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Council of Europe – HELP Course launch: Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence



Launch Date: 19 October 2023

Duration: 19 October 2023- 11 December 2023

Format: online tutored course

Open to: lawyers from Ireland and from EU MS

Language: English

**Council of Europe HELP Certificates delivered for
successful participants**

Organised under EU-CoE HELP EU III Project

Participation in this training contributes to the goal set by **EU Judicial Training Strategy** in training legal professionals on EU law, by 2024.

Launch of the HELP course on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence

Concept paper and Agenda

Date	19 October 2023
Location	Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place, Dublin, Ireland
Language	English
Participation	Justice professionals from Ireland and from EU MS

Background

The **Council of Europe (CoE) Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP)**¹ is aimed at supporting the CoE member states in implementing the European human rights standards at the national level, focusing on the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), other key CoE instruments, and since 2015, EU law. This is done by raising the capacities of legal professionals to apply those instruments in their daily work.

The objective of HELP is to provide high quality education on human rights to judges, lawyers and prosecutors throughout Europe. Law enforcement authorities such as police and prison staff are also targeted by HELP. Thanks to HELP courses, legal professionals can better protect human rights on a national level and keep up to date with the ever-evolving standards and case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). HELP courses specifically designed for EU countries increasingly incorporate relevant EU laws.

HELP is:

1. the only pan-European Network of national training institutions for judges, prosecutors and lawyers in the 46 CoE member states.
2. an e-learning platform with free on-line courses on human rights.
3. a human rights training methodology for legal professionals.

The HELP in the EU III Project

The joint EU-CoE project 'European Programme for **H**uman Rights **E**ducation for **L**egal **P**rofessionals in the European Union' (**HELP in the EU III**)² is funded by the EU and implemented by the CoE from 1 March 2022 to 31 August 2024. Its overall objective is to enhance EU justice professionals' capacities to effectively and coherently apply European fundamental rights standards at the national level through training, mainly referring to the Council of Europe instruments (the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), the (revised) European Social Charter (ESC) etc.) and EU framework (EU Charter on Fundamental Rights, EU Law). It also aims to strengthen the HELP Network in the EU, as well as the capacity of the Network members to effectively implement the HELP methodology and courses and contribute to increasing mutual trust and exchanges between EU practitioners.

¹ For more information on HELP please visit HELP's website: www.coe.int/help

² For more information about the HELP in the EU project, please go to <https://www.coe.int/en/web/help/help-in-the-eu>

The HELP course on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence

Cybercrime and other crimes involving electronic evidence affect the right to private life of hundreds of millions of individuals whose personal data are stolen; attack the dignity and the integrity of individuals; are a threat to the freedom of expression, public security but also democratic stability. An effective criminal justice response is needed in order to protect societies against cybercrime while also protecting individuals' fundamental human rights.

The new Council of Europe HELP course will introduce you to the basic concepts related to cybercrime and electronic evidence. In doing so, the course makes an overview of the challenges in investigating cybercrime, as well as the difficulties in collecting and handling of electronic evidence. The Council of Europe Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and its Additional Protocols remain the key source throughout the whole course as it provides tools to deal with the above challenges for the protection of human rights and enforcement of legal order.



The launch event

The activity is organised under the EU-CoE HELP in the EU III Project, in partnership with the Law Society of Ireland. The **launch event will be held in Dublin (Ireland)**. The travel and accommodation of participants will be covered by the Council of Europe (selected participants will be contacted directly by the CoE for their travel arrangements). Its main goal is to introduce participants to the topics of the course and to the HELP platform and the course page on which the group will follow the course with the assistance of their respective tutors. The working language of the launch event and of the tutored course will be **English**.

The course preparation and implementation

Before the online launch event, participants should create an account on the [HELP e-learning platform](https://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/)

For creating your HELP account, please follow these steps:

- go to this link and fill in the form (it takes about 2 mins):
<https://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/login/signup.php>
- once submitted, you will receive an activation link on the email you used for creating the account
- go to your email inbox and click on the link to activate your account.

VIDEO TUTORIAL
how to create a HELP account

During the launch event, the participants will be registered on their course page, prepared in advance by their respective tutors. Over the following weeks and based on the planning set by the tutors, the participants will go through the **online course**, complemented by the additional materials and resources prepared by their respective tutors.

The participants who have successfully completed the course and passed the evaluation set by the tutors will receive **certificates issued by the HELP Programme of the Council of Europe**.

Registration

Interested participants should:

- be available to **attend the launch event**
- undertake to **follow and complete the online tutored course** (approx. 1-2 hours of work per week)
- **register** for the event
- **have the necessary knowledge of English** to follow the launch event
- have a laptop/tablet/smartphone available for accessing the HELP e-learning platform

Further information

For any information, do not hesitate to **contact the project team**:

Content related issues, speakers, agenda: Oana Gîrlescu – Project Coordinator (oana.girlescu@coe.int)

Organisational and administrative issues: Konstantinos Vratsidas – Project Assistant (konstantinos.vratsidas@coe.int)

Agenda –19 October 2023

9.15 – 9.30	Registration of participants
9.30-9.40	Welcome address <i>Ross McMahon, Chair of the EU & International Affairs Committee, Law Society of Ireland</i> <i>Oana Gîrlescu, 'HELP in the EU III' Project Coordinator, HELP Programme, Council of Europe</i>
9.40-10.20	Presentation of the HELP Programme and the 'HELP in the EU III' Project Presentation of the HELP platform and walk through <i>Oana Gîrlescu, 'HELP in the EU III' Project Coordinator, HELP Programme, Council of Europe</i>
10.20-10.30	Presentation of the HELP course on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence <i>Eva Massa, Tutor for the Group from Ireland and co-tutor for the Group from EU MS.</i>
10.30-11.00	Coffee break and group photo
11.00-12.00	The EU dimension in cybercrime <i>TBC</i>
12.00 - 12.30	Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence - comparative perspective <i>TBC</i>
12.30-14.00	Lunch break
14.00 -15.00	The action of the CoE in the field of cybercrime <i>Jan Kralik, Cybercrime Unit of the Council of Europe</i>
15.00 -15.45	Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence - comparative perspective <i>Niamh Hodnett, Solicitor and Irish Online Safety Commissioner</i>
15.45 -16.15	Coffee break
16.15 -16.50	The implementation of the course: tour de table, presentation of the course pages, planning, evaluation - Moderated by the HELP Course Tutors <i>Group from Ireland (tutors: Eva Massa)</i> <i>Group from EU MS (co-tutors: Eva Massa and Jiří Novák)</i>
16.50 - 17.00	Q/A session, conclusions and closure

**Agenda may be subject to change*