

Best Believe I'm Bejeweled

VI International Training Meeting
11-13 September 2026



The European Law Students' Association

Professional Development

is more than ELSA Traineeships



The European Law Students' Association

Agenda

- Career Launch by ELSA International
- L@W
- Legal Clinic
- Career & Job Fairs
- Legal Tandem
- PD Workshops



CAREER LAUNCH



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CAREER
LAUNCH

Decision Book definition of Career Launch:

Article 1. Career Launch

1.1 Career Launch is a project of ELSA International that offers the opportunity to law students and young lawyers to gain insight into the various aspects of the legal profession.

1.2 Career Launch aims to provide participants with practical insight into different career paths and improve their necessary skills for entering professional life

1.3 Career Launch shall consist of Professional Development events, such as workshops, fairs, training, and other Professional Development projects.

1.4 Career Launch can be conducted in an online, hybrid or physical format.

How do we organise Career Launch?

- **Identifying the Need**
- **Building the theme**
- **Speaker and Partner outreach**
- **Building the actual programme**
- **Launching the Project**
- **Evaluation**

Legal Clinic



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Decision Book definition of Legal Clinic:

Article 3. Legal Clinic

3.1 Legal Clinic is a project during which participants provide pro bono case-solving under the guidance and supervision of a legal professional.

3.2 Legal Clinics are meant to provide practical insights into the legal profession by allowing participants to apply knowledge and skills obtained during law studies, such as legal research, case-solving, and client management. The responsibilities of participants in a Legal Clinic are determined by the applicable laws of the country where it takes place.

3.3 A contract shall be made between the ELSA group and the legal professional that addresses liability and responsibilities.

Benefits to ELSA Members

- Practical Experience: applying theoretical knowledge
- Skill Development: legal research, drafting, client interaction
- Personal Professional Networking opportunities
- Social Impact: access to justice

Benefits to ELSA as an Organisation

- Increased Visibility: Enhancing ELSA's reputation
- Partnership Opportunities
- Diversified Portfolio

How to set up a Legal Clinic (example)

- Search, choose, and contact possible partners: keep ERR in mind(!)
- Establishing the frame for the Legal Clinic: how many students, time frame, promotion...
- Clinic Mentor (A person with BAR or its equivalent)
- Contracts: between ELSA and Partner Organisation, between the Students and Partner Organisation
- Practical event implementation
- Evaluate the event

Liability issues and contracts

- Important: Civil liability for the legal advice or assistance provided within Legal Clinics of ELSA **cannot** under any circumstances rest with ELSA.
- Stipulate this at the **very early stages** of your preparations
- Annexes II and III in the Handbook provide a model version of the liability contracts

Lawyers at Work



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Decision Book definition of Lawyers at Work:

Article 2. Lawyers at Work

2.1 A Lawyers at Work event is a project which allows law students and young lawyers to **experience** the working culture and environment of the legal profession first-hand.

2.2 Lawyers at Work events are **meant to provide practical insights into the legal profession** and, as such, shall involve interactive learning opportunities.

2.3 Lawyers at Work events can be organised in different ways, such as:

- a. as a single session;
- b. as part of a series;
- c. as an open day; or,
- d. including a job fair;

Content of a Lawyers at Work event

There are many ways you can conduct the event, be creative!

- Receive a tour of the firm's premises;
- Have a presentation on the law firms daily operations;
- A mini fair on the different areas of law they work with;
- Follow a case or with a lawyer for in depth knowledge

Career & Job Fairs



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Decision Book definition of Career & Job Fairs:

Article 1. Career & Job Fairs

1.1 Both Fairs aim to inform participants about **job opportunities**, whether focused on a specific legal field or profession, or covering multiple areas of law

1.2 Both Fairs may be carried out **online or in-person** over **one to several days**.

1.3 A Career Fair is a project where participants can discover **different career paths and fields of work** after the conclusion of their studies.

1.4 A Job Fair is a project where participants can explore **career opportunities** and **share their recruitment documents** with stakeholders, who participate to present their companies.

1.5 Both Fairs may be organised as a joint event, combining the above characteristics.

1.6 The projects can include, but are not limited to, the following aspects:

- a. promotional presentations from organisations participating in the fair;
- b. mock interviews or interviews;
- c. social activities, networking events

Decision Book definition of Career & Job Fairs:



6. C. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, NETWORKING EVENTS

They make the event more interactive and give participants the opportunity to create professional connections.

Some examples of social activities:

1. **Speed networking** → participants have a few minutes to talk to a professional before moving on to another person → outcome: to meet several professionals in a short amount of time.
2. **Alumni meet-up** → they can talk about their career paths, explain how they entered the legal profession and give practical advice to current students.
3. More informal activities → a **networking happy hour dinner or coffee chats**.

These activities are not only about socialising: they can help participants **build professional networks, gain practical skills and discover new career opportunities**.

To summarise:

Career Fair

-  Focus on **career paths**
- Helps students understand **different professional fields**
- Mainly about **exploring future careers**
- Participants discover opportunities after their studies

Job Fair

-  Focus on **job opportunities**
- Connects participants with **potential employers**
- Mainly about **recruitment and applications**
- Participants can **present their CVs and apply for positions**

What do they have in common?

- Networking with professionals and organisations
- Presentations and company information sessions
- Online or in-person formats
- Can be organised as a **combined event**

Legal Tandem



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Decision Book definition of Legal Tandem:

Article 4. Legal Tandem

4.1 Legal Tandem is a project during which two or more ELSA Groups from different countries organise a joint session for their members with the purpose of:

- a. discussing their legal systems;
- b. exploring the differences in their paths to becoming a legal professional;
- c. comparing the practices of their legal work culture or;
- d. engaging with other topics aimed at enhancing the skills needed for entering the job market.

4.2 The session may be carried out online or in person.

Organising a Legal Tandem:

1. Finding a Group to organise with
2. Deciding on the Topic
3. Deciding on Speakers & Interactive Element
4. Marketing
5. Conducting
6. Reviewing the event

Professional Development Workshops



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Decision Book definition of Professional Development Workshops:

Article 3. Professional Development Workshops

5.1 A Professional Development Workshop is a project which allows law students and young lawyers to learn about and adapt skills which are beneficial for entering the job market.

5.2 In order to enhance the practical skills of the participants, the Professional Development Workshops should consist of lectures and other interactive learning opportunities.

5.3 Professional Development Workshops should cover a range of topics, including but not limited to: soft and hard skills (e.g. CV and motivation letter, public speaking), mock interviews or legal English courses.

How to conduct PD Workshop?

1. Choose a topic and date you'd like to have
2. Decide if it's online or in person
 - a. If it's in person, search for possible venues.
3. Start contacting possible speakers
4. Plan your marketing strategy
5. Practical event implementation
6. Evaluate the event

Some of the Suggested Topics:

- CV & Motivation Letter Drafting
- Legal English
- Professional Emails and Business Correspondence
- Mental Health and Stress in the Workplace
- Public Speaking and Confidence Building
- How to Approach your First Month as a Legal Professional
- Personal Branding and Career Storytelling

PD Workshop Supporting Materials

PD Workshop Database

- Experience sharing database
- Resource bank for other officers
- Inspiration for others
- Ease of testing new formats and content

PD Workshop Organising Sheet

- Simple organisational overview
- Ease of work distribution
- Makes managing multiple events easier
- Streamlines the logistical process

PD Workshops Checklist

- Checklist to ensure all the logistics are in place
- Good to review before you launch an event

Professional Development Workshop Database

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ELSA International ELSA Albania ELSA Armenia ELSA Austria ELSA Azerbaijan ELSA Belgium ELSA Bosnia and Herzegovina ELSA Bulgaria ELSA C

PD Workshop Organising Sheet



Professional Development Workshop Organising Sheet

Workshop Topic: _____ Workshop Speaker(s): _____

Workshop Format: _____

Location: _____

Date: _____

Task	Responsible	Deadline	Completed?
1. Choosing a topic and timeframe			☐
2. Finding speakers / trainers			☐
3. Finding a venue / platform			☐
4. Marketing the event			☐
5. Conducting the event			☐
6. Evaluation			☐

Desired outcome:

Supporting Resources for PD Workshops

Benefits for ELSA's Pockets:

(This are some suggestions to make your project more attractive)

Sponsors:

- Companies
- Law firms
- Legal organisations
- Alumni (If existent)

Grants:

- EU / Erasmus+
- Council of Europe
- Youth & education programmes
- Other relevant calls

And now..... what about you??

- What has been the biggest challenge when organising **PD activities**?
- What kind of **support or resources** would you like from the International Team?
- Are there any PD projects you're **planning** that you'd like to share with the Network?
- Is there anything new you'd like to **implement as** a PD project ?
- Are there any **resources, templates, workshops, or guides** you feel are missing?



**Thank you for
attending!!!**

Byee

