Seminar on the establishment of a European Criminal Law Ombudsman

The Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), Academy of European Law (ERA) and the European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA) are organising a seminar on the establishment of a European Criminal Law Ombudsman (ECLO).

The seminar aims to bring together a specially selected group of high-level invitees to discuss the concept of a ECLO.

The seminar is being organised as defence lawyers experience many problems when faced with cross-border activities under instruments of mutual recognition. For example, to whom do defence lawyers complain when rights are violated? How do defence lawyers organise a double defence if the defendant would need to have a lawyer in more than one Member State? How do they organise the money for legal aid, deal with language problems and costs for translators in another Member State?

This seminar will discuss the idea of establishing a ECLO. The ECLO would be an independent institution that would respond to immediate problems being experienced by defence lawyers when dealing with cross-border cases involving, for example, the European Arrest Warrant and other similar instruments of mutual recognition. The ECLO would also be a necessary counter-body in the field of defence to the number of institutions that have been established to promote cooperation in the field of criminal law at a European level e.g. Europol, Eurojust, the European Judicial Network.

Defence lawyers, judges involved in extradition cases, representatives of the EU institutions and NGOs will discuss these matters and debate the policy issues alongside the concrete practical and legal concerns.

**Venue**

**Seminar on the creation of a European Criminal Law Ombudsman**

7 April 2006
Trier

ERA—Academy of European Law
Metzer Allee 4
D-54295 Trier
GERMANY

Tel: +49 (0)651 93797-0
Seminar on the establishment of a European Criminal Law Ombudsman -

09.00—09.30: Registration

09.30—09.45: Welcome
- Wolfgang Heusel, Director of ERA
- Manuel Cavaleiro Brandão, President of the CCBE
- Han Jahae, Chairman of the ECBA

09.45—10.00: Keynote speaker — Franz Salditt, Co-chair of the CCBE Criminal Law Committee

10.00—11.30: Topic 1: ECLO — an institution for defence lawyers when defence rights are violated?
Chair: Kai-Hart Hoenig, Vice-Chairman of the ECBA
Speaker: Han Jahae, Chairman of the ECBA
Panel:
- Dr. Klaus Bittmann, Judge of the District Court of Linz, EJN contact point
- Jonathan Mitchell, Treasurer of the ECBA
- James Macguill, Member of the ECBA-Council
Audience discussion

11.30—11.45: Coffee break

11.45—13.15: Topic 2: Cross-border activities - mutual recognition and legal aid concerns
Chair: Caroline Morgan, European Commission
Speaker: Joachim Vogel, Judge at the Appellate Court, Stuttgart
Panel:
- Aled Williams, UK Liaison Magistrate to Spain
- Fernando Piernavieja Niembro, Member of CCBE Criminal Law Committee
- JUDr. Jaroslava Novotná, High Prosecutors office, Prague
Audience discussion

13.15—14.15: Lunch

14.15—15.45: Topic 3: Case studies—practical and legal concerns
Chair: Kathalijne Maria Buitenweg, MEP [TBC]
Speaker: Eurojust [TBC]
Panel:
- Joachim Eckert, Presiding Judge in penal court, Munich
- Paul Garlick, QC, Member of the ECBA
- Judge Rob Blekxtoon, Eurowarrant-Project
Audience discussion

15.45—16.00: Coffee break

16.00—17.30: Topic 4: ECLO—role and power of the ECLO within the framework of the EU
Chair: Bernard Vatier, Former President of the CCBE
Panel:
- Franz Salditt, Co-chair of the CCBE Criminal Law Committee
- Holger Matt, Vice-Chairman of the ECBA
- Kathalijne Maria Buitenweg, MEP [TBC]
- Eurojust [TBC]
- Joachim Vogel, Judge at the Appellate Court, Stuttgart
Audience discussion

17.30—17.45: Closing remarks: President of the CCBE

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