

# The One that could have been

---

LXXXIII International Council Meeting Malta  
26th of March - 2nd of April 2023

*elsa*

The European Law Students' Association



Ready for a refill?



I probably shouldn't.



So I will!

# Topics of the day

---

- Introduction
- Definition and purpose
- What has happened so far?
- STEPs to follow
- Benefits and key selling points
- Example of organisation



*elsa*

The European Law Students' Association

# Let's talk about Legal Tandem

---

In ICM Dubrovnik, we introduced you an initiative for a new international PD project called Legal Tandem.

Legal Tandem was born in the Nordic Officers Meeting 2021 where two national officers developed the idea to answer the need to have more engagement between ELSA Groups in the Professional Development Area and to support ELSA Traineeships applicants with better knowledge of their destination country's legal system and culture.

After many conversations, presentations, texts and drafts, it is finally time to talk about how the project will be organised for the first time!



The European Law Students' Association

# Are you ready?



# Definition and purpose

---

Legal Tandem is a project during which two Local Groups from different ELSA countries organise a joint session for their members to discuss their respective

- 1) legal systems
- 2) study paths to becoming a legal professional
- 3) legal work culture

The purpose of the project is to help law students and young lawyers navigate in the increasingly international legal job market by expanding their knowledge on different legal systems and study and work paths.

The logo for ELSA, featuring the lowercase letters 'elsa' in a white, bold, serif font.

The European Law Students' Association

# What has happened so far?

---

On 9.2. we sent you the National Knowledge Bank Survey. The survey works as the basis of National Knowledge Banks and ensures that once National Groups have answered the survey, the Local Groups will have access to the as their National Knowledge Bank and be able to compare the same information with other Local Groups.

Deadline for the survey is 17.4.

Have you started to answer it yet? Any questions on it?

Now we are working on the Legal Tandem Booklet which will outline the basics of the project and give it an example structure.

The logo for the European Law Students' Association (elsa) is displayed in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

The European Law Students' Association

Let's talk through the example structure!





# Step 1: Initiation

---

Legal Tandem can be initiated by **any Local ELSA Group** as their own idea or ideally, **any member can ask** from their local VP PD for a Legal Tandem with some country they are interested in.

VP PD contacts a Local Group from the wished country and the VP PDs from both Local Groups start to plan their Legal Tandem.

*elsa*

The European Law Students' Association

## Step 2: Choosing the format

---

Legal Tandem can be organised as **a physical or a virtual session**. Physical session can take place inside any event bringing two Local Groups from different countries together, such as a Study Visit.

Virtually Legal Tandem is organised as any webinar, using a platform that suits both Local Groups, such as Teams or Google Meets. ClickMeeting is not ideal because the participants can not see each others.

A virtual session can also be organised in a manner where the VP PD organises a room for their participants to gather in during the session. The room should have such facilities that the participants can be seen and heard by the other Local Group.



## Step 3: Planning the session

---

Using the Legal Tandem National Knowledge Banks, the VP PDs will choose which topics and questions they want to cover in their Legal Tandem session. The aim is that all questions are addressed by both Local Groups so that the participants get a sense of the differences and similarities in the legal system and professional paths in both countries.

Participant engagement is critical for the success of the Legal Tandem session. When topics of country A are being presented, the participants from country A should not lose focus. This can be achieved by asking the participants to produce short team works on their study system.



# Step 3: Planning the session

---

Legal Tandem session should last 1-2 hours. Here is an example structure for a two hour Legal Tandem session.

30 mins	15 mins	10 mins	30 mins	15 mins	10 mins
Presentation about country A	Participant presentation of country A	Questions	Presentation about country B	Participant presentation of country B	Questions

## Step 4: Marketing and registration

---

The date and time of the Legal Tandem session needs to be chosen so that marketing of the event starts at least one week before the registration opens. Registration should be open at least one week. There should be at least a week between the closing of the registration and the opening of the event so that the participants can make their own preparations.

The **amount of participants should be limited** so that there is space for real interaction and conversation. The suggested maximum amount of participants per Local Group is 20



# Step 5: Participant presentations

---

The VP PD should divide the participants into around three groups and give each one question to answer with 1-2 presentation slides. The answer should take maximum 5 minutes. The VP PDs need to coordinate that the questions are the same for participants from both countries.

The VP PD collects the participant presentations at least two days before the Legal Tandem session. Each participant group needs to tell the VP PD which persons will be presenting the groups work.

On the next slide are example questions for participant preparations.

*elsa*

The European Law Students' Association

# Step 5: Participant presentations

---

1. Describe how you can plan your studies. How much freedom of choice you have in your curriculum? Can you alter the length of your studies, meaning graduating sooner or later than on average? When and how can you plan exchange studies? etc.
2. Describe the types of course work you have. When do you need to do assignments and exams? How do you get graded? Can you substitute course work easily?
3. Describe your study culture. How do students and professors address each others? How much do you have mandatory on sight lectures and how much are you expected to self-study? How does the university support students social activities?



## Step 6: Session and evaluation

---

During the Legal Tandem session, the VP PDs are responsible for the presentations about their own country. The VP PDs should host and guide the session so that there is the maximum amount of participant interaction and conversation. In a virtual format this means that the participants should have their cameras.

After the Legal Tandem session, the VP PDs should gather evaluation and feedback from the participants. These evaluation forms are highly important for the improvement of this new event. Preferably, the collected evaluation and feedback should be sent to VP PD of the International Board.

The VP PDs should send the participants certificates of participation.

**elsa**

The European Law Students' Association



# Benefits and key selling points

---

- Creates direct interaction between Local Groups in the Professional Development Area
- Fosters international interaction and networking for our members
- Raises awareness of and provides basic tools for comparative legal research
- Supports ELSA Traineeships applicants
- Quick and easy project to organise at any moment during the term



**elsa**

The European Law Students' Association

Time to open the speakers list!



## Example for a two hour Legal Tandem session

30 mins	15 mins	10 mins	30 mins	15 mins	10 mins
Presentation about country A	Participant presentation of country A	Questions	Presentation about country B	Participant presentation of country B	Questions

## Basics of organising a Legal Tandem

Step 1: Initiation

Step 2: Choosing the format

Step 3: Planning the session

Step 4: Marketing and registration

Step 5: Participant presentations

Step 6: Session and evaluation

**elsa**

The European Law Students' Association