

Save the date

European Seminar

The freedom of expression of judges and its recent evolution on social networks

« JUST FREE – Justice and Freedom of Expression »

12-13 May 2022

In Brussels, in the premises of the IGO-IFJ

From May 12 to 13, 2022, the French National School for the Judiciary (ENM) is organizing a seminar on « **The freedom of expression of judges and prosecutors and its recent evolution on social networks** » in partnership with the Belgian (IGO-IFJ), Spanish (CGPJ-EJ), Italian (SSM) and Polish (KSSIP) judicial training institutes as well as the EFB Paris, with funding from the European Union.

Freedom of expression, a cornerstone of any democracy, benefits judges and prosecutors, as it does any citizens, but must be exercised within the limits of their unique missions. A balance must be found between this freedom and the need to protect the authority and impartiality of justice, or the secrecy of the investigation and the presumption of innocence.

The European Court of Human Rights recalled, in its decision [Baka v. Hungary](#) (application no. 20261/12, points 162 to 167), the general principles it applies in this area.

The advent of social networks has exponentially increased the scope and publicity of comments made by judges and prosecutors, in their capacity or not, and on subjects sometimes unrelated to their missions.

What balances are emerging as a result of the upheavals caused by social networks? What practical advices can be given to judges and prosecutors faced with these issues?

This third and last seminar of the JUSTFREE project aims to provide answers to these questions and to allow participants to exchange on these topics.

Training objectives : This seminar will allow participants to understand the freedom of expression of judges and prosecutors through the prism of the European Convention on Human Rights, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the jurisprudence of the Court of justice of the European Union, and to compare practices and legislations of different European countries.

Format : This seminar will alternate between theoretical sessions and workshops, leaving a lot of room for practical exchanges.

Participants will have access to the **JUSTFREE application**, which will allow them to exchange on a forum, consult documentation, test their knowledge by answering quizzes or access the training program.

Useful Information

When : 12-13 May 2022 (9 :00am – 05 :30pm)

Where: in the premises of the IGO-IFJ in Brussels

Languages : English and French (simultaneous translation)

Participants : approximately 60 judges and prosecutors and 15 lawyers, from the European Union

Programme

12 May 2022

- The freedom of expression of judges and prosecutors and the European Convention on Human Rights
- The freedom of expression of the judiciary and European Union law: the case of judges and advocates general of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the Court of First Instance
- Practical case in small groups: Judicial freedom of expression on professional issues

13 May 2022

- Practical case in small groups : Judicial freedom of expression on non-professional Issues
- How to react in case of litigation?
- What role for the freedom of expression of judges and prosecutors in the European Union?

Project Partners:

- French National School for the Judiciary – ENM (France)
- National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution– KSSIP (POLAND)
- Judicial Training Institute –IFJ/IGO (Belgium)
- Judicial School of the General Council of the Judiciary– ES-CGPJ (SPAIN)
- Superior School for the Judiciary – SSM (Italy)
- Bar Professional Training School of Paris (EFB Paris)
- Council of Europe
- European Judicial Training Network

ENM Project Team

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