

## Norway

(Information provided by the Norwegian delegation to the CCBE, December 2012.)

### A. Contact point

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### B. General information

1.	Legal basis	<a href="#">Courts of Law Act</a> (chapter 11) and <a href="#">Regulation for Lawyers</a> chapter 9, §§ 9-4 to 9-7.
2.	Overview of procedural steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant – the lawyer who wants to employ a person with a foreign law degree - has to send the application to the Supervisory Council for Legal Practice (<i>Tilsynsrådet for advokatvirksomhet</i>).</li> <li>The Supervisory Council evaluates the application and decides whether the person with the foreign law degree can work as an associate lawyer/trainee lawyer within a Norwegian law firm for named individual lawyers within the firm. If the applicant's education fulfils the requirements to become a trainee lawyer/assistant advocate in his/her home country, the application will be approved by the Supervisory Council.</li> </ol> <p>If the application is approved and the applicant becomes employed by a lawyer as his/her trainee lawyer, the applicant commences the normal route to become a lawyer in Norway (including two years of employment and practice as an associate lawyer) (see below point E).</p>

### C. Processing of the application

1.	Information and documents requested from the applicant	<p>The applicant has to enclose with any relevant documents concerning the law degree that was obtained in the EU, EEA or Switzerland.</p> <p>Applications and attachments which have not been issued in Norwegian, Danish, Swedish or English must be accompanied by a translation into Norwegian made by or confirmed by a Norwegian state-authorized translator.</p> <p>The Supervisory Council may require documentation from the relevant authority in the home country/the country where the law degree has been obtained (e.g. the bar association) that the person in question has obtained the degree as claimed.</p>
2.	Submission of application	<p>There is no standard application form. The application must be sent by post to the:</p> <p><a href="#">Supervisory Council for Legal Practice</a> /Tilsynsrådet for advokatvirksomhet        Postboks 720 Sentrum,        0106 Oslo, Norway        Tel.: +47 22 00 75 00        Mail: <a href="mailto:post@tilsynet.no">post@tilsynet.no</a></p>
3.	Application fees	None
4.	Expected duration of the application processing	<p>According to the Regulation for lawyers § 9-6, a decision on applications shall be taken within no more than four months after all the necessary documents have been presented. However, the normal duration of the processing is a couple of weeks.</p> <p>The decision of the Supervisory Council is subject to appeal to the Advocate License Committee. According to the Civil Administration Act (<i>forvaltningsloven</i>) the period for complaint is three weeks.</p>

### D. Assessment of application and possible outcomes

1.	Assessment	<p>According to the Courts of Law Act and the Regulation for Lawyers § 9-4, authorization as a trainee lawyer may be given to a person without a Norwegian law degree if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- it is demonstrated that the trainee lawyer has a 'similar education' from an EU or EEA state;</li> <li>- he/she is a citizen of an EU or EEA state.</li> </ul> <p>The Supervisory Council has to answer the following questions: does the applicant's education fulfil the requirements to become a trainee lawyer/assistant advocate in his/her home country? Has the applicant achieved the highest grade/level of education needed in his/her home country for becoming a trainee lawyer in his home country?</p> <p>According to the Supervisory Council for Legal Practice, 'similar education' means that the applicant has achieved the highest grade/level of education needed in his/her home country for becoming a trainee lawyer in his/her home country.</p> <p>Knowledge of the Norwegian language or of the Norwegian law is not required.</p>
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2.	Composition of the Supervisory Council	The board of the Supervisory Council consists of three members with personal deputies: a practising advocate as chairman, as well as two board members, whereof one state-authorized auditor. The Supervisory Council has its own administration.
3.	Outcome	The possible outcomes may be immediate registration as a trainee lawyer, a request to the applicant (e.g., to present missing documents) or a rejection.
<b>E. Normal route to qualify as a lawyer</b>		
1.	Academic stage /Work experience	<p>Conditions for exercising the legal profession as an attorney are stated in the Courts of Law Act, Chapter 11. The most relevant clause is § 220.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The basic condition for becoming a licensee is to hold a Norwegian University degree in law (5 years).</li> <li>• The candidate must demonstrate by police certificate that he/she has a reputable past.</li> <li>• Participation in a special course concerning relevant issues to an attorney is required, such as: litigation (preparing the case), client relationship, rights and duties of the lawyer (ethics), negotiation, client accounts, book-keeping etc. The course lasts for 6 days and consists of both lectures and practical exercises. The course is concluded with a written test in matters of special importance to the legal profession. A candidate can participate in that course after obtaining a law degree (therefore, he/she may attend the course before starting as an associate lawyer).</li> <li>• The candidate must practice as an associate lawyer, or as an assistant judge or as a position in the prosecution for two years.</li> <li>• If the candidate's practical experience was obtained as an associate lawyer (not as an assistant judge or a position in the prosecution) he/she must also try three cases before the courts, of which at least one must be a civil case.</li> </ul> <p>Assistant lawyers work under the license and indemnity insurance of their employer (a lawyer).</p>
<b>F. Statistics</b>		
1.	Closed cases	Approx. 10 each year
2.	Outstanding cases	There is no information available.