

AIAKOS PROGRAMME

FINLAND – THE NATIONAL COURTS ADMINISTRATION

- **Brief description of the AIAKOS Programme:**

The programme is addressed specifically to future and early-career judges, giving them the opportunity to learn about other judicial systems and training curricula, enhance their knowledge of EU law and judicial cooperation instruments as well as meet with their counterparts and develop useful contacts for their future professional life.

- **General objectives of the AIAKOS programme:**

- To bring together future or newly appointed judges and prosecutors from different EU Member States;
- To foster mutual understanding of different European judicial cultures and systems;
- To raise awareness of the European dimension of their (future work);

- **Specificity of the host institution**

In Finland, only judges are currently taking part in the AIAKOS exchange. The exchange is coordinated and hosted by the National Courts Administration.

- **Key points for the host institution's programme**

The main focus of AIAKOS is to offer the participants a general overview of the Finnish judicial system.

- **Content of the host institution's programme**

- Introduction to the Finnish judicial system
- Discussions about the judicial systems of the participants' countries
- Visits to other government agencies or courts (e.g. Ministry of Justice, the Parliament, Supreme or Supreme Administrative court, Court of Appeal, District court, prison, prosecutors)

- **Additional information**

As the AIAKOS Programme is organised only for a small group of participants, six in total, it feels more like a peer-to-peer exchange, even if it is a group exchange. For the free time, don't forget the Finnish specialties: sauna and swimming in the lake in the hole of ice.