



„Attending ERA’s summer school complemented the theoretical background on financial law of my graduate studies by keeping me up-to-date with the latest developments in the field”

As a young lawyer in private practice, working for the Christianos and Partners Law Firm in Athens, I utilise European law in a variety of environments and on regular basis.

I came thus to understand how one can find aspects of it even in cases, seemingly governed by purely domestic laws. Attending ERA’s summer school on EU Regulation and Supervision of Financial Markets complemented the theoretical background on financial law of my graduate studies by keeping me up-to-date with the latest developments in the field.

At the same time, it offered an unparalleled opportunity to bridge theory and practice by bringing together academics and practitioners, each offering a unique insight. The teaching of all courses by lecturers-experts in their fields, the rich social programme in the historic city of Trier, and the overall impeccable planning of the summer school made the whole experience worth repeating.



VIKTORIYA TSEGRILOVSKA
Lawyer
Sofia, Bulgaria

„I was excited to get in touch with highly qualified academics and professionals.“

I am working like a Junior expert in the Supervision of the Investment Activity Directorate of the Bulgarian Financial Supervision Commission. The Summer course on EU Regulation and Supervision of Financial markets gave me the unique opportunity to attend lectures on various topics of European Financial law. I was very excited to get in touch with highly qualified academics and professionals.


Currently I'm part of the team of the Financial Supervision Commission working on the FINTECH Action plan, regarding the future regulation of crypto assets. I would like to continue my professional career in the scope of financial regulation and supervision.

I appreciated the teaching skills of the qualified speakers and how interactivity between the attendants was encouraged through case study and workshops, as well as via its social program, which I thoroughly enjoyed.

Thanks to the ERA scholarship programme I had the possibility to upgrade my knowledge in the area of European financial law.

VIKTORIYA TSEGRILOVSKA, Junior expert, Bulgarian Financial Supervision Commission, Sofia (Bulgaria)

Scholarship: Summer Course on EU Regulation and Supervision of Financial Markets, Trier, 18 June - 23 June 2018



„After all ERA’s events I arrive home with full of inspirations and new ideas which I adapt at my work and this this event was not an exception.”

I work as a Senior Associate in boutique law firm Motieka & Audzevius in Lithuania. Most of our clients in financial market industry is Fintech companies willing to disrupt a market. Since our clients seek to act not only locally but across the EU, an application of the EU law comes in to play.

The GDPR and the PSD2 started to be applied in 2018 are the key legal instruments that current framework activities of Fintech companies, therefore a seminar on the GDPR and the PSD2 organised by ERA in May 2018 was extremely useful. During the event critical aspects and interactions of new regulations were discussed. Presentations were given by highly reputable practitioners and top representatives of the EU institutions.

As the seminar was based and analysis of practical cases, it provoked interesting debates and discussions among participants.

This seminar of ERA was not the first one in which I have participated. After all ERA’s events I arrive home with full of inspirations and new ideas which I adapt at my work and this this event was not an exception.



„Attending ERA’s summer school complemented the theoretical background on financial law of my graduate studies by keeping me up-to-date with the latest developments in the field”

Being a lawyer in a European Union candidate country like Albania and an external professor in University of Elbasan “Aleksander Xhuvani” (Albania), I deal with European law every day. For instance, giving legal advice to international enterprises that operate in my country, teaching at university departments dedicated to European law and especially as part of my PhD research.

Attending the conference on “Corporate Governance for Banks in the Post-Crisis Environment” was a beneficial experience in a multidimensional way. I did not only acquire legal skills and updated information about European law to use in my every day work but most importantly I discovered a great source of knowledge in Trier, the Academy of European Law.

Furthermore I had the opportunity to meet the organizers of the conference who were great people and excellent professionals, not to mention the advantage of meeting new people who share the same professional interests.

All things considered, attending the conference on “Corporate Governance for Banks in the Post-Crisis Environment” is a beneficial experience for a legal practitioner and it was not possible for me to attend without the help of scholarship program from the German Bundesbank and the great people who work for this programme.

ARBËR SHAHU, PhD student, Tirana (Albania)

Scholarship: Corporate Governance for Banks in the Post-Crisis Environment
Trier, 26 - 27 April 2018



EVDOKIA NASTOU
Legal counsel
Athens, Greece

„During this summer course, I had the opportunity to interact with highly skilled practitioners and well educated speakers, which was indeed very inspirational.“

I am currently working as a legal counsel for Piraeus Bank in Athens, Greece. My main area of practice is capital markets - an area which is mostly regulated by EU legislation, either EU regulations having direct effect in the Greek legal system or EU directives transposed into Greek law.

In my day-to-day practice, I contribute to ensuring that Piraeus Bank complies with all relevant EU capital markets legislation. Earning the Bundesbank Scholarship gave me an excellent opportunity to enrich my knowledge in the new EU regulation of financial markets by attending the summer course on “EU regulation and supervision of financial markets” at the Academy of European Law in June 2018.

During this summer course, I had also the opportunity to obtain some useful insights regarding banking supervision, banks’ capital requirements and recovery and resolution regime and interact with highly skilled practitioners and well educated speakers, which was indeed very inspirational.



REZARTA DEMNERI
Academic
Tirana, Albania

„In quest of a better understanding of its possible applications in criminal law, ERA’s Anti-Money Laundering conference was the perfect occasion to update my knowledge.”

Prior to working as a lecturer of Criminal Law at the University of Tirana since 2008, the anti-money laundering European legal framework is very much part of my research interest. Furthermore, the status of Albania as candidate country to access the EU poses an obligation on academia to update on the *acquis* in order to understand and eventually participate to the introduction of the necessary changes to the national legal framework as an interested party.

In quest of a better understanding of its possible applications in criminal law, ERA’s Anti-Money Laundering conference was the perfect occasion to update my knowledge.

The Bundesbank scholarship I was granted allowed me to attend to a course I would not be able to attend otherwise due to the current inexistent funding for individual post-doctoral research pursuits on part of the academic staff in Albania. As usual, ERA succeeded on tailoring the content after a more knowledgeable audience maintaining the learning process accessible thanks to an interactive approach.

My gratitude to ERA for granting me a scholarship to follow such course is accompanied only by the wish of returning one day there.

REZARTA DEMNERI, Full-time lecturer, Department of Criminal Law, Faculty of Law, University of Tirana (Albania)

Scholarship: Anti-Money Laundering: Update on the EU Policy and Legislative Framework, Trier, 15 November - 16 November 2018



ALBERTO MATTIA SERAFIN
Trainee Lawyer
Rome, Italy

„I am sure that the attendance at this conference will contribute enormously to my future work and academic activities.“

I am a Trainee Lawyer at the General Attorney for the Italian State in Rome and PhD Student at the University of Cassino (Italy). In my daily work and research activities I frequently use EU Law, especially in the fields of financial regulation and banking supervision.

I am therefore particularly grateful to the Academy and to the German Bundesbank for their scholarship, because the attendance of the “Annual Conference on Financial Supervision in the EU 2018” provided me with the opportunity to enhance my experience and knowledge in these very interesting, fascinating and challenging policy areas.

The possibility to listen to such distinguished guest speakers discussing cutting-edge issues like FinTech, Basel IV and the consequences of Brexit on financial markets was truly enriching: I am sure that the attendance at this conference will contribute enormously to my future work and academic activities.

ALBERTO MATTIA SERAFIN, Trainee Lawyer and PhD Student, Rome (Italy)
Scholarship: Annual Conference on Financial Supervision in the EU
Brussels, 06-07 December 2018



FEEDBACK FROM A SCHOLAR

„This course was an incredible chapter of my life that I will always remember. I had the chance to meet very interesting people and to learn from the expertise of renowned speakers“

As a tax consultant at the Ministry of Finance in Portugal, the knowledge I gained during ERA's Summer Course on European Tax Law is extremely useful and will be used on a daily basis. In my current work, I always have to engage with European Law, even if it is just to get a better understanding of my national law, and of course, one can never forget the question 'What's going on in Europe?' when discussing tax policy.

I am very grateful for the scholarship from the ERA Jubilee Fund, which gave me the opportunity to attend this amazing and well-organised course. The lectures and workshops helped me to understand the practical questions relating to tax law, as well as to think about new issues and developments. The social programme was also very thought-out and an excellent chance to network with fellow tax law practitioners. I will always remember this course, and that through it, I met some very interesting people and got to learn from renowned speakers and experts.

We are pleased to note that after having firsthand experience of the scholarship programme, Sofia herself joined the Friends of ERA Association.



FEEDBACK FROM A SCHOLAR

„I am truly grateful to ERA for this scholarship, since it enabled me to gain a different perspective on the EU institutions and aspire to continue learning about the EU.”

As only recently entering legal practice, ERA’s introductory Summer Course on EU Institutional Law offered a thorough understanding of the main EU institutional changes after the Lisbon Treaty, with a particular focus on the European Charter of Fundamental Rights, as well as a valuable insight into how the European Court of Justice functions. Currently, I am working in the area of consolidating EU secondary legislation, and therefore, this course is extremely important for my professional development and offers more broadly, a sense of citizenship within the EU. Throughout the week of the course, we covered a wide range of EU legal topics, and we were extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn from various EU actors belonging to the different European institutions.

In the future, I intend to apply for other more specialised courses and further enhance my understanding of European policy-making mechanisms.

We are pleased to note that after having firsthand experience of the scholarship programme, Denisa-Gabriela herself joined the Friends of ERA Association.

FEEDBACK FROM A SCHOLAR

„The whole ERA experience was unique to me. I am telling all my colleagues and friends with legal background that this is the best training I have attended so far.“

After seven years in the corporate world and another five in a law firm in Bulgaria, I decided to make a step forward in my career by establishing my own law firm based in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Before attending this course, I had only a theoretical understanding of mediation and ADR. The scholarship was valuable for me personally, as through the course, I developed a strong grasp of the practical issues in mediation, as well as the latest developments in the EU regulations and supervision of these topics. I furthered my understanding of the mediation process and the role of the mediator, and was able to consolidate this through the many role-plays that took place during the training sessions.

Apart from the knowledge and development of my skills, the visit to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg was a very exciting experience. I also found particularly beneficial the opportunity given by ERA for social networking with the other practitioners, for we all shared many similar interests.

A portrait of Dr. Veronika Sárosi, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a white top with blue and orange stripes. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is an outdoor setting with greenery and a wooden structure.

FEEDBACK FROM A SCHOLAR

„ERA is an unique place to feel part of the EU and the legal society.
The organization of the event could not have been any better.”

I work in Budapest with the leader of the Metropolitan Administrative and Labour Law Board, and my role requires me to ensure that judges and those in the judicial system are up-to-date with the current EU legislations, procedures, and aware of any upcoming and developing cases. Therefore, being able to attend the course was a great opportunity for me, made possible by the scholarship from ERA.

I found two aspects of the training particularly helpful: The lectures made even very difficult cases easier to understand, giving us the relevant and main points of the related directives and regulations, as well as the matters of contention within the case-law. The speakers all gave excellent and high-quality presentations, which made them particularly especial. Furthermore, the training was interactive with case studies, which helped me to developed and deepen the knowledge I gained in a practical sense, being able to apply the law that I learnt.

Through attending this course, not only have I gained a deeper understanding of the area of law I work in, but it also made me feel part of the EU's legal network, and I thank ERA for the wonderful chance they gave me to be able to attend.

FEEDBACK FROM A SCHOLAR

„Having practiced competition law for almost three years now, it became clear to me that the “ERA” name and training was a priority in order to further develop my professional career.”

As I apply European law in my daily work, I was delighted to learn about EU competition law practise and latest developments from such excellent speakers. It was great to see how open and personal the lecturers were- throughout the course, we combined the theory of competition law and economics with practical case studies and debates of current issues.

The course also enabled me to learn how to think beyond the confines of national boundaries, which is crucial in competition law. That every participant each had a different background and nationality really helped me to further develop my international profile, and provided a golden opportunity to connect and network with the other experienced practitioners.

My overall impression of the course was that of an efficiently run and well-managed event that caters to all types of lawyers. My sincere gratitude goes to the ERA and its Competition Law Scholarship for allowing me to participate in this high level event. I would definitely recommend this event to practitioners as I am confident the program offers in-depth knowledge of European competition law.



Radovan Baran



Paola Cavanna



Teodor Georgiev

Feedback from the scholars

SIGITA FOMICIOVA

Judicial assistant, The Supreme Court of Lithuania

Scholarship: Financial Supervision in the EU

The national courts in each EU country are responsible for ensuring that EU law is properly applied in that country. This is extremely important for the Supreme Court of Lithuania as the decisions of the Court are final and cannot be appealed against. The legal regulation of the financial supervision in the EU became one of the key topics after the World financial crisis in 2008 and the Court faces increasing number of the cases where the relevant questions arise.

The scholarship for attending ERA conference was a valuable opportunity to become familiar with recent developments in financial supervision, to compare legal regulation before and after crisis and to discuss the possible outcomes for the future. ERA seminars always provide top quality speakers and well gathered documentation set. That makes it possible to increase professional knowledge in a fast and convenient way, and, together with scholarship system, more people can benefit from it.

PAOLA CAVANNA, ITALY

Ph.D student at Agrisystem School at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Piacenza

Scholarship: Annual Conference on Migration Law

European Law plays a crucial role in my everyday work. I am currently practicing as a lawyer in Milan, where I specialise in Labour Law, Migration Law and Anti-Discrimination Law. I am also a Ph.D student; my research is aimed at preventing exploitation of immigrants working in the agricultural sector.

The Academy's scholarship enabled me to attend the Annual Conference on Migration, which has fostered my interest in the area not only through the interesting lectures but by giving me the opportunity to interact with professors, leading experts and practitioners from all over Europe. This experience will definitely help me to deal better with practical issues arising in my job.

I am very grateful to ERA for the privilege of receiving the scholarship.

TEODOR GEORGIEV

Junior Expert in the Bulgarian Commission on Protection of Competition in Sofia, Bulgaria

Scholarship: Summer Course on EU Competition Law

Attending the Summer Course on European Competition Law was important to my work at the Bulgarian Commission on Protection of Competition. Besides its other responsibilities, the Bulgarian competition authority is empowered to enforce the provisions of Art. 101 and Art. 102 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. This is just one example of the many ways in which its work intersects with EU law.

Without the scholarship awarded to me by ERA, I would not have been able to attend this useful course. The course allowed me to develop a firm grasp of essential knowledge in the area of the competition law and to enrich the knowledge that I had already acquired through my work. Participation in the course allowed me to become more familiar with the enforcement of the European legal framework, as well as to learn the latest and most important case law.

RADOVAN BARAN

Legal adviser of the Private International Law Department, Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava, Slovakia

Scholarship: Summer Course on Intellectual Property Law

Since 2009, I have been working for the Department of Private International Law of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic. My specific area of interest concerns effective international judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters.

The Summer Course on European Intellectual Property Law was a wonderful learning experience, as I acquired a very thorough introduction to the EU intellectual property law, including an overview of the latest relevant case law. The visit to the European Court of Justice, as well as all of the social and networking activities, were very beneficial. I am looking forward to taking part in ERA events again.