

## Seminar description

The free movement of EU citizens is an important right in the EU. According to the EU Commission, 12 million EU citizens study and work in another member State. In practice, however, citizens are regularly faced with obstacles to their widely spread mobility, which make it difficult for them to exercise their rights. These impediments are due to different legal provisions and traditions of the EU countries in civil status matters. In its Green Paper "Less bureaucracy for citizens" published in 2010, the European Commission presented proposals with a view to facilitating the free movement of public documents and the recognition of legal effects of civil status records and to fostering, in this way, a citizens' Europe.

The seminar "Towards a citizens' Europe? Impacts of the Commission Green Paper on civil status matters in Europe" deals with the proposals presented in the Green Paper.

### Participants

- will be given an introduction to EU law and intensively study the proposals submitted in the Green Paper and their impacts on the work of registrars,
- will discuss principles for the preparation and recognition of civil status documents in the EU,
- will analyse important international conventions relating to civil status matters,
- will deal with the effects of EU law and the decisions of the European Court of Justice on naming law and
- consider issues of same-sex marriages and partnerships in Europe.

Due to its international participants, the seminar provides an excellent platform for networking and intensive exchange of experiences throughout Europe.

## How to find us



From the north and the east: direction Mainz  
From the south and the west: direction Saarbrücken  
Destination: Türkismühle (Bus no. R200 to Otzenhausen)



Frankfurt/Hahn Airport (51 km)  
Saarbrücken-Ensheim Airport (63 km)  
Zweibrücken Airport (73 km)  
Findel International Airport, Luxembourg (83 km)  
Aéroport Metz (136 km)  
Mannheim City-Airport (146 km)  
Frankfurt/Main International Airport (185 km)

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Europäischer Verband der Standesbeamtinnen und Standesbeamten  
Fédération Européenne des Officiers de l'État Civil 

Europäische Akademie



Otzenhausen

14TH INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR  
FOR REGISTRARS

**Towards a citizens' Europe?  
Impacts of the Commission Green  
Paper on civil status matters in  
Europe**

**October 27 – 30, 2013**

 Europäische Akademie Otzenhausen

## Programme\*

### Sunday, October 27, 2013

by 19.00 Arrival

### Monday, October 28, 2013

- 9.00 **Welcome and greetings**  
Seminar leader
- 10.00 – 12.30 **Introduction to EU law: sources, legal acts and the primacy of EU law**  
Markus Zalewski, Directorate General Justice, European Commission, Brussels
- 14.30 – 15.45 **The European Commission Green Paper on the free circulation of civil status documents**  
Marco Mellone, Italy
- 16.00 – 17.30 **Basic elements of the preparation of civil status documents in the EU and the role of registrars in Europe**  
Astrid Valma, Estonia

### Tuesday, October 29, 2013

- 9.00 – 10.30 **International agreements with regard to civil status matters**  
Léon Evers, Netherlands
- 11.00 – 12.30 **When and how can a foreign civil status document be recognized under national law?**  
Gerhard Bangert, Germany

## Programme\*

- 14.30 – 15.45 **The impacts of European law and the decisions of the European Court of Justice on naming law**  
Reinhold Vogt, Germany
- 16.00 – 17.30 **The recognition of decisions and other European official documents in the field of family law**  
Johann Fally, Austria

### Wednesday, October 30, 2013

- 9.00 – 10.30 **Same-sex marriages and partnerships in Europe**  
Henk Vat, Netherlands
- 11.00 – 12.30 **Summary and final discussion**  
Direction: Dr. Jan Otten, Netherlands
- Seminar evaluation**

\* The programme may be subject to change.

### Meals

	Breakfast	Lunch	Coffee breaks	Dinner
<b>Oct 27</b>				19.00
<b>Oct 28</b>	8.00	12.30	11.00/15.45	18.00
<b>Oct 29</b>	8.00	12.30	10.30/15.45	18.00
<b>Oct 30</b>	8.00	12.30	10.30	

## Information

### Venue

Europäische Akademie Otzenhausen gGmbH (EAO)  
Europahausstraße 35 | 66620 Nonnweiler | Germany  
Tel. +49 (0)6873 662-0  
[www.eao-otzenhausen.de](http://www.eao-otzenhausen.de)

### Target group

Elected representatives, registrars and staff of supervisory authorities, staff of embassies and consulates and anybody interested from many European countries

### Cooperation partners

Europäische Akademie Otzenhausen gGmbH  
European Association of Registrars (EVS)

### Seminar leaders

Dr. Elisabeth Schmitt, EAO  
Wolfgang Jung, Neunkirchen  
Dr. Jan Otten, Utrecht

### Seminar fee

**€ 495**

The seminar fee includes a lump sum covering board and lodging (€ 305 incl. 7% VAT) and a lump sum covering the organisation and execution of the seminar programme (€ 190).

As the seminar fee is a lump sum, it will not be possible to reimburse it in full or in part if services are not taken.

### Seminar languages

German, English (simultaneous translation)

### Included services

Accommodation in single or double rooms, full board

### Contact and enrolment

Europäische Akademie Otzenhausen gGmbH  
Dr. Elisabeth Schmitt  
Europahausstraße 35 | 66620 Nonnweiler | Germany  
Tel. 0049 6873 662-441 | Fax 0049 6873 662-350  
[schmitt@eao-otzenhausen.de](mailto:schmitt@eao-otzenhausen.de) | [www.eao-otzenhausen.de](http://www.eao-otzenhausen.de)