



STEP

traineeships

elsa
The European Law Students' Association

OPPORTUNITIES FOR AIJA MEMBERS' FIRMS



About ELSA

The European Law Students' Association is the **world's largest** independent, non-profit, non-political association run by and for law students and young lawyers.

ELSA Members x 40,000



ELSA Faculties x 300



ELSA National Groups x 43



ELSA International Board



It comprises of a membership close to **40 000 students and recent graduates** who are interested in law and have demonstrated commitment to international issues. ELSA operates primarily through its local groups, which are located at close to **300 universities** throughout **43 countries** in Europe.

ELSA provides opportunities for law students and young lawyers to learn about other cultures and legal systems in a spirit of critical dialogue.

Student Trainee Exchange Programme

STEP is a trainee exchange programme that enables law students and young lawyers to gain first hand experience of the substantive and procedural law as well as the culture of another country. The Student Trainee Exchange Programme of ELSA offers your office the opportunity to have **highly qualified law students from all over Europe** as trainees. The traineeship can vary from 2 weeks to 24 months and can take place in any law related area.

Participation in STEP is a very simple and effective way of attracting **young, internationally minded lawyers** from 43 European countries. Having a STEP trainee working in your company is an opportunity for **innovation and growth**, and a **diverse working environment**.

Visit the STEP Portal and see who is ELSA already cooperating with:

step.elsa.org

STEP in 2014/2015

267

TRAINEESHIPS

2 302

APPLICATIONS

STEP Experience

“Here at our law firm, we responded to a joint initiative of ELSA and AIJA and accepted a STEP trainee from Germany. Throughout their time here, our colleague helped tremendously with international cases and contributed a great deal of knowledge of more advanced German language amongst our team.”

- **Stepan Holub, Holubová advokáti s.r.o. (Czech Republic)**

“Our office has a specialized, niche field of expertise: assisting German-speaking clients in Belgium. ELSA STEP is therefore an excellent partner for us, as it brings us in contact with many native German-speaking students from abroad. On the other hand, the students find an interesting opportunity abroad where there is no language handicap. On the contrary, they can immediately ‘STEP’ in.

The selection process goes very smooth and fast, and is almost completely arranged by ELSA itself. We just fill in the forms concerning the requirements and after some time we receive detailed CVs of the candidates, leaving us only the (difficult) task to select. No hassle with separate traineeship agreements etc... everything is standard form, so we can concentrate on working together with the students”

- **David Diris, Kocks & Partners (Belgium)**

“We are very pleased and satisfied in participating in ELSA Traineeship Programme and we will do it again. It was an interesting experience for the trainee who had the opportunity to work with us for a period of time and leave the life of a law firm, but also for the people of our firm who benefited from networking with an international student”

- **Manuela Cavallo, Portolano Cavallo Studio Legale (Italy)**

How can AIJA members' firms participate?



STEP specifications:

- Participation: **free of charge** (no application or participation fee)
- Duration of traineeship: **from 2 weeks until 2 years**
- Compensation: **obligation to provide a remuneration** for the trainee (amount sufficient to cover basic living costs in the respective country)
- Traineeship specifications: **set by the employer** (education level, language and specific legal skills knowledge of the trainee)
- Application administration: **conducted by ELSA**

If you are interested in STEP and would like to know more, simply send an email to AIJA at giuseppe.marletta@aija.org and you will be provided with further details. Please do so before **30th March 2016**.

CONTACT

Do you have any questions?

Feel free to contact ELSA with your questions regarding STEP traineeships:

Vedran Stanković

Vice President for Student Trainee Exchange Programme
ELSA International 2015/2016
E-mail: vpstep@elsa.org

ELSA International

Phone: +32 2 646 26 26
Fax: +32 2 646 29 23

Website: www.elsa.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/elsa.org



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