# Continuing training in the CCBE member countries – May 2016 – 1/2

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

### 1. Legal basis
- Code de déontologie, articles 3.26 à 3.35 (entrée en vigueur : 17/01/2013)

### 2. Training

#### 2.1. Basic information

| **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 |

#### 2.2. Activities and methods

| **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** | ✓ 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 ».) |

| **Methods** | **Availability of e-methods** | ✓ - E-learning and E-Teaching |

#### 2.3. Course providers

| **Bar/Law Society** | ✓ - Local Bars |
| **Accredited provider** | ✓ - Universities  
- Commission Université-Palais  
- 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 application¹ for the program recognition; the accreditation body decides how many points to attribute  
- Criteria for accreditation: no pre-established criteria |

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¹ Application fee is € 100 (min.) - 650 (max.) (depending on the subscription fee to this programme).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course of accredited provider/ Accredited course of ‘other provider’</th>
<th>Automatically awarded with points</th>
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</table>
| Other training activity | Procedure:  
- *A priori* and *a posteriori* assessment  
- Applicant: lawyer  
- Assessment body: the local Bar (a special Approvals Commission)  
Training activities can also be/are assessed during the compliance procedure (please see below 4.1.)  
Criteria for assessment:  
No pre-established criteria. |

### 4. Supervision

#### 4.1. Compliance procedure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular control</th>
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<td>Random control</td>
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- 10-15% lawyers annually (usually chosen by drawing a lot)  
- The President of the Bar may examine an individual case if there is reason to do so |

#### 4.2. Sanctions

| Non-disciplinary |  
- 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  
- The Commission may grant a postponement of 1-3 years |

| Disciplinary |  
- Warning  
- Reprimand  
- Suspension for a period of up to 1 year  
- Striking off from the list of trainees, the lawyers’ roll or the EU-list |