

**BELGIUM – Avocats.be  
(Introduced in 2002)**

<b>1. Legal basis</b>			
			- Code de déontologie, articles 3.26 à 3.35 (entrée en vigueur : 17/01/2013)
<b>2. Training</b>			
<b>2.1. Basic information</b>			
	Extent		- 20 points annually over a period of 3 years - 2/3 of points in legal continuing training; 1/3 - activities directly useful for legal practice  - Transmission of surplus not possible
	Exemptions		- Motivated reasons - Exemptions granted by the Council of the Bar
<b>2.2. Activities and methods</b>			
Activities	Courses	✓	- 1 hour = 1 point - Max. 6 points per day
	Language courses	✓	
	Teaching	✓	- 1 hour = 2 points - Max. 12 points per day
	Writing/publishing	✓	- 1 legal publication = 1-4 points (depending on the importance of the publication) - Max. 4 points
	Foreign training activities	✓	
	Other	✓	<i>Un doctorat, la supervision de TFE et des activités dans les Ordres sont susceptibles de donner lieu à l'octroi de points à prendre en compte au titre de formation continue (à la discrétion de la commission « locale ».)</i>
Methods	Availability of e-methods	✓	- E-learning and E-Teaching
<b>2.3. Course providers</b>			
	Bar/Law Society	✓	- Local Bars
	Accredited provider	✓	- Universities - <i>Commission Université-Palais</i> - Bar Associations/Law Societies of the EU - International lawyers organisations (e.g. CCBE, UIA, AIJA, UAE)
	Other provider (free market providers)	✓	- Number of providers: N/A - Prior application for a course accreditation: ✓ - Accreditation body: AVOCATS.BE or the Council of the Bar - Procedure: provider submits application <sup>1</sup> for the program recognition; the accreditation body decides how many points to attribute - Criteria for accreditation: no pre-established criteria
<b>3. Assessment of training activities</b>			

<sup>1</sup> Application fee is € 100 (min.) - 650 (max.) (depending on the subscription fee to this programme).

	Course of accredited provider/ Accredited course of 'other provider'	Automatically awarded with points
	Other training activity	<p><u>Procedure:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>A priori</i> and <i>a posteriori</i> assessment</li> <li>- Applicant: lawyer</li> <li>- Assessment body: the local Bar (a special Approvals Commission)</li> </ul> <p>Training activities can also be/are assessed during the compliance procedure (please see below 4.1.)</p> <p><u>Criteria for assessment:</u> No pre-established criteria.</p>
<b>4. Supervision</b>		
<b>4.1. Compliance procedure</b>		
	Regular control	NO
	Random control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10-15% lawyers annually (usually chosen by drawing a lot)</li> <li>- The President of the Bar may examine an individual case if there is reason to do so</li> </ul>
<b>4.2. Sanctions</b>		
	Non-disciplinary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In case of breach of the obligation, the lawyer is summoned before the Approvals Commission and has to state the reasons for neglecting the training obligation</li> <li>- The Commission may grant a postponement of 1-3 years</li> </ul>
	Disciplinary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Warning</li> <li>- Reprimand</li> <li>- Suspension for a period of up to 1 year</li> <li>- Striking off from the list of trainees, the lawyers' roll or the EU-list</li> </ul>