CCBE Internal document

STATE OF PLAY

CCBE Committee & Working Group Issues

**UPDATED TO INCLUDE THE PERIOD 14 NOVEMBER 2023** to **3 MAY 2024**

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25. Access to Justice



Contact person: Indra Bule

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| EU Justice Scoreboard 2024  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG JUST JUST.C - Rule of Law, Fundamental Rights and Democracy) * National Bars and Law Societies | Coordination and gathering the data from the EU Member State Bars for the EU Justice Scoreboard.  Analysis of the EU Justice Scoreboard and assessment of the need to organise a discussion on additional elements to be added to the Scoreboard in the future | **November 2023**  The questionnaire for the EU Justice Scoreboard 2024 was received from the European Commission mid- November 2023.  The answers were submitted by the representatives of all 27 Member States.  **May 2024**  The publication of the new EU Justice Scoreboard 2024 is expected in May 2024. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Legal aid  Relevant actors:  - National Bars and Law  Societies   * Commission * European Judicial Network in civil and commercial   matters | **Q1-Q2 2023:** finalisation of the update of the [CCBE](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/ACCESS_TO_JUSTICE/ATJ_Guides_recommendations/EN_ATJ_20180323_CCBE-Recommendations-on-legal-aid.pdf) [Recommendations on legal aid](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/ACCESS_TO_JUSTICE/ATJ_Guides_recommendations/EN_ATJ_20180323_CCBE-Recommendations-on-legal-aid.pdf) adopted in 2018, as well as survey  The [updated CCBE recommendations on legal aid](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/ACCESS_TO_JUSTICE/ATJ_Guides_recommendations/EN_AtJ_20230331_CCBE-Recommendations-on-legal-aid.pdf) were approved at the Standing Committee in **March 2023**. The document was published for further use by members when addressing their governments and relevant national authorities.  **2024**  Based on the updated [CCBE Recommendations on legal aid](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/ACCESS_TO_JUSTICE/ATJ_Guides_recommendations/EN_AtJ_20230331_CCBE-Recommendations-on-legal-aid.pdf) 2023, the Committee will consider and plan additional steps and activities to ensure the adequate funding for legal aid. | **April 2024**  The questionnaire was launched addressing the relevant legal aid and pro bono related issues. Deadline 26 April 2024.  **May 2024**  The exchange of views is expected during the upcoming A2J Committee meeting in May 2024. |  |

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| Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP)  Relevant actors:   * Commission * Parliament * Council Presidency * Council of Europe * CDMSI Steering Committee on Media and Information Society * MSI-SLP Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation * MSI-SLP Secretariat | On a regular basis: To monitor the work of the [expert group of the Commission,](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3746&NewSearch=1&NewSearch=1) coordination of input, if and where necessary;  2023  Q1: To finalise CCBE position on [draft directive](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022PC0177) On a regular basis: to monitor and analyse the implementation of the relevant [Commission](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022H0758) [Recommendations](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022H0758)  On a regular basis: monitor and provide input to the work of the MSI-SLP Committee of Experts on SLAPP of the Council of Europe (due to the observer status granted to the CCBE by the CDMSI Steering Committee on Media and Information Society).  On a regular basis: To follow the relevant developments and initiatives of the EU and CoE institutions  2024  Follow the relevant developments and initiatives of the EU and CoE institutions, as well as relevant developments and initiatives taken by the governments and national Bars and Law Societies in the area related to SLAPP.  Monitoring of the work of the legislators on EU draft directive on SLAPPs.  Participation of the CCBE at the [expert group of the Commission](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3746&NewSearch=1&NewSearch=1), coordination of the input, if and where necessary, including analysis of implementation of the relevant [Commission Recommendations](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022H0758).  Monitoring of the work of the CoE on finalisation of their Recommendations on SLAPP. | **EU level:**  Informal contacts have been established.  During informal consultations before adoption of the CCBE position, the main considerations of the CCBE experts were explained to the assistant of the rapporteur.  [CCBE position on SLAPP directive and Commission Recommendations](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/ACCESS_TO_JUSTICE/ATJ_Position_papers/EN_AtJ_20230404_CCBE-Position-on-the-draft-directive-on-protecting-persons.pdf) was adopted during the Standing Committee in March 2023 and was circulated to relevant stakeholders within the EP Parliament (rapporteur, shadow rapporteurs), the Commission and Council (Swedish Presidency, incoming Spanish Presidency).  **September 2023**  In addition, following analysis of the position of the Council and the European Parliament, the CCBE prepared and submitted to all relevant stakeholders its written comments on the most important aspects identified in the positions of both institutions.  **November 2023**  Presentation at the European Parliament LIBE Committee of the Study on **SLAPP Cases in 2022 and 2023** by the authors, Justin Borg-Barthet, Convener, Anti-SLAPP Research Hub, University of Aberdeen and Francesca Farrington, Deputy Convener, Anti-SLAPP Research Hub, University of Aberdeen  **Council of Europe level**  **July 2023**  A public consultation on the draft Committee of Ministers Recommendation on Countering Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation (SLAPPs) was launched with a deadline of 2 August 2023. It was decided by the CCBE not to participate in this public consultation.  **September-October 2023**  The CCBE submitted written comments before the 4th meeting of the MSI-SLP Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation on 17-18 October 2023.  **November 2023**  The Steering Committee on Media and Information Society will take place from 29 November - 1 December 2023 to confirm the results of the work of the MSI-SLP Committee before the Recommendations with Explanatory Memorandum are submitted for their final approval in 2024.  **April 2024**  Directive (EU) 2024/1069 on protecting persons who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded claims or abusive court proceedings (‘Strategic lawsuits against public participation’) was published on 16 April 2024. Following the publication in the EU Official Journal, the measure will enter into force on **6 May 2024.**  According to Article 22, EU Member States will have to introduce laws to transpose this Directive **by 7 May 2026.**  All Member States will have to submit data to the Commission by 7 May 2030, the Commission will have to submit to the European Parliament and to the Council a report on the application of this Directive by 7 May 2031 and every five years thereafter at the latest.  This Directive in all EU language versions is available here: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1069>  The Access to Justice Committee will consider the need to follow the transposition of the directive at national level.  **Council of Europe Recommendations on** **SLAPP**  On 5 April 2024, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted [Recommendation CM/Rec(2024)2 on countering the use of strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs)](https://rm.coe.int/0900001680af2805). |  |

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| Alternative dispute resolution (ADR)  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG JUST)  - Alternative Dispute  Resolution  Boards of Appeal  European Union Intellectual Property Office  - National Bars and Law  Societies | To monitor and analyse on a regular basis all  relevant developments within alternative  dispute resolution mechanism, including  developments in different forums of the CoE and  EU.    **November- December 2023 and in 2024**  Following the publication of new legislative proposals (October 2023) which suggest to review the ADR framework, the Access to Justice Committee as well as other relevant committees, will be invited to express their comments. Based on the comments received, the CCBE may consider preparation of a position paper.  **7 February 2024**  Members of the A2J Committee were invited to join discussion on the new proposals on Alternative dispute resolution (ADR) adopted by the European Commission. The discussion and exchange of views on the draft proposals took place during the European Private Law Committee meeting on 7 February 2024. |  |  |
| Collective redress Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG JUST) JUST.B CONSUMERS) * National Bars and Law Societies | Consideration of the need to monitor the implementation of the [Directive on representative](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2020.409.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2020%3A409%3ATOC) [actions for the protection of the collective](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2020.409.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2020%3A409%3ATOC) [interests of consumers](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2020.409.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ%3AL%3A2020%3A409%3ATOC) at national level. | Previously there was no interest from committee members to monitor the implementation of the directive.  **2024**  It is planned to consider the need of monitoring of implementation of this directive during the upcoming A2J Committee meeting in May 2024. |  |
| Pro- bono | Consider the need for discussion on pro-bono related work carried out by different Bars and Law Societies | **February 2024**  During the A2J Committee meeting in February 2024 invited guestsÖzgür Kahale (Director of Pro Bono for Europe, DLA Piper)and Andrej Nosko (Co-Executive Director, [PILnet](https://www.pilnet.org/)) provided the online presentation on the work and projects of the Pilnet, as well as on the event organised for the representatives of European Bars in Brussels in autumn 2023. They stressed the importance of pro-bono for the society and expressed their readiness to support engagement of the legal profession in pro-bono activities.  Presentation was followed by exchange of views and internal discussion of committee members.  **April 2024**  The questionnaire was launched addressing the relevant legal aid and pro bono related issues. Deadline 26 April 2024. The exchange of views is expected during the upcoming A2J Committee meeting in **May 2024**. |  |



Contact person: Anna Smolińska

1. Anti-Money Laundering

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| AML package comprising of:   * A proposal for a 6th AML Directive * A proposal for an AML Regulation * A proposal for an AML Authority Regulation * Relevant actors: * Commission (DG FISMA, Unit D2) * Parliament (ECON & LIBE secretariats, rapporteurs on the files and shadows, political advisors to the groups) * Council (Swedish Presidency, Spanish Presidency), Belgian Presidency | Assessment of the negotiating positions of the institution on AMLD, AMLR and AMLAR has been done by the committee based on working documents prepared by the secretariat. Written comments for institutions were prepared.  Further lobbying actions at the right time were planned (e-mails to rapporteurs and shadows, suggestions for amendments to advisers etc). The file was continuously monitored and CCBE responded based on the progress first in the Parliament and Council and then in trialogues.  **2023 and beginning 2024**, the CCBE undertook lobbying efforts. Later in 2024, it has monitored successive steps leading to the adoption of the package which should be achieved before the June European elections.  **March 2024**  A comprehensive update on the main changes to come was provided to the delegations during the Standing Committee in March 2024. **It is planned to analyse the final texts in detail and the implementation of the package in the AML committee in the coming months.**  **26 February 2024**  European Lawyers Foundation with support from the CCBE organised a webinar entitled “Anti-money laundering (AML) for lawyers: the new EU AML package and general practical advice”. DG FISMA representative made a presentation about the package. A second webinar is planned on 29th May. | In 2022, the CCBE has been regularly contacting the rotating Presidency of the Council and key MEPs – rapporteurs and shadows.  In line with this, **in 2023**, a group of advisors to the S&D and Greens rapporteurs on the AML Regulation have been contacted by e-mail twice to communicate CCBE further comments on the current draft wording of compromise amendments regarding the exception to reporting based on legal professional privilege.  Several shadow rapporteurs have also been contacted.  **March 2023**, the CCBE was contacted several times and provided further comments on the new versions of the compromise amendments. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |

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|  |  | **Beginning of the year,** a Teams call was held with a political advisor to discuss the state of play.  Renew shadows and the Renew coordinator were also contacted with a special focussed e-mail as they appeared to be very critical of lawyers. In response, the CCBE Secretariat prepared clarifications in order to address the misconceptions that were apparent.  A letter was sent to the Swedish Presidency at the **beginning of March.** This letter reiterates the CCBE’s position on crucial points (supervision, legal professional privilege etc) taking into account the Council General Approach which was published in 2022.  **10 May**  Comments were sent to institutions (rapporteurs, shadows, Council, Commission) for trialogues, on the powers of AMLA and peer reviews.  **24 May**  The committee had an exchange of views with Legal Advisors to the Greens/EFA, the took part in the committee meeting.  **14 June**  Two sets of comments were sent to the institutions for the trialogues (on privilege/suspicion and on oversight by public authorities).  **Beginning of September**,  A contact in the EP told us that discussions on Article 17 AML Reg. (privilege/reporting) were held and in cooperation with the current and former CCBE AML Committee Chairs the Secretariat sent additional comments by e-mail. The discussions were still concerning the exact wording related to the exemption from reporting based on legal privilege.  Later on, we were informed that the Commission was about to propose a compromise rewording. **On 20 September,** the CCBE has sent a letter and detailed comments on these provisions to the Commission. Then, a contact in the EP informed us about the wording and the CCBE confirmed by e-mail that this wording was acceptable for us.  **2024**  **30 January 2024**  The CCBE has sent a letter to DG FISMA to express views on provisions which refer to the requirement of oversight of self-regulatory bodies (Article 38). It was stressed that the public authority overseeing self-regulatory bodies shall carry out its functions free of political, government or industry influence or interference.  **24 April**  The Chair of the AML Committee and the Secretariat took part in a meeting with Accountancy Europe AML Committee to exchange about the package. |  |

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| AML discussion paper -   * establishing a mechanism for raising awareness about existing and emerging ML/TF risks and to exchange information (“AML alert”) * collecting and identifying best practices collection of data through questionnaires on AML supervision) * creation of a liaison group with the Parliament and the Commission   Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG FISMA, Unit D2) | The AML alert network of contact points became operational. First alerts were launched. Expected:  A meeting of the best practices drafting group should be convened continue its work based on a methodological framework that was prepared at the end of 2022.  Further discussions took place in the committee on how to take the work forward.  **End of 2023 and beginning 2024**, the Secretariat prepared a summary of the collected answers to the AML questionnaire and the AML committee discussed successive drafts of a paper based on this data. A discussion took place during the **March 2024** Standing Committee and the paper will be presented for approval at the Plenary Session in May. End of April, only three delegations were missing in the data collection exercice. | The proposal to create a liaison group /dialogue with the Commission and other institutions has been included in the CCBE’s comments on the 3rd SNRA which were communicated to the Commission, DG FISMA, Unit D2. |  |
| * Monitoring of and reacting to the consequences of Pandora Papers – AML aspects * EP own-initiative report on Pandora Papers   Relevant actors:   * ECON & LIBE rapporteurs | Ongoing  The wording on privilege / reporting has been used in the lobbying papers for the AML package trilogues.  On 30th April, the Chair of the AML Committee attended an online workshop entitled “‘The Role of Professional Service Providers in Enabling Financial Crime in the EU and the UK – Workshop 1: Supervision”. Organised by RUSI centre for finance and security, a UK-based research institute. | **2022**  The CCBE sent comments on the draft LIBE opinion on this resolution to the MEP author of the opinion. |  |
| IBA initiative on ethics Relevant actors:  - IBA Working Group  examining the role of lawyers as ethical gatekeepers | Ongoing/monitoring the state of play, mainly Chair with Legal Advisor | The CCBE is represented on this working-Group by Peter McNamee in order to follow discussions. Various exchanges took place with the IBA and the Working Group in **February 2023**. The latest developments and the latest text (as prepared by the IBA Working Group) were presented to the June 2023 plenary session. The AML committee was briefly informed about some major steps of the process but the issue was mainly monitored at the secretariat level. A written update on the latest developments is included as part of the November 2023 plenary papers. |  |
| Commission’s Supra-National Risk Assessment (SNRA)  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG FISMA, Unit D2) * MEPs working on the AML package (see above) | The SNRA was published in November 2022. The committee prepared CCBE’s comments on this.  The committee also started to collect materials on inefficiency of the current AML framework and on research regarding lawyers in the field of AML.  It should be explored whether a joint action with Accountancy Europe would be useful.  The plan is to liaise with the Commission and provide them with arguments to influence the next SNRA.  In order to have better arguments during discussions on the next SNRA, the Chair and the Secretariat started discussions with a research institute based in Milan – Transcrime, Università Cattolica. The aim is to explore the idea and feasibility of conducting a study regarding the question whether and to what extent lawyers are involved in and/or misused for money laundering.  The idea was presented to delegations during the Standing Committee in March 2024. Given that several delegations expressed doubts, it was decided to further explore the idea and clarify few points before potentially present the idea again to delegations. Therefore, AML Committee will try to clarify the scope and objective of the potential study.  In parallel, if the CCBE paper on supervision and practices by bars is adopted during the May Plenary Session, it would be communicated to DG FISMA as it might provide useful information in the context of the next SNRA. | CCBE’s comments were adopted in February and sent to the European Commission, Parliament and the Council as they clarify several issues that were also discussed during the discussions on the AML package.  **26 May**  The Chair and secretariat had a call with Accountants Europe to exchange views on potential coordination with regard to the SNRA and AML package.  A further call took place on **12 September** between the Chair and the Secretariat and Mr Riccardi, to exchange ideas. **10 October**, during a call with ELF Director, the Chair and the Secretariat further discussed the idea and possible funding opportunities.  In a separate note, Mr Riccardi was invited to the AML Committee meeting on **14 November** to give a presentation on Trends and emerging threats in money laundering (and AML).  **23 January 2024**  The CCBE received an invitation to take part in a consultation with DG FISMA that has started preparations for the 4th Supranational Risk Assessment. Its adoption is foreseen by the third quarter of 2024. The CCBE comments on the 3rd SNRA were sent to DG FISMA to feed into the next SNRA. |  |
| Network of Experts on Beneficial Ownership (NEBOT)  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG FISMA, Unit D2)  - Transparency International  \*Global Anti-Corruption Consortium | This project has been completed and the project was closed, but it is possible that the network will continue on an informal basis so the CCBE could still take part. | We remain on the mailing list of project participants and it is foreseen to keep in touch with Transparency International.  We were informed in May that there will be a follow-up to the project, to continue cooperation.  Separately, the CCBE has been invited through the contact from NEBOT to a whole-day workshop for the private sector on **28 June**, organised by Global Anti-Corruption Consortium (GACC). The Chair and an expert attended this event.  Informal discussions with a representative of Transparency International took place during the ELD event of the CCBE and as a result a separate meeting with a Transparency International representative for AML matters took place on **14 November** at the CCBE offices in order to have an informal first discussion and in order to try to find common ground and understand respective points of view. |  |

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| Monitoring and contributions to FATF actions  Relevant actors:   * FATF representatives dealing with the private sector * Representatives from the IBA and ABA to coordinate inputs | The FATF Private Sector Consultative Forum (PSCF) took place on 8th & 9th May 2023.  In addition, it is planned to have a bilateral meeting with FATF representatives and continue monitoring its consultations and prepare feedback if relevant. | In the past, the CCBE participated in the FATF Private Sector meetings and it is planned to maintain this tradition.  The Chair took part in the 2023 Forum on **8-9 May 2023** at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) headquarters, Vienna.  A call with IBA and ABA representatives was also organised beforehand to coordinate positions of the organisations representing legal profession.  On a separate note, an invitation letter was sent to the FATF to invite its representatives to the AML committee meeting on **14.11** but they declined due to a conflicting engagement. It is planned to invite them **again in 2024**.  The Chair of the AML Committee took part in the 2024 FATF PSCF in Vienna, 8-9th April. As usual, an informal coordination call took place beforehand with IBA and ABA. |  |
| Launching the work on peer review  Relevant actors: | To be decided what is to be done |  |  |
| Engaging with OECD regarding their work on intermediaries  *\*with Tax Committee*  Relevant actors:  - OECD Task Force on Tax Crimes and Other Crimes | Ongoing | Follow-up to the last meeting should be undertaken in 2024 – potentially inviting someone from the Task Force or Secretariat of the task force to a CCBE meeting. |  |
| Monitoring CoE Moneyval work (assessment of the 4th AML Directive underway) | Ongoing  It is planned to have a bilateral meeting with a Moneyval representative. | Usually, the monitoring is done through our experts in the committee (we do not have direct contact with CoE on this for the  moment).  A letter was sent to the new head of MONEYVAL, Livia Stoica Brecht on 6th April. She was not available to attend the AML Committee meeting on **24 May** but declared her wish to meet in the near future and it is planned to invite her to the next meeting. |  |
| Analysing Commission Report on  the implementation of Directive  (EU) 2018/1673 on combating money laundering by criminal law  Analysis of the report on Evaluation of the 4th AMLD | Expected – analysis to be carried out  The report was published in March 2024 and the committee was informed. The document will be discussed during the committee meeting in June 2024. |  |  |

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| Monitoring of the tender for Feasibility Study for a European Asset Registry in the Context of the Fight Against AML and Tax Evasion | Ongoing |  |  |

1. Company Law



Contact person: Stéphanie Alves-Schuldt

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Future EC Legislative “Proposal : “[Upgrading digital company law](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13055-Upgrading-digital-company-law_en)”  Relevant actors:   * - Commission (DG Justice, Unit A3 Company law Unit) | **Q3 2023/Q1 2024** : The Company law Committee was monitoring the discussion between the co-legislators on the adoption of the proposed “*Directive to further expand and upgrade the use of digital tools and processes in company law.*  On 15/02/2024, the Council (coreper) endorsed a negotiating mandate formalising the Council's negotiating position on 15/02/2024. It provided the Council presidency with a mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament. A political agreement on the text of the directive was finally reached in April 2024. It was approved by the EP Plenary (on 24.04.2024) and is now expected to be officially adopted by the Council (date not yet known).  For reminder, the Committee prepared comments to the Commission’s proposed directive published on 29 March 2023, which were adopted by the Standing Committee of 12 May 2023.  A number of suggestions from the CCBE response were reflected in the final text.  Regarding the involvement of lawyers in the public preventive control , meaning on an equal footing with judicial or/and administrative preventive control, this was not included in the final text. However, a reference to the respect of the different legal traditions was added (e.g when lawyers are involved in the drafting of articles of association (but not as an equal authority of preventive control). | In October 2022, in preparation of this initiative, a meeting between the Chair of the Company law Committee and DG JUST took place to discuss the views of the CCBE Company Law experts  The CCBE comments were communicated to the Commission and co-legislators (Council / European Parliament) / key persons following this file on behalf of the EU institutions  **26 June 2023**  A meeting took place with DG JUST (head of Unit and his team) on 26 June 2023 to discuss the CCBE comments.  **4September 2023**  The Chair and CCBE Secretariat had a meeting with the assistant of the Shadow Rapporteur on this file (MEP Maria-Manuel LEITÃO-MARQUES (S&D Portugal)) where we explained our comments and suggestions for amendments to the text of the proposal. An important aspect concerns the legal profession with a reference in Recital 9 to the possible involvement of notaries “and lawyers”, with respect to the different legal traditions.  The JURI Committee is expected to vote on the draft Report taking place **end of November 2023**.  The CCBE comments were also sent to the Secretariat of the Council Company Law Working Party who is examining the Proposal with the aim of reaching their common position. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |

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| Current EC Legislative Proposal : “[Corporate Sustainability Due](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12548-Sustainable-corporate-governance_en) [Diligence](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12548-Sustainable-corporate-governance_en)”  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG Justice , Unit A3 Company law Unit) | **Q1 2023**: The Company Law will continue to monitor this file and discuss whether there is a need to take any action.  See last development in the second column.  A political agreement was finally achieved by the negotiators and was adopted by the Legal affairs (JURI) Committee of the European Parliament on 19 March 2024.  The adopted text ([final compromise agreement](https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-6145-2024-INIT/en/pdf)) includes a recital 31a to preserve the lawyers’ professional secrecy.  An approval by the Plenary took place on 24th April, before formal adoption by the Council. | A meeting took place with CCBE experts on 13 March and it was decided to create a pool of experts on specific issues. It is still to be clarified what the next actions could be.  On 18 January 2024, CCBE president sent a letter to the negotiators of the proposed directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence and amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937 (CSDDD).  The letter expressed our concerns regarding the possible applicability of the directive for the legal profession to the extent it may encroach with the role of lawyers and deontological obligations (in particular professional services). The letter requested the exclusion of lawyers / legal services from the scope of the directive.  The letter was received by the Council and European Parliament. |  |
| Directive on [Corporate](https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/company-reporting-and-auditing/company-reporting/corporate-sustainability-reporting_en) [Sustainability Reporting](https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/company-reporting-and-auditing/company-reporting/corporate-sustainability-reporting_en)  Relevant actors: Commission   * DG FISMA   Parliament   * JURI Committee | **Q1 2023** : The Directive was adopted and needs to be implemented by Member States. The Company Law will continue to monitor this and discuss whether there is a need to take any action. | (see above) |  |
| **The below issues are being monitored only** | **The below issues are being monitored only** |  |  |
| EC initiative “Improving Quality and Enforcement of [corporate](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13128-Corporate-reporting-improving-its-quality-and-enforcement_en) [reporting](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13128-Corporate-reporting-improving-its-quality-and-enforcement_en)” | The committee will continue to follow the developments of this initiative. | (no external contact - monitoring only) |  |
| Future EC legislative “[Proposal for a](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2022-5606335) [Directive on cross-border activities](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2022-5606335)  [of associations](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2022-5606335)” | **Q2 2023** : Monitoring this issue on a regular basis for information. In February 2022, the EP  adopted a [resolution.](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0044_EN.html) | (no external contact - monitoring only) |  |

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| Directive 2121/2019 [on cross](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32019L2121) [border mobility of companies](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32019L2121) | **Q1 2023**: The implementation of this directive at national level will be monitored for information. Member states have until 31-1-2023 to  implement it. | (no external contact - monitoring only) |  |
| Recent adoption of the Directive on gender balance on corporate boards (22-11-2022) (see EC Statement: [here](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_22_7074)) | **2023**: The committee will follow the implementation of this directive at national level. Member State will have to ensure that companies strive to meet the 40% target for non- executive boards, or 33% for all board members,  by 30 June 2026. | (no external contact - monitoring only) |  |
| Publication of the EC (legislative) package “[Capital Markets Union:](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_7348) [new proposals on clearing,](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_7348) [corporate insolvency and company](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_7348) [listing to make EU capital markets](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_7348) [more attractive”](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_7348) (7-12-2022)  This is connected to the [Capital](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A590%3AFIN) [Markets Union Action Plan](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A590%3AFIN) | **Q1 2023**: This will continue to be monitored for information. | (no external contact - monitoring only) |  |
| The developments of the EC regarding Action 12 of the Capital Markets Union Action Plan : [Facilitating shareholder](https://finance.ec.europa.eu/capital-markets-union-and-financial-markets/capital-markets-union/capital-markets-union-2020-action-plan/action-12-facilitating-shareholder-engagement_en) [engagement](https://finance.ec.europa.eu/capital-markets-union-and-financial-markets/capital-markets-union/capital-markets-union-2020-action-plan/action-12-facilitating-shareholder-engagement_en) | **Q3 2023**: The committee will continue to follow the developments of this topic. | (no external contact - monitoring only) |  |

4. Criminal Law



Contact person: Peter Mc Namee

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Transfer of proceedings in criminal matters (Commission proposal)  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG Justice (procedural safeguards unit) * Parliament (LIBE Committee) * Council: Working Party on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters (COPEN) | **Q1** **2023** – The Commission published its proposal on 5th April 2023. The Criminal law Committee prepared a position paper in response to the proposal (this paper was approved at the CCBE June plenary session).  **March 2024** Agreement was reached between the Council, Commission and Parliament during the first trilogue meeting. | Following approval by the June plenary session, the CCBE position paper was sent to the Commission, Parliament Rapporteur and all shadow Rapporteurs.  **November/December 2023** There has been continuous contact with the Parliament regarding suggestions for concrete amendments from the CCBE (in addition to previous contacts since June 2023) as well as various discussions on the CCBE position.  **January/February 2024**  These was contact with the Parliament and Council regarding suggestion for amendments in advance of the trilogue discussion. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Commission proposal on the definition of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of sanctions.  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG Justice, Unit B.1)  - Parliament (LIBE Committee)  Council Working Party 'Judicial cooperation in criminal matters' (COPEN) | This issue is of concern as it includes legal professionals within its scope and certain provisions regarding reporting obligations. The proposal also refers to a low threshold of “negligence” with regard to criminal offences. | **November 2023** In addition to contact with the Parliament, the CCBE was also in contact with the relevant Council Working Group, as the Council position is more aligned with the CCBE position than the Parliament position, both regarding the reporting obligations on legal professionals and the provisions regarding negligence).  **December 2023/January 2024**  The CCBE had contact with the Council Working Group stressing the important that the Council maintains its position on certain recitals and Articles.  **March 2024**  The text was adopted (and the CCBE was satisfied with the outcome). |  |

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| European Public Prosecutors Office (EPPO)  Relevant actors:   * EPPO Legal Service * Commission (DG JUST) | The Committee is following existing and emerging practical challenges and case law (from a defence practitioner point of view) regarding the EPPO and various issues including access to the case file, evidence gathering and interpretation and translation.  **September 2024**  There will be a meeting with the EPPO in September 2024 (following the meetings in September 2023 and September 2022).  **October – December 2024/ and year 2025**  The new Commission will have to evaluate the workings of the EPPO and the Commission must produce a Report by June 2026. This will require an impact assessment in which the Commission will have to propose different options – this could be in the form of soft law or an amendment of the EPPO Regulation. There will be stakeholder engagement as part of the review and direct feedback from defence practitioners will be provided. | **23 March 2024**  During the Criminal law committee meeting on 23 March, the Committee welcomed Fabio Giuffrida from the European Commission who made a presentation on the EPPO - current and future developments. |  |
| *European Investigation Order (Council mutual evaluations)*  Relevant actors  - Council of Ministers | The Committee is following developments regarding the current mutual evaluation on the European Investigation Order. The Council Secretariat is currently in the process of undertaking a Member State by Member State assessment of the European Investigation Order in criminal matters. Currently there are two countries being evaluated each month. 14 countries have been evaluated to date. **The Final Report is due in December 2024.** | **23 April 2024**  The CCBE had a meeting with the Council Working Group to discuss (among other issues), the current state of play with the mutual evaluations. |  |
| Impact of digitalization on criminal proceedings  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG Justice) * Parliament (LIBE & JURI) * Council (Working Party on   eJustice) | **Q4** - the committee will discuss this topic and identify issues to be considered going forward | **9 December 2023**  A discussion took place during the criminal law committee on 9 December in order to determine the most relevant issues and how to advance the various issues (regarding digitilisation, New Technologies and Artificial AI. |  |
| Liaison with the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)  Relevant actors:   * Fundamental Rights Agency | The FRA is working on many issues which the CCBE is working on including:   * Criminal law * Digitalisation of justice * Artificial intelligence/surveillance * Migration * Access to justice and information relating to environmental and consumer matters | There is continuous liaison with the FRA throughout the year on many issues. T.  **20 March 2024**  Every year the CCBE and FRA have a constructive exchange on a wide and growing number of issues which are of interest to both organisations. The CCBE Annual meeting with the FRA took place on 20 March and discussed a number of issues, including, migration, Justice (digitalisation of Justice/new technologies/AI impact on justice), criminal law, rule of law, FRA Charter tools, environment and climate change and CCBE and FRA Priorities. |  |

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| Procedural safeguards (evaluation/revision/position paper/possible conference)  Relevant actors:   * Commission (Procedural safeguards Unit) * Council Presidency | This remains a regular item for the Committee due to implementation (and non- implementation) issues which emerge on a regular basis. | **27 February 2024**  A meeting between the CCBE and a representatives from both the “Criminal Justice” and “Criminal Procedural Law” units of DG Justice, European Commission took place which discussed various issues including evidence gathering and admissibility, future developments and reform of the EPPO, the European Arrest Warrant, pre-trial detention, conflict of jurisdiction/transfer of proceedings and future criminal law initiatives in the area of criminal justice and in the area of criminal procedural law. |  |

5. Deontology



Contact person: Anna Drozd

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Assessment and review of the CCBE code of conduct  Relevant actors:  - CCBE Deontology Committee | Q4 2023, Q1-Q2 2024  The Committee set up a dedicated subgroup to analyse the provisions of the Code of Conduct in more detail. It met twice – on **14 September** and **16 November 2023**. It reports to the Deontology Committee. | (CCBE - Internal issue) | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Developing the text of the new core principle on non-discrimination, equality and diversity | **Q4 2023, Q1-Q2 2024**  The Committee developed a text of the new core principle in the course of 2023 and submitted it for discussion in the Plenary Session on 24 November 2023.The text was not discussed and it was retabled for discussion again in February but was not discussed either. **The matter will be discussed during the May Plenary Session.** | (CCBE - Internal issue) |  |
| Third Party Funding Litigation: possible EU actions : possible actions of the European Commission following the European Parliament’s resolution.  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG Justice, Unit A.1 Civil Justice) | **Q4 2023, Q1-Q3 2024**  The Committee discussed the possible participation and input from the CCBE at its meeting on **23 November** **2023 and March 2024**. The Committee will look into the topic in more details once the questionnaire to stakeholders has been available. | The European Commission is conducting a mapping study on the situation in the EU Member States to assess the need and scope of possible legislative proposal to be considered by the next Commission. The study was launched in January 2024 and the consultation with stakeholders is planned for May 2024. |  |
| Protection of the core values of  lawyers | Q1-Q2 2023 | (CCBE – Internal issue) |  |

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| Monitoring of international and national developments regarding the deontology of lawyers  i.e. IBA initiative concerning lawyers as ethical gatekeepers  Relevant actors:  - CCBE (Secretariat/various committees) | Q1-Q4 2023, **Q1-Q4 2024**  In **April 2024**, the Committee held an ad hoc meeting on the CCBE Considerations for Bars, Law Societies and Lawyers on Climate change and its impact on the legal profession (lead: Environment and Climate Change Committee). The Committee will further discuss its input in May. | (CCBE – Internal issue) |  |

6. Environment and Climate Change



Contact person: Nathan Roosbeek

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| 1. Follow-up on CCBE draft initial statement on climate change: 2. taking action in relation to its own activities in a manner consistent with restricting global warming to 1.5°C, and to report in a transparent way to the Plenary Session on the actions it has taken and their outcome; 3. submitting on a short term its activities to a thorough and concrete analysis by external experts, including a calculation of its CO2 footprint;   Relevant actors:  - CCBE | In line with the commitment taken in the CCBE initial statement on climate change:   * The CCBE published its second carbon footprint report and compensated its carbon footprint by financing a reforestation project. * as regards the ecolabel that the CCBE obtained in 2023 the CCBE Secretariat will continue to improve its eco-management and will consider in 2 or 3 year to improve its score by making a new application. | (CCBE – Internal issue) | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| CDCJ – Study on Climate Change Litigation  Relevant actors:   * CDCJ | The CDCJ has not yet started its work on this topic. | The CCBE has regular contact with the CDCJ and is one of their observers. |  |
| CDDH-ENV | The Committee is currently discussing whether to propose a draft statement in response of the CDDH draft report on the need for and feasibility of a further instrument or instruments on human rights and the environment | Council of Europe: the CCBE is an observer within the CDDH-ENV |  |

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| Relevant actors:   * Council of Europe (CDDH- ENV) |  |  |  |
| 2. Follow-up on CCBE draft initial statement on climate change:  (a) supporting member Bars in their efforts to assist their own members to act to mitigate climate change, including by encouraging member Bars to establish a committee focusing on climate change and its consequences for the legal profession (where not already in place), also in terms of new fields of law;  (b) providing guidance to member Bars on how lawyers, when approaching any matter arising in the course of legal practice, should take into account the likely impact of that matter upon the climate crisis in a way which is compatible with lawyers’ professional duties and the administration of justice;  (c) collecting, disseminating and publicising educational tools and resources to support member Bars to help their own members to incorporate into their daily practice advice and representation on the impacts of climate change, and prepare for the likely impacts of climate change upon their daily practice;  (d) promoting the exchange of best practices among the European legal profession so as to permit analysis, cross comparison and development of best practice guidelines, including on how to mitigate climate change and its impacts;  Relevant actors:  - CCBE | At the beginning of the year, the Committee started working on a draft CCBE guidance/consideration on the impact of climate on the legal profession.  Following comments received and discussions together with the Deontology Committee, the initial draft paper has now been divided into two separate papers.  On the one hand, a first technical guide which objective would be to provide a better understanding for bars, law firms and lawyers on greenhouse gas emissions and how they can be accounted for. This paper will be further developed within the ENVCC Committee with the aim of having it for approval either at the October Standing Committee or the November Plenary Session.  On the other hand, a second paper which would consist of considerations that would look at some of the principles of the CCBE Charter of Core Principles of the European Legal Profession and explore how these principles can be effectively applied to address the risks associated with climate change. For this paper, we are now first further consulting with the Deontology Committee. | (CCBE – Internal issue) |  |

7.EU Lawyers



Contact person: Stéphanie Alves-Schuldt

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| 1. Monitoring of Commission’s activities in the field of regulated professions    * Updated reform recommendations (targeting lawyers) and any issues related with the   “Proportionality test directive”   * + Study in progress: “Competition and its economic outcomes in selected business services professions in the EU: a refined methodology and a comprehensive empirical assessment” (started in 2021)   Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG GROW) | Another meeting will be foreseen (before the new Commission takes office) with the relevant contacts in DG GROW dealing with the profession.  The objective is to keep a regular dialogue by convening a meeting (1 or 2 times a year) with the office of the Commissioner.  Setting of minimum legal fees established by the professional association of lawyers :  It was proposed that the informal Competition subgroup analyses the consequence of a recent decision in relation to minimum fees ( in Bulgaria) and prepares a note with their recommendations for the delegations.  The Committee is also monitoring the EU Court of Justic (German) case on third party financial participation in law firms (together with the Deontology Committee). The Committee will be focusing on the issue of proportionality test and cross border implications of the upcoming judgment. |  |  |

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| 2) Any possible future initiative in connection with the single market for services and self- regulated professions | A new report on the future of the single market was presented by M. Letta to the European Council and Commission. A reference is made to the regulated professions. The Committee will closely monitor the next steps of this initiative. Another report on the competitiveness of the (single market) EU will follow in **June 2024.**  Regarding the work of the OECD, the PMR indicators are not yet published. The new data is expected to be released in **summer 2024**. The Committee will continue monitor this file.  Follow-up actions after the adoption of CCBE comments to the two published DG GROW studies (legal barriers)  With regard to the “Study on the legal mapping of barriers in the services sector”, after the additional information published by DG Grow (legal mapping at national level), the Committee is still reviewing the input received from the CCBE delegations. Unfortunately, we have not received a lot of responses and the deadline for responses has been extended.  Depending on the outcome of this input, the Committee will decide the next steps. (we have not gathered enough responses but we will discuss again this study in light of our next meeting with DG Grow) | The CCBE statement was sent to the Commission - DG Grow.  The Committee continues to monitor the next edition of the OECD PMR concerning lawyers (OECD originally planned to publish the results in November, 2023. It will now be foreseen for next **Summer 2024**) |  |
| 3) Free movement of lawyers Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG GROW, Unit E1 Enforcement) | To continue monitoring the application of the Lawyers Directives (especially 98/5) and assist where queries are arising from their application.  A number of queries are still arising, e.g currently with regard to the Irish certificates.  The Committee continued to discuss the current problem with the alternative certificate issued by the Law Society of Ireland for solicitors establishing in another EU MS. An information note was presented at the Standing committee in **February 2024** (after the postponement at the Plenary Session in November) and a recommendation for the CCBE delegations is being prepared (put on the agenda of the CCBE May Plenary Session). |  |  |

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| 4) Cooperation between Bars  Relevant actors:  - European Commission IMI Unit (DG Grow) | To elaborate a proposal for enhancing Cooperation between Bars (Establishment Directive 98/5). See also point 1 with the preparation of a workshop.  Still ongoing .   1. The Committee will launch a collection of contact points to enhance the identification of relevant persons (the Committee has received a first collection but it needs to be further completed). This still needs to be completed. 2. On the basis of the discussion paper, a proposal (to be discussed) will be made regarding this matter. Based on the completeness of the collection of the contact points, the Committee will discuss the next steps.   As a way forward on this matter, during the last meeting on **22.04.2024**, the EU Lawyers Committee discussed a proposal for building a project proposal for a template of the certificate of lawyers which could be used for the recognition of the qualifications of lawyers (Directive 98/5). |  |  |
| 5) Improving Communication toward public/citizens about the role of the lawyer in a democratic society  Relevant actors:  - CCBE | - A concept note is only being discussed at this stage. The Committee will decide whether or not to take more concrete steps.  (this work was held up as it was not seen as a priority for the Committee)) | (CCBE – Internal issue) |  |
| * Other activities Relevant actors: * CCBE | * CCBE statistics: collect of data from CCBE members.   A request will be made to collect statistics of lawyers across the CCBE membership in the course of May 2024.   * Monitoring of CEPEJ-GT-EVAL exercise re. the evaluation of judicial systems (statistics and report on the legal profession) * Monitoring of EESC activities on liberal professions * Profile Group | **April 2024**  Contact took place with the CEPEJ working group for the EVALUATION cycle/ they are in the process of finalising the draft reports of the Evaluation. Last contact was made in March 2024. Another contact is foreseen in **May 2024** |  |

8. European Convention



Contact person: Nathan Roosbeek

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Promote the adoption and contribute to the drafting of a binding legal instrument on the profession of lawyer accompanied by an implementation mechanism  Relevant actors:  Council of Europe:   * CJ-AV * CDCJ * Committee of Ministers (GR-J) * Lawyers’ organisation with an observer status within the CJ- AV * UN Special rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers | Active participation as an observer in the new CoE Committee on the protection of lawyer (CJ- AV) in charge of drafting the new instrument (3 meetings planned for 2023):  Having been granted the observer status within the CDCJ, the CCBE also follows and actively contributes to the discussions in the Steering Committee. | The CCBE is both an observer member within the CDCJ and the CJ- AV and actively contributes to drafting of the draft Convention.  **27 June 2023**  The Chair of the European Convention WG, Laurent Pettiti and CCBE Legal Advisor, Nathan Roosbeek met with the representatives of the observer lawyers’ organisations to the CJ-AV to exchange views before the 5th meeting of the CJ-AV from **3 to 5 July**. Again, this meeting was quite useful as it helped support our position during the CJ-AV’s meeting.  **3-5 July 2023**  The Chair of the European Convention WG, Laurent Pettiti and CCBE Legal Advisor, Nathan Roosbeek participated in the 4th meeting of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the Protection of Lawyers (CJ-AV) in Strasbourg, to further contribute to the drafting process of the future Convention on the protection of the profession of lawyer.  The outcome of the meeting was very positive as almost all of proposals were taken on board in the draft Convention including on the definition of lawyer, professional association, the protection of the lawyer-client confidentiality principle, and the implementation mechanism.  **29 September 2023**  Vote on CCBE draft comments to the draft Convention in view of the 6th meeting of the CJ-AV.  **17 – 19 October 2023**  6th meeting of the CJ-AV: almost all the CCBE comments adopted at the last Standing Committee were taken on board during the discussions at the 6th meeting.  **15-17.11.2023**  The Chair of the European Convention WG, Laurent Pettiti participated in the CDCJ 101th plenary meeting. 15 Member States expressed themselves in favour of having a Convention in 2024. **The Convention should be put for adoption in November within the CDCJ.**  Luxembourg who will hold the Presidency of the Council of Europe when the draft Convention should be adopted within the CDCJ (from 13 November 2024 - May 2025) expressed its strong support to have the Convention adopted under their Presidency.  **The CDCJ highly praised the work and input provided by the CCBE on the text.**  The discussion within the CDCJ focused on the monitoring mechanism. In this regard, the majority of the Member States were in favour of a mechanism with two Committees (one independent expert committee and one committee of the Parties). However, Member States insisted that the mechanism should not be a too big burden for them in terms of workload. In terms of workload, Member States were mainly concerned with the possibility for on-site country visits which require quite significant organisational preparations. It will be for the rules of procedure to define the method of working of the Committees.  **30.01.2024 - 01.02.2024**  The Chair of the European Convention WG, Laurent Pettiti, and CCBE Legal Advisor, Nathan Roosbeek, participated in the 7th meeting of the Committee of experts on the protection of lawyers (CJ-AV) to further work on the draft European Convention on the protection of the profession of lawyer  **09 April 2024**  The CCBE sent its contribution to the draft Convention and Explanatory Report on the protection of lawyer in view of the 8th meeting of the Committee of experts on the protection of lawyers (CJ-AV).  **13 – 15.05.2024**  The Chair of CCBE European Convention WG, Laurent Pettiti and CCBE Legal Advisor, Nathan Roosbeek participated in the 8th meeting of the Committee of experts on the protection of lawyers (CJ-AV), and defended the CCBE contributions sent earlier on 09 April 2024.  **14 May 2024** The CCBE, together with Ambassador Patrick Engelberg, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the Council of Europe, organised a reception in the margins of the 8th meeting of the Committee of Experts on the protection of the profession of lawyer. The CCBE Presidency, together with Secretary-General, Simone Cuomo, the Chair of CCBE European Convention WG, Laurent Pettiti, CCBE Legal Advisor, Nathan Roosbeek and CCBE Digital Communications Officer, Céline Ségure participated in this reception. The reception was organised in view of the upcoming conclusion of the drafting of the European Convention on the protection of the profession of lawyer. The event aimed at gathering the participants of the CJ-AV, ambassadors to the Council of Europe and several representatives of the Council of Europe in order to stress the importance of the Convention and convince the Member States, through their Ambassadors to support its adoption in the coming months. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |

9. European Private Law



Contact person: Yvonne Göttler

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| EC [initiative](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13413-Digital-fairness-fitness-check-on-EU-consumer-law_en) “Digital fairness – fitness check on EU consumer law”  Relevant actors:  - European Commission | The committee is following the initiative.  At the committee meeting on **29 June 2023**, the committee discussed this matter but the members had no comments to raise at present.  The EC is still preparing the report of the fitness paper, which is planned to be finalised in the second quarter of 2024. |  | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| EC [proposal](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12979-Product-Liability-Directive-Adapting-liability-rules-to-the-digital-age-circular-economy-and-global-value-chains_en) for a Directive on liability for defective products (Product Liability Directive)  Relevant actors:  - European Commission (DG JUST & DG GROW)   * European Parliament (IMCO & LIBE) * Council (Working Party on Civil Law matters) * European Law Institute (ELI) | The proposal was published on 28 September 2022. The committee will continue monitoring this initiative.  At the committee meeting on **29 June 2023**, the committee discussed the proposal, but did not wish to prepare a paper commenting on the proposal. | The committee had sent a response to the European Commission consultation on Product and AI liability. The Policy Officer had also been contacted to ask about the consultation.  The Chair also represented the  CCBE as an Advisor of the ELI Project on the Reform of the Product Liability Directive. |  |

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| EC [proposal](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13601-Liability-rules-for-Artificial-Intelligence-The-Artificial-Intelligence-Liability-Directive-AILD-_en) for a Directive on adapting non-contractual civil liability rules to artificial intelligence  (AI Liability Directive) Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG JUST & DG GROW) * Parliament (JURI, IMCO & LIBE)) * Council (Working Party on Civil Law matters) | The proposal was published on 28 September 2022.  The committee will continue monitoring this initiative.  **29 June 2023**  The committee discussed the matter during its meeting and had some interesting exchanges.  The EU institutions have currently put the file on hold and will continue following the process of the negotiations on the AI act. | The committee sent a response to the European Commission consultation in advance of the proposal on Product and AI liability. |  |
| EC [initiative](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13536-Consumer-rights-adapting-out-of-court-dispute-resolution-to-digital-markets_en) on improving compliance with consumer rights across the EU/adapting out-of- court dispute resolution to digital markets  Relevant actors:  - European Commission (DG JUST) | The committee [responded](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/EUROPEAN_PRIVATE_LAW/EPL_Position_papers/EN_EPL_20220624_CCBE-introductory-remark-and-response-to-the-EC-consultation-on-improving-compliance-with-consumer-rights-across-the-EU.pdf) to a related EC consultation in June 2022, but decided not to respond to the latest EC consultation and call for evidence as part of this initiative.  The committee will continue to monitor the initiative and is awaiting for the publication of the relevant EC proposal on this, as well as the 2 reports.  **29 June 2023**  The committee discussed the matter and agreed to wait until the proposal and two reports have been published in order to see the next steps.  **18 October 2023**  The Commission published the proposal and a Recommendation. The committee will see whether to prepare a response.  An email was circulated to the members of the EPL, IT Law and Access to Justice Committee in order to gather input on the proposal.  The EPL Committee subsequently had a meeting on 7 February 2024 to discuss the proposal and invited the members of the other 2 committees to take part as well. | The committee submitted a [response](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/EUROPEAN_PRIVATE_LAW/EPL_Position_papers/EN_EPL_20220624_CCBE-introductory-remark-and-response-to-the-EC-consultation-on-improving-compliance-with-consumer-rights-across-the-EU.pdf) to the European Commission consultation on the matter, in addition to some remarks on the consultation per email. |  |

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| Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP)  Relevant actors:   * Commission * Parliament * Council Presidency * Council of Europe * CDMSI Steering Committee on Media and Information Society * MSI-SLP Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation * MSI-SLP Secretariat | The committee will continue monitoring this matter (the Access to Justice Committee is mainly dealing with this). | See Access to Justice Committee |  |
| Relevant HCCH, ELI and EJN work/projects  Relevant actors:  - European Law Institute (ELI)  - Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH)  - European Judicial Network (EJN) in civil and commercial matters | The committee will continue to monitor the relevant work/projects done by the HCCH, EJN and ELI. | The Legal Advisor participated in the 2024 Council of General Assembly of the HCCH, and also in the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Members of the European Judicial Network (EJN) in civil and commercial matters. In addition, the Legal Advisor attended relevant webinars organised by the ELI. |  |

10. Family and Succession Law



Contact person: Yvonne Goettler

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| EC [initiative](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12878-Cross-border-family-situations-recognition-of-parenthood_en) on the recognition of parenthood between Member States  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG Justice, Unit A1 Civil Justice) * Parliament * Council (Working Party on Civil Justice Matters) | The committee had prepared [preliminary](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/FAMILY_SUCCESSION_LAW/FSL_Position_papers/EN_FSL_20220729_CCBE-preliminary-observations-on-the-creation-of-a-European-instrument-on-parenthood.pdf) [observations](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/FAMILY_SUCCESSION_LAW/FSL_Position_papers/EN_FSL_20220729_CCBE-preliminary-observations-on-the-creation-of-a-European-instrument-on-parenthood.pdf) on the matter in anticipation of the proposal, which was adopted on 7 December 2022.  The committee met to discuss the EC proposal on 11 January 2023.  Subsequently, the position paper on the proposal prepared by the committee was approved on 31 March 2023.  The committee discussed latest updates and EC questions on this matter during the committee meeting on **21 June 2023**, and members were encouraged to lobby for our position.  The committee is still following the file and may provide further input if deemed necessary. | The committee sent the EC preliminary observations. These comments were well-received and the Council was also very interested and we had an exchange on this. The Commission and Council is informed that the committee is preparing a position paper now that the proposal is published and are in close contact.  An expert of the committee, Janys Scott, has also been involved in the ELI project on parentage/surrogacy and regularly gives feedback.  Contact was made with the EC and Council to inform them that we are preparing a position paper and it was circulated to all relevant institutions once it was approved. We have received positive feedback from them and responded to some questions they had.  The Chair has also been in contact with her country’s parliament to support our position and we have strongly encouraged all members to do so as well.  The Chair discussed with the European Commission to reiterate the CCBE position on this proposal. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |

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| Protection of vulnerable adults (including the recently launched EC [initiative](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12965-Civil-judicial-cooperation-EU-wide-protection-for-vulnerable-adults_en) on “civil judicial cooperation - EU-wide protection for vulnerable adults”  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG JUST) * European Judicial Network (EJN) in civil and commercial matters | The committee [responded](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/FAMILY_SUCCESSION_LAW/FSL_Position_papers/EN_FLS_20220225_CCBE-response-to-the-EC-consultation-on-the-cross-border-protection-of-vulnerable-adults.pdf) to an EC consultation on this matter and attended several conferences/workshops regarding this topic.  The committee will continue to monitor this matter.  The EC published two proposals on this matter on 31 May 2023.  Subsequently, the committee had a first round of discussion on the proposals during the meeting of **21 June 2023** and a second round during the meeting held on **12 July** and **14 September 2023**.  A position paper in response to the EC proposed Regulation was adopted in the March Standing Committee and was circulated to the relevant actors. | The committee [responded](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/FAMILY_SUCCESSION_LAW/FSL_Position_papers/EN_FLS_20220225_CCBE-response-to-the-EC-consultation-on-the-cross-border-protection-of-vulnerable-adults.pdf) to the European Commission consultation on this matter. The Chair of the committee has also represented the CCBE in several stakeholder meetings on this matter organised by the EJN and the European Commission.  The Chair and Legal Advisor also attended a conference organised by MEP Stelios Kympouropoulos and Council of the Notariats of the EU (CNUE), during which contacts were made with relevant actors from the EU institutions.  The adopted position paper was circulated to the relevant actors/EU institutions and the Chair discussed with the European Commission in regard to the CCBE position on the proposal. |  |
| Digital assets and inheritance Relevant actors:   * European Law Institute (ELI) * Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) | The committee will continue monitoring the matter (e.g. ELI [project](https://www.europeanlawinstitute.eu/projects-publications/current-projects/current-projects/access-to-digital-assets/) on “Access to digital assets”).  The committee is still monitoring this matter. | The Chair represented the CCBE as a ELI HLEG meeting on this matter. Emails were also exchanged with the Advisory Committee member/Project Co-Reporter, who was invited in the past also to committee meetings. |  |
| EU Succession Regulation  Relevant actors:  - European Judicial Network (EJN) in civil and commercial matters  The legislation is already in force. | The legislation is already in force but issues are  continuously emerging and are being discussed by the Committee.  The Chair has joined the Succession Working Group of the European Judicial Network (EJN) in civil and commercial matters. | (CCBE - Internal issue)  **30 November** and **1 December 2023**  The Chair will attend an EJN meeting on various matters, including operational issues of the Succession Regulation and what is to be expected for cross-border succession cases with the Digitalisation initiative.  More generally, the Chair and Legal Advisor took part in the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Members of the European Judicial Network (EJN) in civil and commercial matters which discussed several pertinent issues. |  |

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| Out-of-court divorces  - CCBE Committee on Family and Succession | The committee will continue monitoring this matter. | (CCBE – Internal issue) |  |
| Child support and maintenance obligations  Relevant actors:   * CCBE Committee on Family and Succession * European Judicial Network (EJN) in civil and commercial matters   The legislation is already in force. | The legislation is already in force but issues are continuously emerging and are being discussed by the committee | (CCBE - Internal issue) |  |
| Relevant HCCH and ELI work/projects  Relevant actors:   * European Law Institute (ELI) * Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) | The committee will continue to monitor the relevant work/projects done by the HCCH and ELI. | The CCBE Secretariat has attended the CGAP meetings of the HCCH, and the Chair has been invited to some meetings of ELI (see above). Several committee members are also involved in some projects of the organisations and regularly provide feedback.  The Legal Advisor participated in the 2024 Council of General Assembly of the HCCH and attended relevant webinars organised by the ELI. |  |
| Relevant Council of Europe work/projects  Relevant actors:  - Council of Europe | The committee will continue to monitor the relevant work done by the CoE (e.g. Rights and best interests of the child in parental separation and care proceedings, Protecting the Rights of Ukrainian Children during and in post-war context)).  The committee was asked in June for input on the CoE draft recommendation and preliminary draft explanatory memorandum on the rights and best interests of the child in parental separation proceedings.  As the deadline to submit the input was by **31 July 2023**, the committee prepared some brief input during the meeting on **21 June 2023** and **12 July 2023**. Following a report to the **June Plenary Session**, an electronic vote was launched on **20 July 2023**, and the paper was approved. | Connection has been established with the ENF-ISE and the Chair represented the CCBE at a hearing and a conference which we were invited to.  As mentioned, the CoE contacted the CCBE for input on this matter and a CCBE response was provided. |  |
| Comparative law study on the hearing of a child | (CCBE - Internal issue) | (CCBE - Internal issue) |  |

12. Future of the Legal Services and the Legal Profession



Contact person: Anna Drozd

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| The development of a coherent position on innovation in legal services, taking into account the boundaries and the core values of lawyers (CCBE Strategy 2021-2023)  Relevant actors:  - CCBE Committee | Q1-Q4 2023, Q1-Q2 2024 Continuation of the work on innovation – two rounds of discussions on the position paper on innovation in legal services. Since September 2023, the Committee met twice on 1 February and 16 April. The Committee developed a draft questionnaire for delegations which it then further refined and plans to send it in May 2024.  To inform its position and activities, during its meeting on 16 April, it heard from two experts, Professor Nigel Spencer (Queen Mary University London) and Vinciane Gillet (former President of the Brussels Bar Incubator). | (CCBE – Internal issue) | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Attractiveness/perception of lawyers :  Relevant actors:  - CCBE | Q1-Q4 2023, Q1-Q2 2024  Continuation of the work on the attractiveness of the profession: Committee members are currently updating the report on attractiveness of the profession which will be finalised in May. | The CCBE Presidency created a Young Lawyers Committee which, in particular, should assist the Future on the question of attractiveness. |  |
| Tackling new issues for lawyers: lawyers in the Metaverse (in coordination with the IT Law Committee).  Relevant actors:   * CCBE Future Committee * CCBE IT Law Committee | Q1-Q4 2023 (this matter has not been addressed yet). In Q1-Q2 this matter has not been addressed. |  |  |

12. Human Rights



Contact person: Nathan Roosbeek

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| [“Defence of the defenders”](https://www.ccbe.eu/actions/human-rights-portal/) activities: Human Rights letters  /Joint initiatives/support actions Relevant actors:   * EEAS * EU Special Representative for Human Rights * UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers | **22.09.2023:** The CCBE sent letters in support of endangered lawyers in [Iran](file:///\\192.168.31.1\public\CURRENT\Travaux%20CCBE\CCBE%20Priorities%20and%20Workplans\Work%20plan%20overview%20state%20of%20play\2024\ccbe.link\f86xw), [Philippines](file:///\\192.168.31.1\public\CURRENT\Travaux%20CCBE\CCBE%20Priorities%20and%20Workplans\Work%20plan%20overview%20state%20of%20play\2024\ccbe.link\m476g) and [Sudan](file:///\\192.168.31.1\public\CURRENT\Travaux%20CCBE\CCBE%20Priorities%20and%20Workplans\Work%20plan%20overview%20state%20of%20play\2024\ccbe.link\j8u9y).  **26/09/2023:** [[Initiates file download](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/HUMAN_RIGHTS/HR_Statements/EN_20230926_Joint-Statement-on-International-Fair-Trial-Day-on-Mexico.pdf)Joint Statement - International Fair Trial Day - Mexico](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/HUMAN_RIGHTS/HR_Statements/EN_20230926_Joint-Statement-on-International-Fair-Trial-Day-on-Mexico.pdf)  **05.10.2023:** The CCBE sent letters in support of endangered lawyers in [Bangladesh](http://ccbe.link/pr87d), China: <http://ccbe.link/8b6qf>  <http://ccbe.link/mf7gj>  and [Iran](http://ccbe.link/7wrdf).  **09.10.2023:** The CCBE supported the organisation of joint side event on “Belarus: Suppression of independent lawyers has intensified. Is there a Solution?”, organised in the framework of the Warsaw Human Dimension Conference 2023, together with the Belarusian Association of Human Rights Lawyers (BAHR), Right to Defense, American Bar Association’s Center for Human Rights, Lawyers for Lawyers,  International Commission of Jurists, and International Bar Association’s Human Rights Institute.  **09/10/2023:** [[Initiates file download](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/HUMAN_RIGHTS/HR_Statements/EN_20231009_Joint-Statement_-Urgent-Call-for-the-release-and-adequate-treatment-of-chinese-human-rights-lawyer-li-yuhan.pdf)Joint Statement - Urgent Call for the release and adequate treatment of chinese human rights lawyer Li Yuhan](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/HUMAN_RIGHTS/HR_Statements/EN_20231009_Joint-Statement_-Urgent-Call-for-the-release-and-adequate-treatment-of-chinese-human-rights-lawyer-li-yuhan.pdf)  **19.10.2023**: The CCBE sent letters in support of endangered lawyers in [India](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/HUMAN_RIGHTS_LETTERS/India_-_Inde/2023/EN_HRL_20231019_India_Vandalisation-of-lawyer-Babloo-Loitongbam-s-residence.pdf), [Nigeria](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/HUMAN_RIGHTS_LETTERS/Nigeria_-_Nigeria/2023/EN_HRL_20231019_Nigeria_Detention-and-assault-on-lawyer-Chinaka-Chigozie.pdf), [Tunisia](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/HUMAN_RIGHTS_LETTERS/Tunisia_-_Tunisie/2023/EN_HRL_20231019_Tunisia_Judicial-harassment-of-lawyers-Dalila-Msadek-and-Islem-Hamza.pdf).  **30.10.2023:**  The CCBE sent a [letter](http://ccbe.link/adqcj) expressing concerns about the arrest of lawyers Vadim Kobzev, Alexey Liptser and Igor Sergunin, defence lawyers of Alexey Navalny  **02.11.2023:** The CCBE sent letters in support of endangered lawyers in Iran: <http://ccbe.link/mhkjc> <http://ccbe.link/46bug>  [Russia](http://ccbe.link/jv7xy) and [Zimbabwe](http://ccbe.link/yncaq).  **02/11/2023:** [[Initiates file download](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/Human_right_portal/EN_HRL_20231102_Joint-statement_Urgent-request-for-intervention-in-favour-of-Mrs-Nasrin-Sotoudeh.pdf)Joint statement: Urgent request for intervention in favour of Mrs Nasrin Sotoudeh](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/Human_right_portal/EN_HRL_20231102_Joint-statement_Urgent-request-for-intervention-in-favour-of-Mrs-Nasrin-Sotoudeh.pdf)  **10.11.2023:** The CCBE sent letters in support of endangered lawyers in [Bangladesh](file:///\\192.168.31.1\public\CURRENT\Travaux%20CCBE\CCBE%20Priorities%20and%20Workplans\Work%20plan%20overview%20state%20of%20play\2024\ccbe.link\39hpf), [China](file:///\\192.168.31.1\public\CURRENT\Travaux%20CCBE\CCBE%20Priorities%20and%20Workplans\Work%20plan%20overview%20state%20of%20play\2024\ccbe.link\gkyrt) and [Guatemala](file:///\\192.168.31.1\public\CURRENT\Travaux%20CCBE\CCBE%20Priorities%20and%20Workplans\Work%20plan%20overview%20state%20of%20play\2024\ccbe.link\rah4m).  **17.11.2023:** The CCBE sent a letter in support of an endangered lawyer in [Belarus](http://ccbe.link/wrbgx)  **22.01.2024:** On the occasion of the International Day of Endangered lawyer which focused this year on the situation of lawyers in Iran, the CCBE participated in a joint press conference. Stefan von Raumer, Chair of the CCBE Human Rights Committee opened the conference with preliminary remarks. The CCBE also co-signed the joint statement published on the same day.  **24.01.2024**: The CCBE furthermore participated in the demonstration in Brussels gathering lawyers and lawyers’ organisations in support of Iranian lawyers, for the International Day of Endangered lawyer.  **15.02.2024:** The CCBE sent a [letter](https://t.co/o74TlZKWyO) in support of endangered lawyers Didem Baydar Ünsal, Berrak Çağlar, Seda Şaraldı and Betül Vangölü Kozağaçlı in Turkey.  **27.02.2024:** The CCBE sent a [letter](https://t.co/wOI0eWHFuC) in support of endangered lawyers Olga Mikhailova & Alexander Fedulov in Russia  **11.03.2024:** The CCBE sent several letters in support of endangered lawyers in [China](http://ccbe.link/9dfhc), [Equatorial Guinea](http://ccbe.link/pxbmq), [Iran](http://ccbe.link/pmf9u), [Malaysia](http://ccbe.link/863cm) and [Turkey](http://ccbe.link/ajhnx).  **15.03.2024:** The CCBE sent letters in support of endangered lawyers in [Hong Kong](http://ccbe.link/mf3pd) and [Russia](http://ccbe.link/weax3).  **26.03.2024:** The CCBE warmly welcomed the recent release of human rights lawyer Li Yuhan, on 24 March 2024. The CCBE has called for her release on several occasions over the years, including in its most recent [letter](http://ccbe.link/mf7gj).  **29.03.2024:** The CCBE sent several letters in support of endangered lawyers in [China](http://ccbe.link/ugtr9), [Tunisia](http://ccbe.link/4ctmn) and [Yemen](http://ccbe.link/x4c6y).  **12.04.2024:** The CCBE, along with 27 human rights organisations, bar associations and Chinese Human Rights defenders, published a joint [statement](http://ccbe.link/r7fqb) for the immediate release of human rights lawyer Yu Wensheng and activist Xu Yan.  **23.04.2024:** The CCBE sent several letters in support of endangered lawyers in Lebanon, Niger, Nigeria, Russia and Saudi Arabia. | **22.09.2023:** CCBE Legal Advisor, Nathan Roosbeek, met with representatives of *The29Principles* together with several Chinese Human Rights Lawyers and the Head of Unit of the Subcommittee on Human Rights of the European Parliament (DROI Committee), Mychelle Rieu, to discuss the situation of lawyers in China and possible ways of further support.  **04.10.2023:** CCBE legal advisor Nathan Roosbeek, met with Amnesty International and Guatemalan lawyer and indigenous human rights lawyer Wendy Geraldina López to discuss the situation of lawyers in Guatemala.  **09.10.2023:** The CCBE participated in the meeting of the coalition of the DEL. At this meeting, at the request of the CCBE, it was agreed to delete the reference to Spain in this year's report and all future reports related to the event. The coalition is now finalizing the report on the situation of lawyers in Iran.  **14.03.2024:** Legal advisor, Nathan Roosbeek, met online with the Council of Europe ‘s Senior Advisor for Human Rights, Coordinator for the Abolition of Death Penalty, to discuss potential collaboration between the CCBE and the CoE on promoting the universal abolition of death penalty.  **14.03.2024:** Legal advisor, Nathan Roosbeek, met online with representatives of Hong Kong Watch to discuss the situation of lawyers in Hong Kong, in particular regarding the Hong Kong’s National Security Law.  **29.04.2024**: The CCBE legal advisor, Nathan Roosbeek participated in the 1st meeting of the coalition of the day of the endangered lawyer for the organisation of the 2025edition of the day. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |

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| [CCBE fictitious amicus curiae](https://www.ccbe.eu/actions/events/amicus-curiae-contest/) [contest](https://www.ccbe.eu/actions/events/amicus-curiae-contest/)  Relevant actors:  - CCBE | **01/09/2023**: Launch of the second edition of the contest  **Mid-January**: Announcement of the 3 pre- selected candidates.  **17 May:** Award Ceremony in conjunction with the Plenary Session in Lausanne | (CCBE – Internal issue) | (CCBE – Internal issue) |
| Human Rights Award 2024 Relevant actors:  - CCBE | **January 2024-End April 2024**: call for nominations  **30 April 2024**: recommendation from the HR Committee  **17 May 2024**: vote within the Plenary Session  **22 November 2024**: HR Award ceremony (Brussels) | (CCBE – Internal issue) | (CCBE – Internal issue) |
| Report on the study carried out in the Netherlands on Aggression, threats and harassment against lawyers  Relevant actors:  - CCBE | A meeting was organised on **17/04** to agree on the core set of common questions. Members were then invited to circulate the survey at national level and to send their compiled results to the CCBE Secretariat **by the end of 2023**.  Following technical difficulties faced by some members, the deadline to provide the answers to the Survey was extended until the end of June. | (CCBE – Internal issue) | (CCBE – Internal issue) |
| Abolition of the death Penalty  Relevant actors:  Council of Europe | **14.03.2024:** Legal advisor, Nathan Roosbeek, met online with the Council of Europe ‘s Senior Advisor for Human Rights, Coordinator for the Abolition of Death Penalty, to discuss potential collaboration between the CCBE and the CoE on promoting the universal abolition of death penalty.  Following that meeting a discussion took place in the Human Rights Committee on 28/03/2024 and it was agreed that the CCBE should work on a draft joint Statement for the universal abolition of the death penalty for which the CCBE would ask the support of other regional and international lawyers’ organisations. The aim would be to publish it on 10 October on the occasion of the European and World Day against the Death Penalty.  It was agreed to therefore aim at having the draft joint statement for approval at the Plenary Session in May in order to have sufficient time to get the support of other national, regional and international Bars and Lawyers’ organisations.  In addition to this, the Council of Europe expressed interest to potentially co-organise something with the CCBE on the occasion the next World Congress Against the Death Penalty which is foreseen to take place in Paris, France in 2026. |  |  |

13. Insurance



Contact person: Stéphanie Alves-Schuldt

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Legal expenses insurance  Monitoring of issues with free choice of lawyers (and more recent decision on mediation) in different countries and with Legal Protection Insurers  Relevant actors:  - Legal Protection International | * Continuation of the dialogue with the representatives of LPI / sharing of experiences and best practices. * Drafting of a working document with best practices with a focus on the issue of communication between lawyers and insurers. The document was first building on the experience of the Swiss check list between lawyers and insurers. * After the discussion in the Committee’s meeting of December, the Committee finalised the draft paper, with includes a shorter version of best practices for the relationship between lawyers and insurers. The draft was then communicated to the delegations for further input and report of national obstacles / practices. Based on this input, the draft was finalised. It will be put for an approval at the CCBE Plenary in May.   Monitoring of the consequences of the interpretation of the free choice of a lawyer in Kifid case (in the Netherlands) and follow-up of the application of the Court of Justice’s judgment (in Case C 667/18) regarding “out of court /mediation” proceedings in other EU countries.  This is covered by the referred draft paper on “best practices and key principles” | The international organisation representing the legal expenses insurers regarding an exchange of views on topics of mutual interest and defend the views of lawyers. However we were informed last year that this organisation is in the process of liquidation. |  |

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| Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII)  Monitoring of relevant European Commission activities on PII  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG GROW, Unit D1 Skills Services and Profession) | * The results of the new questionnaire on PII and a summary report were published on the Extranet. The Secretariat is still looking at ways to enhance the visual / presentation of these findings. * Possible re-examination of the [CCBE Position](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/INSURANCE/INS_Position_papers/EN_INS_20150424_CCBE-position-paper-on-professional-indemnity-insurance.pdf) [on PII](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/INSURANCE/INS_Position_papers/EN_INS_20150424_CCBE-position-paper-on-professional-indemnity-insurance.pdf) (April 2015) for a possible update/revision in light of the results and new questions to the updated CCBE questionnaire on PII.   The Committee decided not to revise the past position for the moment, as this is not a policy priority of the EC. The Committee rather focused on collecting relevant and up-to-date information on PII at a national level (see point above).  In addition, the Committee is monitoring the issue of Cyber-insurance (coverage of cyber security risk in law firms) as to assess whether any actions would be required. | External action is not required at the moment.  The contact person in DG Grow who was piloting a previous study commissioned by DG Grow on PPI is Ms SABALIAUSKAITE. The Secretariat has been in regular contact with this relevant person who is well acquainted with the CCBE position on PII. |  |

14. International Legal Services



Contact person: Anna Smolińska

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Model Foreign Consultant Status  Relevant actors:  - DG TRADE, Unit B2 | Completed, adopted in **November 2022** Meetings could be organised with representatives of bars from third-countries to exchange on FLC  It is planned to discuss whether a second part to the FLC guide should be prepared. | CCBE papers are shared with DG TRADE. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Liaison with the global legal profession (US/Australia/Canada/New Zealand etc)  Relevant actors:  - Third country Bars | Meetings/videocalls could be set up – to be prioritised this years as few contacts took place in 2022 | Contacts to be updated and undertaken. |  |
| Actions in relation to the provision of services by Ukrainian lawyers  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG GROW, Unit D1 & DG TRADE, Unit B2) | Monitoring the implementation of the Recommendation on qualifications of Ukrainian lawyers – adopted in June 2022  Cooperation with the Migration Committee  Collecting information about the number of Ukrainian lawyers in the EU and national initiatives aiming at helping Ukrainian lawyers in the EU (access to the job market, recognition of  qualifications, etc).  An analysis of the **assessment report** published by the Commission was carried out **in November 2023**. The CCBE recommendation was mentioned in the report. | The CCBE has shared its recommendations with the Commission. |  |

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| Closer monitoring and engagement with DG TRADE, participation in Civil Society Dialogue meetings  Relevant actors:  - Commission, DG TRADE  The unit depends on the topic | Ongoing  The secretariat participates in CSD meetings when interesting or potentially interesting topics are discussed. The committee is debriefed about the most relevant issues. |  |  |
| Initiative to facilitate the recognition of qualifications of third-country nationals  *\*together with Migration*  Relevant actors: Commission   * DG GROW, Unit D1 * DG TRADE, Unit B2 * DG HOME, Unit C2 | A call for evidence was published in **September** and the possibility to feed into it was assessed by the Chairs of various CCBE committees concerned (ILS, EU Lawyers, Training, Migration).  A “fact finding call” on **4 October** between the CCBE secretariat and DG GROW took place to learn more about the upcoming recommendation.  The Recommendation of the Commission have been published on **15 November** and will be analysed and discussed.  Two separate discussions with the Commission have been organised for **23 November** with DG GROW and DR TRADE representatives to discuss the issue of recognition and to listen to a presentation of the recommendations.  It is planned to have a meeting with DG TRADE in 2024.  It is also planned to discuss further the recommendation and decide if the CCBE should adopt a short paper to react to these recommendations. | DG TRADE  DG GROW  See the column to the left: call with DG GROW, discussion with DG TRADE and DG GROW during the ILS meeting in November 2023. |  |
| Monitoring EU-UK Trade and Cooperation [Agreement](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2020.444.01.0014.01.ENG) and Brexit consequences  Relevant actors:  - DG TRADE, Unit B2 | **7 November 2023**  The Secretariat has followed online a EU-UK TCA Civil Society Forum.  The committee is due to discuss a recent recommendation for an agreement on youth mobility, presented by the Commission in April 2024. |  |  |
| Monitoring EU Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements  - Including cooperation with ESF  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG TRADE) * European Services Forum (ESF) | Ongoing  Reconsideration of the CCBE position in the ESF – ongoing  Participation of the CCBE secretariat in ESF meetings and participation of ESF director in ours  An exchange with Pascal Kerneis (from the ESF) took place during the committee meeting in **June 2023**. The next exchange is planned for end of May/beginning of June. | On a passive basis, from time to time, the CCBE participates in ESF meetings and meetings organised by DG TRADE. |  |

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| Monitoring and exploring of possibilities for MRAs   * UK * Australia * Canada * Singapore Relevant actors: * Commission (DG TRADE) * Third country Bars | Ongoing |  |  |
| Monitoring WTO work:   * on domestic regulation * on e-commerce Relevant actors: * Commission (DG TRADE) * WTO | Ongoing  The committee has been kept informed by written e-mail updates about most important developments regarding these topics.  In case of need, contact with other CCBE Committees or WGs will be implemented (including IT, EPL, Company Law). |  |  |
| Passive monitoring of UNICITRAL:   * UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Settlement) * UNCITRAL Working Group   III (ISDS) & European Commission work on Multilateral Investment Court (MIC)   * UNCITRAL Working Group IV (e-commerce) | Ongoing  As the CCBE is an observatory member of the three working groups of UNCITRAL, the work of these bodies is monitored but to the minimum extent to identify any issues relevant for legal services. |  |  |

15. IT Law



Contact person: Anna Drozd

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Cloud computing:  Relevant actors:   * Commission * LUCS Group | Q1-Q4 2023, Q1-Q2 2024  EU initiatives on the Cloud   * CCBE initiative on the use of cloud computing by lawyers – the LUCS group has been working on the revision of the cloud computing guidance for lawyers and mapping the challenges the profession faces. * Monitoring of EU actions on cloud computing | Contacts have not yet been established with the Commission in order to make a first overview of the use of Cloud services by lawyers within the Member States.  Other Professions: Doctors (CPME) Contacts were taken with the CPME to discuss common concerns with regard to protecting confidentiality in the cloud. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| EU proposal for Artificial Intelligence Act  Relevant actors:   * European Parliament (Rapporteur and Shadows) * Council Presidencies * European Commission (DG JUST and DG CNECT) | Q1-Q4 2023, Q1-Q4  Since November 2023, the AI Act has been provisionally agreed in trilogue in early December 2023, and approved in April 2024 (EP Plenary), awaiting the approval in the Council. The Committee will now focus on examining the implications of the AI Act for the legal profession and will focus its work on high-risk classification among other things. | **26.06.2023**  Inviting Yordanka Ivanova from the Commission to the CCBE/ELF webinar on AI  **30.06.2023**  Submitting CCBE observations to the public consultation organised by the office of Axel Voss  **13.09.2023**  Exchange of views between the members of the IT Law Committee and Dan Nechita on the progress of AI Act negotiations  **30.09.2023**  Submitting CCBE’s input to the trilogue negotiations to the co-rapporteurs and shadow rapporteurs |  |
| Convention on AI (Council of Europe)  Relevant actors :  Committee on AI (CoE)  CEPEJ-CYBERJUST | **Q1-Q4 2023, Q1-Q2 2024**  Continuation of monitoring of the negotiations on the Convention and submitting the CCBE’s views if possible/appropriate.  The Committee drafted a short letter, based on its previous contributions, and sent it to the CAI Secretariat on 8 March 2024 ahead of the final plenary session. The Convention is now tabled for approval in the Ministerial Council in May 2024. | The CCBE representatives also followed three CAI plenary sessions remotely between **November 2023** and **March 2024**.  The CCBE is an observer in CAI.  The CCBE took part remotely in one CEPEJ-CYBERJUST committee meeting **(March 2024**), where the CCBE is an observer. |  |
| EU-US Data Privacy Framework  Relevant actors:   * European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) * European Commission (DG JUST) * European Parliament (LIBE Committee) | **Q2-Q4 2023**  The DPF was adopted in **July 2023**. The Committee was updated. |  |  |
| EU Declaration on Digital Rights and principles: (ADOPTED) CCBE Statement  Relevant actors:  - Council | **Q1 2023** | Contact has been made with the Council Secretariat for Justice  To be shared with the EC (DG Just), EP (LIBE), Council (Alain Pilette) |  |
| Smart contracts – Follow up of the Data Act   * European Parliament * European Commission | **Q1-Q4 2023**  No actions were taken on smart contracts.  The Committee has followed the legislative work on the Data Act and in particular its provisions pertaining to confidentiality. The Act is tabled for the adoption in the Council. | Contacts have been made with the Parliament – shadow rapporteur Miapetra Kumpula-Natri and the S&D Secretariat. |  |
| Work on the metaverse (IT)  - CCBE | **Q1-Q4 2023**  No actions at this stage |  |  |
| Develop a structured approach on the collection on data relating to digital innovation in law firms  - CCBE | **Q1-Q4 2023**  No actions at this stage |  |  |
| Digitalisation of justice proposal  Relevant actors:   * European Parliament * European Commission * Council / Member States | **Q1-Q2**  Following of the legislative work on the proposal which is now tabled for the Plenary vote in November. |  |  |

16. Migration



Contact person: Anna Smolińska

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| [New Pact on Migration and](https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/migration-and-asylum-package-new-pact-migration-and-asylum-documents-adopted-23-september-2020_en) [Asylum](https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/migration-and-asylum-package-new-pact-migration-and-asylum-documents-adopted-23-september-2020_en):   * [Screening Regulation](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/HIS/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A612%3AFIN) * Asylum Procedure regulation (APR) - common procedure for international protection Regulation * [Return directive](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/MIGRATION/MIG_Position_papers/EN_MIG_20190329_CCBE-Comments-on-the-Commission-proposal-for-a-directive-on-common-standards-and-procedures-in-Member-States-for-returning-illegally-staying-third-country-nationals.pdf) * Joint roadmap on the Pact Relevant actors: * Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson * DG HOME, Units C1-C5 * DG HOME Director of directorate C, Michael Shotter * EP LIBE Committee Chair * Rapporteurs and shadows | Ongoing. Continuous monitoring of the progress of the work within the EU Parliament and EU Council, potential contacts  The assessment of the mandates for negotiations of institutions on the three files was carried out (secretariat) and the committee discussed whether to provide comments for the trialogue phase during its meeting **in June 2023**. Special attention is to be paid to the Council position on APR as several changes are suggested to provisions regarding legal assistance.  **In August 2023**, the committee has finalised detailed comments on the Asylum Procedure Regulation tailored for the trialogue negotiations. They were focused on the provisions related to the legal assistance (Articles 14-17) but also few other points on which institutions struggle to find common ground (third country concept, border procedures, legal remedies). The CCBE’s comments were based on the previous position paper.  **On 24th October**, upon kind invitation from DAV, Legal Advisor took part in a parliamentary breakfast about the NPMA, hosted by the rapporteur on the Screening Regulation, Ms Birgit Sippel, and co-organised by DAV. One of the questions addressed during the event was access to legal assistance. The rapporteur on the APR regulation and on the Return Directive recast were also present;  From October 2023 to April 2024, the CCBE monitored and reported on successive steps leading to the final adoption of the Pact (expected by June).  It is planned to provide a comprehensive oral and written update to delegations during the Plenary Session in May.  In the following months, the Migration Committee will proceed with a close analysis of the final texts and scrutiny of the implementation of the Pact.  Regarding the Return Directive, there was a consensus that the CCBE should send a letter to the Council of the EU in order to reiterate its arguments when it comes to the proposal. This letter was judged necessary as media and our contact in the European Parliament reported that the Council is considering abandoning its previous position on the directive. The risk is that this reopening of the Council position would push for lowering fundamental rights standards even more. **A letter reiterating the CCBE position of 2018 was sent to the Council end of March 2024.** | In 2022, the CCBE has been in contact with the rapporteurs and their assistants to monitor the state of play of the files.  **In 2023**, contact was made again with regard to the proposal on Instrumentalisation as it has an impact on the Pact.  The CCBE sent comments to the shadows from EPP and Renew with regards to one particular aspect of the Screening Regulation as this was suggested by an S&D advisor.  The CCBE has been in regular contact with contacts in the EP to know the state of play and sensitive points the would require lobbying.  The CCBE’s comments for trialogues were sent to the Council, the Commission and the Parliament in August.  **On 17th October**, the CCBE secretariat was contacted by the assistant to the rapporteur on APR with a question related to legal advice provided to asylum seekers. On **19th October**, a reply prepared by the Chair and the secretariat was sent, with CCBE’s comments for trialogues attached again.  **On 30 October**, as a follow-up to the parliamentary breakfast of 24 October, the Chair and the Legal Advisor prepared a written answer to the question on legal assistance that was addressed during the breakfast. Based on the CCBE APR position paper and comments for trialogues, the reply was drafted in a way to reply to the question “how can access to legal counsel and remedies be assured by law and in practice”. CCBE’s comments for trialogues were again circulated. This message was sent to the Council Spanish Presidency representatives who took part in the breakfast and to the Commission representative, Head of Unit for Asylum, also present during the breakfast.  One of the aspects that the committee has lobbied on till the end of the discussions on the file were Articles 16-20 of the future Asylum Procedure Regulation. The CCBE pleaded for the inclusion of the right to free legal assistance and representation from the early stages of the procedure. The CCBE’s last lobbying effort was undertaken mid-February 2024 to **reiterate to the EP rapporteur concerns** regarding the distinction that is made between free legal counselling in the administrative stages and free legal assistance and representation in the appeal. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |

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| Proposal for a Regulation addressing situations of instrumentalization in the field of migration and asylum  Relevant actors:   * Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson * DG HOME, Units C1-C5 * DG HOME Director of directorate C, Michael Shotter * EP LIBE Committee Chair * Rapporteurs and shadows * Swedish Council Presidency | Published. Analysis and preparation of a position paper **(Q1 2023)**  A position paper was adopted in March.  The committee followed the work of the institutions. The Council has published its general approach that suggests to merge the instrumentalisation proposal with another proposal from the Pact (Crisis regulation). The committee had a first discussion on this during its meeting in September and the approach should be further examined. In the meantime, the European Parliament has published an assessment of the proposal that is negative. The secretariat has summarised and circulated this paper to the committee.  Mid-December 2023, when it became clear that the instrumentalisation proposal would be **merged with another proposal from the pact** – Crisis regulation – the CCBE has sent an e-mail to key legislators from EC, Commission and Council to reiterate its views:  - Cautiousness about the “derogations approach” and about the potential merger of the provisions from the Instrumentalisation regulation into the Crisis Regulation  - Inclusion of the necessary safeguards regarding the right to legal assistance in the Crisis Regulation. | The paper was adopted in February 2023 and circulated to the Commission, rapporteurs and shadows in the EP and to the Council Presidency. Also to rapporteurs of the NPMA files that are impacted by the Instrumentalisation proposal.  On **21 April**, a meeting took place between the CCBE and DG HOME unit C3 in charge of the file, during which, the CCBE presented its position and lobbied for improvements. There seems to be plans to drop the proposal as a separate file and include it in the Crisis Regulation (one of the files from the New Pact). Thus, the file needs to be monitored and potential lobbying actions adopted accordingly. |  |
| Proposal for a long-term residents directive recast  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG HOME, Unit C2 & DG GROW, Unit D1) | Published. Preparation of a memo/analysis of Article 17(4) regarding recognition of qualifications and its impact on EU Lawyers directive. On this basis, potentially a position paper/comments could be drafted if needed. **(Q1 2023)**  An internal memo was prepared by a Migration experts, EU Lawyers expert and the Secretariat. A meeting with DG HOME Unit in charge of the proposal took place on **21st April**. Building on this and further analysis, a paper was prepared for approval during the Plenary Session **in June** (« CCBE preliminary comments »).  Due to the lack of consensus, the approval of the paper was postponed. The paper was amended to suggest a compromise and it was ultimately adopted on **26th July** by electronic vote.  Further analysis of this complicated topic should be undertaken together with EU Lawyers committee and perhaps external experts. It would be good to continue the dialogue with the Commission.  The committee– JHA Counsellors examined a presidency compromise text on **31st October**. When available, the text will be analysed and further lobbying steps will be decided.  Since the adoption of its paper on this file - CCBE preliminary comments on Article 17(4) of the proposal for a Long-Term Residents Directive (recast) - on 27.07.2023, the Migration Committee continued to monitor the work of the Council on the file and undertook lobbying efforts towards key stakeholders. For instance, as there was a meeting of the relevant Council working party in September, the Secretariat made sure that the CCBE’s comments were received by the persons in charge of the file at the Council.  The file was also discussed by the Migration Committee during a meeting in December and after the institutions adopted their respective positions, in December, the Secretariat prepared a comparison of these positions and asked delegations for comments. These comments were discussed by the Migration Committee during its meeting on 2nd February 2024 and based on them, a paper was drafted. The paper reiterated the points made in the CCBE preliminary comments with additional remarks regarding respective positions of the EU institutions. The CCBE recalled that Member States are competent to set their own rules with regard to access to the legal profession, and the recognition of qualifications of third-country nationals. The comments were sent to the key persons involved in trialogues on 28th February.  In March, the CCBE has learnt that , the Belgian Presidency of the Council decided not to move forward with further negotiations on the LTRD. Therefore, the file will not be adopted during this legislative term and it will be up to the future Presidencies to decide whether/when to resume work on the recast proposal, possibly in 2025 (but it is not certain at this stage). | A meeting with DG HOME Unit in charge of the proposal took place on **21 April**.  The CCBE paper adopted in **July** was circulated to the Commissioner Johansson, EC Unit C2, the Council Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion (Admission) and the Parliament (rapporteur and shadows) on **27th July 2023**. It was resent to the Council WP on **11th September** as according to its agenda, the WP had to discuss the proposal few days later. |  |
| Directive on preventing and countering the facilitation of unauthorised entry, transit and stay in the EU (so called “Anti-Smuggling Directive”) | In November 2023, the Commission published a proposal for a new Anti-Smuggling Directive. The Migration Committee has discussed this proposal during its meeting of 2nd February and considered that the CCBE should prepare a position paper. The reason why the proposal is concerning is the risk of intimidation / chilling effect or even criminalisation of lawyers providing assistance to migrants.  The preparation of the CCBE position paper is ongoing and the paper will be present for approval by delegations during the Plenary Session in May. | On 13 February, Legal Advisor, Anna Smolinska, took part in a discussion organised by the shadow rapporteurs of the Greens/EFA group with civil society. Criminalisation of solidarity and migration is the main worry for civil society and shadow rapporteurs. |  |
| Initiative to facilitate the recognition of qualifications of third-country nationals  *\*together with ILS*  Relevant actors:  - Commission (DG HOME, Unit C2 & DG GROW, Unit D1) | Commission recommendation is to be published on **15th November**. The committee will be informed and will discuss the file.  *\* For more detailed information, see the information included on this file in the table of the ILS Committee that, as of November 2023, is leading the work on this file.* | *See the ILS table* |  |

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| - ELIL  Participation in the Supervisory Board meetings etc  CCBE Informal working group regarding CCBE’s involvement in ELIL | **Cooperation with ELIL and Supervisory Board**  In 2023, CCBE representative and Legal Advisor took part in three online meetings of the Supervisory Board.  ELIL SB suggested that a joint statement should be adopted by CCBE and ELIL on pushbacks in Greece – this matter will be discussed by the Migration Committee in June. The CCBE statement following the shipwreck off Pylos regarding unacceptable practices at EU borders was adopted on **28/07/2023**.  In March 2024, CCBE representative and Legal Advisor took part in the ELIL meeting in Poland that included meetings with ELIL lawyers, a meeting with the Polish Justice Minister in Warsaw, and a visit to a detention centre in Bialystok, where ELIL provides legal assistance.  **Assessment of CCBE’s involvement in ELIL**  Assessment of the CCBE’s involvement, preparation of a paper and a debate took place in Sprin 2023. The assessment was presented to delegations in February and March and feedbacks were collected until May. An informal working group has been established and met on **29th June** for the first time. The role of the WG is to analyse the feedbacks from delegations and recommend a way forward.  A second meeting (online) took place on **9th November**. The representatives of the two other shareholders – CNB and DAV – were invited to the meeting. A third meeting took place on 4th March 2024.  It is also to be noted that a working lunch was organised on **16th October** between Philip Worthington, ELIL Managing Director, and Secretary General, Simone Cuomo, and Legal Advisor, Anna Smolinska.  On 25th January 2024, a videocall took place between the Chair of the CCBE Migration Committee and Legal Advisor and ELIL’s MD to clarify respective positions on pro bono and this part of ELIL’s activities and the ways to improve coordination. It was explained by the ELIL’s MD that pro bono lawyers carry out only clerical duties and if it happens that they carry out research it is done under the supervision of a lawyer.  A draft analysis and preliminary recommendation were presented to delegations during the Standing Committee in **March 2024.** The issue was referred back for revision and should also be addressed by the CCBE strategy task force to be considered in a broader context. | (CCBE - Internal matter)  The Secretariat regularly liaises with CCBE member in the Supervisory Bard, with the Supervisory Board members and with ELIL Managing Director.  The CCBE statement on Pylos was sent to the Commission, Council, Parliament and Greek authorities. |  |
| Frontex Consultative Forum Relevant actors:   * CF Secretariat * CF Chairs * Frontex Management Board * Frontex staff * Fundamental Rights Officer | Ongoing  Follow-up and regular contribution to the work of the Forum, attending its meetings and participation in observation missions.  The mandate of the current CF is expiring and a call for applications was launched on **31st May**. The CCBE needs to decide whether to renew its membership. On **9th June** the Migration committee debated this and issued a recommendation to the Presidency to renew the membership. The Presidency referred the question to the Plenary Session in June – delegations approved the CCBE’s renewal.  In September, the CCBE was informed that its application was successful.  The CCBE Presidency appointed the following representatives to the CF as of **January 2023**: Noemi Alarco, main representative; Magdalena Sadowska, alternate representative; Anna Smolinska, alternate representative.  **In 2023**, the CCBE representatives took part in the three “plenary meetings” of the CF and several online preparatory/coordination meetings. The CCBE representatives gave views on the files/problems discussed and updated the CCBE committee about most important issues.  In 2024, the CCBE representatives continued to take part in regular CF meetings, few coordination calls and took part in one on the spot visit. | The CCBE participates in the CF meetings that consist in a series of exchanges with people from Frontex, such as executive director, deputy director in charge of operations etc. It also allows contact with different institutions (UNHCR, FRA) and NGOs.  On **28 September**, during its meeting in Warsaw, the committee had an exchange of views with Jonas Grimheden, the Fundamental Rights Officer of Frontex who explained his role in the agency and the main challenges it faces. |  |
| EASO Consultative Forum Relevant actors:   * CF Secretariat * CF Chairs * EUAA staff | Ongoing  Follow-up and regular contribution to the work of the Forum (ongoing)  The Chair attended and gave a presentation during a workshop on legal assistance in the field of asylum, organised by EUAA in Malta, in **March 2023**.  The CCBE representatives also attended few meetings and video meetings organised by EUAA. | The CCBE in the CF meetings that consist in a series of exchanges with people from EUAA. It also allows contact with different institutions (UNHCR, FRA) and NGOs. |  |

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| Council of Europe Relevant actors:   * Special Rapporteur * PACE Migration Committee * Various CoE working bodies,   e.g. CDCJ-MIG | * Follow-up to the meeting with Tatiana Termacic from PACE migration committee – potential participation of a CCBE expert in meetings with PACE committee when the latter is preparing reports on topics on which the CCBE has its position   Work on the draft Guide for practitioners on administrative detention of migrants to support implementation of existing standards in this field **In May**, the CCBE provided further comments to the general part of the guide and the checklist for lawyers (although most of our initial comments made in August 2022 to the checklist were taken in). The CDCJ adopted the paper during its meeting on **1st June**. All CCBE’s comments, except one, were accepted.   * Monitoring the launch of and potential inputs to the work on Guidance on child- sensitive procedures in administrative and migration law matters, as a contribution to the Council of Europe Action Plan on Protection Vulnerable Persons in the Context of Migration and Asylum in Europe (2021-2025) * Monitoring the launch of and potential inputs into the work on Report on good practices in respect of legal aid and representation, access to information and to justice for vulnerable people in the context of administrative and migration law matters, as a contribution to the Council of Europe Action Plan on Protection Vulnerable Persons in the Context of Migration and Asylum in Europe **(2021-2025)** (possible link with point 3). * Monitoring the Council of Europe Action Plan on Protecting Vulnerable Persons in the Context of Migration and Asylum in Europe (2021-2025), specifically Pillar 2 – Ensuring access to law and justice (human rights and the rule of law): [https://rm.coe.int/action-plan-on-](https://rm.coe.int/action-plan-on-protecting-vulnerable-persons-in-the-context-of-migrati/1680a409fc) [protecting-vulnerable-persons-in-the-](https://rm.coe.int/action-plan-on-protecting-vulnerable-persons-in-the-context-of-migrati/1680a409fc) [context-of-migrati/1680a409fc](https://rm.coe.int/action-plan-on-protecting-vulnerable-persons-in-the-context-of-migrati/1680a409fc)   It is planned to invite the Special Rapporteur on refugees and migrants to one of the upcoming committee meetings. | We are in regular contact with the Special Representative to whom we send all our papers. We also have contact through Frontex CF.  We have established contact with PACE committee on Migration last year. Ms Termacic participated in our Migration meeting in November 2022 and since then, we have had some follow-ups. We have communicated our papers to them and helped them to liaise with the Afghan Bar and the Turkish bar.  In October, contacts took place between the CCBE Secretariat and PACE Migration Committee (Ms Martin) regarding an upcoming report on respecting human rights in asylum procedures. CCBE’s existing position papers and other materials have been shared with PACE and the CCBE confirmed its interest in feeding into the report and meeting the rapporteur.  **12.02.2024:**  The Chair of the Migration Committee, Noemi Alarcon, and Legal Advisor, Anna Smolińska, had a meeting with Ms Stéphanie Krisper, rapporteur of the PACE Migration Committee, on “Ensuring human rights compliant asylum procedures” and Ms Marie Martin, advisor to the PACE Migration Committee. A follow-up information was sent by e-mail to the rapporteur as well.  First contacts were established with the newly appointed Special Rapporteur for refugees and migrants, Mr David Best and his legal advisor Jean-François Goujon-Fischer. | Jean-François Goujon-Fischer  Tel + 33 (0) 3 88 41 24 80  GSM +33 (0) 6 37 39 40 36  Jean-francois.goujon-fischer[@coe.int](http://@coe.int)  David Best  Special Representative of the SG on Refugees and Migrants  [david.best@coe.int](mailto:david.best@coe.int) |

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|  | - Possible contacts with the Special Representative on Migration |  |  |
| Actions in relation to Ukrainian refugees  Relevant actors:   * Fundamental Rights Agency * Commission (DG GROW) | Monitoring issues arising in relation to the implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive  Cooperating with ILS Committee  Collecting information about the number of Ukrainian lawyers in the EU and national initiatives aiming at helping Ukrainian lawyers in the EU (access to the job market, recognition of qualifications, etc). | We have had contacts and a meeting in 2022 with FRA, the Unit collecting data, as they were interested to have an exchange on TPD. |  |
| Contacts with various organisations relevant for lawyers | Establishing contacts with various organisations that deal with legal aid, legal assistance, training or funds for migration and asylum lawyers.  It is planned to explore further if any cooperation with UNHCR could be established regarding the implementation of the New Pact. It is planned to map where such cooperation exists at the national level. | A meeting with UNHCR Brussels Office took place on 20 April 2023. Thanks to the meeting with UNCHR, we have access to their update on judicial developments and a potential common project was discussed.  A coordination call with UNHCR EU Office took place on 13 March 2024 regarding the implementation of the New Pact. |  |

17. PD Lux



Contact person: Stéphanie Alves-Schuldt

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| * 1) Report on the Reform of the General Court (2020) * 2) Revisionof the Statute of the Court of Justice with regard to the preliminary ruling procedure (transfer of certain areas to the General Court). * 3) Amendments to the rules of procedures (CJEU and GC)   Relevant actors:   * European Commission (Legal Service) * European Parliament (JURI Committee) * Council Working Group on the Court of Justice | The Committee will continue to monitor and respond to these developments and upcoming initiatives.  Regarding the second point, the PD Lux has started to work on the revision of previous CCBE Practical Guides as to update them in light of the recent changes.  The Regulation amending Protocol n°3 of the Statute of the Court of Justice (CJEU) with the partial transfer of preliminary rulings to the General Court was finally adopted by the co-legislators (EP, Council).  The PD Lux Committee has reviewed the drafts amending the rules of procedure of the CJEU/GC, as published by the Council, and prepared the CCBE comments.  The CCBE comments focus on two important changes introduced by the Reform :   * In the preliminary procedure, the possibility by the GC to refer back the case to the CJEU * The publication of written observations/statement after the closing of the preliminary procedure   The PD lux continues to closely follow this file.  The Reform has also introduced a new structured dialogue between the Court and the European Parliament (EP), to take place once a year as to discuss improvements to the judicial system of the EU. The first dialogue of this kind just took place in March 2024 with a representation of the JURI Committee. The PD lux Committee is following with interest this new development. | Regarding point 3. The CCBE comments were sent to the Council Working Party, the Court. Regular contacts have been taken place with Mr Bauer, Secretariat of the Council WP. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |

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| -  Next meeting with the Courts | A meeting is to be planned (possibly) for the last quarter of the year. | See above. |  |
| Consultation of the EFTA Court on the disruption of the report | In **March 2024**, the CCBE received a request from the EFTA to take part to an ongoing consultation.  The EFTA Court is considering the removal of the current practice of drafting and publishing the report for the hearing in Advisory Opinion Cases.  The PD lux discussed the consultation at its meeting of **25/03/2024** and a paper was prepared with the CCBE response, which was sent on **15 April 2024**.  The PD lux will monitor the outcome of this consultation. | *See above.* |  |

18. PD Strasbourg



Contact person: Nathan Roosbeek

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant**  **actors** | **Useful contacts**  **(contacts in bold have been contacted)** |
| Follow-up CCBE work on the reform/improvement of the ECHR machinery  Relevant actors:   * ECtHR * CDDH * CDDH-SYSC * Committee of Minister (CMDH) * Governments Agent before the ECtHR | **02/06/2023**: Publication of CCBE [Statement](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/Statements/2023/EN_20230602_CCBE-Statement-on-the-declaration-made-at-the-4th-Council-of-Europe-Summit-on-recommitting-to-the-Convention-System.pdf) on the declaration made at the 4th Council of Europe Summit on recommitting to the Convention System as the cornerstone of the Council of Europe’s protection of human rights  With this Statement, the CCBE welcomes the commitment taken by the CoE Member States to address the Court’s backlog and to achieve more effective implementation of the Court’s judgments. The CCBE therefore calls on them to implement the CCBE's proposals for the reform of the ECHR mechanism in order to fulfil their newly reaffirmed commitment.  It was agreed to ask CCBE member bars and law societies to contact their Superior National Courts in order to convince them of the benefit of involving practicing lawyers’ organisations such as the CCBE in the work of the SCN. A template letter is currently being prepared.  Following the meeting that took place on 17/05/2023 with Mr. Tigran Karapetyan (Head of Council of Europe Transversal Challenges and Multilateral Projects Division, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, DGI, Council of Europe ) and Ms. Anouchka Galhardo (Senior Project Officer, Transversal Challenges and Multilateral Projects Task Force, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, DGI, Council of Europe) (see next column), the CCBE, together with the ELF, organised a webinar o, 04.12.2023 focused on "The European Court of Human Rights & its case-law application at national level: How to enhance subsidiarity" . This webinar gathered more than 400 online participants. The replay of the webinar is available here.  **26-28.03.2024:** Christina Kruger, expert to PD STRAS, participated as observer for the CCBE in the 1st meeting of the drafting group on the evaluation of the first effects of protocols no. 15 and no. 16 to the European Convention of Human Rights (CDDH-SYSC-PRO) | The CCBE [Statement](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/Statements/2023/EN_20230602_CCBE-Statement-on-the-declaration-made-at-the-4th-Council-of-Europe-Summit-on-recommitting-to-the-Convention-System.pdf) on the declaration made at the 4th Council of Europe Summit on recommitting to the Convention System as the cornerstone of the Council of Europe’s protection of human rights was shared with the Council of Europe and the Court.  **On 17.05.2023**  The CCBE Secretariat had an online meeting with Mr. Tigran Karapetyan (*Head of Council of Europe Transversal Challenges and Multilateral Projects Division,* *Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, DGI, Council of Europe* ) and Ms. Anouchka Galhardo (*Senior Project Officer, Transversal Challenges and Multilateral Projects Task Force, Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards, DGI, Council of Europe)* responsible for the Council of Europe project “Enhancing subsidiarity: support to the ECHR knowledge-sharing and superior courts dialogue”.  This meeting was organized following the PD STRAS Chair’s participation in the [Conference on Subsidiarity Principle: National Implementation of the ECHR](https://www.coe.int/en/web/national-implementation/conference-on-subsidiarity-principle-national-implementation-of-the-echr) on 04/05/2023. The aim of the meeting was to discuss and explore possible ways on how the Council of Europe and the CCBE could cooperate in the framework of the Subsidiarity project.  The CCBE will notably collaborate with them for updating its ECtHR Guide (see below) and for the organisation of ELF-CCBE training Webinar on “the Principle of Subsidiarity and the ECtHR case law).  The CCBE is an observer member within the CDDH and CDDH-SYSC. Monitoring and input on regular basis based on CCBE positions on reform of the ECHR Machinery | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Follow-up negotiations [EU](https://www.coe.int/en/web/human-rights-intergovernmental-cooperation/accession-of-the-european-union-to-the-european-convention-on-human-rights) [accession to the ECHR](https://www.coe.int/en/web/human-rights-intergovernmental-cooperation/accession-of-the-european-union-to-the-european-convention-on-human-rights)  Relevant actors:  - CDDH ad hoc negotiation group (“46+1”) on EU accession  to the ECHR | Ongoing | On 4th April 2023, the CCBE participated in the CDDH extraordinary meeting on the EU Accession to the ECtHR where the CDDH adopted its [Interim Report to the Committee of Ministers, for information, on the accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights](https://rm.coe.int/steering-committee-for-human-rights-cddh-interim-report-to-the-committ/1680aace4e) which includes the revised draft accession instruments.  The CDDH did not at this stage approve the revised package of accession instruments, but agreed to transmit the Group’s Interim Report, with the revised draft accession instruments in appendix, to the Committee of Ministers for information. The CDDH will revert to the issue of approval of the revised package once the EU has informed it about the solution reached by the EU on “Basket 4” (concerning EU acts in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy).  The meeting report is also available here: <https://rm.coe.int/steering-committee-for-human-rights-comite-directeur-pour-les-droits-d/1680aace50>  **29.11-01.12.2023:** The Chair of PD STRAS, Piers Gardner participated in the 99th Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH). |  |

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| ECtHR-CCBE event: Bi-annual meeting between the Court and the national bars and law societies of the Council of Europe Member States  Relevant actors:  - ECtHR | * **End 2022-beginning 2023**: draft proposed topics for discussion within PD STRAS * **February-March 2023**: circulation of draft topics for comments to CCBE Members (+ Monaco Bar) * **April 2023**: final proposed topics for discussion to be sent to the Court with the aim to have the invitation and program circulated by the Court before the summer. * **December 2023**: Meeting between the Court and the national bars and law societies of the Council of Europe Member States * **2024**: Follow-up on the outcomes of the meeting with Court on 1st December 2023:  1. CCBE draft proposal for a Young Lawyers’ Secondment Scheme (YLSS):   A draft concept note has been circulated  to our members who have until 15 June to propose their comments, once the note is finalised, the CCBE Secretariat will explore potential ways of funding this project.   1. CCBE draft proposals to the upcoming online ECtHR application form:   On 1 December 2023, the CCBE and various national Bars met with the European Court of Human Rights. Participants at this meeting took note that the Court is developing an electronic application form. Following discussions in the CCBE Permanent Delegation to the European Court of Human Rights (PD STRAS), the following practical points were identified arising from the use of the Court’s current Application Form. These are submitted in the hope that they may assist the Court in addressing some of the practical difficulties which have arisen with the current application form. These proposals were put for approval at the Plenary Session in Lausanne. |  |  |
| Bilateral meeting with the Governments’ agents before the ECtHR  Relevant actors:  - Government Agents before the ECtHR: | * **2023**: communication to the Members and follow-up of the report on the meeting with the Governments’ agents before the ECtHR on 5 December 2022 * Next meeting foreseen in **2024**. Date to be confirmed. | A meeting took place on 5 December 2022 and there are plans to have at least one meeting every two years. |  |
| Update of the CCBE Guide “The European Court of Human Rights: Questions & Answers for Lawyers (2023)”  Relevant actors:  - ECtHR | On **22/06/2023**, a group of experts from PD STRAS met to start working on the updating of the Guide.  The CoE “Subsidiarity contact person (see above) also joined to discuss their potential contribution to the Guide.  The aim would to publish the Guide before the meeting with the Court on **01/12/2023** (see above) and to present it at the ELF-CCBE Webinar beginning of December (see above). | The ECtHR publishes the CCBE Guide on its website |  |
| Drafting Group on issues relating to judges of the European Court of Human Rights (DH-SYSC-JC)  Relevant actors: CDDH-SYSC-JC | **30.11.2023:** The CCBE [published](http://ccbe.link/g4phr) the 2023 edition of its practical guide for lawyers intervening before the European Court of Human Rights. | The CCBE is an observer member within the CDDH-SYSC-JC. |  |
| Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation Against Ukraine  Relevant actors:   * Council of Europe * Conference, composed of members of the Agreement and Associate Members | **30.06.2023:** The CCBE published a [statement](http://ccbe.link/rn7jf) in response to the creation (by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers) of a Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine.  Given that no response has been received from the Registry who has already started its work, the topic will be probably discontinued. | **30.06.2023**  The CCBE statement was sent to the Council of Europe.  **13.10.2023:** Following the adoption of the [Riga Principles](https://rm.coe.int/moj-declaration-riga-principles-final-en/1680ac8728),  where Ministers of Justice of Member and observer States of the Council of Europe called to ensure the involvement of civil society, it was agreed that the Secretariat should contact the Council of Europe on the basis of the [CCBE Statement in response to the creation of the Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine (30/06/2023)](https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/PD_STRAS/PDS_Statements/EN_20230630_CCBE-Statement-in-response-to-the-creation-of-the-Register-of-Damage-Caused-by-the-Aggression-of-the-Russian-Federation-against-Ukraine.pdf) and ask to involve PD STRAS in the consultations for establishing the Register in order for the Register to get input from practicing lawyers. The CCBE is now waiting for feedback from the CoE.  In the meantime, the CoE published a job vacancy for a legal advisor to work with the Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation Against Ukraine. This legal advisor will notably participate in the work on drafting rules and regulations governing the work of the Register, the process of submission and processing of claims and decision-making on them and the candidate must have at least four years of relevant professional experience acquired in the legal field, including at least two years of experience related to a reparation or a mass claims process, in line with the CCBE Statement. The CCBE therefore circulated the job announcement to its members. |  |
| Exclusion of lawyers by the ECtHR from representing applicants before the Court  Relevant actors:  - ECtHR | It was agreed that the CCBE should address a letter to the Court prior to the meeting in **December 2023** addressing our concerns and considerations on the issue of “How can the Court and national bar associations improve liaison in cases where the Court proposes to discipline lawyers, such as by excluding them from representing applicants before the Court?”, given that the Court is not in a position to evaluate the significance of such a decision nor its implications.  The topic has been addressed during the meeting with Court on **1/12/2023**. |  |  |
| Liaise with the PACE Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights on aspects related to the execution of ECtHR judgements   * PACE | **23.04.2024**: PD STRAS organised a rountable in order to have an exchange between the CCBE, the PACE and Government Agents on the execution of ECtHR Judgements. The roundtable gathered CCBE 2nd Vice President, Roman Zavrsek ; the Belgian Agent before the European Court of Human Rights, Isabelle Niedlispacher; the Chair of the Sub-Committee on the Implementation of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Givi Mikanadze; the PACE Rapporteur on the Implementation of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Constantinos Efstathiou; and the members of PD STRAS. The event proved to be success and is a first to a closer cooperation between the CCBE, the PACE and the Government agents. |  |  |

19. PECO



Contact person: Indra Bule

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Relevant developments in different countries  Relevant actors:   * National Bars and Law Societies * Depending on the subject and issue raised – national governments and presidents, Ministries of Justice, Councils of Judiciaries etc. | On a regular basis and when requested by members: monitor and provide assistance to associate and observer members.  Organise annual bilateral meetings with all associate and observer members to discuss the development sin relevant country related to legal profession | Contacts may vary depending on the relevant country and the issue raised. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Enlargement policy of the EU  Relevant actors:   * National Bars and Law Societies * Commission (DG Near) | On a regular basis:  -monitor the enlargement policy of the EU,  -analyse the annual reports of the European Commission on candidate and potential candidate countries (especially on Chapter 23: Judiciary and fundamental rights and on Chapter 3: Right of establishment and freedom to provide services, Chapter 3 - Right of establishment and freedom to provide services),  -take necessary actions with relevant stakeholders,  - if and when relevant, prepare proposals for change of membership (observer to associate) and ensure relevant assessment. | After consultations with relevant associate and observer members, no issues were raised as regards the annual reports of the European Commission on candidate and potential candidate countries. Therefore, there was no need to contact the competent unit of [DG](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-03/16.03.23%20OrgChart.pdf) on reports issued in 2022.  **November-December 2023**  The PECO members will analyse the reports and assessment of the European Commission published on **8 November 2023** and consider the need to contact the relevant stakeholders.  **February 2024**  Members were informed and updated on the decisions taken by the European Council ([conclusions](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/68967/europeancouncilconclusions-14-15-12-2023-en.pdf) of 14 December 2023- related to Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia and Bosnia and Herzegovina).  **March/April 2024**  The update on developments related to enlargement policy was circulated to the members and explained during the last PECO Committee meeting in April 2024. |  |
| PECO event Relevant actors:  - National Bars and Law Societies | **Q1 2023**: to organise PECO event on AML related issues for targeted participants from associate and observer members  **Q2-Q4 2023**: to assess the need to organise additional PECO seminar/workshop on the topic of interest of observer or associate members. | PECO/AML seminar was already successfully organised in **February 2023**.  2024  To be discussed in 2024. |  |

20. Rule of Law (RoL)



Contact person: Indra Bule

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| EU Justice Scoreboard 2024  (chapter on independence of lawyers and Bars)  Relevant actors: Commission   * DG JUST   (Commissioner)   * DG JUST (Rule of Law, Fundamental Rights and Democracy (JUST.C) * DG JUST C1 Unit | More detailed information about the EU Justice Scoreboard 2023 and 2024 is available under chapter on Access to Justice Committee. | |  | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Public consultations on annual RoL Report 2023 and 2024  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG JUST) Commissioner * DG JUST C Rule of Law, Fundamental Rights and Democracy (JUST.C) * DG JUST C1 Unit | Q1: to prepare the input of the CCBE for the RoL Report  Q2 - Q3: to analyse the results of public consultation and individual submissions of national Bars | | CCBE input was prepared and submitted to the European Commission in February 2023. The CCBE submission was circulated to all relevant stakeholders.  The submission of the CCBE was prepared and adopted by the Standing Committee in **February 2024**. The CCBE submission was circulated to all relevant stakeholders |  |
| Rule of Law Report 2023 and 2024  Relevant actors   * Commission (DG JUST) Commissioner * DG JUST C Rule of Law, Fundamental Rights and Democracy (JUST.C) * DG JUST C1 Unit | Q3-Q4: to analyse the Report and consider the need for the possible reaction of the CCBE | | Rule of Law Report was published in July 2023.  **September 2023**  2023 RoL Report was presented by the representatives of the European Commission at the Standing Committee on **28 September 2023**. A brief exchange of views took place.  **2024**  Rule of Law Report 2024 is expected to be published by the European Commission on **3 July 2024.** |  |
| Initiatives of the EU institutions and other stakeholders  Relevant actors:   * Parliament (LIBE Committee)   LIBE Democracy, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights Monitoring Group (DRFMG)   * EESC * FRRL Group Secretariat * European Court of Auditors | Monitoring developments and initiatives of the EU institutions and relevant stakeholders on Rule of Law related matters, to ensure and strengthen all necessary contacts and submit contributions, if and where necessary. | | **January 2023**  The CCBE assisted the EESC with the coordination of relevant members.  The input of the CCBE for the 2023 Rule of Law Report was circulated to the EP LIBE DRFMG and EP LIBE chair.  **March 2023**  European Court of Auditors - CCBE Secretariat informal meeting with the team of the European Court of Auditors concerning activities of the CCBE in the area of the rule of law in the EU specifically concerning the Rule of Law Report.  **November 2023**  Simone Cuomo addressed the EESC annual conference on the implementation of recommendations of the RoL Report issued by the Commission. |  |
| CCBE network of RoL contact points  Relevant actors:   * DG JUST C Rule of Law, Fundamental Rights and Democracy (JUST.C) * EP LIBE and EP JURI | **June – November 2023**  Following the CCBE Plenary Session in June 2023 and the agreement of the CCBE delegations, a network of CCBE contact points on rule of law related issues was created.  Two online meetings of this network took place (**6 October 2023** and **13 November 2023**).  As a result, the structure was agreed for data collection from national Bars and Law Societies for the CCBE submission to the Rule of Law Report 2024 of the European Commission. Among other issues, the network of contacts points assessed the draft report of the ELF on the Bars’ contributions to the rule of law in the EU prepared in the margins of their operating grant, worked on suggestions for the questionnaire of the EU Justice Scoreboard, on the analysis of the draft Report of the European Parliament on the Rule of Law Report of the European Commission and prepared comments from the CCBE, and had the initial exchange on relevant national developments.  All delegations have already received a request for information to submit the relevant information for the Rule of Law Report 2024. Input from delegations is expected by **22 December 2023**.  **2024**  Ensure the work of CCBE network of RoL contact points and analysis of relevant rule of law developments in different countries, as well as if and when necessary prepare draft statements on relevant issues | **2024**  Meeting of the CCBE network of RoL contact points took place on **26 January 2024** where among other issues draft CCBE contribution to the RoL Report was discussed. | |  |

21. Surveillance



Contact person: Anna Drozd

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts**  **(contacts in bold have been contacted)** |
| PEGA Report: CCBE active lobbying and monitoring  Relevant actors:  - European Parliament PEGA Committee of Inquiry (Rapporteur and Shadows) | Q1-Q2 2023  The Committee has followed the work of the committee and the votes on the final report and the recommendations. The committee has completed its work and the relevant documents were adopted in May (report) and June (recommendations) with favourable conclusions for lawyers (mentioning the importance of lawyer-client confidentiality). The PEGA Committee finished its mandate. |  | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Biometric identification systems: possible CCBE report  Relevant actors:   * CCBE | Q1-Q4 2023  The WG continues its assessment of the legal landscape surrounding biometric recognition. | n/a |  |
| Monitoring and active lobbying on CSMA proposal: the proposal for a regulation laying down rules to fight online child sexual abuse  Relevant actors:   * Parliament * Commission | Q1-Q4 2023  The WG continued to follow the legislative developments around the proposal. As of June 2023, its members are planning to analyse the amendments tabled to the report in the Parliament. | **23.08.2023:** two letters were sent to the **Justice Coordinating Director of the Spanish Presidency (Council)** and on **11.09.2023** to the **Rapporteur (Parliament)** urging both legislators to, among others, re-evaluate the proposal as it contains serious infringements of the fundamental rights of citizens. We also asked that the proposal guarantees the protection of lawyer-client confidentiality. |  |
| Monitoring of national and international developments / possible interventions before the Courts if requested by a delegation. | Q1-Q4 2023  WG discussed the possible second open letter in support of the plea of Julian Assange. There has been no decision taken yet. | **31.07.2023:** A second open letter regarding the interception of communications between Julian Assange and his lawyers |  |
| Monitoring of the legislative work and the implementation of **e-evidence regulation** | Q1-Q4 2023  WG discussed the outcome of the negotiations at its meetings. The CCBE applied to the Commission expert group on decentralised IT system for e-evidence (but was not successful) and has continued its liaison with the EU institutions on the implementation of the regulation. The WG will also work closely with the Criminal Law Committee. |  |  |

22. Tax TaxTATaxTax



Contact person: Anna Smolińska

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Securing the activity of enablers (SAFE)  Relevant actors:   * DG TAXUD, Director General, * Director for Directorate D * Unit D2 * DG JUST * Commissioner Reynders * Spanish Presidency of the Council and the following ones | Upcoming Commission initiative on regulating tax advice – the proposal has been delayed. Reports about the shape of the proposal are being monitored. When published, the proposal will be analysed.  A CCBE expert took part in an event organised by ETAF on **28 June** about this proposal and reported back to the committee during the meeting on **12 July**. The Commission has postponed the publication of the proposal (probably 2024, but unclear).  DG TAXUD declared in March that while not expected before the end of the current mandate, SAFE is unlikely to completely disappear from the agenda of the next European Commission. | **23.03.2023** CCBE representatives had a meeting with representatives from the European Commission, Directorate General for Customs and Taxation (DGTAXUD). The meeting focussed on two topics - DAC6 and the upcoming proposal on Securing the Activity Framework of Enablers “SAFE”  Manuel Santaella, a representative of the Spanish Presidency attended the Tax Committee meeting on **12.07.2023** in Brussels. He presented the priorities of the Spanish Presidency in the field of taxation and a discussion with the committee followed. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| Implementation and amendments of DAC6 | The consequences of the ruling of 8 December 2022 were monitored – part of DAC8 ongoing adoption. The Tax Committee has received regular reports about new developments. The Council approach was analysed and discussed during the meeting of **12.07.2023**. Based on this, it was decided to send a letter to the Council in order to lobby for an amendment going beyond the decision of the Court.  In February 2024, the committee discussed in a roundtable the implementation and efficiency of DAC6 per Member State.  An evaluation report of the Commission of the implementation of [DAC 6](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32018L0822) is expected in 2024. It will be analysed and discussed. | The question of the revision of DAC6 after the ruling from December 2022 was discussed with Mr Angel, Director from DG TAXUD on **23.03.2023**.  It was also discussed with the Spanish Presidency representative, Mr Santanella, during the meeting of **12.07.2023**. |  |
| Monitoring of challenges regarding certain provisions of the DAC 6 Directive (Belgium, France, Portugal, Spain…)  Case Belgian Association of Tax Lawyers e.a., C-623/22  Relevant actors:   * Commission (DG TAXUD, Director General) * Commission (Director for Directorate D), Unit D2 * Belgian Association of Tax Lawyers (BATL) | The CCBE has also been in regular contact with the Belgian delegation and its lawyer regarding the proceedings before the Belgian Constitutional Court – case in which the CCBE intervened.  There is an ongoing monitoring of proceedings and next steps, reporting to the committee and discussion.  On 1st March, the committee was informed about the publication of the AG Opinion in the case C‑623/22. | Upon the initiative of the Chair, a more regular contact was established with representatives of Belgian Associations of Tax Lawyers (BATL). Two BATL representatives, Paul Verhaeghe and Joris Draye, joined the Tax Committee for a discussion on ongoing challenges in Belgium, on **12.07.2023**. |  |

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| Monitoring of and reacting to the consequences of Pandora Papers – tax aspects:   * Monitoring of any news regarding the proposal to come – DAC8 – after Pandora Papers revelations, the EC is reflecting about additional changes to propose as part of this revision of the directive * Monitoring of any other potential initiatives   \**together with AML committee*  Relevant actors:  In the parliament:   * ECON * FISC |  |  |  |
| IBA initiative on ethics ;  Relevant actors:  - IBA (IBA Working Group examining the role of lawyers as ethical gatekeepers) | The Chair and Legal Advisor were monitoring the development. The CCBE is represented on this working-Group by the CCBE Secretariat in order to follow discussions. Various exchanges took place with the IBA and the Working Group in February 2023. A CCBE update was included in the **November** **2023** plenary session papers. |  |  |
| Monitoring Commission’s proposal to fight the use of shell entities | Ongoing monitoring but probably no reaction is required. The proposal is slightly related to the upcoming SAFE proposal so it should be checked when adopted. |  |  |
| Engaging with OECD regarding its work on intermediaries  *\*together with AML committee*  Relevant actors:  - OECD Task Force on Tax Crimes and Other Crimes | Ongoing monitoring of the work in the field of tax avoidance and evasion to detect developments impact lawyers and respond adequately. | Follow-up to the last meeting should be undertaken in **2024** – potentially inviting someone from the Task Force or Secretariat of the task force to a CCBE meeting. |  |
| CCBE’s support in Case C-432/23 pending at CJEU regarding the scope of legal privilege (legal advice) | Ongoing. Upon request of the Luxembourg Bar, a supporting opinion of the CCBE was prepared in **November 2023** by Mr Thierry Bontinck. It is an informal supporting document, in line with past CCBE positions on professional secrecy, and attached as annex to the official observations of the Luxembourg bar to the case pending at the CJEU. The Secretariat has checked the paper and helped to finalise it. The document was submitted to the Court on **9th November** by the Luxembourg bar.  As for the next steps, the AG Opinion and the ruling will be analysed and discussed. | Luxembourg bar took the initative. The Case is pending at the CJEU. |  |
| Proposal for a Directive regarding VAT rules for the digital age and its potential impact on professional secrecy | Ongoing. Position paper was adopted in November 2022, it was circulated to main stakeholders and follow-up lobbying efforts were undertaken.  In February, the committee had an exchange to on the proposal and a reply provided by the Commission to the CCBE paper. It is planned to further analyse this text once it is adopted to understand its implications for lawyers.  On 17th April, a CCBE expert attended the European Commission webinar entitled “Exploring the future of eInvoicing: Key findings and future initiatives”. | The paper was sent to the Council on **10th November**. It was also sent to the Parliament (rapporteur Mr Olivier Chastel (Renew, Belgium) shadows, ECON group coordinators) and the Commission (DG TAXUD, Unit C1: Value Added Tax Policy, Head: Patrice Pillet) on **13th November**.  On **8 December 2023**, the CCBE received a reply letter to the CCBE position paper from DG TAXUD.  **On 22 March 2024**, the CCBE has **sent a letter to the Council and DG TAXUD** to reiterate its concerns but also ask for additional clarifications. |  |

23. Training



Contact person: Indra Bule

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| Implementation of the European Judicial Training strategy  Relevant actors: Commission   * DG JUST - Commissioner * DG JUST - Director General * DG JUST A Department- Justice Policies * DG JUST.A.1 Unit * Parliamnet (EP LIBE Committee Chair) | Monitor the implementation of the Strategy and to follow the work of expert group of the Commission  Consider, analyse and discuss the possible elements to be addressed by the new Strategy | Implementation of the Strategy is monitored annually (Annual Judicial Training Report) by the COM and the CCBE.  **March 2023**  The presentation and discussion based on the results of the Annual Judicial Training Report with representatives of the European Commission took place during the first Training Committee on 30 March 2023. Representatives of Bars and Law Societies of Western Balkan countries covered by the European Judicial Training Report were invited to participate.  **March 2024**  The presentation and discussion based on the results of the Annual Judicial Training Report with representatives of the European Commission took place during the first Training Committee on 21 March 2024. Representatives of Bars and Law Societies of Western Balkan countries covered by the European Judicial Training Report were invited to participate. In addition, training related issues in the context of transition to the digitalisation of justice was dealt by the Standing Committee on 22 March 2024.  **April 2024**  During the European Judicial Training Conference, organised by the European Commission and the Belgian Judicial Training Institute on the 25- 26 April 2024 in Brussels, the CCBE Secretary-General, Simone Cuomo and Senior Legal Advisor, Indra Bule, as well as CCBE experts provided their contribution for the upcoming European Judicial Training Strategy and repeatedly stressed the need to ensure that all legal professionals, including the lawyers, could equally benefit from judicial training on EU law supported by EU funding. It was also explained that providing lawyers with similar training resources at an EU level to that which exists at a centralised level for judges and prosecutors, would contribute to maintaining a fair, effective and consistent legal system and facilitate access to justice for citizens and promote respect for the rule of law. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |
| CCBE Action plan for the high-level 3-year policy objective (2021-2023) to improve access to EU training funds for lawyers  Relevant actors: Commission   * DG JUST: Commissioner [Didier](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/reynders_fr) [Reynders](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/reynders_fr) * DG JUST Director General * DG JUST A Department- * Parliament   LIBE Committee Chair   * Council   Council Secretariat Presidency of the Council   * ELF | On a regular basis: follow and monitor implementation of the action plan and discuss the possible further suggestions. | **February 2023**  In the margins of implementation of the Action plan, a draft project proposal was adopted by the Standing Committee in February 2023.  **June 2023**  A informal meeting was organised with the European Commission and a report was sent to the delegations for the Plenary Session.  **November 2023**  Exchange of views took place at the Training Committee meeting on implementation of the Action Plan.  Among other issues the training aspects of lawyers on EU Law, as well as long were discussed during the Plenary Session in **November 2023**.  **March 2024**  During the Standing Committee in March 2024 among other issues discussions were related to the European e-Justice Strategy, digital transition of justice and in this context the need to the training of lawyers.  Similar issues were addressed during the Training Committee a day before when presentation of the European Judicial Training Report was presented and exchange of views took place.  **April 2024**  During the European Judicial Training Conference, organised by the European Commission and the Belgian Judicial Training Institute on the 25- 26 April 2024 in Brussels, the CCBE Secretary-General, Simone Cuomo and Senior Legal Advisor, Indra Bule, as well as CCBE experts provided their contribution for the upcoming European Judicial Training Strategy and repeatedly stressed the need to ensure that all legal professionals, including the lawyers, could equally benefit from judicial training on EU law supported by EU funding. It was also explained that providing lawyers with similar training resources at an EU level to that which exists at a centralised level for judges and prosecutors, would contribute to maintaining a fair, effective and consistent legal system and facilitate access to justice for citizens and promote respect for the rule of law.  **29.02.2024**: The TRAVAR kick-off meeting took place. Delivery of 8 webinars as part of the EU funded TRAVAR project (action grant) expected in 2024-2025  **March 2024**  Joint CCBE-ELF webinar on what EU lawyers need to know regarding intellectual property enforcementwas organised with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) through the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rightson 18 March 2024. The topic of the webinar was “Intellectual property enforcement – what EU lawyers need to know”. This webinar was launched in the framework of the TRAVAR project (Training of Lawyers on Various Areas of EU Law) financed by the support of the Justice Programme of the EU. There were more than 750 participants from all EU Member States and beyond.  Please find the recording of the webinar [here](https://elf-fae.eu/webinars/), and more information on the TRAVAR project [here](https://www.ccbe.eu/actions/projects/). |  |
| European Judicial Training conference (April 2023 and April 2024)  Relevant actors: Commission   * DG JUST: * Commissioner [Didier Reynders](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/reynders_fr) * DG JUST Director General * DG JUST A Department- Justice Policies * DG JUST.A.1 Unit * National Bars and Law Societies | Support by necessary contributions and coordination the annual conference organised by the Commission and the EU Council Presidency | Assistance was provided to the Commission. The CCBE was represented by 3 speakers.  **October 2023**  Report of the conference was circulated to Training Committee. It is planned to organise a presentation of this report by the European Commission in 2024.  Information about the conference of the European Commission in 2024 is provided in the previous point. |  |
| Framework of competences and skills of lawyers  Relevant actors:   * National Bars and Law Societies * ELF | Q1-Q4: to monitor and coordinate, if and where necessary, the implementation of the BREULAW project, especially as regards the creation of the training curricula on EU law for lawyers. | The kick-of meeting of the BREULAW project took place on 8 March 2023.  **November 2023**  The work of the expert group on developing the training curricula is ongoing. The next meeting will take place on **29 November 2023**.  In the margins of this project, the first study visit to Brussels of lawyers nominated by national Bars took place on **27-28 November 2023**. The second study visit is planned on 27-28 May 2024.  The draft curriculum on training of lawyers was finalised by the core group, discussed by the Training Conference and submitted for approval to the Plenary Session of May 2024. |  |
| Annual Judicial Training Report  Relevant actors:   * Commission * DG JUST: * Commissioner [Didier Reynders](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/reynders_fr)   DG JUST Director of directorate  ANA GALLEGO  - DG JUST A Department-  Justice Policies  - DG JUST.A.1 Unit  - National Bars and Law  Societies  + informal list of contact  points to improve the data  collection at national level on  the number of trained lawyers  (EU and Western Balkans +  potential EU candidate  countries ) | Coordinate the collection of data on judicial training of lawyers.  Analyse the results and data of the Report and consider any further steps to taken to improve the collection of data on judicial training of lawyers, including by strengthening the coordination via established informal network of contact points. | The presentation and discussion  based on the results of the Annual  Judicial Training Report took place during the first Training Committee meeting in 2023 – 30 March 2023.  **June 2023**  On 19 June 2023 a joint webinar with the European Commission on the questionnaire for the next European Judicial Training Report and data collection was organised for members, appointed informal contact points from EU and representatives of Bars of Western Balkan countries.  **July – October 2023**  Collection of data for the Annual Judicial Training Report  **December 2023**  Publication of the Annual Judicial Training Report of the Commission is expected.  **March 2024**  The presentation and discussion based on the results of the Annual Judicial Training Report with representatives of the European Commission took place during the first Training Committee on 21 March 2024. Representatives of Bars and Law Societies of Western Balkan countries covered by the European Judicial Training Report were invited to participate. In addition, training related issues in the context of transition to the digitalisation of justice was dealt by the Standing Committee on 22 March 2024. |  |
| [European Training Platform (ETP)](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/multisite/ejtp/)  Relevant actors:   * Commission * DG JUST: * Commissioner   - DG JUST A Department-  Justice Policies  - DG JUST.A.1 Unit  - Possibly ELF | On regular basis: to promote the use of the ETP  platform | The Training Committee has been updated regularly **(last update in March 2024)** about the relevant developments of the ETP platform, including on the availability of information on ELF training courses on the platform. |  |
| National developments affecting training (initial and continuing legal education) of lawyers in different countries  Relevant actors:  - National Bars and Law Societies | Monitor and analyse the relevant developments at national level related to initial training, continuous training as well as specialisation of lawyers.  Prepare the overview on initial training of lawyers based on information collected for the E-Justice Portal in 2022. | (CCBE – Internal issue) |  |
| Cooperation with Council of Europe  HELP  Relevant actors:  - Council of Europe  Directorate General of Human  Rights & Rule of Law (DG1)  Council of Europe - Conseil de  l'Europe  CoE HELP Secretariat  - National Bars and Law  Societies  - HELP Info Points | Promoting activities and available training  possibilities for lawyers provided by HELP, to  ensure participation of the CCBE in the EU  Network Conference of HELP and to support  HELP in updating the list of Information points  nominated by nations Bars.  Q1-Q3: to analyse the results of the first joint  CCBE/HELP training course and consider the  need to launch additional training course for  lawyers. | **January 2023**  Following the excellent results of the joint training course for lawyers launched in 2022, certificates were distributed to participants.  **October 2023**  The joint CCBE and Council of Europe HELP Programme launch event of the online training course on “The Environment and Human Rights” took place in Strasbourg on 10 October 2023. Excellent results of this training course were announced in **January 2024**.  Joint training course for a multinational group of lawyers- to be considered in **2024.**  Support letter to the CoE HELP on their project proposal was signed by the CCBE. |  |
| Cooperation with the Fundamental Rights Agency  Relevant actors:  - Fundamental Rights Agency | To consider the possibility to develop further cooperation with the FRA, possibly organising a webinar | **February 2023**  Contacts have been established with the new responsible person on training.  Interest of the members to organise a webinar/event with the FRA was expressed.  **September 2023**  Informal meeting with project manager of the FRA.  **End 2023**  The CCBE has circulated the information and call to participate at the Young lawyers contest 2024.  The CCBE will also ensure its representative as a jury member of the competition.  Support letter to the ERA on their project proposal (continuation of Young lawyers contest) was signed by the CCBE. |  |
| Specialisation  Relevant actors:  - National Bars and Law Societies | To consider and assess the national  developments regarding specialisation of  lawyers. | (CCBE – Internal issue) |  |
| Young Lawyers Contest  Relevant actors:  - European Academy of Law  - National Bars and Law  Societies | Q1-Q4: coordinate and ensure visibility for the  Young Lawyers Contest, coordinate the  appointment of jury members of the CCBE | **November 2023**  Vice-President of the CCBE participated at the final of the content.  **December 2023**  Deadline to register for the upcoming contest 2024 was circulated to members. |  |
| Project on the CJEU hearings’ recording as a judicial training tool  Relevant actors:  - Commission  DG JUST – leader of the project (DG JUST A Department- Justice Policies  DG JUST.A.1 Unit)  - appointed experts of the CCBE involved in the project | Q1-Q3: in cooperation with the PD LUX coordinate the participation of the CCBE experts in the project | **November 2023**  Closing event of the project was postponed from November 2023 to a later stage.  The closing conference of the project on “CJEU Hearings’ Recording as a Judicial Training Tool” took place in the end of March 2024.  During the conference six training videos on the CJEU were presented. All justice professionals were encouraged to use these videos for self-learning as well as for training of other judges and lawyers. The recording of the conference can be found [here](https://cjeutrainingvideos.eu/).  The six videos produced within this project are available on the [EU Academy Portal](https://academy.europa.eu/courses/cjeu-training-videos) and soon will be available in all language versions.  CCBE members were informed about the results of the project during the Plenary Session in **May 2024** and were invited to share results of the project at national level. |  |

24. Young Lawyers



Contact person: Stéphanie Alves-Schuldt

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| **Topics & actor(s)** | **Current and planned actions** | **Contact with the relevant actors** | **Useful contacts** |
| For more details, please see the terms of reference of this new Committee.  The Committee identified the following “substance topics” of interest to be further explored:  -1) The attractiveness of the legal profession  -2) Work-life balance  -3) Working culture (harassment, bullying, so called toxic workplace)  -4) Technological development and new evolutions of the practise areas (AI etc.)    For the governance side, an additional area of interest concerns representation of young lawyers in local bar associations: how the representation is organised and how to ensure that the voice of the young European lawyers is heard. | *The Committee held its 1st meeting on 11 May 2023 and agreed to undertake the following actions :*   * Build a sort of “Organisational Chart” for an overview with relevant data and information on the representation of young lawyers in each country (represented in the Committee). (If there is a need to fill out information gap, broader consultation could be foreseen). * Form subgroups to further elaborate on substance topics and then elaborate pitches on specific chosen issues and build active relays.   Update  The Committee undertook a survey aiming at collecting some information on how young lawyers are represented at a national level. The first gathering was discussed at the meeting on **14/03/2024** This overview already shows the lack of an uniform approach across the responded countries. The Committee will continue discussing this issue and draft a paper.  The next meeting of the Committee will be on **21 May 2024** in Brussels. | President of the European Young Bar Association  AIJA  Other organisations dealing with policy issues related to young lawyers (to be mapped out)  Following up on the discussion in the **Standing Committee of 29 September** **2023** on the signing a MoU with EYBA, it was for the moment agreed to invite EYBA representatives to attend the meetings of the YLC on an ad-hoc basis. | Carnet d'adresses avec un remplissage uni  *This column contains the names and contact details of various contact points concerning the relevant actors working on the various files (Commission, Parliament, Council, EU Courts, Council of Europe, EU agencies, International organisations, EU Networks, etc,). These contacts can be both formal and informal, and for this reason they are not visible in the present document. Specific contacts on any file can be obtained from the CCBE Secretariat if required.* |