



EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021



The rule of law and well-functioning judicial systems are fundamental building blocks for democratic societies. Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway support programmes to strengthen the rule of law, help police to address cross-border crime and empower communities.

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The programme will be implemented through:



Beneficiary States



EEA and Norway Grants



Open calls for proposals



Pre-defined projects

Why support the rule of law?

The police, the prosecuting and the judiciary services play an important role in guaranteeing basic human rights and freedoms, as well as protection from violence and discrimination. Investments, trade and economic growth rely on a sound, predictable and transparent legal environment.

What is supported?

An independent and capable judicial system based on justice and human rights principles, efficient procedures and transparent judicial decisions contributes to increased public trust in the judicial systems in Europe. The EEA and Norway Grants' support in this sector includes:

- Improving the efficiency of the judiciary
- Training judges, lawyers and prosecutors on the European Convention of Human Rights
- Improving the capacity of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute cases of organised crime, including trafficking
- Strengthening cooperation between national and international law enforcement authorities
- Strengthening the justice chain – the cooperation between judicial institutions
- Strengthened cooperation between civil society and the judicial system, for example through legal aid projects, child friendly justice and the rights of minorities

Where we work

Effectiveness and efficiency of the judicial system, strengthening rule of law and international police cooperation and combating crime programmes are available in eight Beneficiary States.

	EEA Grants	Norway Grants	Total
Bulgaria	-	22.6	22.6
Croatia	-	11.2	11.2
Czech Republic	-	6.9	6.9
Latvia	13.2	-	13.2
Lithuania	8	25	33
Poland	-	80.7	80.7
Romania	-	17.9	17.9
Slovakia	1	-	1

Amounts are in € million and for the period 2014-2021. The figures are subject to change until all relevant programme agreements are signed in all countries.

In addition, rule of law projects are also supported through the Grants' support to civil society through the Active Citizens Funds.

Cooperation

Sharing knowledge and experiences is crucial for strengthening the Rule of law. Partnerships with entities from the Donor States are strongly encouraged. To support such bilateral cooperation, the following entities are Donor Programme Partners in this area: [the Norwegian Correctional Service](#), [the Norwegian Courts Administration](#), [the Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection](#), [the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration](#), [the Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security](#) and [the Norwegian National Police Directorate](#). The [Council of Europe](#) and the [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development \(OECD\)](#) are engaged as International Partner Organisations.

Country	Programme	Programme Partner
Bulgaria	Home affairs	Council of Europe, Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Norwegian National Police Directorate
	Justice	Council of Europe, Norwegian Correctional Service, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security
Croatia	Justice	Council of Europe, Norwegian Courts Administration
Czech Republic	Home affairs	
	Justice	Council of Europe, Norwegian Correctional Service
Latvia	Home affairs	Council of Europe
Lithuania	Justice and home affairs	Council of Europe, Norwegian Correctional Service, Norwegian Courts Administration, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Norwegian National Police Directorate
Poland	Home affairs	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security
	Justice	Norwegian Correctional Service, Norwegian Courts Administration, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security
Romania	Home affairs	Council of Europe, Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection, Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Norwegian National Police Directorate
	Justice	Council of Europe, Norwegian Correctional Service, Norwegian Courts Administration, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security
Slovakia	Good governance	Norwegian Barents Secretariat, OECD

Improved capacity of the judiciary to comply with human rights standards:

The Grants contributed to the improvement of the efficiency of courts, and the capacity of the judiciary to implement the European Convention on Human Rights and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights.



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Judge Tsveta Jeliaskova (pictured) is one of several Bulgarian judges who received a one-year placement in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

Stronger police cooperation between Romania and Norway:

Close international cooperation is crucial when fighting human trafficking and criminal groups travelling from one place to another. With support through the Grants, 25 Romanian police officers participated in joint operational missions in Norway where they assisted Norwegian police in the combatting of crime committed by Romanian nationals. In addition, more than 500 police officers participated in joint workshops on counteracting organised crime and strengthening intelligence and strategic analysis.



Key achievements from the 2009-2014 funding period

A total of **€70.9 million** was allocated to judicial capacity-building, Schengen and police cooperation.

51%

of supported projects with a Donor Partner plan to **continue their cooperation**

100,000

legal professionals and police officers were **trained**

267,000

people received **assistance or legal advice**

About the EEA and Norway Grants

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway provide funding to:

- Reducing disparities in Europe
- Strengthening bilateral relations

Areas of support

- Innovation, research, education and competitiveness
- Social inclusion, youth employment and poverty reduction
- Environment, energy, climate change and low carbon economy
- Culture, civil society, good governance and fundamental rights and freedoms
- Justice and home affairs

* EEA Grants are jointly financed by Iceland (3%), Liechtenstein (1%) and Norway (96%) **Norway Grants are solely financed by Norway

