

Terms of Reference (TOR) for a Short Term Assignment

Technical assistance requested: Two Senior Experts for Judicial Skills Training (Judge Craft 2)

The project

Title:	Support to the Judicial Academy, Serbia
Ref:	EuropeAid/135635/IH/SER/RS
Main beneficiary:	Judicial Academy of the Republic of Serbia
Financing institution:	European Union
Budget Line / Expert Category:	Non-Key Short-Term Senior Expert
Team Leader:	Juan Carlos da Silva

Project background and description (scope of the work):

The Republic of Serbia was granted a candidate status for EU membership and the accession negotiation process officially commenced in June 2013. As part of the Serbian EU integration process, Serbia is faced with a task to ensure full implementation of key reforms, with particular focus on judicial reforms and protection of fundamental rights and freedoms covered by the negotiating Chapter 23. Full compliance of national legislation with the EU acquis is essential for successful integration. In order to harmonize national legislation with the EU acquis, it is necessary to thoroughly perform comprehensive analysis of legislation compatibility, assessing levels of conformity and providing possible measures designed to overcome identified differences between the two legal systems. With an aim of achieving full and proper legislative harmonization with the EU acquis, national legislation alignment shall be approached in phases and in accordance with recommendations from the Screening Report on Ch. 23 and the priorities set forth by the NPAA 2014 - 2018. The next phase of legislation alignment specifically targets protection of fundamental rights.

The project should achieve three results:

Result 1: Ensured easier access to the case law of the European Court for Human Rights for the relevant target groups, aimed at the improvement and unification of the case law among Serbian courts as well as its harmonization with the EU standards.

Result 2: Educational activities of the JA enhanced in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness of trainings.

Result 3: Functioning of the new structures within new competences of the Judicial Academy (JA) improved.

The scope of this assignment is to assist the Project in its objective to enhance educational activities and functioning of new structures within new competences of the Judicial Academy and establishment of the consistent judicial system of the Republic of Serbia. Further improvement of the independence and efficiency of the judiciary through adequate measures regarding accountability, impartiality and competence of justice actors in order to achieve and strengthen the rule of law, legal certainty, better access to justice as well as improvement of the protection of human rights and protection of minority. The sustainability of results, including ensuring the necessary capacities for implementation and follow-up, will be specifically in focus.

Description of the assignment

Title: Two Senior Experts for Judicial Skills Training (Judge Craft 2)

Brief description of the assignment:

In accordance with the Project's 3rd Progress Report, its Work Plan – activity 2.5 (deliver seminars and workshops both for the initial and continuous education, aimed at enhancing professional competencies of the relevant target groups), and the TNA assessment for 2018 developed under activity 2.1, and following agreement with beneficiary and the Steering Committee, an Expert position is announced. The purpose of this activity is to develop the training curriculum and materials and to deliver training of trainers on basic judicial skills (Legal Craft 2: legal research, interpretation, reasoning, drafting; evidence assessment; personal management and communication abilities; professional ethics access to sources of interest for judicial office holders; IT, etc. -the exact scope to be determined in consultation with the Expert-).

The following topics should be covered by specific training program having in mind that effective and efficient judiciary requires skilled judges that have integrity and impartiality and can communicate well with parties and be transparent in their work. So beside knowledge, important part of their attitude is also to be equipped with judicial skills. This course is also sustainable and important part of general continuous training that any Judicial Academy in Europe has in its program.

At present, there is no on-going and/or planned assistance project in the area covered by this ToR.

Number of required experts:	1 Non-Key Short Term Senior Expert for Judicial Skills Training 2 (international) 1 Non-Key Short Term Senior Expert for Judicial Skills Training 2 (national)
Duration of the assignment:	Up to a total of 30 working days (15 days each)
Period of the assignment:	October 2017 – December 2017
Place of assignment:	Belgrade, Serbia
Working language:	Serbian, English

Expert Activities:

- Design the contents of a training module in judicial skills (Judge Craft 2)
- Develop materials for judicial and prosecutorial training curriculum in Judicial Skills covering the fields listed above
- Held consultations with stakeholders and beneficiary while developing materials
- Train the trainers who will be using this training materials

Related outputs:

- Training curriculum in Judicial Skills 2 designed
- Training materials in Judicial Skills 2 developed
- Trainers trained

Expert Profile

Qualifications and skills

- University degree (where a university degree has been awarded on completion of three years study in a university or equivalent institution) in Law;

General professional experience:

- Proven minimum **5 years, preferably 8** of work experience in legal training
- In similar professional circumstances, applicants with proven experience as judge or prosecutor will be preferred

Specific professional experience:

- Proven minimum 3 years of specific experience in training of judges;
- Previous experience in judicial skills trainings or initiatives would be an asset;
- Previous experience with legal research, interpretation, reasoning, drafting; evidence assessment; personal management and communication abilities; professional ethics topics would be an asset.

Applications (EU format CV and application letter, both in English) need to be submitted by e-mail to info@jap.rs not later than 22 September, 2017, titled:

Application for the position: Senior Expert for Judicial Skills Training 2

References must be available on request. Only candidates with a correct CV will receive a confirmation on receipt of their application. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

The Project is an equal opportunity employer that encourages applications from women and minorities.

All applications will be considered strictly confidential.

The advertised post is not available to civil servants or other officials of the public administration in the beneficiary country, Serbia. However, due to the nature of the assignment, in the case of a Judge or a Prosecutor from the Republic of Serbia selected, the appropriate leave for hiring the applicant will be submitted to the contracting authority.