty in compliance with the ECHR, and accompanied with tasks assigned in working groups for the participants.

Beneficiaries of this training were judges and prosecutors of all instances of the Republic of Kosovo, and professional associates.



Educational measures against juveniles

May 28 2019, Academy of Justice within the Continuous Training program organized training on “Educational measures and punishment against juveniles”

Purpose of this training was to extend the participants knowledge on practical implementation of educational measures that may be imposed against juveniles.

This training elaborated on changes to the new Juvenile Justice Code, the part on educational measures, that offer an opportunity for more prompt selection of educational measures, and changes of the decision for enforcement of the educational measure. Also, particular attention

was paid to forms of decisions and enforcement of these measures and punishments.

Furthermore, it was discussed about enforcement of measures and punishments when juveniles are foreign citizens and international legal cooperation in cases when juvenile perpetrators are foreign citizens.

This training was delivered in forms of lecturing and interactive discussions, where the participants could present their challenges and difficulties that they face I practice.

Beneficiaries of this training were judges, prosecutors and professional associates.



Covert measures

May 29 2019, Academy of Justice within its Continuous Training program (CTP) conducted training on Covert Measures.

Goal of this training was to extend the participants knowledge on the legal framework that regulated the ways to issue covert measures of surveillance, and the application procedure of these measures.

This training highlighted importance of these measures and their correct application in practice, types of all measures and in which stages of investigation that they may be authorized. It further elaborated on conditions to issue these measures, timelines for issuing these measures,

rights of the impacted parties by these measures, technical possibilities of surveillance and their technical-practical implementation. In this context, the training also elaborated on competencies of police, state prosecutor and the preliminary procedure judge.

Training methodology was combined lectures with study cases from the judicial practice, a combination of theory and practical cases presented by the trainer, aiming to contribute to unification of court practice in this area.

Beneficiaries of this training were judges, prosecutors and professional associates.



Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code

May 30-31 2019, Academy of Justice in cooperation with the US Embassy in Kosovo (The US Department of Justice) conducted training on the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code.

Purpose of this training was to acquaint beneficiaries with new provisions of the Criminal Code for correct application in practice.

This three-days training elaborated on legislative changes analyzing the novelties that relate to crimes against utilities, crimes of official corruption and crimes against official duty, as well as new articles included in the Criminal Code that has entered into force.

Particular attention was paid to changes that are

expected to take place in the Criminal Procedure Code, like the mandatory defense, defense attorney with public funds, when the defense is not mandatory and the rights of injured parties or of the victim, dismissal of the indictment, the right to appeal dismissal, special investigative opportunities, examination in preliminary procedure, statement in preliminary procedure and the special investigative opportunity. Also, new provision that regulates suspension of the official person from duty, public access to the indictment and publication of the indictment, trial in absence, hearing for setting the punishment, etc.

Beneficiaries of this training were judges, prosecutors, lawyers and victim advocates of Ferizaj region.



Practical elaboration of the loan contracts

May 31 2019, Academy of Justice within the Continuous Training Program conducted training on Practical elaboration of the Loan Contracts.

Purpose of this training was to extend the judges knowledge on implementation and interpretation of contracting provisions in disputes that appear in courts, and related to the legal framework and the CBK rules that regulate the matter of loan contracts and the late payment interests.

This training emphasized importance of the loan contracts and its correct application in practice, and it elaborated on forms, essential elements, its termination, late payment interests and many other specifics. It further elaborated on the loan contract clauses, premature payment of the loan,

interest rate, mortgage and its enforcement. In this context, the court competencies were explained as well as the legal basis for mortgage enforcement.

This training used combined method of lecturing and interactive learning through exercises and discussions, including the theoretical elaboration of specific contracts, presentation of hypothetical cases and concrete cases from the judicial practice.

Beneficiaries of this training were: judges, legal officials from the Appeals court and legal officers from the basic Prosecution of Prishtina.



Activities from Initial Training Program (ITP)

Activities conducted within the initial training program for the newly appointed judges (generation VI) during May 2019

Academy of Justice, within the Initial training program for the newly appointed judges – sixth generation, continued to carry out activities planned in the training program.

Within the theoretical training part, three training sessions from the Module on the Criminal procedure Code of the Republic of Kosovo were delivered.

Under the sub-module on “Special procedures according to CPCK” two training sessions were held to elaborate on the following: criminal liability of physical person, mental incapacity and diminished mental capacity according to Criminal Code of the Republic of Kosovo, temporary and permanent mental illness, detention for persons with mental disorders, measures of mandatory treatments, criminal procedure against juveniles with mental disorders, etc.

The sub-module on the “Procedure according to

legal remedies”, had one training session that discussed about regular legal remedies with emphasis on the Appeal, timelines for filing appeals, rights of the defendant to appeal, extraordinary legal remedies, request for protection of lawfulness, request for procedure review, request for softening the sanction, etc.

During May 2019, the newly appointed judges of the Serbian community undertook the final test from the following modules: Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Civil administrative and commercial laws (material and procedural parts).

During this period two days of practical training in courts were held according to the schedule. Initial training program has been attended by five judges of the Serbian community



Initial training program activities conducted during May 2019 for the newly appointed judges (generation VII)

Academy of Justice, within the Initial Training Program for newly appointed judges of generation VII, continued carrying out activities planned in their training program.

Within the theoretical training part, total of 18 training sessions from the module of the Civil, administrative and commercial laws.

In the sub-module on “Contested procedure – second part”, two training sessions were conducted and discussed on the following: Ensuring the lawsuit, termination of the trial procedure, dismissal of the contested procedure, contested procedure costs, waiver from payment of the expenses, etc.

Also, the submodule on “Family law” covered two training sessions where the newly appointed judges learned more about the notion and types of adoption, establishment and termination of adoption, meaning of the spouse’s property relations, apportioning of the joint property, protection measures against domestic violence, etc.

Under the module of Administrative Law, five training sessions were conducted to elaborate the following topics: principles and bringing administrative acts, execution of the binding administrative decisions, administrative dispute, parties on the administrative procedure, lawsuit in the administrative procedure, legal remedies and extraordinary legal remedies in administrative procedure, etc.

Commercial law sub-module also conducted five sessions to cover the following: commercial-trade law, types of business organizations, insolvency, liquidations and re-organizations of legal entities, contracts in economy, alternative dispute resolu-

tion (arbitrage, mediation).

Also, the sub-module on the Law on Obligations, delivered two trainings where participants were informed in more details about the notion and classifications of obligations, formal and material



sources of obligations, principles of obligations and the contractual law, general terms and special terms for reaching a contract, etc.

The sub-module on the right to inheritance conducted two training sessions and treated the following: object of inheritance, inheritance based on law, lines of inheritance, rights of extramarital heirs, the indispensable part of inheritance, heritage based on will, division of inheritance objects, division of house objects, etc.

During this reporting period 12 days of practical training in courts were attended by the newly appointed judge’s in their respective courts, including one visit to the Kosovo Constitutional Court.

Initial training is being attended by 39 newly appointed judges, seven of them are of the Serbian community.

Report of the newly appointed judges (generation VII) visit to the constitutional court

May 27 2019, Academy of Justice within its Initial Training Program for the newly appointed judges of the 7th generation organized a visit to the Kosovo Constitutional Court of the Republic of Kosovo.

In this visit, the judges were informed in more details about the lawfulness, work, activities, and problems that this institution faces.

Initially it was discussed about the history dating from 1969 when under the laws of Autonomous Socialist Province of Kosovo (ASPK), the constitutional judicial branch was established within the Kosovo Supreme Court.

Then, after the long ongoing efforts establishment of the Constitutional Court in 2008 for the working group and the first members was reached.

Then, it was discussed about legal basis of the Constitutional Court that relies exclusively on the country's highest legal act which is Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo published in April 9 2008, and on the Law on Constitutional Court.

During discussions it was elaborated on the role and purpose of the Constitutional Court which is protection of constitutionality, protection of the rights of citizens, controlling violation of any legal provision, efficiency of the judicial system and principles upon which the constitutional court exercises its activities, like: equality, impartiality, independence and professionalism.

Also, during the training it was discussed about selection of the constitutional court judges that are elected by the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, with total nine members, 7 of which are selected by 2/3 of deputies, and the other 2 are

selected by majority of votes.

Part of the lecturing was discussion on decisions of the Strasbourg Court and its relation with the Constitutional Court, based decisions that adhere to human rights liberties principles, recommendations in decision making, etc.

Furthermore, it was discussed about the Venice Committee, where the Kosovo Constitutional Court is a member, and so far it has addressed 7 cases for review. Role of the Committee is to provide legal advice to member states, particularly to help countries that wish to align their legal and institutional structures with European standards. Also, the Committee provides an international opportunity in the areas of democracy, human rights and rule of law.

Also, the training elaborated on issues of processing claims with the constitutional court, forms of decision making, Article 113.7 on individual requests, Article 113.8 on incidental control, legal effects of decisions taken by Constitutional Court, etc.

The training was delivered mainly in form of interactive discussions between participants and the trainers.

Beneficiaries of this training were the newly appointed judges (generation VII) 2019-2020.



Activities for Administrative Staff of Courts and Prosecution

Legal and judicial skills

May 30-31 2019, Academy of Justice within CTP organized training on Legal and Judicial Skills. Purpose of this training was to extend knowledge of the administrative staff on the role and importance of legal and judicial skills.

First day of this training elaborated on the following: legal writing principles and skills, IRAC method of legal writing and application of this method in practice. Second day of this training elaborated on the following: legal research techniques and the process of good legal writing.

Initially, it explained and elaborated on modern standards of legal writing and reasoning – which is part of daily work for each official of the court and prosecution, therefore it is a prerequisite for the quality increase of judgments and other acts, and consequently it's a prerequisite to increase the efficiency and public trust in judicial decisions.

This training emphasized that good legal writing distinguishes by accuracy – having a solid legal basis; analysis – not to be simply a statement or overview of facts and opinions; organized – have order in its outline – the titles; comprehensive – cover all aspects; specific and concrete – not ambiguous; logical – have a structure and organization, correct – grammatically accurate; punctuation marks; convincing –

make the reader believe what is written; easy to understand.

Also, it was explained about the steps before writing, like: 1. Setting the goal - why is the document needed for; 2. Setting the audience – who will use the document; and 3. Determining the obstacles.

In relation to IRAC method (Issue, Rule, Analysis and Conclusion) it was emphasized that it consists of main elements used in the legal analysis. It is a process through which all the lawyers think about every legal problem. By using this formula, the complexity is reduced into a simple equation.

This training was delivered in combined method of lecturing and using case studies, to be followed by interactive discussions facilitated by trainers, through analysis and elaboration of the topic, focusing on implementation of legal writing principles and skills through the IRAC method, and the legal research techniques, exercising them through assignments solved by participants in working groups.

Beneficiaries of this training were professional associates, legal officers and legal assistants-secretaries.

Other Activities

Workshop for discussion of the monitoring plan and the strategic plan and training curriculum of the Academy of Justice

April 30 - May 3, 2019, Academy of Justice conducted workshop on Discussion and drafting of the monitoring plan, strategic plan and training curriculum of the Academy of Justice.

Purpose of this workshop was to prepare the work monitoring plan and the strategic plan, and training curriculum of the Academy of Justice, including publication standards, and needs assessment for the framework training program of the Academy of Justice.

After analysis and thorough discussions, the working group prepared a draft of the Work Monitoring Plan for 2019, and the Strategic

Monitoring Plan, also it identified possible risks for implementation of the planned activities. Besides these documents, working group also prepared the standards for publication papers in the AJ magazines, and discussed the possibility to prepare a framework training program (2-3 years) that would set the structure of the program.

Participants were AJ, Executive Director, Program Department staff and Department of Administration and Finance.



Final conference of the Rule of Law Project – Requests and challenges of the European judiciary

May 13-14 2019, at the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg the closing conference of the Rule of Law Project – Requests and challenges of the European judiciary was held under the auspices of EJTN (European Judicial Training Network).



Purpose of this conference was to recapitulate the EJTN Rule of Law Project in 2018 and 2019, focusing on the following: discussion about developments of the ECtHR jurisprudence, and policies of the CoE related to rule of law; brainstorm on challenges that judges and prosecutors face while supporting the rule of law – that was discussed in the six seminars of the project; discuss about advantages, devel-

opments and future actions that are required by the main stakeholders - like the judicial councils, judicial training providers, associations and European judicial networks; including the feasibility of the EJTN Rule of Law practitioners Manual, and the EJTN Rule of Law Training Guideline, as an activity carried out by the UNODC Global Judicial Integrity Network.

Senior rule of law representatives of the European union countries and other countries participated at the conference, including representatives of judicial councils, judges, prosecutors, representatives of judicial training institutions, professionals of the justice system, representatives of associations and of the European judicial networks. Kosovo at this conference was represented by Mr. Valon Kurtaj, Executive Director of the Academy of Justice and Mr. Skënder Çoçaj – Chairman of the Kosovo Judicial Council.



Reinforcing the fight against violence against women and domestic violence (phase II)

Prishtina, May 15 2019 – Mr. Valon Kurtaj Executive Director of the Academy of Justice participated in the first meeting of the Steering Committee and launching event of the “Reinforcing the fight against violence against



women and domestic violence (phase II)” Project, funded by the Government of Norway implemented by the Council of Europe.

This event presented objectives of the project and stages of its implementation.

It also, provided space for project implementer to express high appreciation for cooperation with institutions that play crucial role in the fight against violence against women and domestic violence like: Office of the National Coordinator against Domestic Violence, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Gender Equality Office, Academy of Justice, Ombudsperson, Office for protection and aid to victims, civil society and non-governmental organizations.



Seminar in Trier – Germany

May 27-28 2019, The Seminar for application of the European Union Directives in national courts of the EU member states was held in Trier, Germany.



Purpose of this seminar was correct application of the EU Directives in the EU member states.

For two days, the EU Directives were presented and elaborated, and through study cases it integrated the participant in working groups and provided solutions on ways of implementing these directives.

During this seminar, participants had the opportunity to acquaint with the case law of the EU countries' courts, and with the decisions of the European Courts.

In this seminar, Kosovo was represented by Mr. Ramush Bardiqi, judges at the Basic Court of Prishtina.



Meeting of the AJ Program Council

May 28 2019, meeting of the Program Council took place at the Academy of Justice.



Program Council unanimously agreed to address an opinion to the Managing Board of the Academy related to the submitted applications for trainers.

During this meeting, members of the Program Council discussed about the possibility of drafting a Framework Training Program in the future, to include discussion of other important topics for the Academy of Justice that belong under the Managing Board competence.

Members of the Program Council reviewed each of the applicants file for the process of selecting temporary trainers of the Academy of Justice. Part of this meeting and review of the Application Review Committee's report, the



Meeting of the AJ Managing Board

Prishtina, May 31 2019 – Managing Board of the Academy of Justice held its sixteenth meeting led by Chairman of the Managing Board, Mr. Aleksandër Lumezi, the State Chief Prosecutor.

Managing Board in this meeting approved the following: The Initial Training Program for the newly appointed prosecutors; Request of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council to commence with the Initial Training for the newly decreed 12 prosecutors; and the mentors that will be in charge for the practical training of the new prosecutors.

During this meeting, the Managing Board established the Publications' Editorial Board and approved the publication's standards for the Academy of Justice.

Further, the Managing Board discussed on organization of trainings with the donor's support, and as per the agenda the Board discussed and took several other decisions important for the work of the academy of Justice.



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