



**HOTEL TRYP CENTRO NORTE,  
MADRID, FRIDAY 27/02/09,  
SATURDAY 28/02/09 &  
SUNDAY 01/03/09**

**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.

## THE INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF REFUGEES AND OTHER INTERNATIONALLY DISPLACED PERSONS: A EUROPEAN FOCUS

### INVITATION

ECRE is pleased to announce its forthcoming ELENA course, *The International Protection of Refugees and Other Internationally Displaced Persons: A European Focus*.

The course will examine refugee law in the context of international human rights and European law. The course will study the definition of a refugee, and exceptions to that definition, under the 1951 Geneva Convention. It will then focus on the fundamental right of *non-refoulement*, the protection provided by the Convention and other international and European human rights instruments against return to face a risk of persecution or other serious harm. Finally it will explore the protection regime established by the EC Qualification Directive.

The course will be presented by **Professor Geoff Gilbert** and **Ms Alice Edwards**, and **Mr Gabor Gyulai** will teach a module on statelessness. Instruction will be 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.

**HOW TO REGISTER.** Please return the attached form by **12 January 2009** to European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), Attn.: Helene David. If you register by **23 December 2008** you can benefit from our early registration fee of 450€.\*

### PROGRAMME

#### FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2009

- 12:00 – 14:00 | Registration and Lunch  
14:00 – 14:10 | Welcome and introduction to ELENA & ECRE  
14:10 – 14:25 | Outline of the Course  
14:25 – 16:25 | Introduction to International Law in the Area of Human Rights and Refugee Law  
16:25 – 16:45 | Break  
16:45 – 18:15 | Determining who is a refugee:  
Article 1A(2), 1951 Refugee Convention  
1967 Protocol

#### SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2009

- 09:30 – 10:30 | Protection against *refoulement* (forcible return) under the 1951 Refugee Convention: Art. 33 (1)  
10:30 – 11:00 | Case study  
11:00 – 11:30 | Break  
11:30 – 12:30 | Exceptions to *non-refoulement*: Art. 33(2)  
12:30 – 14:00 | Lunch  
14:00 – 16:00 | Exclusion from refugee protection: Art. 1F and related provisions

- 16:00 – 16:30 | Break  
16:30 – 17:30 | Loss or denial of refugee protection:  
Arts. 1C and 1D

#### SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2009

- 09:30 – 10:45 | Protection against return to torture under international human rights law: Art. 3 UNCAT and Art. 7 ICCPR  
10:45 – 11:30 | Protection against return to torture under European human rights law: Art. 3 ECHR (and other provisions)  
11:30 – 11:45 | Health, Family Life and Non-Discrimination  
11:45 – 12:00 | Break  
12:00 – 12:30 | Case study  
12:30 – 13:30 | EC Qualifications Directive and subsidiary protection  
13:30 – 14:30 | Lunch  
14:30 – 16:00 | Statelessness  
16:00 – 16:15 | Closing remarks and departure

#### \*REGISTRATION FEE

The fee for participation for lawyers and NGO staff is 500€ and 600€ for government officials. This is a residential course and the fee will cover seminar costs, accommodation, meals as per the programme and documentation.

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