FEDERATION DES BARREAUX D'EUROPE EUROPEAN BARS FEDERATION VERBAND EUROPÄISCHER RECHTSANWALTSKAMMERN FEDERACION DE LOS COLEGIOS DE ABOGADOS DE EUROPA FEDERAZIONE DEGLI ORDINI FORENSI D'EUROPA

REPORT ABOUT THE COST OF JUSTICE AND THE LEGAL AID CONDITIONS

2017



ACCESS TO JUSTICE - COMMISSION

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Access to Justice

Abstract

Access to Justice.

Main topics of observation and study:

- 1. Costs of justice;
- 2. Time of justice;
- 3. Legal aid;
- 4. Systems of alternative dispute resolution (limits or aids?)
- 5. Effectiveness of Justice: due process and trial brief.

Project and vision

Access to justice has been defined as "an equal right to participate in every institution where law is debated, created, found, organized, administered, interpreted and applied".

It doesn't simply mean access to lawyers and courts.

It means access to ombudsmen, advice agencies and the police law; it means public authorities behaving properly; it means everyone having some basic understanding of their rights; it means making law less complex and more intelligible.

Access to justice may mean ensuring physical accessibility to the courthouse, explaining what the law means on the internet, providing translations, finding alternative dispute resolution other than through the courts, offering legal aid and similar steps on order to remove barriers of various kinds.

It means being "treated fairly according to the law and if you are not treated fairly being able to get appropriate redress".

We must ensure equal rights and opportunities to the parties of the case guaranteeing that a FAIR TRAIL will be he held in front a of an independent and impartial Court.

"Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him".

"Fair Trial" includes:

the right to be heard by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal

- the right to a public hearing
- the right to be heard within a reasonable time
- the right to counsel
- the right to interpretation,
- the right to get a decision within a reasonable time.

In order to reach that goal, we must allow those who do not have sufficient financial resources to meet the costs of a court case or legal representation in order to have the parties right to be heard equally respected.

We must also pursue effective justice developing and amending our procedures in order to remove differences amongst procedural justice and real justice.

Sometimes an unfair decision can be however quick and formally correct in accordance with the provision of law: in this case we have to understand the reason why real justice has not been achieved and act to remove any obstacle which could jeopardize our effort.

All modern legal systems recognize the need to guarantee better access to justice for individuals and companies.

In our European systems different mechanisms exist to help citizens and companies to enforce their rights such as "alternative dispute resolution" and legal aid.

An important form of alternative dispute resolution is mediation ran by the mediator who assists the parties to negotiate a settlement which may concern a variety of domains, with a determined structure, timetable and dynamics.

Mediators use various techniques to open, or improve, dialogue and empathy between disputants, aiming to help the parties reach an agreement and depending on the mediator's skill and training.

According to Italian legal system, mediation is in certain cases compulsory and the procedure has been considered an obstacle to justice rather than a form of guarantee.

Several reasons have been brought to support such negative point of view: the citizen has got to face costs of the mediation procedure and later Court, mediators' background and quality and others.

Today, mediation valuation has changed and its success is really positive.

The FBE Commission will try to understand how our systems ensure effective access to justice - suggesting common solution to improve and guarantee fair trial - because rights and freedoms are vital checks and balances in any civilized society but meaningless without access to justice or the practical means of understanding and enforcing the law of the land.

ENGLAND & WALES

LEGAL AID in England & Wales

Law: Legal Aid, Sentencing, Punishment of Offenders 2012	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHO	Anyone subject to English law, resident in the country. Criminal: Persons who are charged, convicted, Civil Family: no legal aid except where domestic violence, forced marriage or need to protect a child from abuse. Housing: no legal aid except where proceedings may result in loss of the home. Administrative cases:: No legal aid for administrative tribunals (Employment, Social Security and others) except at Upper Tribunal, Court of Appeal or Supreme Court, Public law: Judicial Review.	All legal advice at police station is free. Free advice and representation at the magistrates' court If client did not get legal advice before case comes up at the magistrates' court, free legal advice and representation by the court duty solicitor.		Not after sentence.

Law: Legal Aid, Sentencing, Punishment of Offenders 2012	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
CONDITIONS	Financial test: CIVIL: Gross monthly income (earnings and assets before tax)(all permanent members of the household) must be less than: Gross monthly income below £2,657 or less, followed by check of disposable income by solicitor (deductions for partner, dependent children. Full legal aid if resulting monthly income is less than: £733 People on social security benefit: full legal aid. Capital over £8000: no legal aid. Savings over £3,000 taken into account. Value of equity in the home is taken into account. Sliding scale between £3000 between £8,000 reduces the amount of legal aid, and client has to pay contribution. Further test: must be serious, and chance of success. CRIMINAL: A Representation Order covers representation by a solicitor and, if necessary, by a barrister in criminal cases. To qualify for a Representation Order in the magistrates' court,	Statutory charge. At the end of the case, the legal aid agency will take what has been spent on the solicitor and barrister out of the award and client gets what's left. Children under 18 qualify with no financial test.		Too low income level for people earning. Complicated calculation. Have to prove all earnings, with wage slips over a period of time. Any change must be reported. Contributions (payments) have to be collected from client.

Law: Legal Aid, Sentencing, Punishment of Offenders 2012	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHAT	Legal Help – advice on rights and options and help with negotiating Help at Court – someone speaks at court, but does not formally represent (Duty scheme for housing possession cases) Family Mediation Helps to come to an agreement in a family dispute, resolve problems involving children, money, family home Family Help Representation in family disputes like drawing up a legal agreement Legal representation Representation at court by a solicitor or barrister Controlled Legal Representation Representation at mental health tribunal proceedings or before the First-tier Tribunal in asylum or immigration cases. Immigration and asylum Asylum applications, detention, application for indefinite leave to remain after relationship breakdown because of domestic violence; EC citizen applying to stay in the UK after relationship	Fees are only paid by Legal Aid Agency to solicitor after the case has finished, and the file has been costed.		Reduced areas of scope, means that many people have to go to court with no representation.

Law: Legal Aid, Sentencing, Punishment of Offenders 2012	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
HOW PROCEDURE	First lawyer after arrest: duty advocate advises at police station or own solicitor, must have a contract with the Legal Aid Agency. Solicitor submits the form completed by the client, plus evidence of income. Client declaration on family composition and incomes, obligation to communicate variations during procedure	No financial test on arrest, all help at police station is free.	Revocation if evidence shows a higher standard of living or not compatible with declared income Exceeding the income limits during the proceedings Second lawyer appointed	Solicitors' firms have to submit a tender for contracts with the Legal Aid Agency. This is a competitive bid system. There is a limited number of contracts.
cases. No allowance for travel expenses and time waiting at court.	Choice of lawyer: only a solicitor working in a firm which has a contract with the Legal Aid Agency Technical experts on fixed fees only.		Low income for legal aid lawyers. Exclusive contracts means that Ministry of Justice has limited the number of Solicitors who can do legal aid. Fewer legal aid lawyers. Some areas of the UK have no legal aid solicitors available.	

FRANCE

LEGAL AID in France – AIDE JURIDICTIONNELLE

Law n°91-647 10/07/1991 Dec.n°91-1266 19/12/1991	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHO	FRENCH AND UE CITIZENS - EXTRA UE AND STATELESS CITIZENS ONLY IF CLEARLY IDENTIFIED CRIMINAL CASES: charged, convicted, victims, injured, civil liability, injunctions and other preventative measures CIVIL, FRAUD, ADMINISTRATIVE CASES: if not manifestly baseless claim, respondent IMMIGRATION: as above;	Extra UE citizens: REQUIRED BIRTHPLACE CONSULAR AUTHORITY CERTIFICATE OF FOREIGN EARNINGS	EXTRA UE CITIZENS "SANS- PAPIERS" (except expulsion procedures) LITIGATIONS in EU Member States Courts FRENCH CITIZENS with legal protection contract (or included in insurance contract)	Persons unable to prove their identity Failure to obtain consular certificate
CONDITIONS LESS THAN € 1000 to 2087 depending of the number of persons in house (1 to 4) NO INCOME LIMITS VICTIMS OF CRIMINAL		WELFARE BENEFICIARIES: NO INCOME LIMITS VICTIMS OF CRIMINAL CASES: NO INCOME LIMITS		Significant undeclared earnings Too low income level (out single employment pension) Advantage for tax evasion and false residency declaration

Law n°91-647 10/07/1991 Dec.n°91-1266 19/12/1991	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHAT	CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS ALTERNATIVE PUNISHMENT INJUNCTIONS Evidential issues in PRIVATE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGMENT EVERY PROCEDURE REGARDING MINORS	LEGAL EXPENSES ACCORDING TO THE STATE SCHEDULE		
HOW PROCEDURE	FORM SEND with the requested documents in the Legal aid office of the relevant COURT	AUTOMATIC ADMISSION: Office designation MINORS persons admitted to PROTECTION PROGRAM EXPULSION NOT UE CITIZENS persons formally declared UNTRACEABLE LEGAL EXPENSES AFTER JUDGMENT		

Law n°91-647 10/07/1991 Dec.n°91-1266 19/12/1991	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
EFFECTS	LAWYER AND BAILIFF FEES AND EXPENSES	FREE CHOICE OF LAWYER possible or LAWYER appointed by the Legal aid office of the relevant Court TECHNICAL EXPERT when Judge requires technical study or if later considered relevant	COSTS paid before the decision of the Legal aid office DAMAGES and COMPENSATION	Single phase of proceedings can last several years Months waiting for a judicial decision Months waiting for an effective payment by the MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

GERMANY

LEGAL AID in Germany

§§ 114 ff ZPO civil §§ 140 ff StPO criminal	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHO	Every natural person; Every legal person;	For a natural person no residence in Germany needed:	Not for a legal person, if the shareholder can pay the fees;	
CONDITIONS	- The applicant must be needy - chance of success - the pursuit of rights must not be wilful	Income limit is orientated to the welfare, assets will be considered; For a single person the limit is after subtract lease, heating, insurance, 462 €/ month + 210€/ month if employed; If the income is higher and he is not able to pay, the applicant can reimburse the state by instalments		Complicated calculation; Any change must be reported; if the financial situation improves the applicant has to pay more

§§ 114 ff ZPO civil §§ 140 ff StPO criminal	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHAT	Fees of your lawyer; Court fees;	At a value of the claim higher than 4.000 €, the fees for the lawyer are less than normal fees; in addition they are capped at a value of the claim of 30.000 €, even if the value of the claim is higher;	The fees of the opposing lawyer are not payed;	Civil: Although the lawyer is payed so much less and the fees are capped at the value of the claim at 30.000 €, his liability is still 100%; the maximum fee is 1150 €. Criminal normally: preliminary proceedings 292,00 € lump fee post etc. 20,00 € judicial proceedings 352,00 € lump fee post etc. 20,00 € sum 684,00 €

§§ 114 ff ZPO civil §§ 140 ff StPO criminal	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
FOR WHAT	- Civil cases (+) - Insolvency proceeding: only to avert bankruptcy, not for the proceedings itself, process costs are deferred - Criminal: only for necessary defence, that is: imminent occupational ban, indictable offence (the law provides more than one year prison minimum penalty), trail at higher court, investigative custody - victim of a crime: if allowed to accessory prosecution - Family (+) - Administrative cases (+) - Public law (+)	Criminal: It is not relevant if the client is needy, he will get a assigned counsel; after conviction the convict has to reimburse the fees of court and lawyer		

§§ 114 ff ZPO civil §§ 140 ff StPO criminal	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
HOW PROCEDURE	- For extrajudicial legal advice: the county court at the residence decides about the application; - legal advice for a lawsuit: the responsible judge for the case decides, especially about chances of success; - criminal: the court appoints a duty counsel, if the defendant doesn't choose his own;	 extrajudicial legal advice: the lawyer can only refuse the case if he has an important reason, otherwise he has to take the case; the client pays a lump sum of 15 €; Every lawyer can give legal aid; In a civil case normally the lawyer files the application for the client 		If legal aid is not granted the client has to pay the lawyer
EFFECTS	In my estimation the system gives a good range to get legal assistance also for people with low or no income			The costs for the legal aid are paid by the federal state; Because of the high costs of the legal aid, it is very difficult to adapt the legal table of fees for the lawyers. For the last adaptation we had to wait for around 20 years

Costs of Justice in Germany

Costs of civil procedure in Germany

Value until	500,00€	1.000,00€	2.000,00 €	3.000,00€	4.000,00€	5.000,00€	22.000,00€	110.000,00€	500.000,00€	1.000.000,00€	2.000.000,00€	4.000.000,00 €	8.000.000,00€
1st Instance													
1 Lawyer	157,00 €	262,00 €	470,00 €	622,00€	774,00€	925,00 €	2.231,00 €	4.495,00 €	9.582,00 €	14.045,00 €	22.970,00 €	40.820,00 €	76.520,00 €
Court Fee	105,00€	159,00 €	267,00 €	324,00€	381,00€	438,00 €	1.035,00 €	3.078,00 €	10.608,00€	16.008,00€	26.808,00 €	48.408,00 €	91.608,00 €
Risk in total	420,00 €	683,00€	1.207,00 €	1.568,00 €	1.929,00 €	2.288,00 €	5.497,00€	12.068,00 €	29.772,00 €	44.098,00 €	72.748,00 €	130.048,00 €	244.648,00 €
2nd Instance													
1 Lawyer	174,00 €	290,00€	524,00 €	694,00€	863,00€	1.033,00 €	2.496,00€	5.032,00 €	10.730,00€	15.728,00 €	25.724,00 €	45.716,00 €	85.699,00 €
Court Fee	140,00 €	212,00 €	356,00 €	432,00€	508,00€	584,00 €	1.380,00 €	4.104,00 €	14.144,00 €	21.344,00 €	35.744,00 €	64.544,00 €	122.144,00 €
Risk in total	488,00€	792,00€	1.404,00 €	1.820,00€	2.234,00 €	2.650,00 €	6.372,00 €	14.168,00 €	35.604,00€	52.800,00€	87.192,00 €	155.976,00 €	293.542,00 €
3rd Instance													
1 Lawyer	227,00 €	385,00€	702,00 €	933,00€	1.163,00 €	1.394,00 €	3.379,00 €	6.820,00 €	14.553,00 €	21.336,00 €	34.902,00 €	62.034,00 €	116.298,00 €
Court Fee	175,00 €	265,00 €	445,00 €	540,00€	635,00€	730,00 €	1.725,00 €	5.130,00 €	17.680,00€	26.680,00 €	44.680,00 €	80.680,00 €	152.680,00 €
Risk in total	629,00€	1.035,00 €	1.849,00 €	2.406,00€	2.961,00€	3.518,00 €	8.483,00€	18.770,00 €	46.786,00€	69.352,00€	114.484,00 €	204.748,00 €	385.276,00 €

Risk in total means that you loose the case and pay 2 lawyers and the court fees.

After the value of 5.000 € we have more single steps that are not shown to keep it more clearly.

Susanne Stern 19.05.2017

ITALY

LEGAL AID in Italy - PATROCINIO A SPESE DELLO STATO

Access to justice and Legal AID

The right of defense is considered by Italian legal system as a universally recognized right, irrespective of the nationality of the person concerned or the income he has earned.

In order to enforce this principle, Italian law has established a Legal AID System that allows people without financial resources to benefit equally from legal assistance.

The right to defense is recognized by two fundamental documents:

- the Italian Constitutional Charter;
- the Treaty for the Constitution of the European Union.

Italian Constitution, Art. 24, states that everyone can take legal action for the protection of their legitimate rights and interests.

Defense is inviolable right in every state and grade of the proceedings.

People are assured of the lack of resources, with special institutions, to act and defend themselves in front at any jurisdiction.

The law determines the conditions and the ways for the correction of judicial errors.

In addition to being constitutionally recognized, the right to defense is also constitutionally guaranteed to those who do not have sufficient income and is regulated in Part III of Law 30 May 2002, no. 115 (about Costs of Justice).

European Constitution, Article II-107, regulates the right to an effective remedy and to an impartial judge. Everyone whose rights and freedoms - guaranteed by Union law - have been violated, has the right to an effective remedy in front of a judge.

Everyone has the right to have his case been examined fairly, publicly and within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial judge, pre-established by law.

Everyone has the right to be counseled, defended and represented.

Those who do not have sufficient means are granted patronage at the expense of the state, if this is necessary to ensure effective access to justice.

In Italian law, Legal AID is provided for the criminal process, civil proceedings, administrative process, accounting process, taxation process and voluntary jurisdiction.

Legal AID is also set for the enforcement process, review processes, revocation, third party opposition, in the processes of application of security or prevention measures, where the assistance of the defense counsel or technical consultant is provided.

Admission to Legal AID System is valid for each degree and process status, also for all those processes, derivatives and incidents.

With the introduction in Italy of the institutes of "mediation" and "assisted negotiation", in some cases, as a condition of legality, access to justice risks to be compromise, as the Legal AID System.

LEGAL AID in Italy - tables

Law 30/07/1990 n. 217 D.P.R. 30/05/2002 n. 115	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHO	ITALIAN AND UE CITIZENS - EXTRA UE AND STATELESS CITIZENS ONLY IF CLEARLY IDENTIFIED CRIMINAL CASES: charged, convicted, victims, injured, civil liability, injunctions and other preventative measures CIVIL, FRAUD, ADMINISTRATIVE CASES: if not manifestly baseless claim, respondent IMMIGRATION: as above; always automatical only for expulsion procedures	Extra UE citizens: REQUIRED BIRTHPLACE CONSULAR AUTHORITY CERTIFICATE OF FOREIGN EARNINGS	EXTRA UE CITIZENS "SANS- PAPIERS" (except expulsion procedures) PREVIOUSLY SENTENCED FOR ORGANIZED CRIMES OR DECLARED BELONGING TO CRIMINAL ASSOCIATIONS, LARGE AMOUNT OF NARCOTICS Unless assessed without means	Persons unable to prove their identity Failure to obtain consular certificate
CONDITIONS	TOTAL EARNINGS BEFORE TAXES AND ALSO IF NOT DECLARED OR ILLICIT INCOMES OF THE WHOLE FAMILY (all permanent members of the household) LESS THAN € 11.528,41	CRIMINAL CASES: Added € 1.032,91 FOR EVERY FURTHER PERSON OF THE FAMILY CRIMINAL CASES: THE INCOME OF ANY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY WITH A CONFLICT OF INTEREST IS NOT COUNTED	NO INCOME LIMITS FOR VICTIMS OF Sexual violence Genital mutilation Domestic violence Stalking	Significant undeclared earnings Too low income level (out single employment pension) Advantage for tax evasion and false residency declaration

Law 30/07/1990 n. 217 D.P.R. 30/05/2002 n. 115	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHAT	CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS ALTERNATIVE PUNISHMENT INJUNCTIONS Evidential issues in PRIVATE CLAIMS ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGMENT TAX AND ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE VOLUNTARY JURISDICTION EVERY PROCEDURE REGARDING MINORS	LEGAL EXPENSES RECOGNIZED ONLY AFTER FILING	Persons Sentenced for organized crime	EXCLUDED Legal counselling Legal assistance for detained persons Post judgment counselling
HOW PROCEDURE	DEMAND TO THE PROCEEDING MAGISTRATE Self declaration on family composition and incomes, obligation to communicate variations during procedure PRIVATE INITIATIVES: previous check of not manifestly baseless claim of the demand by the BAR	AUTOMATIC ADMISSION: Office designation MINORS persons admitted to PROTECTION PROGRAM EXPULSION NOT UE CITIZENS persons formally declared UNTRACEABLE LEGAL EXPENSES ONLY AFTER JUDGMENT Only if Court decides and if compulsory payment by the client proved unsuccessful	EXCLUSION OR REVOCATION: If evidence shows a higher standard of living or not compatible with declared income Exceeding the income limits during the proceedings Second lawyer appointed	Extraordinary fees resulting from undue Revenue inspections

Law 30/07/1990 n. 217 D.P.R. 30/05/2002 n. 115	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
EFFECTS	ONLY LAWYER FEES AND EXPENSES, NO FEES OTHERWISE REQUIRED	FREE CHOICE OF LAWYER previously registered in list "ad hoc" if more than 2 years experienced and without disciplinary sanctions TECHNICAL EXPERT when Judge requires technical study or if later considered relevant	AMOUNT FEES decided by proceeding Magistrate REDUCED PAYMENT of a third or the ordinary amount Not recognized expenses outside County	Single phase of proceedings can last several years Months waiting for a judicial decision Years waiting for an effective payment by the MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

The costs of Justice in Italy

The costs of justice are determined by the following items:

- 1. Costs of introducing the cause or process;
- 2. Lawyer's fees;
- 3. Taxation of the economic transaction determined by the judgment (for example: transfer of property, payment of sums, determination or termination of contract, etc.).

In the past, the lawyer's fee was determinate by law in an equal way for each of the parties. This was a guarantee of the pair position of the parties in front of the Judge.

The fixed price system has been demolished to pursue liberalization.

Today the lawyer's compensation is determined by contract and influenced by the client's economic strength.

The result was to weaken the parity of the parties in the process:

- the strong part becomes stronger because it can pay less for its defender;
- the weak side becomes even weaker because it has no contractual strength with its defender.

Attorneys have become workers without pay security and they have lost economic and contractual power and jeopardized their independence.

There is a government bill to prevent excessive differences in the determination of the compensation compared to the parameters applied to the losing party's condemnation in the trial (D.M. 55/2014 - http://www.consiglionazionaleforense.it/documents/20182/42522/DECRETO+10+marzo+2014%2C+n+55/68098ec-12f2-4989-9c5a-ec79b2db0a44)

Next, there are tables with the costs of process and defense.

Civil process costs

		Justice of Pea	ice		Court	iourt court						
Value	value until	€ 1.100,00	€ 5.200,00	€ 20.000,00	€ 26.000,00	€ 52.000,00	€ 260.000,00	€ 520.000,00	€ 1.000.000,00	€ 2.000.000,00	€ 4.000.000,00	€ 8.000.000,00
Defense fee)											
	Case study	€ 65,00	€ 225,00	€ 405,00	€ 875,00	€ 1.620,00	€ 2.430,00	€ 3.375,00	€ 4.388,00	€ 5.704,00	€ 7.415,00	€ 9.640,00
	Introduction of the cuse	€ 65,00	€ 240,00	€ 335,00	€ 740,00	€ 1.147,00	€ 1.550,00	€ 2.227,00	€ 2.895,00	€ 3.764,00	€ 4.893,00	€ 11.450,00
	Handling of the case	€ 65,00	€ 335,00	€ 540,00	€ 1.600,00	€ 1.720,00	€ 5.400,00	€ 9.915,00	€ 12.890,00	€ 16.757,00	€ 21.784,00	€ 56.638,00
	Determination of the case	€ 135,00	€ 405,00	€ 710,00	€ 1.620,00	€ 2.767,00	€ 4.050,00	€ 5.870,00	€ 7.631,00	€ 9.920,00	€ 12.896,00	€ 30.177,00
	Total	€ 330,00	€ 1.205,00	€ 1.990,00	€ 4.835,00	€ 7.254,00	€ 13.430,00	€ 21.387,00	€ 27.804,00	€ 36.145,00	€ 46.988,00	€ 107.905,00
	Injunction and precautionary Forced sale of movable property forced sale of real estate	€ 165,00 € 180,00 € 212,00	€ 602,50 € 525,00 € 715,00		€ 2.417,50 € 816,00 € 1.080,00	€ 3.627,00 € 1.290,00 € 1.645,00	€ 6.715,00 € 1.810,00 € 2.300,00	€ 10.693,50 € 2.395,00 € 3.026,00	€ 13.902,00 € 3.114,00 € 3.926,00	€ 18.072,50 € 4.048,00 € 5.104,00	€ 23.494,00 € 5.262,00 € 6.636,00	€ 53.952,50 € 6.841,00 € 8.626,00

The justice of peace has jurisdiction over cases involving movable assets with a value not exceeding € 5,000.00, when the law are not attributed to the competence of other court

The justice of the peace is also competent for cases of compensation for damage caused by the circulation of vehicles and boats, provided that the amount in dispute does not exceed € 20,000.00.

Introduction fee

Civil trial - 1 st Degree	€ 43,00	€ 98,00	€ 237,00	€ 237,00	€ 518,00	€ 759,00	€ 1.214,00	€ 1.686,00	€ 1.686,00	€ 1.686,00	€ 1.686,00
Civil trial – Appeal	€ 64,50	€ 147,00	€ 355,50	€ 355,50	€ 777,00	€ 1.138,50	€ 1.821,00	€ 2.529,00	€ 2.529,00	€ 2.529,00	€ 2.529,00
Civil trial - Court of Cassation	€ 86,00	€ 196,00	€ 474,00	€ 474,00	€ 1.036,00	€ 1.518,00	€ 2.428,00	€ 3.372,00	€ 3.372,00	€ 3.372,00	€ 3.372,00

Administrative process costs

Regional Administrativ	e Court
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Value		fino a	€ 1.100.00	€ 5.200.00	€ 26.000.00	€ 52 000 00	€ 260 000 00	€ 520 000 00	€ 1.000.000,00	€ 2 000 000 00	€ 4 000 000 00	€ 8.000.000,00
Cost of defe	nse		200,00	2 0.200,00	2 20.000,00	2 02.000,00	2 200.000,00	0 0 2 0 1 0 0 0 , 0 0	2	c =:000:000,00	2	2 3.333.333,33
	Case study		€ 170,00	€ 605,00	€ 1.080,00	€ 1.955,00	€ 3.240,00	€ 4.185,00	€ 5.441,00	€ 7.073,00	€ 9.195,00	€ 11.954,00
	Introduction of the cause		€ 170,00	€ 540,00	€ 875,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 1.820,00	€ 2.430,00	€ 3.159,00	€ 4.107,00	€ 5.339,00	€ 6.941,00
	Handling of the case		€ 100,00	€ 605,00	€ 945,00	€ 1.550,00	€ 2.160,00	€ 2.970,00	€ 3.861,00	€ 5.019,00	€ 6.525,00	€ 8.483,00
	Determination of the case		€ 270,00	€ 1.010,00	€ 1.820,00	€ 3.305,00	€ 4.790,00	€ 6.950,00	€ 9.035,00	€ 11.746,00	€ 15.270,00	€ 19.851,00
	use of pre-trial		€ 200,00	€ 540,00	€ 1.010,00	€ 1.820,00	€ 2.630,00	€ 3.780,00	€ 4.914,00	€ 6.388,00	€ 8.304,00	€ 10.795,00
	Sub total		€ 910,00	€ 3.300,00	€ 5.730,00	€ 9.980,00	€ 14.640,00	€ 20.315,00	€ 26.410,00	€ 34.333,00	€ 44.633,00	€ 58.024,00
	lump-sum refund expenses	3	€ 136,50	€ 495,00	€ 859,50	€ 1.497,00	€ 2.196,00	€ 3.047,25	€ 3.961,50	€ 5.149,95	€ 6.694,95	€ 8.703,60
	Total		€ 1.046,50	€ 3.795,00	€ 6.589,50	€ 11.477,00	€ 16.836,00	€ 23.362,25	€ 30.371,50	€ 39.482,95	€ 51.327,95	€ 66.727,60

Introduction fee

Administrative Complaints	Contributo
Administrative litigation concerning the right of citizenship, residence, and entry into the territory of the State	€ 300,00
Administrative appeals against the refusal of access to environmental information set forth in Legislative Decree no. 195/2005	€ 0,00
Administrative complaints to enforce sentence or compliance of the sentence	€ 300,00
Court actions to the Regional Administrative Courts and the Council of State	€ 650,00
Proceedings provided for in Title V, Book IV of D'LGS n. 104/2010 (abbreviated rites related to special dispute)	€ 1.800,00
Proceedings under Articles. 116 and 117 of the D'DECREE n.104 / 2010 (access to the records and administration silence)	€ 300,00
Extraordinary appeals to the President of the Republic	€ 650,00

Appeals pursuant to Art. 119 co. 1 letter. a) and b) of

when the value of the dispute is equal to or less than € 200,000	€ 2.000,00
when the value of the dispute is between € 200,000 and € 1,000,000	€ 4.000,00
when the amount in dispute exceeds € 1 million	€ 6.000,00

Tax process costs

	Provincial Court (1° grade)											
Value		value until	€ 1.100,00	€ 5.200,00	€ 26.000,00	€ 52.000,00	€ 260.000,00	€ 520.000,00	€ 1.000.000,00	€ 2.000.000,00	€ 4.000.000,00	€ 8.000.000,00
Defense fee												
	Case study		€ 170,00	€ 540,00	€ 945,00	€ 1.685,00	€ 2.430,00	€ 3.510,00	€ 4.563,00	€ 5.932,00	€ 7.712,00	€ 10.026,00
	Introduction of the cause		€ 100,00	€ 340,00	€ 540,00	€ 810,00	€ 1.145,00	€ 1.485,00	€ 1.931,00	€ 2.510,00	€ 3.263,00	€ 4.242,00
	Handling of the case		€ 85,00	€ 270,00	€ 470,00	€ 945,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 1.955,00	€ 2.542,00	€ 3.305,00	€ 4.297,00	€ 5.586,00
	Determination of the case		€ 170,00	€ 875,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 2.090,00	€ 3.970,00	€ 4.115,00	€ 5.350,00	€ 6.955,00	€ 9.042,00	€ 11.755,00
	Total		€ 525,00	€ 2.025,00	€ 3.305,00	€ 5.530,00	€ 8.895,00	€ 11.065,00	€ 14.386,00	€ 18.702,00	€ 24.314,00	€ 31.609,00
	Regional Court (2 grade)											
Value		value until	€ 1.100,00	€ 5.200,00	€ 26.000,00	€ 52.000,00	€ 260.000,00	€ 520.000,00	€ 1.000.000,00	€ 2.000.000,00	€ 4.000.000,00	€ 8.000.000,00
Defense fee												
	Case study		€ 170,00	€ 605,00	€ 1.080,00	€ 1.955,00	€ 2.900,00	€ 4.185,00	€ 5.441,00	€ 7.073,00	€ 9.195,00	€ 11.954,00
	Introduction of the cause		€ 100,00	€ 405,00	€ 605,00	€ 1.010,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 1.820,00	€ 2.366,00	€ 3.076,00	€ 3.999,00	€ 5.199,00
	Handling of the case		€ 85,00	€ 405,00	€ 740,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 1.955,00	€ 2.900,00	€ 3.770,00	€ 4.901,00	€ 6.371,00	€ 8.282,00
	Determination of the case		€ 170,00	€ 875,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 2.360,00	€ 3.105,00	€ 4.320,00	€ 5.616,00	€ 7.301,00	€ 9.491,00	€ 12.338,00
	Total		€ 525,00	€ 2.290,00	€ 3.775,00	€ 6.675,00	€ 9.310,00	€ 13.225,00	€ 17.193,00	€ 22.351,00	€ 29.056,00	€ 37.773,00

Introduction fee

Tax Process - provincial and regional tax commission

Value	Introduction fee
Value of up to € 2,582.28ino a € 2.582,28	€ 30,00
Value of more than € 2,582.28 and up to € 5,000.00	€ 60,00
Value of more than € 5,000.00 and up to € 25,000.00	€ 120,00
Value of more than € 25,000.00 and up to € 75,000.00	€ 250,00
Value of more than € 75,000.00 and up to € 200,000.00	€ 500,00
Value greater than € 200,000.00	€ 1.500,00

Criminal process costs

		Justice of Peace	Preliminary investigations	Defense investigations	Preliminary hearing	Court	Member Court	Assizes	Court of Appeal	Court of Cassation
Defense fee										
	Study of the case	€ 405,00	€ 810,00	€ 225,00	€ 810,00	€ 450,00	€ 450,00	€ 720,00	€ 450,00	€ 900,00
	Introduction of the cause	€ 335,00	€ 630,00	€ 240,00	€ 720,00	€ 540,00	€ 720,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 900,00	€ 2.520,00
	Evidentiary phase	€ 540,00	€ 990,00	€ 335,00	€ 990,00	€ 1.080,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 2.250,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 0,00
	Determination of the case	€ 710,00	€ 1.170,00	€ 405,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 2.700,00	€ 1.350,00	€ 2.610,00
	Total	€ 1.990,00	€ 3.600,00	€ 1.205,00	€ 3.870,00	€ 3.420,00	€ 3.870,00	€ 7.020,00	€ 4.050,00	€ 6.030,00

No cost of introduction

THE NETHERLANDS

LEGAL AID in The Netherlands

Law: The Legal Aid Act ('Wet op de Rechtsbijstand') and additional regulations	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHO	In general legal aid is available for natural persons only. Anyone subject to Dutch law, resident in the country or with a legal problem which bears sufficient connexion with the Dutch legal order. Legal aid is available in criminal, immigration, asylum, administrative and certain categories of civil cases. Legal aid is available for judicial assistance in cases before courts, administrative tribunals and – depending on the severity of the case – disciplinary tribunals or certain complaints bodies. Legal aid may also be available for legal advice but only if legal proceedings are imminent.		In general legal aid in civil cases is not available for legal problems arising out of business-related activities by the person applying for legal aid (for example business-related contract disputes of self employed clients). Legal aid is not available for general legal advice (e.g. in a non-contentious situation, or is a situation in which there is not (yet) a legal conflict). Legal aid is not available if an applicant is deemed 'self-reliant' and/or the conflict may be solved without a lawyer's assistance (e.g. filling out social –security forms, writing simple complaints, etc.) – to be determined by the Legal Aid Board.	Confining legal aid to assistance in judicial proceedings misses the fact that many clients are not 'self-reliant' when it comes to solving their increasingly complex legal and bureaucratic problems. It also encourages litigation (which is compensated) in many situations that otherwise could have been solved with good legal advice on how to avoid litigation (which is not compensated).

Law: The Legal Aid Act ('Wet op de Rechtsbijstand') and additional regulations	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
CONDITIONS	Clients Gross monthly income of all permanent members of the household above the age of 18 years and capital. In 2017 the maximum income to apply for legal aid is € 25.600 for a single household, to € 36.100 for couples or singles with children. Children under 18 qualify with no financial test. Gross monthly income of all permanent members of the household above the age of 18 years and assets. The applicant's assets must not exceed € 21,330 (2017). Applicants over 65 years of age are allowed higher assets. The reference year lies two years before the year of application. A client can request te Board to change the reference year, if the applicant's income and/or assets in the year of application has decreased substantially compared to that in the reference year. This holds if the applicant's reference-year income and/or assets would not make him eligible for legal aid, whereas his present income and/or assets will.	Lawyers To be entitled to accept legal aid cases, private lawyers need to be registered with the Legal Aid Board and to comply with a set of quality standards. These standards are set by the Bar. For some fields of law – criminal, mental health, asylum and immigration law, youth, family law – additional terms, set by the Legal Aid Board, apply. The lawyer must both have adequate expertise and sufficient experience in that particular field. Case The case must be serous enough and there must be a reasonable chance of success.		The income threshold is widely viewed as too low, thus excluding a very large group of low to middle income who often cannot afford legal advice either.

Law: The Legal Aid Act ('Wet op de Rechtsbijstand') and additional regulations	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHAT	Legal aid covers lawyers' fees (in the great majority of cases in the form of a flat-rate compensation); in complex cases extra fees may be paid – mostly in complex and large criminal cases. Clients on legal aid pay significantly lower court fees; Legal aid also covers the bailiffs fees (e.g. when serving a writ or executing a judgement) and – subject to limitations – costs of translators.			Court proceedings may take years, payment will however only take place after the end of the case.

Law: The Legal Aid Act ('Wet op de Rechtsbijstand') and additional regulations	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
HOW PROCEDURE	The Legal Services Counters ('Juridisch Loket') act as what is commonly known as the 'front office' (primary help). Legal matters are being clarified to clients and information and advice given. Clients may be referred to a private lawyer or mediator, who act as the secondary line of legal aid. Clients may also apply for help from a subsidised lawyer or mediator directly. If necessary, clients can also be referred to other professionals or support agencies. Lawyers (and mediators) submit applications to the Legal Aid Board ('Raad voor Rechtsbijstand'on behalf of the client. The board is an independent governing body with a public task, instituted by the Minister of Security and Justice If legal aid is granted, a certificate is issued which allows the lawyer in question to deal with the case. Lawyers and mediators are paid by the LAB to provide their services to clients	The costs of legal aid are partly covered by a contribution from the client. This personal contribution ('eigen bijdrage'). The height of this contribution depends on the income and capital of the client. In 2017, the lowest personal contribution is € 143, the highest € 823. In divorce related cases the personal contribution is higher, from € 340 to € 849. In case of relatively simple legal problems, lawyers receive a certificate for a standard three-hour legal advice fee, also encompassing a personal contribution. This is called a minor certificate ('lichte adviestoevoeging'). Certain categories of clients are exempted from individual contributions. This applies to all cases where people have been deprived of their freedom against their will. 'Proven Have-nots' (e.g. homeless clients) and asylum seekers are also exempted		Personal contributions have to be collected from client by the lawyer. This poses a significant administrative burden and collection risk.

Law: The Legal Aid Act ('Wet op de Rechtsbijstand') and additional regulations	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
EFFECTS	The system (still) provides fairly just and broad access to legal aid and consequently to justice and the law.		The system has serious flaws when it comes to civil cases between natural persons and (large) companies. Legal aid is often refused on the grounds that the client should be able to solve the case without legal assistance (for example by submitting a complaint to a low threshold complaints committee, or because the financial interest is deemed too low). Even if legal aid is granted, the fees are generally too low, even lower that in the example given in the next column.	Legal aid lawyers are relatively underpaid. For example a regular administrative case before a district court in a social security case will normally involve 15 to 20 hours of work. The flatrate compensation for such a case is approximately € 1.050 − including 21% VAT (approx. € 870,00 ex VAT). Effectively the lawyer thus works for a fee of € 58 - € 43,5 per hour. This makes it very difficult to earn a reasonable income while maintaining a high level of quality. Consequently, less and less young lawyers choose a career in firms that work on a legal aid basis.

POLAND

LEGAL AID in Poland

HOW IS IT ORGANIZED?

There is no unified system of legal aid in Poland and no specific legal aid legislation to address its provision in a systemic and organized manner. The decision to grant legal aid is always taken by a judge. The judge decides whether the request for legal aid should be granted and if so, which lawyer should be appointed. There is no separate or specialized group of lawyers acting in legal aid cases: the judge appoints a lawyer from a list provided by the local bar associations.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR LEGAL AID?

Exemption from court fees may be requested by an individual who submits a statement that he/she is unable to cover them without detriment to the support necessary for himself/herself and the family. The court may also grant exemption from court fees to a business entity if it has demonstrated that it does not have sufficient means to pay such costs. The costs of legal aid, incurred by the State Treasury, include regulated fees and essential, substantiated expenses. A natural person may demand the exemption from court fees, after making a declaration, that it's unable to bear them without detriment to necessary maintenance for itself and a family.

A statement, covering detailed data on family situation, assets, income, regular source of income of a person applying for the exemption from court fees, should be also made and attached to the application for exemption from court fees.

The costs of Justice in POLAND

CIVIL

COURT FEES

The sources of court cost are not subject to the court's discretional decision, but the rules of determination are stipulated in numerous legal acts. The most important legal act is the Act on Court Fees.

It is difficult to determine an average amount of the average court cost of a proceeding, because is depends on the type of a proceeding and on a particular case. The Act on Court Fees provides for the following sort of fees: pernament fee, proportional fee, basic fee.

A court fee shold be paid upon filing a pleading. In general, the cost of bringing an action to the court depend on the type of proceeding. In litigation cases most often is a relative fee of 5% of the value of the subject of dispute, but not less then 30,00 zł and more than 100.000,00 zł.

Please note that, in principe, the fee for appeal is the same as for the first instance.

LAWYER FEES

There are regulations specifying rates for calculating the reimbursement of lawyers fees to the winning part, and for calculating remuneration for attorneys ex officio. Fees amount depend on the nature of litigation (look at the example below). The court sets mostly only minimum fees. In complex cases, the court may set higher fees. The Polish legal system does not provide any regulation determining the lawer's fee above the minimum fee. The prices for legal service are calculate between a lawyer and his client, it is mean that the final lawyers fees depend also on experience and position of given lawyer.

Example:

When the lawyers fees depend on the amount in dispute, the lawyer fees is:

- 1) 120 zł when the amount in dispute is below 500,00 zł;
- 2) 360 zł when the amount in dispute is between 500,00 zł and 1500 zł;
- 3) 1200 zł when the amount in dispute is between 1500,00 zł and 5000,00 zł;
- 4) 2400 zł when the amount in dispute is between 5000,00 zł and 10000,00 zł;
- 5) 4800 zł when the amount in dispute is between 10000,00 zł and 50000,00 zł;
- 6) 7200 zł when the amount in dispute is between 50000,00 zł and 200000,00 zł;
- 7) 14400,00 zł when the amount in dispute is above 200000,00 zł;

TAXES ON THE DECISION

There is no tax on the decision.

CRIMINAL

COURT FEES

The criminal proceedings cost are paid by State Treasury. However, the court determines who and what part of fee will pay. Some of these fees must be paid at the beginning of bringing a letter to the court, and some shall be specified in the decision closing the proceedings.

Entity liable to pay the costs of criminal proceedings can be charged, convicted, and in some cases the prosecutor. Sentenced to imprisonment must pay from 60 to 600 zł depending on the judgment of the court . In case sentenced to 3 months imprisonment , the fee is 60 zł . Sentencing to imprisonment for 2 years – 300 zł for 5 years 400 zł and 600 PLN in case of conviction to imprisonment for 15 years or 25.

In the case of fines, convicted must pay a fee of 10 percent her height, but newer less than the amount of 30 zł. Costs increase to 20 percent high of fines if convicted at the same time he heard the sentence of imprisonment. In the case of conditional discontinuance of the case, the defendant is obliged to pay from 60 to 100 zł.

In cases of private prosecution, in the case of an acquittal of the accused the court imposes private prosecutor fee in the amount of 60 zł to 240 zł . The court may refrain from imposing the penalty or reduce its size if the accused has not been acquitted of all charges against him .

It should be mentioned that the private indictment it must be paid charged 300 zł.

The proceeding fee for appeal is the same as for the first instance, with one exception - when the appeal is not unfounded the fee is 30 zł.

LAWYER FEES

The same regulation like in civil law, it is mean that legal system does provide only the minimum laweyrs fee and the final prices for legal service are calculate between

a lawyer and his client.

The minimum laweyrs fees denends on the kind of court case. The lower fees is 360,00 zł and the highest is 1.200,00 zł.

TAXES ON THE DECISION

There is no tax on the decision.

ADMINISTRATIVE

COURT FEES

The cost of the proceedings in the administrative courts.

The relative or fixed fee from the writings of initiating proceedings in the administrative court depend on complaint. In case, the subject of appeal are amounts should be paid relative fee, in other cases is taken by the court fixed fee. The relative fee is:

- to 10,000 zł 4 % of the value of the disputed, but not less than 100 zł,
- from 10.000 zł to 50,000 zł 3% of the value of the disputed, but not less than 400 zł,
- from 50,000 zł to 100,000 zł 2% of the value of the disputed, but not less than 1,500 zł,
- from 100,000 zł to 1 % of the value of the disputed, but not less than 2,000 zł and not more than 100,000 zł,

Fixed fee is:

- 1)complaints against decisions issued in administrative proceedings, enforcement and security 100 zł,
- 2) complaints of acts or activities of the public administration on the rights or obligations under the law 200 zł,
- 3) complaints against acts of territorial self government 300 zł,
- 4) complaints about the inactivity of public administration 100 zł,
- 5) complaint against the provincial administrative courts 100 zł,
- 6)tax proceeding 500 zł,
- 7) customs proceeding 500 zł,

The proceeding fee for **appeal** against the decision is half fee as for the first instance.

LAWYER FEES

The same regulation like in civil law, it is mean that legal system does provide only the minimum laweyrs fee and the final prices for legal service are calculate between a lawyer and his client.

Example:

When the lawyers fees depend on the amount in dispute, the lawyer fees is:

- 1) 120 zł when the amount in dispute is below 500,00 zł;
- 2) 360 zł when the amount in dispute is between 500,00 zł and 1500 zł;
- 3) 1200 zł when the amount in dispute is between 1500,00 zł and 5000,00 zł;
- 4) 2400 zł when the amount in dispute is between 5000,00 zł and 10000,00 zł;
- 5) 4800 zł when the amount in dispute is between 10000,00 zł and 50000,00 zł;
- 6) 7200 zł when the amount in dispute is between 50000,00 zł and 200000,00 zł;
- 7) 14400,00 zł when the amount in dispute is above 200000,00 zł;

TAXES ON THE DECISION

There is no tax on the decision.

FISCAL

FEES

Under Article 264 of the Act of August 29, 1997. The Tax Ordinance Act (consolidated text Journal of Laws of 2005. No. 8, pos. 60) hhe costs of the proceedings before the tax authorities (as a rule) shall be borne by the State Treasury, state, county or municipality. However, if costs have increased due to the fault of the taxpayer in which the proceedings are pending, the tax authority is entitled to charge him the additional costs.

LAWYER FEES

The legal system does not provide any regulation determining the lawyers fee. The prices for legal service are calculate between a lawyer and his client.

TAXES ON THE DECISION

There is no tax on the decision.

MEDIATION

THE COST OF MEDATION

The cost of mediation is borne by the parties. It is usually paid in half, unless the parties agree otherwise. In mediation proceedings initiated under a court order, the mediator's remuneration in non-property related cases is PLN 150 for the first mediation meeting, and PLN 100 for each subsequent meeting (in total: max. PLN 450). If the proceedings relate to property rights, the remuneration of a mediator is 1% of the amount in dispute (no less than PLN 150 and no more than PLN 2000 for the whole mediation). Mediator will also be reimbursed for expenses incurred in carrying out the mediation, including room rental fee of PLN 70 per meeting. The VAT will be added to costs of mediation.

Regardless of result of the case, the court may order a party to pay costs caused by an unreasonable refusal to participate in the mediation previously agreed with the party.

If there is a settlement signed as a result of mediation, the party will be reimbursed for 75% of the court fee paid when bringing the case to court.

In the case of mediation initiated under a court order, the remuneration of a mediator and reimbursement of his/her expenses result from pricing of the mediation centre concerned or the parties agree on it together with the mediator before mediation.

LAWYER FEES

The legal system does not provide any regulation determining the lawyers fee. The prices for legal service are calculate between a lawyer and his client.

TAXES ON THE DECISION

There is no tax on the decision.

ARBITRATION

THE COST OF ARBITRATION

Arbitration may be more exprensive and its price depends on the system chosen.

The proceeding before the **Arbitration Consumer Court** are free of charge, but the parties have to cover the costs of appointing an expert or ordering an expert's study. That fee reimbursed to the party that wins the case.

In the case of proceeding before the Arbitration Consumer Court at the Office of Electronic Communications (UKE) the fe is approximately 100 zł.

The Banking Arbitrator requires a fee for comsumer is 250 zł and for non-comsumer depend on the value of the subject of dispute.

The cost of proceeding before **Insurenace Ombudsman** depend on the value of the subject of dispute and the fe eis also determined by the arbitrator. It cannot be less than 100 zł if dispute is examined by an arbitrator or 350 zł when a dispute is examined by a panel of three arbitrators. There is no maxim fee.

LAWYER FEES

The legal system does not provide any regulation determining the lawyers fee. The prices for legal service are calculate between a lawyer and his client.

TAXES ON THE DECISION

There is no tax on the decision.

ROMANIA

LEGAL AID in Romania

Emergency Ordinance 21/04/2008 n. 51 and Law 07/06/1995 n. 51	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHO	ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS THE DOMICILE/HABITUAL RESIDENCE IN ROMANIA/ ANY EU MEMBER STATES INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT DOMICILE/HABITUAL RESIDENCE IN ROMANIA/ EU MEMBER STATES — under specific conditions JUDICIAL PROCEDURES: CIVIL, COMMERCIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL INSURANCE CASES, OTHER CASES, EXCEPTING CRIMINAL CASES EXTRAJUDICIAL PROCEDURES: before the public authorities and institutions, other than judicial.	INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT DOMICILE/HABITUAL RESIDENCE IN ROMANIA/ EU MEMBER STATES —As long as a treaty is in effect, a treaty which contains legal stipulations concerning international access to justice, between Romania and the citizen's state/state in which the individual inhabits. INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT DOMICILE/HABITUAL RESIDENCE IN ROMANIA/ EU MEMBER STATES — in the absence of a treaty spoken above, the facilities of an international access to justice can be provided only by international courtesy subject to reciprocity. THE DOCUMENTS MUST BE TRANSLATED IN ROMANIAN The Dean may decide to grant free assistance by a lawyer even in criminal matters.	INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT DOMICILE/HABITUAL RESIDENCE IN ROMANIA/UE MEMBER STATES – in the absence of a treaty which contains legal stipulations concerning international access to justice and also in the absence of international courtesy subject to reciprocity	Encouraging for false residency declaration. The legal aid is not granted in criminal cases, excepting the legal aid provided by the lawyers under specific conditions.

Emergency Ordinance 21/04/2008 n. 51 and Law 07/06/1995 n. 51	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
CONDITIONS	The individual doesn't afford/ doesn't have the necessary means to initiate a case law and to support his family simultaneous Amount of Legal Aid provided by year ≤ 10 total earnings before taxes	Earnings after taxes per family member 2 months before requesting legal aid < 66, (6) € (300 RON) ? 100 % legal aid provided Earnings after taxes per family member 2 months before requesting legal aid < 133, (3) € (600 RON) ? 50 % legal aid provided	NO INCOME LIMITS FOR CASES EXPRESS STIPULATED BY A SPECIAL LAW as a protection measure regarding special circumstances as minority, disability (handicap) and so on.	The limits of the earnings conditioning the legal aid are very low. The legal aid is granted in a few cases. Significant undeclared earnings The death of the applicant revokes the legal aid Exceeding the income limits during the proceedings Encouraging the tax evasion

Emergency Ordinance 21/04/2008 n. 51 and Law 07/06/1995 n. 51	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
WHAT	The legal aid consists in granting consultations, formulation of applications, petitions, complaints and in assisting and representing the applicant before the courts and before the public authorities and institutions.	The legal aid can be granted separately or cumulatively in any of its forms. The beneficiary of the legal aid who lose the case can not be forced to return the judicial expenses paid for him by the state.	The legal aid will be rejected if the court finds that the applicant has hidden the truth in bad faith.	EXCLUDED Post judgment counselling The extrajudicial aid covers only the lawyer fees.

Emergency Ordinance 21/04/2008 n. 51 and Law 07/06/1995 n. 51	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
HOW PROCEDURE	Addressing a petition to the Court (the same Court which hears the case in which the legal aid is requested) Written application ? content: trial object, I.D. of applicants family and applicant incomes, providing documents proving the incomes Self declaration on any legal aid requested in the last 12 months The legal aid regarding the payment of the expert, translator, interpreter and bailiff fees and of the state fees is decided by the judge The legal aid regarding the payment of the lawyer fees is decided by the Dean of the Bar which belongs the lawyer	Legal aid is granted anytime before or during the trial The individual who is requesting legal aid can be exempt of paying expert, translator, interpreter, bailiff, lawyer fees and the state fees	EXCLUSION OR REVOCATION: If evidence shows a higher standard of living or not compatible with declared income If the cost of the trial is disproportionate towards the requested claims If the claims are contrary to public order Exceeding the income limits during the proceedings In the absence of mediation or other alternative solutions when they are mandatory When the applicant demands compensation for harms to the image, honor and reputation, in absence of material damage and when the demand results from	The abusive claims and the careless behavior towards the trial which ends up by losing the case will determine a total refund of the legal aid provided

Emergency Ordinance 21/04/2008 n. 51 and Law 07/06/1995 n. 51	RULE	SPECIFICATIONS	EXCLUSIONS	PROBLEMS
EFFECTS	COVERING: - Lawyer fees - expert, translator, interpret fees - Bailiff fees - Exemptions, discounts, reschedules, delays in paying state fees Extra coverage for EU citizens/ EU inhabitants - Documents translations fees - interpret assistance during court hearing -traveling fees	UNFREE CHOICE OF THE LAWYER The lawyer can be chosen by the applicant in exceptional cases, with the approval of the dean. The legal aid cannot be granted by the lawyers with disciplinary sanctions, sentenced for common offenses, that broke the law of lawyers repeatedly or who gave a inferior legal assistance. FREE CHOICE OF THE BAILIFF UNFREE CHOICE OF THE EXPERT, TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRET The legal aid will be supported from the state funds. The legal aid is granted during the whole procedure requested through the initial claim.	Earnings after paying taxes per family member during 2 months before requesting legal aid < 133, (3) € (600 RON) ? 50% REDUCED PAYMENT OF FEES	INCOMPATIBILITY OF THE LAWYER The lawyer who provided extrajudicial assistance cannot provide judicial assistance to the same applicant in the same case. In case of losing the trial, the applicant must to pay the judicial expenses of the opposing party. If the application for legal aid from Romania is rejected by the competent authority of the requested State (EU member), the Romanian Central Authority will require to the applicant the reimbursement of the costs of translation.

Costs of Justice in Romania

ROMANIA	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	ADMINISTRATIVE	
acces before a court	paying a state fee	free	paying a state fee	
costs (negative aspects)	The state fees are big in comparison with the minimum income of a Romanian citizen. Usually the state fees are bigger than the attorneys fees. The state fees are regulated by the Government Ordinance no. 80/2013.	The state fees supported by the delinquent are acceptable.	The state fees are acceptable.	
costs (positive aspects)	In some situations the applicant can obtain refunds, reductions, rescheduling or deferral for the payment of state fees		In some situations the applicant can obtain refunds, reductions, rescheduling or deferral for the payment of state fees	
acces to law	Basic and free acces to law by inte	rnet at http://legislatie.just.ro		
acces to jurisprudence	Free acces to jurisprudence of all courts by internet at http://portal.just.ro/SitePages/jurisprudenta.aspx http://www.scj.ro/736/Cautare-jurisprudenta http://www.rolii.ro			
acces before a bailiff	The bailiff fees are big in comparise an advance.	on with the minimum income of a Ro	omanian citizen and must be paid	

ROMANIA	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	ADMINISTRATIVE
legal aid	in civil, commercial, administrative, The legal aid is granted rarely beca grant easily the legal aid. The lega expert, translator or interpreter fee	overnment Emergency Ordinance no labor and social security, as well as ause of very restrictive conditions prolated as assistance by as the payment of the executor fees for granting legal aid citizens of E	other causes, except criminal. ovided by law. The judges don't y a lawyer, as the payment of the or facilities to pay the court fees.

SPAIN

LEGAL AID in Spain

LEY 1/1996, DE 10 DE ENERO, DE ASISTENCIA JURÍDICA GRATUITA	NORMA	PRESUPUESTO	EXCLUSIONES	PROBLEMAS
QUIEN	CIUDADANOS ESPAÑOLES, CIUDADANOS DE LA UE Y EXTRANJEROS EN ESPAÑA ENTIDADES GESTORAS Y SERVIVICIOS COMUNES DE LA SEGURIDAD SOCIAL, SIEMPRE. ASOCIACIONES DE UTILIDAD PÚBLICA Y FUNDACIONES INSCRITAS EN EL REGISTRO PÚBLICO CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA. ASOCIACION DE CONSUMIDORES Y USUARIOS. Art. 2.2 de la Ley para la defensa de consumidores y usuarios	PERSONAS FÍSICAS: CUANDO ACREDITEN INSUFICIENCIA DE RECURSOS EN BASE A LOS REQUISITOS DEL ARTÍCULO 3 DE LA PRESENTE LEY. ASOCIACIONES DE UTILIDAD PÚBLICA Y FUNDACIONES INSCRITAS EN EL REGISTRO PÚBLICO CUANDO ACREDITEN INSUFICIENCIA DE RECURSOS PARA LITIGAR CON INDEPENDENCIA DE SUS RECURSOS PARA LITIGAR A LAS ASOCIACIONES QUE TENGAN COMO FIN LA PROMOCION Y DEFENSA DE LAS VICTIMAS DE TERRORISMO, VÍCTIMAS DE TERRORISMO, VÍCTIMAS DE TERRORISMO Y DE TRATA DE SERES HUMANOS, MENORES DE EDAD, Y PERSONAS CON DISCPACIDAD PSÍQUICA (EN AQUELLOS PROCESOS QUE TENGAN VINCULACIÓN, DERIVEN O SEAN CONSECUENCIA DE SU CONDICIÓN DE VÍCTIMAS). SIN NECESIDAD DE ACREDITAR INSUFICIENCIA DE RECURSOS MIENTRAN MANTENGAN LA CONDICION DE VICTIMAS LOS TRABAJADORES Y BENEFICIARIOS DE LA SEGURIDAD SOCIAL EN EL ORDEN JURISDICCIONAL SOCIAL, SIN NECESIDAD DE ACREDITAR RECURSOS ECONOMICOS VICTIMAS DE ACCIDENTES CON SECUELAS	CUANDO SE ACREDITE MEDIOS ECONÓMICOS SUPERIORES AL LÍMITE FIJADO POR LA LEY. LAS PERSONAS JURIDICAS A EXCEPCION DE LAS MENCIONADAS EN EL CUADRO PRECEDENTE. NO SE RECONOCERÁ DESPUÉS DE PRESENTADA LA DEMANDA, O DESPUÉS DE HABER PRESENTADO CONTESTACIÓN, SALVO QUE ACREDITE EN ESE MOMENTO QUE LOS REQUISITOS PARA PODER SOLICITARLO SE HAN ORIGINADO CON POSTERIORIDAD.	EL RECONOCIMIENTO DEL DERECHO A LA ASISTENCIA JURÍDICA GRATUITIA POR CIRCUNSTANCIAS SOBREVENIDAS NO TENDRÁ CARÁCTER RETROACTIVO.

CONDICIONES MÁXIMOS PARA EL ACCESO: 2 VECES EL INDICADOR PÚBLICO DE RENTA DE EFECTOS MÚLTIPLES PARA PERSONAS NO INTEGRADAS EN NINGUNA UNIDAD FAMILIAR. 2 VECES EL MISMO INDICADOR PARA PERSONAS INTEGRADAS EN UNIDAD FAMILIAR CON MENOS DE 4 MIEMBROS 3 VECES DICHO INDICADOR CUANDO SE TRATE DE UNIDADES FAMILIARES INTEGRADAS POR 4 Ó MÁS MIEMBROS O QUE TENGAN RECONOCIDAD SU CONDICIÓN DE FAMILIA NUMEROSA	14.910,28€ PARA LA PRIMERA MODALIDAD € 18.637,85€ PARA PERSONAS INTEGRADAS EN UNIDAD FAMILIAR CON MENOS DE 4 MIEMBROS 22.365,42 € PARA FAMILIAS DE 4 Ó MÁS MIEMBROS 37.275,70 € CUANDO SE ACREDITEN LAS CIRCUNSTANCIAS EXCEPCIONALES, PREVISTAS EN EL ARTÍCULO 5 DE LA LEY 1/96.		CUANDO EL SOLICITANTE ESTÁ INTEGRADO EN UNA UNIDAD FAMILIAR SE SUMARÁN LOS INGRESOS QUE PERCIBAN LOS MIEMBROS DE DICHA UNIDAD PODRÁN SER EXCLUÍDOS, INDEPENDIENTEMENTE DE QUE SE CUMPLAN LOS UMBRALES PARA SOLICITAR ABOGADO DE OFICIO, AQUELLOS CASOS ESTABLECIDOS EN EL ARTÍCULO 4 DE LA PRESENTE LEY
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ASESORAMIENTO Y ORIENTACIÓN PREVIOS AL PROCESO ASISTENCIA DEL ABOGADO AL DETENIDO O PRESO DEFENSA Y REPRESENTACIÓN GRATUITAS POR ABOGADO Y PROCURADO EN EL PROCEDIMIENTO JUDICIAL INSERCIÓN GRATUITA DE ANUNCIOS O EDICTOS EXENSIÓN DE TASAS JUDICIALES Y DEL PAGO DE DEPÓSITOS PARA LA INTERPOSICIÓN DE RECURSOS ASISTENCIA PERICIAL GRATUITA OBTENCIÓN GRATUITA DE COPIAS. TESTIMONIOS, INSTRUMENTOS Y ACTAS NOTARIALES REDUCCIÓN DEL 80% DE LOS DERECHOS ARANCELARIOS DE LOS REGISTROS DE LA PROPIEDAD MERCANTIL EXENCIÓN DEL 80% DE LOS DERECHOS ARANCELARIOS DE LOS REGISTROS DE LA PROPIEDAD MERCANTIL EXENCIÓN DEL 80% DE LOS DERECHOS ARANCELARIOS DE LOS REGISTROS DE LA PROPIEDAD MERCANTIL EXENCIÓN DEL 80% DE LOS DERECHOS ARANCELARIOS DE LOS REGISTROS DE LA PROPIEDAD MERCANTIL EXENCIÓN DEL PAGO DE LAS COSTAS DEL PROCEDIMIENTO SI FUERE CONDENADO A

CÓMO PROCEDER	DEBERÁ ASISTIR AL SERVICIO DE ORIENTACIÓN JURI'DICA DEL COLEGIO DE ABOGADOS QUE LE CORRESPONDA RELLENAR IMPRESO DE SOLICITUD, ADJUNTANDO LA INFORMACIÓN REQUERIDA EN EL MISMO LOS SERVICIOS DE ORIENTACIÓN JURÍDICA DE LOS COLEGIOS DE ABOGADOS EXAMINARÁN LA DOCUMENTACIÓN PRESENTADA. TAMBIEN PUEDEN PRESENTAR LA SOLICITUD EN EL ORGANO JUDICIAL DE SU DOMICILIO QUE LA REMITIRA AL COLEGIO DE ABOGADOS		SI SE APRECIA QUE LA SOLICITUD ES INSUFICIENTE O QUE EXISTEN DEFICIENCIAS, SE CONCEDE UN PLAZO DE 10 DÍAS HÁBILES AL INTERESADO PARA LA SUBSANACIÓN DE LOS DEFECTOS
EFECTOS	SÓLO DERECHOS ARANCELARIOS QUE CORRESPONDAN POR EL OTORGAMIENTO DE ESCRITURAS PÚBLICAS, Y POR OBTENCIÓN DE COPIAS Y TESTIMONIOS NOTARIALES.	20% DEL IMPORTE TOTAL	SI EL TITULAR DEL DERECHO FUERA VENCEDOR DEL PLEITO, OBETNIENDO BENEFICIOS ECONÓMICOS, Y LA STC NO CONTUVIESE EXPRESO PRONUNCIAMIENTO EN COSTAS, ÉSTE DEBERÁ PAGAR LAS COSTAS CAUSADAS EN SU DEFENSA, SIN EXCEDER NUNCA DE LA TERCERA PARTE DEL BENEFICIO OBTENIDO

CONDENA EN COSTAS: El art. 36 de la Ley de Asistencia Jurídica Gratuita (LAJG) establece que: "Cuando en la sentencia que ponga fin al proceso fuera condenado en costas quien hubiera obtenido el reconocimiento del derecho a la asistencia jurídica gratuita o quien lo tuviera legalmente reconocido, éste quedará obligado a pagar las causadas en su defensa y las de la parte contraria, si dentro de los tres años siguientes a la terminación del proceso viniere a mejor fortuna..."

CUANDO HUBIERE CONDENA EN COSTAS AL BENEFICIARIO DE JUSTICIA GRATUITA, ESTE VENDRÁ OBLIGADO A SU PAGO, SI DENTRO DE LOS TRES AÑOS SIGUIENTES VINIERE A MEJOR FORTUNA.

The Costs of Justice in Spain Civil process costs

PROCEDIMIENTO CIVIL	BAREMO
JUICIO ORDINARIO COMPLETO DE FAMILIA	270,46 400
MUTUIO ACUERDO	162,27
EJECUCIÓN SENTENCIA DE FAMILIA FILIACIÓN, PATERNIDAD CAPACIDAD	216,36 270,45
MENORES	270,45
VERBAL MONITORIO	216,36 162,27
DIVISIÓN JUDICIAL DE PATRIMONIOS EJECUCIÓN DE TÍTUTLOS JUDICIALES	270,45 270,45
CAMBIARIO	270,45
JURISDICCIÓN VOLUNTARIA	216,36

Criminal process costs

PROCEDIMIENTO PENAL	BAREMO
TRIBUNAL DEL JURADO PENAL ESPECIAL "Macro procesos" Por cada mil folios A partir de 5 comparecencias ante el Juzgado, por cada 5 A partir de 2 días de vista, por cada día	405,68 405,68 27,05 27,05 54,09
PENAL GENERAL PROCEDIMIENTO ABREVIADO	324,55
Cuando el enjuiciamiento corresponda a la Audiencia Provincial Cuando el enjuiciamiento corresponda al Juzgado de lo Penal Cuando finalice por sobreseimiento tras la declaración judicial	400 360 200
ENJUICIAMIENTO RÁPIDO	
Sin coformidad Con conformidad o sobreseimiento	360 200
MENORES EXPEDIENTE DE VIGILANCIA PENITENCIARIA JUICIO DE FALTAS SALIDAS A CENTROS DE PRISIÓN	270,46 135,23 108,18
Si distan menos de 25 kilómetros desde el domicilio del Letrado Si distan más de 25 kilómetros desde la residencia del Letrado	10,82 27,05

Military, Labour ecc. process costs

PROCEDIMIENTO CONTENCIOSO-ADMINISTRATIVO	BAREMO
VÍAS PREVIA CONTENCIOSO-ADMINISTRATIVA	108,18
RECYRSO CONTENCIOSO-ADMINISTRATIVO	270,45
PROCEDIMIENTO LABOR AL	
PROCEDIMIENTO LABORAL	200
RECURSO DE SUPLICACIÓN	135,23
JURISDICCIÓN MILITAR	
PROCEDIMIENTO MILITAR	270,45
RECURSO DE CASACIÓN	
ANUNCIO RECURSO DE CASACIÓN	37,87
RECURSO DE APELACIÓN	
RECURSO DE APELACIÓN	135,23
NORMAC OFNERAL FO	
NORMAS GENERALES	-7 0/
TRANSACCIÓN EXTRAJUDICIAL	78%
INFORME MOTIVADO DE LA INSOSTENIBILIDAD DE LA PRETENSIÓN	150
ACICTENCIA AL DETENIDO O DRECO	
ASISTENCIA AL DETENIDO O PRESO	01.14
ASISTENCIA INDIVIDUALIZADA	81,14
SERVICIO DE GUARDIA	162,27
GASTOS DE FUNCIOMANIMIENTO	
POR EXPEDIENTE TRAMITADO	07.0E
PUR EXPEDIENTE TRAIVITADO	27,05