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It is common knowledge that judicial training, initial and ongoing, is crucial for the efficiency of the justice system. Especially in the field of training on human rights, for which the judge is the natural keeper of their standards. In this field and in the geographical region of Europe, our continent, HELP programme is the main provider of that training, especially regarding ECHR.

Going back to judicial training. It is a European acquis that every judge should be trained during his/her career. New developments, new technologies and the judge should be aware of. In most European Countries this training is a prerequisite for the appointment of the judge (initial training). In 2020 there are more than 50 Judicial Training Academies among the members of the CoE. Most of them – like the Greek – have a life more than a quarter of a century.

Up to now judicial training was performed in blended way. Ex cathedra lectures, seminars, mock trials, workshops, e-learning, webinars. Suddenly the pandemic conquered our earth, our modern civilization. Judicial training was before a great challenge: it should continue to provide the tools of learning to the judiciary. The shock was great especially for the Institutions that didn't use up to now the new technologies. HELP was the sole provider of judicial training in the field of human rights – and this is a big spectrum – which was using the new technologies for about a decade. Distance learning, like e-learning, was the main tool of HELP to disseminate the training on human rights and the ECHR. HELP acted like a basic model. ERA also began last years to use more and more the webinars as a tool for judicial training. The Schools of Judiciary would have to adapt to the new situation.

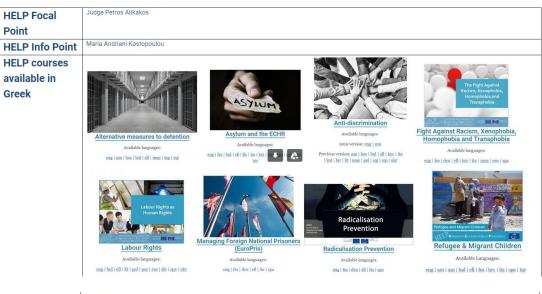
The Greek School was using mostly lectures and seminars, along with mock trials as training tools. Mid-March the School due to the pandemic had to suspend all face to face meetings, seminars and lectures. Then the School was in front of a big dilemma: how to continue to provide training to its 120 trainees for the current year. The board of the School in the first week of the lockdown decided to continue training through the state e-platform called "e-presence". So from Mid-March until 1<sup>st</sup> of June all the courses was given through this platform. The trainer from the one side of the camera and the trainees from the other side they tried – and they succeeded – to continue their initial training. This was not happened – unfortunately – for our continuous training programmes. All our seminars of 2020 for the lifelong training for judges and prosecutors were postponed.

In the critical times of the pandemic and the need of social distancing, so as to cut the chain of the virus only e-learning and webinars are giving the solution for the judicial training. HELP is the pioneer in this field.

The use of on-line platforms for live interaction between the trainer and the trainee has certain dangers and difficulties (security issues, data protection etc). But these difficulties should not succumb the need for judicial training. From the other hand elearning, in the way of scorm packages like HELP courses, and webinars are safer and more flexible regarding the time allocation of the trainer and the trainee. In the future I think we should use more of these tools.

It is true the pandemic taught us new ways of providing training. It is also true that face to face learning is lively and more appealing, it is a need especially for a better cooperation between judges from different countries, but with the same values like our European Countries. I hope that the pandemic will be over soon and science will come up to its duty to end it. Until then we have to use the tools that technology provide us, the tools that HELP for many years uses and I mean e-learning and webinars and we should not forget these tools when the pandemic is over, because they have many advantages like cost efficiency and time flexibility.

Finishing I would like to stress that the Greek School of Judiciary is closely working with the HELP programme for many years.





HELP launches		AD															
		ALTDET															
		Asylum (3 times;	last one for judge	in Decemi	oer 2	018	)										
		Refugee and Migr	rant Children for la	wyers in De	cem	ber	2018										
			the HELP course of													ollaboration with SO n and Xenophobia a	
		Labour rights for	Polish and Greek I	awyers in M	1ay 2	2019	(more	than	80	were in	terested bu	t we cou	ld only sele	ect 35-40	Greeks)		
		CEP (Confederation	on of European Pr	obation, wh	ich s	set L	ıp a mu	ltinat	iona	al group	)					U-CoE HELP in the	
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participants in HELP		School of Judges School of Judges School of Judges	Asylum Labour Rights FARXHT	08.11.16 09.11.16 17-18.09.18	20 28	4	27 34 24	18	4 3	22 28 22	81% 82% 92%	27 34 24	0 0	0 0	0 0		
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According to the above we can tell that the collaboration of the Greek School of Judiciary with HELP programme is a success story. We thank from our side the people from HELP who helped us to built such a good cooperation: from the past Roberto Rivello and Natacha De Roeck, and recently Tatiana Termacic, and now Mikhail Lobov, Eva Pastrana, Ana Maria Telbis, Ana Medarska Lazova and the whole great team of the HELP secretariat.

Thank you very much!