
Practical Guide for EU, EEA and Swiss Lawyers on Service and Establishment

FINLAND

SEPTEMBER 2018

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If an error is identified, please bring it to the attention of the CCBE which will correct it, where appropriate.

Structure	Information received
1. Establishment	
1.1. Registration with Host Bar	Register with the Finnish Bar Association (if it is a question of permanent practice), which records in its Register of European Lawyers every lawyer who submits the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written application (available on the Bar Association's website)• a certificate of attestation (with statement of integrity) from your home bar or law society that the lawyer is a legitimate Lawyer in his/her home country (certificate max 3 months old)• an evidence of existing professional indemnity insurance A Yearly Registration Fee: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 812 euros for an EU attorney-at-law who is registered in an EU register• 406 euros for a new EU attorney-at-law for both the year of registration as for the following calendar year
1.2. Title	Must practice under his/her home professional title used in his/her home member state, in a language of that state and with reference to the professional organisation he or she belongs to. (Statutes art.7.)
1.3. Salaried practice	Employment as lawyer is only permitted to another lawyer or law firm (attorney at law or such law firm). (Advocates Act, art. 5)
1.4. Legal Form and Shareholding	Must correspond with the core principles laid down for Finnish Bar members and no participation of non-attorneys at law / non-lawyers (where no exception applies – the Board of the Finnish Bar Association may grant a permit based upon specific grounds, but they are rare). (Advocates Act, art. 5)
1.5. Joint Practice	Allowed as a group of lawyers (Members of the Bar) – limits see above. (Code of Conduct, section 11)

1.6. Areas of Activity	Representation of clients before all courts and administrative authorities. Advise in the law of home and host state and European and International law. (Advocates Act art. 5 a)
1.7. Practice Rules	Only language requirements: must be able to use Finnish or Swedish before the courts and other authorities. (Language Act section 1-2)
1.8. Principle of Double Deontology	As an established lawyer he/she is subject to the regulations not only by his/her home bar but also by his/her host bar. (Advocates Act art. 5 a)
1.9. Disciplinary proceedings	See above.
1.10. Insurance (professional indemnity insurance, social security, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Indemnity Insurance: must comply with the rules for Finnish Bar members: minimum coverage 200 000 €/ maximum own risk 2 % of the insurance coverage. (Code of Conduct, section 11) • Social security: N/A
1.11. Fees	Finnish rules apply; in general lawyer and client can agree on a fee, however the fee has to comply with the Lawyers' Fee Guideline (2009) and Finnish legislation.
1.12. Continuing Legal Education	Required (18 hours/year). (Code of Conduct, section 4)
1.13. Bar	By registration a lawyer becomes a member of the local Bar. (Statutes art. 26)
1.14. Conditions for the Acquisition of the Title of a 'National Lawyer'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-time practice for three years as a registered lawyer, membership interview conducted by the Local Bar, written application (more information on the documents required for the Membership application available at the website: www.barassociation.fi) • Or: Being a Bar Member in an EEA State + passing the Finnish Bar Exam (which can only be taken in Finnish or Swedish) • have completed a law degree outside Finland and has received a decision by the Finnish National Board of Education on the eligibility for the post requiring a Master of Laws degree in accordance with the Act on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications (1385/2015 as amended), for more information: here (for more details, please also see below point 3.2)

2. Services

2.1. Under home title & representation before courts	<p>Service under your home title – before courts and administrative authorities</p> <p>Courts and Authorities may require proof that you are a lawyer in your home country.</p> <p>No lawyers' monopoly in Finland, but in order to represent a client before the court you must be a Lawyer and be able to use Finnish or Swedish before the court or get assistance from a Finnish lawyer.</p>
2.2. Deontology	You are subject to the rules of the host state and subject to disciplinary supervision of the Finnish Bar and its Disciplinary Board. (Advocates Act Art. 5 a)
2.3. Fees	Finnish rules apply, see above.

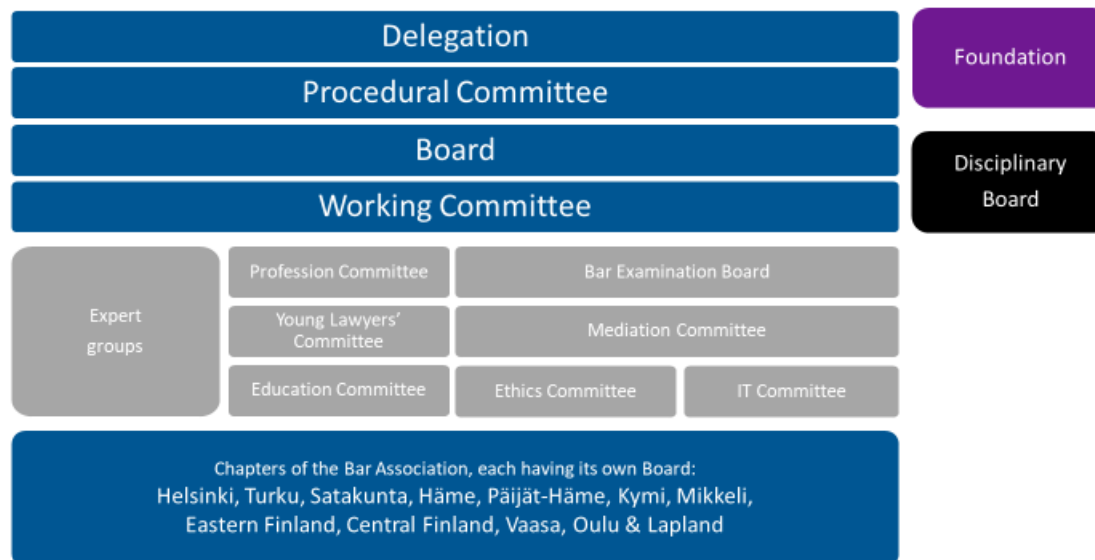
3. Acquisition of the national lawyer's title

3.1. Via Establishment Directive	See above point 1.14
3.2. Via Professional Qualification Directive	<p>Pass the aptitude test</p> <p>Higher education institutions and other educational institutions decide on the eligibility that foreign qualifications give for further studies in Finland. They also decide on the recognition of studies completed abroad towards a qualification to be completed in Finland. On request, the Finnish National Agency for Education advises higher education institutions on matters that concern academic recognition.</p> <p>More information: https://www.oph.fi/english/services/recognition</p>

4. Practicalities

4.1. Practical information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You can find information on the court system, addresses, contacts and opening hours of all Finnish courts under: https://oikeus.fi/tuomioistuimet/en/index.html• It is recommended to arrive in advance (security check). Some of the Court houses are bigger than others, consider the time spent for searching for the correct court room.• Once you find the correct court room, please wait outside. You will be invited in.• Lawyers are not wearing a gown.• You do not stand during your pleading. In many courts the court and the parties are using their laptops/IT devices during the session and the evidence can be shown by technical devices.• Contacts to and information on the organization of the Finnish Bar available at www.barassociation.fi.
4.2. National organisation	

The Finnish Bar Association



	<p style="text-align: center;">The Finnish Bar Association</p>
<p>4.3. Reference to national legislation with other languages available + links</p>	<p>Advocate Act : see CCBE website EN Code of Conduct: see CCBE website EN / FI</p>
<p>4.4. Reference to existing national guides</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>4.5. Reference to services available for lawyers in that jurisdiction</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>4.6. Contact information</p>	<p>Finnish Bar Association P.O. Box 194 FI-00101 Helsinki, Finland Tel. +358 9 6866 120 info@barassociation.fi</p>