



## **DIPLOMA IN EUROPEAN UNION LAW (NEW)**

<b>Start Date</b>	14 January 2012 /Saturday
<b>Exam Date</b>	TBC
<b>Delivery method</b>	Onsite Saturdays & webcast
<b>CPD Hours</b>	Satisfies the full CPD Scheme requirements 2012
<b>Fee</b>	€2,150 (includes a year's membership to ICEL or alternatively a 10% discount for existing ICEL members).
<b>Course Leader</b>	Rory O'Boyle, Solicitor

### **Course Objectives**

The overall objective of this course is to assist practitioners to identify, understand and interpret EU law issues arising in the course of their practice, whether in the public or the private sector. EU law is a dynamic, fast evolving and continuously expanding area of law, which impacts on a wide range of different areas of legal practice - areas as diverse as employment law, family law, environment, planning, criminal law, immigration and asylum, competition, consumer protection, intellectual property, social security and taxation. In addition to substantive rules, EU law imposes procedural obligations on national courts, state bodies and administrative authorities to ensure the effective implementation of EU law. It further provides mechanisms by which individuals and entities may seek redress for breaches of EU law. Following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the EU's Charter of fundamental rights guarantees a wide-ranging set of rights, freedoms and principles and enumerates primary legal norms against which secondary EU legislation and national implementing measures may be interpreted and assessed.

This course is offered as a collaboration between the Law Society of Ireland and the **Irish Centre for European Law** (ICEL). Lectures will build an understanding of the functions and decision making process within the EU. Workshops and Saturday sessions will provide an opportunity for interaction and discussion on related issues such as comitology and effective lobbying. In addition, guest speakers will be invited to give personal insights into applying for positions in the EU and working in various EU institutions.

A sound understanding of the scope, nature and application of EU is an essential prerequisite to the provision of fully informed legal advice. The objective of this course is to equip private and public sector practitioners with the skills to identify, interpret and advise on EU law aspects of their practice and ensure that they are brought up-to-date with the latest legislative and judicial developments at a European level. The course provides coverage of both the basics of EU Law (sources, general principles, direct effect of provisions, the Charter etc) and its substantive aspects (including internal market, employment law, competition law, citizenship, fundamental rights) relevant to practice.

### **Course Structure**

The course runs over seven months and is divided into nine modules:

<b>Module One</b>	Introduction to EU law
<b>Module Two</b>	Litigating EU law before national and Union courts
<b>Module three</b>	Internal market law
<b>Module four</b>	Competition law (EU & Irish)
<b>Module five</b>	Workers, citizens and access to social security
<b>Module six</b>	Consumer Law
<b>Module seven</b>	Employment & equality law
<b>Module eight</b>	Human Rights law
<b>Module nine</b>	Environmental law



### **Workshops**

Workshops are an important element of all our diploma courses. Workshops are 'hands-on' sessions conducted in smaller groups that consolidate the learning process and promote a deeper understanding of course materials. All students, regardless of their standard method of accessing the course, are strongly recommended to attend onsite for the following workshop sessions: Saturday 14 January 2012, 11.30am to 4.00pm; Saturday 03 March 2012, 11.30am to 4.00pm; and Saturday 05 May 2012, 11.30am to 4.00pm. We also strongly recommend that you attend onsite for the introductory lectures on Saturday 22 October 2011.

### **Who Should Attend**

This diploma will appeal to solicitors and trainees but may also appeal to suitably qualified non-legal professionals who work in the area. Please note, if you are not a qualified solicitor, trainee or barrister you must apply with a cover letter and curriculum vitae for approval in order to attend the course.

A 10% discount applies to applications received from ICEL members. Non-ICEL members attending the course will be provided with membership of ICEL for the duration of the course and can avail of the full range of benefits that apply (see [www.icel.ie](http://www.icel.ie)).

### **Delivery Method: Blended learning via webcasting resource**

The lectures and workshops have a strong practical focus and are geared to equip practitioners with legal tools necessary to identify, interpret and apply EU law. All lectures will take place in the Education Centre in Blackhall Place. However to facilitate those students unable to attend Dublin on a weekly basis, lectures will also be webcast 'live' on our secure internet site. This means that students can decide to attend the onsite lecture or, alternatively, to access the lecture online via the course website for such courses. In addition, lectures will be archived within the course website for the duration of the course and can be viewed at a later date on demand by all students. We encourage students to either attend onsite or watch the lectures live so they keep up with lectures and to only use the 'catch up' on demand facility as a default. We want to give the remote student an authentic lecture theatre experience therefore we have customized our design to include an instant message feature whereby those watching live webcasts can send messages via the webcast page to the course leader/course tutor in the lecture theatre and their question will be put to the lecturer. Courses that are running in the green hall will be podcast recordings, which mean that the audio recordings will be available on moodle.

If you intend to rely on the webcasting resource, we ask that you ensure prior to the application process that your home/office PC is compatible with the relevant software. This requires a very straightforward test, go to: <http://diplomalaw.learnonline.ie/course/view.php>

Username: testwebcast Password: testwebcast

If you cannot view the webcast follow the instructions provided. There may be local factors such as 'firewalls' and we suggest that at first instance you check with your IT provider.

### **Lecturers**

Lectures will be provided by experienced practitioners with in-depth knowledge of the impact of recent case law and legislative developments.