

ELFA President Report 2024-2025

In consideration of ELFA's Articles of Association and following the tradition, I have outlined below the major activities of ELFA during my term as President with a view to seeking your approval to close the 2024-2025 year.

The last AGM took place on 19 April 2024 in Edinburgh. In the year to date, the ELFA Board has held three meetings: 1) 10 June 2024, 2) 12 November 2024, 3) 16 January 2025. All meetings were held online.

The meetings dealt with this year's AGM, as well as with administrative and financial issues. Complications arising from having the seat in Amsterdam but a registered address in Belgium led to the need to change ELFA's bank account, which was located at a branch of BNP Paribas Fortis in Leuven. This change, however, was more difficult and took longer than expected, due to the need to carry out prior formalities at the KvK (the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce), such as updating the board members and registering a new administrative seat in Amsterdam. As a result, ELFA's current account was affected for a few months, which led, among other things, to a delay in the payment of the expenses for the organization of the 2024 conference to the University of Edinburgh. In February 2025 the new bank account of ELFA at ABN AMRO was active and in March the funds of ELFA were transferred from BNP Paribas Fortis to the new bank account.

The current edition of the ELFA Award, coordinated by Laurence Gormley, ran from September 2024 until March 2025 and the winner was announced at the ELFA 2025 conference.

Due to the aforementioned difficulties with the operability of the funds ELFA did not have the possibility to be represented at international events. Nevertheless, ELFA continued to develop its international cooperation. In 2024 ELFA renewed its membership in the European Law Institute. In October 2024 an online meeting was held with the President of ELSA to discuss the possibilities for cooperation between ELFA and ELSA. On 26 of March 2025 an online meeting was held between members of the Board of ELFA and the EU Commission, DG for Justice and Consumers, European Judicial Training team. The main subject of the discussion was related to the interaction between the team and ELFA in the dissemination of training tools and materials and the possible contribution of ELFA to the development of the strategy for the EU judicial training. A new meeting will take place after the AGM to decide further course of action, the results of which will be disseminated among the members of ELFA.

During the last year ELFA has received 17 membership applications, of which 12 new applications and 5 renewals of membership. They are as follow:

1. FRANCE, Université Côte d'Azur - EUR LexSociété
2. AZERBADJIAN, Baku State University, Faculty of Law (Associate Member)
3. GEORGIA, LLC European University, Faculty of Law, Humanities and Social Sciences (Associate Member)
4. UNITED KINGDOM, University of Liverpool, School of Law and Social Justice (renewal)
5. ROMANIA, West University of Timisoara, Faculty of Law (Renewal)
6. BULGARIA, South-West University "Neofit Rilski", Faculty of Law and History
7. BRAZIL, Fundação Getulio Vargas – Escola de Direito de São Paulo (FGV DIREITO SP) (Observer Member)
8. BULGARIA, University Of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", Faculty of Law
9. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, Umm Al Quwain University, College of Law (Observer Member)
10. GEORGIA, LLC Alte University, School of Law and Social Sciences
11. GERMANY, Furtwangen University (Hochschule Furtwangen), HFU Business School
12. POLAND, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Faculty of Law and Administration
13. ITALY, University of Camerino School of Law
14. SPAIN, University of Lleida (renewal)
15. SPAIN, University of the Balearic Islands (renewal)
16. BULGARIA, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Law (renewal)
17. POLAND, Faculty of Law and Security Jacob of Paradies University in Gorzów Wielkopolski

The European Journal of Legal Education continued to publish articles on a variety of legal education issues. In 2025 two issues of the journal are to be published: a regular one and a special issue dedicated to global legal education under guest editing work of Veronica Ruiz Abou-Nigm and Soledad Atienza Becerril. The editorial team of the journal has extended by total of 6 new members.

The past twelve months introduced big challenges to ELFA that were successfully overcome with the efforts of the Secretariat and of the Board. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Milagros Orozco Hermoso for her dedication and her enormous contribution for overcoming the above-mentioned problems. I would also like to underline the efforts that the First Vice President Gema Tomás Martínez made in resolving the issues, as well as those of the Treasurer Lukas Rass-Masson. I express my gratitude to the entire Board for their support during my term of office.

Last, but not least, I would like to express my gratitude to Laurance Gormley for his contribution to the ELFA award, to Greta Bosch, all members of the editorial board and to Izabela Krasnichka for their dedication to the development of the EJLE as well as the editing work of Veronica Ruiz Abou-Nigm and Soledad Atienza Becerril representing Law Schools Global League

It has been great honour and responsibility for me to serve as President in the past year. I wish success to the new President and strongly believe that ELFA will continue to serve its members, to grow and to provide more opportunities for the benefit of the legal education in Europe.

Sofia 25 April 2025

Jivko Draganov

President

European Law Faculties Association