

State Aid Master Class and Case Analysis

Maastricht, 1-2 July 2010



European Institute of Public Administration
Institut européen d'administration publique



Introduction

The Master Class is intended for public officials who already have a good understanding of state aid issues but want to improve their knowledge and skills on how to determine whether a public measure contains state aid and how to design state aid schemes that are compatible with EU rules. The Master Class is based on analysis of recent important Commission decisions and Court rulings.

An innovative feature of this event is that participants are expected to introduce, for discussion, cases on which they are currently working. ***Participants will therefore be required first to send, in advance, a summary of the case they wish to present*** and, second, to treat all material and information obtained during the Master Class confidentially (cases submitted by participants will not be circulated outside EIPA).

The number of participants will be limited to a maximum of 15 so as to facilitate discussion and maximise learning effects. Priority will be given to former participants of the State Aid Seminars.

The Master Class will be run by EIPA's experts on state aid, who have broad experience in working with public administrations. The working language will be English. Extensive documentation will be prepared by EIPA for use by participants.

Advantages

- **Expert analysis:** a number of cases will be critically and extensively examined.
- **Practical skills:** the aim of the Master Class is to impart knowledge that is directly useful in the every-day work of state aid officials.
- **Small size:** the number of participants will be limited, enabling extensive interaction.
- **Personal attention:** the small number of participants will guarantee that they will have ample opportunity to discuss issues of concern to them.
- **Best practices:** participants will learn from each other about problems encountered as well as solutions adopted by public authorities dealing with state aid in various EU Member States.

Programme

THURSDAY 1 JULY 2010

- 9.00 **Welcome and introduction to the aim and method of the Master Class**
- 9.15 **Review of recent cases on the concept of state aid**
This session presents important Commission decisions and Court rulings that add new interpretations and further clarify the various aspects of the concept of state aid.
- 10.15 Coffee break
- 10.30 **Working groups: case assessment (concept of state aid)**
Participants are divided into smaller groups and each group is given cases to be analysed and assessed as to whether they fall within the scope of Article 107(1).
- 11.30 **Plenary session: presentation by working groups**
The various groups present their findings, answer questions and respond to comments from other participants.
- 12.45 Lunch
- 14.00 **Review of recent cases of state aid exempted under Article 107(2)&(3)**
This session draws lessons from the recent practice of the Commission on eligible costs, necessity and proportionality of aid, the status of an SME, the temporary framework for state aid, exempted measures in the fields of training, regional development, R&D, environmental protection, risk capital and services of general economic interest.
- 15.30 Coffee break
- 15.45 **Working groups: design of state aid measures (schemes and ad-hoc measures)**
Participants decide how to grant aid for particular policy objectives and to design measures that are compatible with the relevant rules so that they can be approved by the Commission. Some groups are given assignments that fall within existing regulations and guidelines, while others have to assess measures that may need to be based directly on Article 107(2 or 3).
- 17.30 **End of the first day**
- 19.00 Dinner

FRIDAY 2 JULY 2010

- 9.00 **Plenary session: presentation by working groups**
Working groups present the measures they designed and comment on each other's proposals.
- 10.30 Coffee break
- 10.45 **Presentation and discussion of participants' own cases**
Participants introduce their own cases and explain how they would in principle deal with them in the light of the experiences gained at the Master Class. The speakers and other participants contribute their ideas and suggestions.
- 12.30 Lunch
- 14.00 **Continuation of presentation and discussion of participants' own cases**
- 16.00 Evaluation and end of the Master Class

Lecturers

The Master Class will be run by EIPA's state aid team
Prof. Phedon Nicolaides,
Dr Mihalis Kekelekis,
Dr Ioana Rusu.

They have extensive experience in state aid analysis and design of EU-compatible schemes. They have published a new book on state aid intended for use by policy makers and numerous articles on the same subject.

Programme organiser

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General Information

Programme

The programme will commence on Thursday 1 July 2010 at 9.00 hrs and finish on Friday 2 July at 16.00 hrs.

Seminar venue

The workshop will take place at the European Institute of Public Administration, O.L. Vrouweplein 22, NL-6211 HE Maastricht, tel.: +31.43.3296222, fax: +31.43.3296296.

Working language

The workshop will be conducted in English.

Fee

The participation fee is € 955 and includes documentation, 2 lunches, 1 dinner and refreshments.

EIPA offers its members a reduction of 10% of the registration fee. This reduction is available to all civil servants working for one of EIPA's member countries (i.e. AT, BE, CY, CZ, DK, EE, FI, FR, DE, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, MT, NL, PL, PT, ES, SE, UK) as well as civil servants working for an EU institution or agency. If you are eligible for a discount, please tick the box in the registration form. Please note that reductions cannot be accumulated. For more information, please visit EIPA's website: www.eipa.eu (FAQ-special discounts). Accommodation and travel costs are at the expense of the participants or their administration.

Participants will receive a copy of the 2008 edition of our book "State Aid Policy in the European Community: Principles and Practice", which is published in cooperation with Kluwer.

Accommodation and travel costs are at the expense of the participants or their administration.

Hotel reservations

The European Institute of Public Administration will be pleased to make reservations for you at a hotel in Maastricht. We have made a block booking at Hotel Derlon**** (www.derlon.com), at a rate of € 130 p.p.p.n. (incl. breakfast and tourist). Should you wish to make use of this possibility, please indicate the name of the hotel and the dates of arrival and departure on the registration form. Payment is to be made directly and personally to the hotel on checking out. Please note that if you register after the closing date, hotel reservations cannot be guaranteed.

Meals

The lunches will be served at the Institute's restaurant. Should you require a special menu (e.g. vegetarian, diabetic), please inform the Programme Organiser so that this can be arranged. A dinner will be organised for the participants on Thursday 1 July.

Registration

Kindly complete the registration form and return it before 21 June 2010 to Ms Winny Curfs, Programme Organiser, European Institute of Public Administration, P.O. Box 1229, NL-6201 BE Maastricht, tel.: +31.43.3296320, fax: +31.43.3296296, e-mail: w.curfs@eipa.eu. You can also submit the online registration form which can be found on EIPA's web site: <http://www.eipa.eu> (conferences). Since the number of participants is strictly limited to 15, please submit your registration, the required question form and the case form, duly completed, as soon as possible. EIPA operates a system of first-come-first-serve. Registration forms without completed question and case forms will not be taken into consideration.

Confirmation

Confirmation of registration will be forwarded to participants on receipt of the completed registration form.

Payment

Prior payment is a condition for participation. Please indicate the method of payment on the registration form. For cancellations received after the date indicated on the registration form we will have to charge an administration fee of €150 unless a replacement participant is found.



Registration Form

State Aid Master Class and Case Analysis Maastricht, 1-2 July 2010

Surname: Title: M/F
First name: Current position:
Organisation:
Department:
Work address:
Postal code & town:
Country:
Tel. no: Fax no:
E-mail address:

Payment - 1031207

The participation fee includes participation in the training, documentation, a free copy of the book on State Aid Policy of the EU, lunches as indicated, 1 dinner and beverages **€ 955**
Discount (Please check first the conditions at www.eipa.eu (FAQ – special discounts)) 10% discount

Method of payment

Bank transfer

The participants or their administration will receive an invoice for the payment of the registration fee.
Invoice address (if different from the abovementioned address):

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E-mail:

Credit card

American Express Card Eurocard/Mastercard Visa Card

Card no.: Expiry date: /
Name Card holder: (in case this differs from above)
Address Card holder: (in case this differs from above)
Postal code: Country: (in case this differs from above)
Card Validation Code: (the last three digits on the BACK of your card)

(Exempt from VAT by virtue of Article 11, para. 1 (o), subpara. 2 of the Dutch Law on VAT of 1968)
Note: Pre-payment is a condition for participation.

HOTEL RESERVATION

Please reserve hotel accommodation for me at Hotel Derlon

Date of arrival: Date of departure: No. of nights:

No hotel reservation required.

MEALS

Lunch on first day: will attend will not attend Vegetarian (fish): yes
Dinner on first day: will attend will not attend Vegetarian (no fish/no meat) yes
Lunch on second day: will attend will not attend Other:

Please return the completed registration form before 21 June 2010 to:

Ms Winny Curfs, European Institute of Public Administration, P.O. Box 1229, NL-6201 BE MAASTRICHT
Tel.: +31.43.3296 320; Fax: +31.43.3296 296; E-mail: w.curfs@eipa.eu



Your name and address will be part of EIPA's database for our mailing purpose only.
Please tick if you do not want to be included in our mailing database.