

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

SUMMARY	1
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:.....	2
WORKING LANGUAGE:.....	2
AD HOC TRAINING SESSIONS	2
STUDY VISITS.....	2
TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE AD HOC TRAINING SESSIONS	3
TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE STUDY VISITS.....	3
EXCLUSION CRITERIA.....	3
CALENDAR.....	4
REGISTRATION	4
REIMBURSEMENT.....	4
DISCLAIMER	5

SUMMARY

The aim of the initiative is to enhance the awareness of non-competition national enforcers (judiciary staff and law enforcement staff) regarding competition matters through training activities and study visits. These activities intend to improve the non-competition national enforcers' ability to identify potential anticompetitive behaviour by understanding what information and evidence would be valuable for enforcing EU competition law.

By increasing the knowledge of non-competition national enforcers and fostering investigative cooperation, this initiative aligns with the EU's strategic objective of strengthening the ex-officio enforcement carried out by the European Commission and National Competition Authorities (NCAs). This is achieved by involving more enforcers in detecting and prosecuting anticompetitive actions. The European Commission particularly seeks to reinforce the collaborative efforts with non-competition national enforcers, encouraging them to share information and evidence related to potential infringements of EU competition law with the European Commission and NCAs.

The information and evidence gathered by these enforcers during their routine investigation activities in economic and financial matters (non-competition related investigations and under criminal regimes) hold paramount importance for the ex-officio enforcement of EU competition rules. In the Exotic Fruit case, the European Court of Justice has also validated this form of enforcement cooperation, confirming the utilization as evidence by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Competition (DG COMP) of the information transmitted obtained by national non-competition enforcers.

Specific Objectives:

Objective 1: Training addressing both management and operational personnel of the non-competition national enforcers (senior and middle managers of investigators as well as investigators).

Objective 2: Training of personnel of the non-competition national enforcers managing or conducting investigative activities in economic and financial matters, under criminal regimes, as core daily tasks.

Objective 3: Training of personnel of the non-competition national enforcers employed throughout the National territory of the Member State.

Objective 4: Publication of internal guidelines for non-competition national enforcers.

WORKING LANGUAGE:

Working language will be in English.

AD HOC TRAINING SESSIONS

8 Training sessions on EU competition enforcement.

5 trainings will be hosted and organized in Brussels. The other three will be organized in Spain, Italy and Greece. The training sessions will be organised in cooperation with the judicial training schools from the European Union.

DG COMP's officials will be responsible for the design and delivery of the trainings.

In order to allow participants to freely exchange opinions participants will be invited to get acquainted with "Chatham House Rules" and make use of it. None of the training sessions will be recorded.

Trainings will be structured as follows: 2 half days (4 hours each) or 1 full day (8 hours). Breaks are included.

STUDY VISITS

3 Study-visits to DG COMP in Brussels.

During the study visit, a high-level ad hoc training session on EU competition enforcement will be provided by DG COMP's officials as well as a briefing to deepen the participant's knowledge of DG COMP's mission.

The study visit will last 4 hours including the necessary breaks.

TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE AD HOC TRAINING SESSIONS

Each training will be attended by up to 40 non-competition national enforcers: judiciary staff (prosecutors or judges) and law enforcement staff. Expected distribution amongst judiciary and law enforcement as follows: 65% to 35%.

When referring to judges, it is worth mentioning that it is applicable only in jurisdictions in which these professional profiles carry out these investigative activities.

In particular, the target audience for the trainings will be:

- at least 1 participant per Member State;
- prosecutors or judges managing or conducting investigations in economic and financial matters, as core daily tasks;
- law enforcement personnel managing or conducting investigative activities in economic and financial matters, as core daily tasks;
- personnel of the non-competition national enforcers employed throughout the National territory of the Member State.

Expected distribution amongst senior, middle managers and operational personnel as follows: 15% - 35% - 50%.

TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE STUDY VISITS

Each study visit will be attended by 10 senior and/or middle managers of the non-competition national enforcers - that did not attend the ad hoc trainings - responsible for managing at national level investigative activities in economic and financial matters, under criminal regime, as core daily tasks.

Expected distribution amongst judiciary staff (prosecutors or judges) and law enforcement as follows: 65 - 35%.

When referring to judges, it is worth mentioning that it is applicable only in jurisdictions in which these professional profiles carry out these investigative activities.

Expected distribution amongst senior and middle managers: 60% - 40%.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

The training sessions and study visits shall not be addressed to the personnel of the non-competition national enforcers following induction courses (or initial training courses) at the time of joining the beneficiaries.

Each participant is allowed to attend not more than one training session. Additionally, they will not be allowed to attend study-visits if already attended the training session.

CALENDAR

Date	Type	City/Country
25-26 April 2024	Training session	Belgium
16-17 May 2024	Training session	Belgium
3-7 June 2024 (TBC)	Study visit	Belgium
10-14 June 2024 (TBC)	Study visit	Belgium
27-28 June 2024	Training session	Spain
4-5 July 2024	Training session	Belgium
12-13 September 2024	Training session	Belgium
26-27 September 2024	Training session	Greece
October 2024 (TBC)	Study visit	Belgium
October 2024 (exact date TBD)	Training session	Italy
21-22 November 2024	Training session	Belgium

REGISTRATION

Interested candidates are invited to apply through their national training institution. Once selected, they will receive an official invitation to the event including a link to register their participation on the EJTN platform.

REIMBURSEMENT

Participants are responsible for booking their travel to the venue. Travel costs incurred for participation are to be claimed after the event through the same platform used for registration.

Accommodation and meals, as a general rule, will be booked for participants and covered by the project.

The reimbursement will be taking place according to the actual costs encountered by the participants, but not more than what was foreseen. Participants will be informed about the ceiling foreseen for each event.

For the reimbursement procedure, please refer to the annex related to each specific event. This will be disseminated to each participant and can be requested also by email at any moment.

DISCLAIMER

Funded by the European Union.

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.