

APPROACHING THE DIVERSITY OF BARS THROUGH 6 COUNTRIES AND 4 INDICATORS

To get familiar with each other ...

It is known that the CCBE, Bars and law societies know little about each other and mutual-understanding is even weak if not inexistent. The result is a significant waste of energy.

On one hand, published reports often include inaccurate statistical and econometric data or express bias that can only be detected by competent professionals. Understand and report on professional diversity is a key issue to face the trend of national or european reforms.

... to better defend ourselves in a constantly changing environment.

On the other hand, it is absolutely necessary to formulate and reflect the diversity that characterize our profession in order to address the reforms wanted by national and European institutions. It is crucial to know what is the foundation and what is shared by everybody within the EU, and what differs from a Bar to another. If, in the future, lawyers want to be essential partners of their governments and the European institutions, it is necessary that they have an in-depth knowledge of their profession, in particular economically and statistically. This is the price for a useful protection of the interests of the profession.

The mobilization of Bars in an informal working group

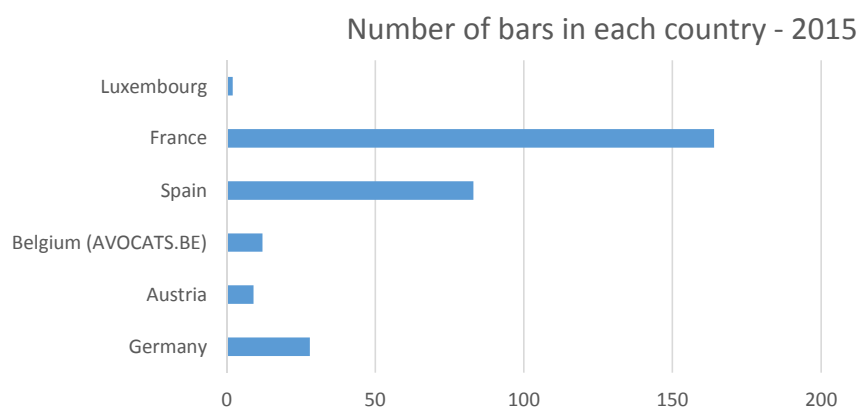
In 2006, several bars start filling this gap and get access to a shared and important knowledge. They created an informal working group that gather the observatories of 2, then 3, then 6 and today 7 bars : Austria, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain and France (Conseil National des Barreaux) which coordinates the working group through its Observatory.

The working group meets three times a year in, either Brussels or Paris, to make a useful contribution and to create a socio economic database on the exercise of the profession in Europe, a constant development is desirable. This is why interested Bars and Law societies and members of the CCBE, are invited to participate in the next meeting of the working group which will be held on March, 4th 2016 in Paris. The agenda includes among others an update of the "Statistic Book" which will contain a new chapter about legal aid.

Any request for information can be sent to: observatoire@cnb.avocat.fr

	Scope of Practice					
	Austria	Belgium France & German speaking	France	Germany	Luxembourg	Spain
Conditions of practice						
Evidence of relationship/ad item mandatory agreement	Yes	No	No(4)	Yes	No	No
Appointed lawyers	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
In-house counsels	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Areas of activity						
Notary activity	No	No	No	No/yes (1)	No	No
Trustee	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Arbitration/Mediation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mandatory	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Including the real estate sector						
Property manager	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Real estate agent	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
Including agent/manager						
Sport's agent	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
Artistic's agent	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
Others			CNIL Correspondant, Trusted Third Party			Intellectual property rights community patent, design protection

1 – Depends on the federal states, 2-except in Brussels



Definitions : the number of lawyers considered in the working group encompasses those who are members of the Bar, fully practicing and for whom it is their main occupation. This includes trainee lawyers when they meet the above-mentioned criteria.

AAGR : average annual growth rate;

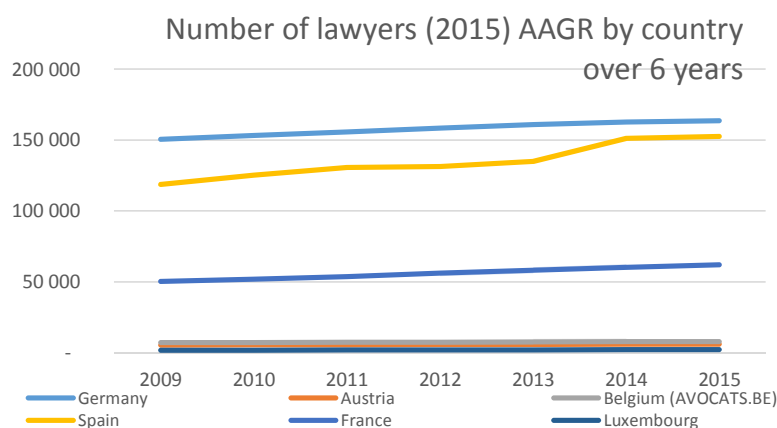
Sources : national Bars (AVOCATS.BE, BRAK, ÖRAK, CNB, Abogacia Española, OABL) , Soldan Institute, DAV.

* Italy: Number of lawyers: the study started in 2012, the same year a reform forced members of the Bar to also subscribe to the pension fund. Inactive lawyers therefore asked to be removed from the roll

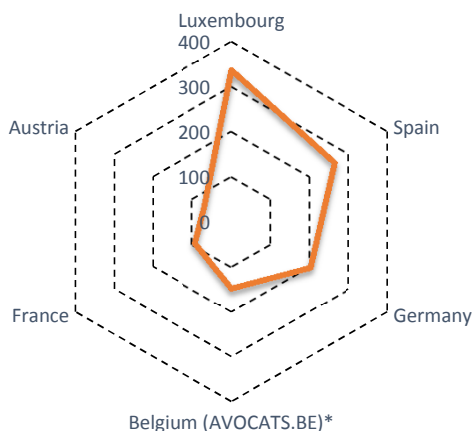
Belgium: density numbers 2013 - UN source for country area (France: only metropolitan France)

INDICATORS	GERMANY	AUSTRIA	BELGIUM (AVOCATS.BE)	SPAIN	FRANCE	LUXEMBOURG
DEMOGRAPHY	163 513	6 057	7 882	152 437	62 073	2 228
AAGR	1,1 %	1,7 %	1,8 %	5,1 %	3,4 %	5,5 %
DENSITY	201a/ 10 ⁵ h	69	147	263	93	337
COUNTRY AREA	357 10 ³ KM2	84	17	506	552	3
NUMBER OF BARS	28	9	12	83	164	2

2,8 % This is the average annual growth rate of the number of lawyers of the working group which consists of the economic observatories of the German, Austrian, Belgium, Spanish, French and Luxembourgish Bars, over the last 6 years.



Density by country



Density : the density, which means the number of lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants, is stable or growing in every Bar of the sample

It is noticeable that Luxembourg, which is the smallest country in terms of area and population in our panel, is in first place with a density of 337. Spain with 263 takes place in second.

In terms of number of lawyers, we note that important differences exist between the bars of the panel. The diversity of country situations demonstrate that there is neither link between the number of registered lawyers or density and the scope of practice, nor the population or the area of the country.

Number of lawyers in 2015 and AAGR by country

