



SUNAJUST

SUPPORTING NATIONAL JUDGES ON STATE AID

The EU State aid framework has been an integral part of the EU legal order since the entry into force of the Treaty of Rome in 1958. These rules are enforced by both the European Commission and the national courts.

The responsibility of national judges has grown over the years because of a significant expansion of exempted aid as well as exceptional crisis rules. In addition, the complexity of State aid measures has gradually increased. Against this background, it is well-established that the enforcement of EU State aid law by national courts faces practical and legal difficulties.

In follow-up of SUNAJUST I, SUNAJUST II develops a training programme in which national courts are immersed in their role as 'European State aid judges'. The project develops engaging course materials, which consist of:

- An updated manual
- A completely new exercise manual
- Knowledge clips and presentations

The programme covers a range of contemporary topics, including:

- The notion of aid
- State aid prohibition and its exceptions
- Notification procedures
- The General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER)
- Services of General Economic Interest (SGEIs)
- The role of the Commission as a public enforcer
- The role of national courts
- The cooperation tools

Building on our experience from SUNAJUST I, we will organise four basic workshops, three advanced workshops, and a closing conference to address the role of national courts as enforcers of EU State aid law. The selected location and setup are designed to encourage broad participation, targeting at least 120 judges from eligible countries.

In summary, the Project aims to develop tools for all judges interested in the EU State aid rules, not only those with a basic knowledge of these rules, but also those who are looking for a more advanced programme.



EVENTS COMING UP

EVENT	DATE
Sevilla basic workshop	7-8 April 2025
Dublin basic workshop	12-13 May 2025
Larnaca basic workshop	26-27 May 2025
Dubrovnik basic workshop	19-20 June 2025
Salzburg advanced workshop	7-8 January 2026
Palermo advanced workshop	28-29 May 2026
Riga advanced workshop	18-19 June 2026
Brussels closing conference	18 September 2026

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE:

- National judges
- Prosecutors
- Apprentice national judges
- Staff of judges' office or of national courts

Limited places available.
Reserve quickly

Interested, contact via email:
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Link website:
<https://bccp.research.vub.be/supporting-national-judges-on-state-aid>



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