



The Role of the Court of Justice of the EU for Defence Lawyers

Training for Defence Lawyers

Trier, 8-10 October 2025



EXCELLENCE IN
EUROPEAN LAW⁷

Speakers

Vânia Costa Ramos, Defence Lawyer, Partner at Carlos Pinto de Abreu e Associados, Lisbon, Chair of the European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA)

Jurian Langer, Head of the European Law Division of the Legal Affairs Department, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Head Agent for the Dutch government in proceedings before CJEU, Visiting Professor at the Free University Amsterdam, Deputy Judge, criminal law section, District Court, Amsterdam

Adrian Sandru, Criminal Defence Lawyer, Sandru Avocati & LEXURE Hub, Member of the ECBA Advisory Board, Bucharest

Sören Schomburg, Defence Lawyer, Partner at Knauer, Member of the ECBA Advisory Board, Berlin

Key topics

- The CJEU's approach to criminal justice
- Practical advice on making references for preliminary rulings
- Actions for annulment in criminal law
- Case law on ne bis in idem, the EAW and third state extradition, the EIO, EU procedural rights in criminal matters, and further criminal justice cooperation.

Language
English

Event number
325DT19

Organisers
ERA (Cornelia Riehle)

The Role of the Court of Justice of the EU for Defence Lawyers

Wednesday, 8 October 2025

08:45 Arrival and registration of participants

09:00 **Welcome and introduction to the programme**
Cornelia Riehle (ERA)

Part I – PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE CJEU IN CRIMINAL MATTERS

09:05 **Basics of European criminal law**
Jurian Langer

09:45 Discussion

10:00 **Reference for a preliminary ruling**
Jurian Langer

10:45 Discussion

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 **Actions for annulment**
Jurian Langer

12:15 Discussion

12:30 Lunch

Part II – THE EUROPEAN ARREST WARRANT (EAW), THIRD COUNTRY EXTRADITION, AND THE EUROPEAN INVESTIGATION ORDER (EIO)

13:30 **CJEU case law**

- Interpretation of what constitutes a judicial authority for the purpose of issuing or executing an EAW
- Grounds for non-execution, double criminality
- The two-step test for the execution of an EAW and the deficiency of the rule of law
- Recent case law on the EIO

Vânia Costa Ramos and Sören Schomburg

15:00 Discussion

15:15 Coffee break

Part III – NE BIS IN IDEM: A QUESTION OF DUAL SOVEREIGNTY

15:45 **CJEU case law**

- Third country extradition and ne bis in idem after Breian and Kamekris
- “Corporate Double jeopardy”? – impact of the Volkswagen case on the legal practice; the coordination-requirement as black-box?
- Same same but different? – difficulties in determination of idem in defense practice

Vânia Costa Ramos and Sören Schomburg

16:15 Discussion

Part IV – DECISIONS ON THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

16:00 **CJEU case law**

- Judicial review of EPPO acts – interpretation of Article 42 and national limitations
- Cross-border evidence collection – mutual recognition, defence safeguards and admissibility
- EPPO and OLAF cooperation – two voices, one orchestra? Institutional interplay and procedural harmony

Adrian Sandru

Objective

This seminar will provide lawyers with an update on the workings of the European Court of Justice (CJEU) and its case law in European criminal justice. Advice on making valid applications to it will be given, enabling the participants to apply their knowledge of substantive EU law before the CJEU.

The second day of the seminar will consist of a visit to the CJEU, including a presentation of the Court and guided tour. Participants will have the opportunity to get to know each other and to network with colleagues from across the EU.

About the Project

Training defence lawyers with special regard to European criminal law has gained more and more importance in recent years. Hence, this seminar is part of a large-scale project co-financed by the European Commission entitled “European Criminal Law for Defence Lawyers”. Fifteen interactive, practice-oriented activities will be implemented within this project ranging from face-to-face seminars and conferences to webinars and eLearning courses. For more information, see: <https://training-for-defence.era.int/>

Who should attend?

Defence lawyers, who are citizens of eligible EU Member States participating in the EU Justice Programme (Denmark does not participate), Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo* and Ukraine.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Venue

ERA Conference Centre
Metzer Allee 4
54295 Trier
Germany

CPD

ERA's programmes meet the standard requirements for recognition as Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Participation in the full programme of this event corresponds to **9 CPD hours**. A certificate of participation for CPD purposes with indication of the number of training hours completed will be issued on request. CPD certificates must be requested at the latest 14 days after the event.

- 16:45 Discussion
- 17:00 End of first day
- 19:00 Dinner offered by the organisers

Thursday, 9 October 2025

Part V – VISIT TO THE CJEU

- 07:00 Departure by coach from ERA to Luxembourg
- 08:00 Arrival and registration at the CJEU – security check
- 08:45 Briefing of case T-55/25 Weight Doctors / EUIPO (Endo-Sleeve) by Mr M. Brisse, Legal Secretary, chambers of Judge Kecsmár, president of chamber
- 09:30 Hearing of case T-55/25 Weight Doctors / EUIPO (Endo-Sleeve) (Marque de l'Union européenne – Demande d'enregistrement du signe verbal Endo-Sleeve – Rejet partiel de la demande)
- 11:15 Break
- 11:30 Guided tour of the Court's buildings
- 12:15 Return to ERA and free afternoon

Friday, 10 October 2025

Part V – PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR DEFENCE COUNSEL

- 09:00 **Practical advice for defence counsel litigating in the CJEU**
Strategy – Written pleadings – oral advocacy
Adrian Sandru and Sören Schomburg
- 09:45 **Workshop: drafting a preliminary ruling request**
Sören Schomburg
- 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:30 **Workshop: drafting an action for annulment**
Adrian Sandru
- 12:45 Closing remarks
Cornelia Riehle
- 13:00 End of seminar

For programme updates: www.era.int
Programme may be subject to amendment.



Times indicated are CEST
(Central European Summer Time)

Your contacts



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Save the date

15th EDEN Conference on Data Protection in Law Enforcement
Valletta, 21 - 22 October 2025

Annual Conference on EU Criminal Justice 2025

Valletta & Online, 20 - 21 November 2025

Sanctions in the EU's External Relations
Trier & Online, 27– 28 November 2025

Apply online for “The role of the CJEU for defence lawyers”:

www.era.int/?133781&en



Co-funded by the European Union.

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Application

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Trier, 8-10 October 2025 / Event number: 325DT19



Apply online for “The role of the Court of Justice of the EU for defence lawyers”: www.era.int/?133781&en

Terms and conditions of participation

Selection

- Participation is only open to lawyers in private practice from eligible EU Member States (Denmark does not participate in this EU Justice programme), Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo* and Ukraine. Participation will be subject to a selection procedure. Selection will be according to professional eligibility, nationality and then “first come, first served”.
- Applications should be submitted before **30 September 2025**.
- A response will be sent to every applicant after this deadline. **We advise you not to book any travel or hotel before you receive our confirmation.**

Registration Fee

- €110 including documentation, coffee breaks, lunch and dinner.

Travel and Accommodation Expenses

- Participants will receive a fixed contribution towards their travel and accommodation expenses and are asked to book their own travel and accommodation. **The condition for payment of this contribution is to sign all attendance sheets at the event.** The amount of the contribution will be determined by the EU unit cost calculation guidelines, which are based on the distance from the participant’s place of work to the seminar location and will not take account of the participant’s actual travel and accommodation costs.
- Travel costs from outside Germany: participants can calculate the contribution to which they will be entitled on the European Commission website (<https://era-comm.eu/go/calculator>, table 2). The distance should be calculated from their place of work to the seminar location.
- For those travelling within Germany, the contribution for return travel is fixed at €64 (for a distance between 50km and 399 km). Please note that no contribution will be paid for travel under 50km one-way. For more information, please consult p.10 on <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel>
- Accommodation costs: International participants will receive a fixed contribution of €119 per night for up to three nights’ accommodation. National participants travelling more than 50km one-way will receive a fixed contribution of €119 for three nights’ accommodation. For more information, please consult p.14 on <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel>.
- These rules do not apply to representatives of EU Institutions and Agencies who are required to cover their own travel and accommodation.
- Successful applicants will be sent the relevant claim form and information on how to obtain payment of the contribution to their expenses. Please note that no payment is possible if the registered participant cancels their participation for any reason.

Participation

- Participation at the whole seminar is required and participants will be asked to sign attendance sheets daily.
- A list of participants including each participant’s address will be made available to all participants unless ERA receives written objection from the participant no later than one week prior to the beginning of the event.
- The participant will be asked to give permission for their address and other relevant information to be stored in ERA’s database in order to provide information about future ERA events, publications and/or other developments in the participant’s area of interest.
- A certificate of attendance will be sent electronically after the seminar.

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