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

### A. Contact point

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### B. General information

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1. 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 (Tilsynsrådet for advokatvirksomhet).  
2. 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 fulfills the requirements to become a trainee lawyer/assistant advocate in his/her home country, the application will be approved by the Supervisory Council.  
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). |

### C. Processing of the application

| 1. Information and documents requested from the applicant | The applicant has to enclose with any relevant documents concerning the law degree that was obtained in the EU, EEA or Switzerland.  
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.  
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. |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. Submission of application | There is no standard application form. The application must be sent by post to the:  
Supervisory Council for Legal Practice /Tilsynsrådet for advokatvirksomhet  
Postboks 720 Sentrum,  
0106 Oslo, Norway  
Tel.: +47 22 00 75 00  
Mail: post@tilsynet.no |
| 3. Application fees | None |
| 4. Expected duration of the application processing | 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.  
The decision of the Supervisory Council is subject to appeal to the Advocate License Committee.  
According to the Civil Administration Act (forvaltningsloven) the period for complaint is three weeks. |

### D. Assessment of application and possible outcomes

| 1. Assessment | 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:  
- it is demonstrated that the trainee lawyer has a ‘similar education’ from an EU or EEA state;  
- he/she is a citizen of an EU or EEA state.  
The Supervisory Council has to answer the following questions: does the applicant’s education fulfill 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?  
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.  
Knowledge of the Norwegian language or of the Norwegian law is not required. |
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-authorised 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.

### E. Normal route to qualify as a lawyer

1. **Academic stage / Work experience**
   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.
   - The basic condition for becoming a licensee is to hold a Norwegian University degree in law (5 years).
   - The candidate must demonstrate by police certificate that he/she has a reputable past.
   - 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).
   - The candidate must practice as an associate lawyer, or as an assistant judge or as a position in the prosecution for two years.
   - 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.
   Assistant lawyers work under the license and indemnity insurance of their employer (a lawyer).

### F. Statistics

1. **Closed cases**
   Approx. 10 each year

2. **Outstanding cases**
   There is no information available.