
ELSA TURKU



INFORMATION PACKET FOR NEW MEMBERS

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WHAT IS ELSA?

The European Law Students' Association (ELSA) is an international student organisation and the largest law students' organisation in the world, with more than 50 000 European law students from over 300 universities and faculties. It is an international, independent, non-political and non-profit organisation that works through student power to support students and recent graduates in developing their academic and personal skills alongside their university law studies.

ELSA helps its members to develop their existing skills and acquire new ones, to get to know fellow students and professionals from different countries and legal systems, and to prepare for international careers through mutual understanding, intercultural cooperation and various activities and projects offered by the organisation.

ELSA consists of three levels: local, national and international. These three levels together form the ELSA network.

At the local level, ELSA is run by local groups. There are four local groups in Finland: ELSA Helsinki, ELSA Joensuu, ELSA Rovaniemi and ELSA Turku. In total, ELSA's local groups cover more than 370 law faculties.

At national level, ELSA is divided into national groups, which include all the local groups in a given country. The Finnish national group is called ELSA Finland. The national groups coordinate the activities of the local groups and act as representatives of the country at international level. There are more than 40 national groups in total.

At the international level, ELSA's activities are steered by an international board based in Brussels. The International Board is elected by the national groups for one year at a time.



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ELSA TURKU

ELSA Turku ry is a local group in Finland whose members are studying law at the University of Turku or Åbo Akademi, or international law as a major at Åbo Akademi. As part of the international ELSA network, our purpose is to promote the internationalisation of law students and to support their professional and academic development.

We organise various events and study trips throughout the year. Our office is open on Mondays from 12 to 4 PM. You can come in for a cup of coffee, read our member magazine ELSA News or just to catch up in good company. You can also buy overall patches and ELSA bags.

ELSA Turku organises a wide range of activities such as domestic excursions, study trips abroad, sitz parties, seminars and other academic events, as well as a relaxed social programme.

ELSA Turku also organises, together with the Turku School of Economics, Turku's largest annual recruitment event. The fair, called ContactExpo, brings together the talent of the future and the professionals of today in a unique and innovative environment. With over 30 years of history, the fair attracts thousands of visitors each year, consisting of students from a wide range of disciplines. The next fair will take place in January 2026.



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HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

Our events always have a low participation threshold, and the easiest way to get involved is to just show up! We organise many events every year, including study trips, excursions, seminars and competitions, as well as offering students the opportunity to participate in ELSA's international events across Europe.

As a member of your local ELSA group, you are a member of the whole ELSA network and can access events organised by other ELSA groups. You can easily become a member online! You can also join our email list to receive convenient information about our upcoming events.

As a member of ELSA Turku, you can apply to join the association's board. In conjunction with the stated meeting, there will be a board election where you can run for the board. Each year, eight people are elected to the board in various positions.

If you would like to be involved with a lower threshold than a board position, you can also apply for a position as a director in the call for directors after the board elections. There are currently 15 directors in eight different positions. They work closely with the board members, without board responsibility, and have the flexibility to work at their own pace.

Welcome to becoming active in ELSA!



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MEMBERSHIP

ELSA membership requires little but gives much. Join today!

ELSA Turku membership is open to law students at the University of Turku or Åbo Akademi, or social science students majoring in international law at Åbo Akademi. Membership costs €20.

Membership is valid for the entire duration of your studies and for two years after graduation. As a member of ELSA Turku, you can participate in all events organised by ELSA's local associations in Finland and abroad. You can join by filling in the online form at elsaturku.yhdistysavain.fi

For more information, please contact the ELSA Turku Secretary General (secgen.turku@fi.elsa.org).

Welcome to ELSA Turku!

What does ELSA membership give you?

- Our international internship programme ELSA Traineeships
- Local group events in Helsinki, Joensuu, Rovaniemi and Turku.
- Seminars and conferences in Finland and elsewhere in Europe
- Institutional Visits and Study Visits in cooperation with other ELSA local groups
- ELSA Law School intensive courses and Lawyers at Work excursions
- ELSA case competitions
- Opportunities to participate as an ELSA delegate in sessions of international organisations (e.g. UN, WIPO, INTA, Council of Europe)
- And many other stimulating and entertaining activities in an international spirit!



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TRAINEESHIPS ABROAD

ELSA Traineeships is an international internship programme that offers law students and recent graduates the opportunity to do an internship abroad. The aim of the traineeships is to contribute to legal education and mutual understanding.

During the traineeship, a local ELSA team will assist the trainee with various practical issues and introduce the trainee to the local culture. This means that the applicant does not have to worry about finding accommodation, obtaining a visa or other practical matters on their own. ELSA Traineeships are also available fully digitally, which means that the traineeship is done remotely and there is no need to travel to the host country.

Traineeships range from two weeks to two years, but usually last a few months. Traineeships are available for students at all stages of their studies as well as for recent graduates. The majority of traineeships are paid, and the aim is to provide an allowance to cover the general cost of living. A wide range of placement opportunities are available across Europe, as well as in countries such as South America and the United States. Traineeships are available in a wide range of sectors, including courts, international organisations, universities and law firms.

There is an application period twice a year which is open for about a month at a time. Traineeships start all year round and many people have gained their first work experience in their field through, for example, summer internships with ELSA. Traineeships are published on the application page in March-April and October-November.



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INTERNATIONAL INTENSIVE COURSES

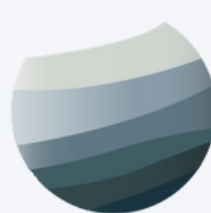
ELSA Law Schools are 1-2 week courses in a specific area of law, held in the summer or winter. During an ELSA Law School you will get to know the destination, other participants from around the world and a specific legal topic. No prior knowledge of ELSA Law School's field of law is required.

The programme typically includes lectures by experts in the field, workshops, and social activities such as sightseeing, galas and parties. How about learning about maritime law in Malta or medical law in sunny Thessaloniki?

ELSA Law Schools are open to all, but the participation fee is lower for members. Members pay a maximum fee of €350 for the first seven days, which includes the academic programme, accommodation, meals, local transport and most of the social programme. The application period for Summer ELSA Law Schools is typically open in March and the application period for Winter ELSA Law Schools typically in October-November.



SELS
Summer ELSA Law Schools



WELS
Winter ELSA Law Schools

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ELSA'S INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS

ELSA has observer membership in several international organisations such as the Council of Europe and various UN bodies. ELSA regularly sends delegations of its members to international meetings where important international issues are decided. In total, ELSA sends more than 300 delegates a year around the world.

ELSA Delegations offer members the opportunity to attend sessions of major international institutions and gain valuable experience of how decision-making and cooperation between countries takes place in practice. Employers also value the international experience gained through delegations.

There is an open call for delegates every few months. Meetings usually last five days and each delegation consists of 4-5 people. Participation is free, but participants pay for their own travel and accommodation. Delegation places are open to all ELSA members, so as a delegate you will have the opportunity to meet law students from other countries. You can find out about the application cycles by following your local group and ELSA Finland on social media and email lists.

When applying for a delegate position, you will need to write a letter of motivation (maximum 500 words) and a CV. ELSA experience is useful but not essential. Delegations can be entered and applied for more than once. So it is always worth applying! Delegation participants will be selected on the basis of general selection criteria.

ELSA Delegations

«Experience international decision making»



ELSA
Delegations

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LEGAL COMPETITIONS

ELSA offers competitions from local level to international competitions. From case law competitions to essay competitions to interview competitions, you can develop your legal knowledge in practical situations and hone your presentation skills. In the workplace, the experience that comes with legal competitions can be the crucial advantage in the early stages of your career.



John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition

JHJMCC is a highly regarded international moot court competition organised by ELSA. The competition is organised in cooperation with the WTO and focuses on international trade law. The competition takes place in groups of 2-4 students, with the final taking place in Geneva at WTO headquarters! The aim of the competition is to develop participants' knowledge of international trade law and the WTO dispute settlement process, as well as their general ability to participate in complex trade negotiations.

Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition

HPMCC is a highly regarded international moot court competition organised by ELSA on European human rights law in the light of the European Convention on Human Rights. ELSA organises the competition in cooperation with the European Court of Human Rights. The final will take place in Strasbourg at the European Court of Human Rights and the winning team will be awarded an internship at the Court!



ELSA Finland National Moot Court Competition

NMCC is a moot court competition open to law students in Finnish. The competition is an excellent opportunity to practise the presentation and argumentation skills necessary for a lawyer in practice and to gain an in-depth knowledge of the subject area of the case.



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CAMPAIGN FOR THE RULE OF LAW

ROLE - Rule of Law Education

The Rule of Law Education campaign is based on the ELSA4Schools concept, which involves school visits to Finnish primary and secondary schools. It aims in particular to increase and promote democracy and human rights education in Finland and in Finnish schools, and to raise young people's awareness of their own fundamental rights through current examples and practical training.

The trainers are law students and newly graduated lawyers, who have the opportunity to give both individual lessons and broader study modules on various topics related to the rule of law, democracy and human rights, while at the same time gaining experience in performing and deepening their substantive knowledge of the subject in question.



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CONTACT INFORMATION AND BOARD 2025

You can easily reach the Board by email at board.turku@fi.elsa.org and for more information about the association, please visit our website at <https://fi.elsa.org/turku/>.



Ida Korhonen
Treasurer
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You can also come visit us during our office hours every Monday from 12 to 16 at the ELSA Turku office to have a chat! Any exceptions to the office hours will be announced on the email list.



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Follow us on social media! On Instagram, the account [@elsaturku](https://www.instagram.com/elsaturku) is actively updated on current issues.



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