

HELP Online Launch - Combatting Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

Launch Date: 5 September 2022

Duration: 3-4 months

Format: online tutored course

Open to: judges from Latvia

Council of Europe HELP Certificates delivered for

Participation in this training contributes to the goal set by **EU Judicial Training Strategy** in training legal professionals on EU law, including human rights, by 2024; legal professionals are therefore warmly encouraged to participate.

Launch of the HELP course *Concept paper and Agenda*

Date	5 September 2022 from 9:30 (Latvian time)
Location	Riga
Partner	Organised in cooperation with the Latvian Centre for Judicial Training
Language	English/Latvian interpretation, online course: Latvian
Participation	Legal professionals
Registration	Via the procedure and by the deadline indicated in the call circulated at national level

Background

The **Council of Europe (CoE) Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP)**¹ is aimed at supporting the CoE member States in implementing the European human rights standards at the national level, focusing on the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), other key CoE instruments, and since 2015, EU law. This is done by raising the capacities of legal professionals to apply those instruments in their daily work.

The objective of HELP is to provide high quality education on human rights to judges, lawyers and prosecutors throughout Europe. Law enforcement authorities such as police and prison staff are also targeted by HELP. Thanks to HELP courses, legal professionals can better protect human rights on a national level and keep up to date with the ever-evolving standards and case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). HELP courses specifically designed for EU countries increasingly incorporate relevant EU laws.

HELP is:

1. the only pan-European Network of national training institutions for judges, prosecutors and lawyers in the 46 CoE Member States.
2. an e-learning platform with free on-line courses on human rights.
3. a human rights training methodology for legal professionals.

The HELP course

Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

Developed in cooperation with the Gender Equality Division of the Council of Europe. [Read course brief](#)

Modules:

1. Understanding violence against women and domestic violence
2. International and European Legal Framework
3. Overcoming barriers / access to Justice
4. Criminal Justice Response I – Investigation and pre-trial
5. Criminal Justice Response II – Trial and sentencing
6. Civil Justice Response
7. Alternative Dispute Resolution

¹ For more information on HELP please visit HELP's website: www.coe.int/help

The online launch

The **launch event will be held presentially**. Its main goal is to introduce participants to the HELP platform and the course pages on which the national group will follow the course with the assistance of the national tutor(s).

The course preparation and implementation

Before the online launch event, participants should create an account on the [HELP e-learning platform](https://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/login/signup.php)

For creating your HELP account, please follow these steps:

- go to this link and fill in the form (it takes about 2 mins):
<https://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/login/signup.php>
- once submitted, you will receive an activation link on the email you used for creating the account
- go to your email inbox and click on the link to activate your account.



VIDEO TUTORIAL
how to create a HELP account

During the launch event, the participants will be registered on their course page, prepared in advance by their national tutor(s). Over the following weeks and based on the planning set by the tutor(s), the participants will go through the **online course, accessible in their respective national language** and complemented by the national adaptation prepared by the tutor(s).

The participants who have successfully completed the course and passed the evaluation set by the tutors will receive certificates issued by the HELP Programme of the Council of Europe.

Registration

Interested participants should:

- be available to **attend the launch event**
- have the **necessary level of English to follow presentations** made during the launch event
- undertake to **follow and complete the online tutored course** in the following 3-4 months (approx. 1-2 hours of work per week)
- register for the event by following the instructions provided by the national training institution

Agenda – 5 September 2022

9:30-9:45 (LV time) 08:30-08:45 (SXB time)	Registration of participants
9:45 -10:00 (LV time) 8:45 – 9:00 (SXB time)	Welcome address Solvita KALNIŅA – CAUNE, Director of the Latvian Judicial Training Centre Marta BECERRA, Head of Capacity Building and Co-operation Projects Unit, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe
10:00-10:45 (LV time) 9:00 – 9:45 (SXB time)	Overview of the HELP Programme Ana-Maria TELBIS, Project Coordinator, Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP), Programme Justice and Human Rights Training Division, Council of Europe
10:45 -11:00 (LV time) 9:45 – 10:00 (SXB time)	Presentation of the HELP course on Combating Violence and Domestic Violence Louise HOOPER, Council of Europe expert
11:00-11:30 (LV time) 10:00 – 10:30 (SXB time)	Break
11:30-12:15 (LV time) 10:30 – 11:15 (SXB time)	Overview of relevant ECtHR cases Lāsma LIEDE, Senior lawyer, Latvian unit, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights
12:15-13:00 (LV time) 11:15 – 12:00 (SXB time)	Overview of the relevant Council of Europe work on the topic: Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) Sabrina WITTMANN, Administrator, Violence against Women division, Secretariat of the Istanbul Convention Monitoring Mechanism, Council of Europe Roadmap for the establishing of specialised support services for victims of violence against women and domestic violence in Latvia in line with the Council of Europe standards Ilze KURME, Director of the Children and Family Policy Department of the Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia
13:00-14:30 (LV time)	Lunch break
14:30 – 15:30 (LV time)	Session by groups moderated by the national tutor Ilze CELMINA, judge of the Rīga Regional Court of the Republic of Latvia: tour de table and sharing of expectations; course planning; evaluation