

## ERA Young European Lawyers Contest

The Young European Lawyers Contest (YELC) isn't just a competition - it's a unique opportunity for young lawyers to develop their legal skills in an increasingly digital and interconnected Europe!



### About the project

YELC is part of the Young European Lawyers Project (YELP), which is an initiative by the Academy of European Law (ERA), CCBE, EYBA, partnering Bar associations and the European Commission, designed to empower the next generation of legal professionals across Europe. YELP isn't just another training programme - it's a launchpad for young lawyers to thrive in an increasingly digital and interconnected Europe.

The project focuses on three critical areas:

1. **Digital Mastery:** Equipping lawyers with cutting-edge tech skills
2. **EU Law Expertise:** Ensuring confident and effective application of EU legislation
3. **Advocacy Skills:** Learning from peers how to convince, conduct negotiations and plead before a judge

#### Format of the contest

##### Semi-finals

The semi-finals in Bratislava, Vilnius and Paris are an exciting opportunity for teams to engage with EU law. Participants will create a compelling written report addressing EU law with direct implications for everyday professional practice, before the in-person semi-finals. Contestants from various EU Member States will be matched and introduced at least two months in advance to collaborate and exchange innovative ideas as they work together on their reports.

##### Final

The two leading teams from each semi-final will participate in a final that lasts 2.5 days at ERA in Trier and at the General Court of the European Union in Luxembourg. The final programme will include:

- a webinar offering EU law basics
- a crash course on how to litigate before the Court of Justice
- a negotiation exercise
- a moot court at the General Court of the European Union: the two winning teams from the negotiation exercise compete in front of a jury of high-profile representatives from the legal professions and judges from the CJEU

#### Participation

The project focuses on **lawyers in private practice** at the beginning of their career. 'Young lawyers' are those who are, at the time of registration, considered trainee lawyers under national law, including those who are in an induction or apprenticeship period; in jurisdictions in which initial training does not include a period of legal practice, newly qualified lawyers with less than three years of experience can apply.

The organisers reserve the right to request proof of apprenticeship or qualification during the application process.

#### Participation fee

€200

(participants nominated by project partners participate free of charge or are reimbursed)

#### Organiser

Academy of European Law

#### Language

English

#### Apply online



# Organisational Information

## Travel, Accommodation Expenses and Catering

Applicants will be subject to a selection procedure. ERA will send confirmation of selection to each participant individually. Confirmed participants are eligible to receive a fixed contribution towards their travel and accommodation expenses following the event.

For the semi-finals, participants shall book their own accommodation. Applicants will be subject to a selection procedure. ERA will send confirmation of selection to each participant individually. Confirmed participants are eligible to receive a fixed contribution towards their travel and accommodation expenses following the event. The condition for payment of this contribution is to participate and sign all attendance sheets at the event. No supporting documents (i.e., invoice, ticket or boarding pass) are needed. Accommodation cost reimbursement (1 night) for the YELC semi-finals:

Semi-final in Barcelona:	€ 160
Semi-final in Brussels:	€ 144
Semi-final in Lisbon:	€ 135

For the final in Trier and Luxembourg, ERA will take care of booking and covering up to 3 nights' single use accommodation including breakfast for the contestants selected to participate in the final.

Travel cost contributions for the semi-finals and the final are based on the distance between the place of work and the event venue (distance only one way – reimbursement amount is for the total travel cost) location and will not take account of the participant's actual travel and accommodation costs. Please note that no contribution can be paid for travel under 50km. The reimbursement will be calculated as follows:

51-199 km	€ 100
200-399 km	€ 200
400-600 km	€ 245
601-800 km	€ 261
801-1200 km	€ 276
1201-1600 km	€ 288
Over 1601	€ 369

To calculate the distance please visit:

[https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/procedures-guidelines-tenders/information-contractors-and-beneficiaries/calculate-unit-costs-eligible-travel-costs\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/procedures-guidelines-tenders/information-contractors-and-beneficiaries/calculate-unit-costs-eligible-travel-costs_en)

ERA provides dinner the evening before, the lunch and the coffee break during the semi-final.

In the final, ERA provides 2 dinners, 3 lunches and all coffee breaks in the programme.

The nearest airports to Trier:

- Luxembourg (40 km, 1 hour 20 minutes by bus and/or train),
- Frankfurt Hahn (76 km, 2 hours by bus and train),
- Cologne (167 km; 3.5 hours by train),
- Frankfurt am Main (185 km, 3-3.5 hours by train).

## Partners



ORDEN DOS  
ADVOGADOS



## Contact



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