

## **Greece's contribution to Working Group II:**

### **Selection of Judges: Criteria and Procedure**

Under decision of the Minister of Justice, which is published in the Government Gazette by the end of January of each year, an entrance competition is announced at the National School of Judicial Officers with honours in Administrative Justice on one side, and in Civil and Criminal Justice on the other side.

Whoever has the Magistrate at the Court of Peace status or has or had practiced law for two years or holds a PhD in Law and has practiced law for one year, or is a court clerk holder of the law school degree and has served for five years as such, may take part in the competition.

The entrance competition is carried out by two committees, each for the above two honours. The committee in charge of the Administrative Justice honours consists of: a. A Vice-President of the State Council, b. An Audits State Council Counsellor, c. A Justice at the Court of Appeal of the Ordinary Administrative Courts, d. A professor or associate professor of a Law Department and e. A lawyer with twenty years of experience minimum.

The committee in charge of the Civil Justice honours consists of: a. A Vice-President of the Supreme Court, b. A Supreme Court judge, c. A Deputy Prosecutor at the Supreme Court, d. A professor or associate professor of a Law Department and e. A lawyer with twenty years of experience minimum.

The entrance competition consists of two stages, a preliminary and a final one. The preliminary stage includes written examinations and the grading of written essays is conducted by two graders, members of the committee or special scientists, who are appointed by the committee. If

the grades of two graders are more than three points apart, the papers are graded by another two graders, who are appointed by the committee.

At the final stage, in which only those have passed the preliminary stage may participate, the candidates of each honours sit for oral examinations in public.

The final successful grade for each candidate is the one resulting from the written and oral test average aggregate divided by two.

The entire procedure of the competition, as well as the operation of the National School of Judicial Officers are currently governed by the provisions of the Law 3689/5-8-2008 on the “National School of Judicial Offers and other provisions” published in the Government Gazette 164/A’/5-8-2008.