



Utrecht, February 2005

Subject: **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
TUNING LEGAL STUDIES IN EUROPE (2005-2006)**

Dear Sir, Madam,

We would hereby like to invite you to submit an application for participation in the project *Tuning Legal Studies in Europe (2005-2006)*.

Tuning

The rationale behind the Tuning project is the implementation of the Bologna Declaration of 1999 at a university level. However, whereas the Bologna Declaration concerns the convergence of Higher Educational *systems* in Europe, the university-initiated Tuning project focuses on the comparability of educational *structures* and the *content* of programmes of study. The project is co-financed by the European Commission in the framework of the SOCRATES-ERASMUS-programme and the institutions involved. Tuning websites: <http://www.relint.deusto.es/TuningProject/index.htm> and <http://www.let.rug.nl/TuningProject/index.htm>. The report containing the outcomes of phase I was published in January 2003.

Tuning Legal Studies

The Sorbonne Bologna process seeks to enable comparability (not uniformity) of studies and to improve the transparency of qualifications to meet the needs of an international labour market and to provide the basis for a European accreditation system. The Tuning Legal Studies project which Quaacas (Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Assessment Committee) of the European Law Faculties Association (ELFA) has joined seeks to achieve this result for legal studies. The Tuning methodology will be adapted for Legal Studies. The project will be co-financed by Tuning, ELFA and the institutions involved. European Union funding will be sought.

To co-ordinate the national responses and participate in their analysis, a representative must be selected for each country. This academic must be someone respected by peers with knowledge of legal studies, administration and curriculum development. It is important that representatives are able to develop a national consensus by communicating and organising with relevant stakeholders in each country. Under the Tuning Legal Studies project selected institutions across Europe will, through a representative, participate in coordinating national research to establish key competencies and learning outcomes for graduates in law. The participants will apply the Tuning Legal Studies methodology and Guidelines established by QUAACAS. We hope that your institution will participate.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julian Lonbay', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Julian Lonbay
Chair (for the QUAACAS Committee)
Tuning Legal Studies in Europe

Please return the signed application form **before 15 April 2005** to the following address:

Tuning Legal Studies in Europe Project
Michiel van de Kasteelen
Faculty of Law
International Office/student exchanges
Janskerkhof 3
3512 BK Utrecht
The Netherlands

Members of the QUAACAS Committee

- * Julian Lonbay, University of Birmingham, chairperson, j.l.lonbay@bham.ac.uk
- * Tom Latrup-Pedersen, dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Aarhus, TLP@jura.au.dk
- * Anne Pélissier-Klébès, professor, University of Strasbourg, Anne.Pelissier-Klebes@urs.u-strasbg.fr
- * Michiel van de Kasteelen, Head of the international office, Utrecht University, M.vandekasteelen@law.uu.nl
- * Jacek Petzel, Vice-dean, Faculty of Law, University of Warsaw, jacek.petzel@comp-lex.pl

QUAACAS WEBSITE

http://elixir.bham.ac.uk/menu/quaacas_frameset.htm

ELFA WEBSITE

<http://www.elfa-afde.org/>

Future QUAACAS plans

Quaacas ultimately intends to try and establish a Socrates Thematic Network on this theme the detail of which will be prepared by the Tuning Legal Studies project and which will include the issue of possible models of “optional” accreditation and quality assurance to be presented to the EC Commission in November 2005.

Tuning Information

For more information about the Tuning project (phase I and II) we refer you to the Background information enclosed in this letter.

If your institution is interested in participating in the Tuning Legal Studies phase, please send the application form by post to the address on the form before **15 April 2005.**

Enclosures:

1. This invitation Letter (Letter - Law3)
2. Background information on the overall project on Tuning Educational Structures in Europe (Tuning Background information_fin)
3. Legal Studies Application Form (**to be returned by 15th April 2005**) (APPLICATION FORM – LAW FIN)
4. QUAACAS Newsletter 1 (quaacas_newsletter_Jan2005)