



EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

EFTA Introductory Seminar on the European Economic Area (EEA)

Thursday, 15 September 2022

This EEA Seminar will be conducted in a hybrid format; partly in the EFTA House in Brussels, with some of the presentations via video facilities. The whole Seminar will be accessible via video stream [here](#).

Part I – EEA Incorporation

- 09:00 Coffee and chat with other in-person attendees until Seminar starts at 9:30
- 09:15 Video stream starts
- 09:30 **Opening Remarks**
Henri Gétaz, EFTA Secretary-General
- 09:40 **Welcome and Introduction to the EEA Agreement**
Siri Veseth Meling, Deputy Secretary-General, EFTA Secretariat
- 10:00 **Functioning of the EEA Agreement and the Role of the Secretariat**
Marit C. Schage Andria, Director of Internal Market Division, EFTA Secretariat
- 10:20 **Q & A**
- 10:30 **Break**
- 10:40 **EEA EFTA States in the second half of 2022 – Challenges and Priorities**
Kristján Andri Stefánsson, Ambassador, Mission of Iceland to the EU and Chair of the EFTA Standing Committee in the second half of 2022
- 10:50 **The EEA: The EU perspective**
Nicolas von Lingen, Head of Unit at Secretariat-General, European Commission
- 11:00 **Q & A**
- 11:10 **How EU law becomes EEA law**
Finnur Þór Birgisson, Head of Legal Coordination, EFTA Secretariat
- 11:35 **EEA Publications and Information sources**
Kjell Leifssen, Head of Translation and Publication, EFTA Secretariat
- 11:50 **Q & A**

12:00 **Lunch Break**

Part II – EEA Implementation

13:00 **How EEA law is enforced**
Melpo-Menie Joséphidès, Director, Legal and Executive Affairs, EFTA Surveillance Authority

13:25 **How to Read EEA Law**
Karoline Lumholdt Mathisen, Senior Legal Officer, EEA Coordination Division, and Hendrik Jonsson, Legal Officer, Internal Market Division, EFTA Secretariat

13:45 **Q & A**

14:00 **How EEA & Norway Grants reduce disparities in the EEA**
Eva Kløve, Head of Priority Sectors Unit, Financial Mechanism Office (EEA & Norway Grants)

14:30 **Break**

Part III – Shaping EU Policies

14:40 **EEA EFTA Comments – Decision Shaping**
Trond Helge Bardsen, Officer in Internal Market Division, EFTA Secretariat

15:00 **EFTA Advisory bodies: Parliamentarians, social partners and local/regional representation in the EEA**
Petur Gunnarsson, Officer to the Consultative Committee, EFTA Secretariat

15:20 **EFTA Statistical cooperation with Eurostat**
Michel Di Pietro, Director, EFTA Statistical Office

15:30 **Q & A**

15:45 **Concluding Remarks**

16:00 Reception