

ELENA, the European Legal Network on Asylum, is a forum for legal practitioners who aim to promote the highest human rights standards for the treatment of refugees, asylum seekers and other persons in need of international protection in their daily counselling and advocacy work. The ELENA network is coordinated by the ECRE Secretariat and extends across most European states and involves some 2,000 lawyers and legal counsellors.

ELENA's objectives are pursued by:

- Providing and reinforcing contact between practising lawyers and legal counsellors in different European countries who work on asylum cases;
- Facilitating the exchange of information and experience between these lawyers and legal counsellors;
- Studying the implementation of national and international law relating to refugees;
- Organising seminars on specific topics relating to refugee law and making results available to practising lawyers;
- Promoting the development of national networks of lawyers specialising in asylum law.

# ECRE

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON  
REFUGEES AND EXILES

# ELENA

EUROPEAN LEGAL  
NETWORK ON ASYLUM



## ASYLUM PROCEDURES, THE EU AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

4 – 6 May 2007,  
Holiday Inn, Rome, Italy

### REGISTER NOW!

It is expected that this course will be over-subscribed and places are limited. Closing date for registrations is **15 March 2007**. Applications will be dealt with in order of receipt. All interested legal counsellors and lawyers are advised to register early to avoid disappointment.

**ECRE is pleased to announce the forthcoming ELENA course on Asylum Procedures, the EU and International Human Rights Law**

The course will examine the Asylum Procedures Directive in light of International Refugee and Human Rights law and EC Law, including the impact of policies such as fast track processing upon asylum seekers. It will also address the impact of the Qualification Directive on the use of evidence in asylum procedures, with a particular focus on the role of country of origin information and medical evidence. The course will explore what EC law remedies are now available to practitioners.

The programme will include lectures by experts in international refugee and asylum law. The course will be conducted in English.

The course is aimed at legal counsellors and lawyers from across Europe who defend or who are interested in defending cases concerning refugees and asylum seekers.

# ECRE

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON  
REFUGEES AND EXILES

**PROGRAMME FOR THE ELENA COURSE:  
Asylum Procedures, the EU and International Human Rights Law**

**Friday 4 May 2007**

- 11:00 – 13:00 Registration  
13:00 – 13:15 Welcome and Introduction to ELENA & ECRE – **Chris Nash, Senior Legal Officer/ELENA Co-ordinator, ECRE**  
13:15 – 14:00 The EU engagement with asylum and the development of a Common European Asylum System – **Elsbeth Guild**  
14:00 – 15:30 The EC Asylum Procedures Directive in Legal Context  
**Cathryn Costello**  
15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break  
16:00 – 17:00 Border, admissibility, and accelerated procedures: International Human Rights Dimensions of the Procedures Directive and the Dublin II Regulation – **Judith Farbey**  
17:00 – 18:30 Workshop – Representation in fast track procedures: Experiences from the Netherlands and the United Kingdom  
**Flip Schüller and Matthew Davies**  
19:15 Drinks Reception & coach departure to Rome's Old Town

**Saturday 5 May 2007**

- 09:30 – 10:45 Detention in asylum procedures, the EU and international human rights law – **Nicholas Blake QC**  
10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break  
11:15 – 12:30 Evidentiary assessment and the EC Qualification Directive  
**Rosemary Byrne**  
12:30 – 13:30 The role of Country of Origin Information in the asylum procedure – **Gabor Gyulai**  
13:30 – 14:45 Lunch  
14:45 – 15:30 Judicial criteria for assessing Country of Origin Information  
**Judge Kathelijne DeClerck**  
15:30 – 16:15 Silence as a way of controlling the effects of sexual violence: The challenge to construct a gender-sensitive asylum procedure **Marian Tankink**  
16:15 – 16:45 Coffee break  
16:45 – 18:00 The role of expert medical evidence in the asylum procedure  
**Guy Goodwin-Gill**  
20:00 Social evening

**Sunday 6 May 2007**

- 09:30 – 11:00 What EU Remedies? The European Court of Justice: Overview of Court Procedures and Judgements – **Elsbeth Guild**  
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break  
11:30 – 13:00 Panel Discussion: The impact of state interception practices on access to protection in the Common European Asylum System – Introduced and chaired by **Guy Goodwin-Gill**  
13:00 Close and departure

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS**

First name: Mr/Ms.....  
Last name:.....  
Job Title:.....  
Law Firm/Organisation:.....  
Address:.....  
.....  
Postal Code and City:.....  
Country:.....  
Telephone number:.....  
Fax number:.....  
E-mail:.....  
I have special access and/or dietary needs. Please detail:.....  
.....

**Please return this form by 15 March 2007 to:**

European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)  
Attn.: Stephanie Huber  
103 Worship Street, London EC2A 2DF, UK  
Tel: +44 (0) 207 377 7556  
Fax: +44 (0) 207 377 7586  
E-mail: [shuber@ecre.org](mailto:shuber@ecre.org)

**Registration Fee**

The fee for participation for lawyers and NGO staff is £395 sterling and £495 sterling for government officials. This is a residential course and the fee will cover seminar costs, accommodation, meals as per the programme and documentation.  
On receipt of the registration form, we will send you confirmation, programme information and details on payment methods.

**After returning this form it is important that all monies are received by 30 March 2007 or places will be cancelled.**