

María Elvira Méndez Pinedo

Profession

DR. PROFESSOR IN EUROPEAN LAW

Abogado. Member of the Bar of Lawyers of Madrid (Spain)

Relevant Experience

HÁSKÓLA ÍSLANDS. LAGAEILD.

Current appointment. Tenured-track position at the Faculty of Law. Teaching of European Law (EU and EEA law) at graduate and post-graduate level. Research and and governance duties. Supervision of postgraduate students.

Lektor (from 2007) Dósent (from 2009). Prófessor (from 2010)

Visiting fellow of the European University Institute (autumn semester 2011).

2003–2005 EUROPEAN COMMISSION Luxembourg HEAD OF SECTOR –CONSOLIDATION - PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

Publication of consolidated texts of European legislation in the EU in 11-20 languages (production average 10.000 pages/week). Management of staff .
Financial responsibility over 5 millions € annual EU budget.

2002 and 2004 ICELANDIC MINISTRY OF HEALTH Reykjavik European Lawyer – Public Health

Legal expert hired for litigation against tobacco multinationals in Iceland.
Legal expertise concerning complaints before the EFTA Secretariat (Brussels)

2002 EUROPEAN COMMISSION Luxembourg Doctor in European Law – Senior Lawyer

Lawyer responsible of anti-tobacco legislation and tobacco control in Europe
Follow-up of litigation before the European Court of Justice
Implementation of European Directives at national level. Collaboration with national authorities. Research and drafting of European legislation

1997-2001 PRIVATE PRACTICE OF LAW and AUTHOR

Practice of the legal profession in Spain with an emphasis on Business and Consumer Law (especially on advertising law and consumer complaints).
Author of books on access to the European and international civil service.

1995-1996 **HARVARD LAW SCHOOL and TUFTS UNIVERSITY.** 1
Cambridge, Mass. USA

Research Fellow – Consumer and Business Law

Comparative research in American and European Integration through Law.

Grant by the International Rotary Foundation

1993-1997 **UNIVERSITY OF ALCALA DE HENARES** Madrid

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR- Research Fellow – European Law. Center for European Studies

1992 **IZOD & EVANS LAW FIRM** London. UK

Training in International Law and Public Health Law.

1992 **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT** Luxembourg

DG Research and Study. Researcher in European Law – Intellectual Properties – patents and trademarks

1991 **ALLERGAN INC.** Irvine, California, USA

Training. Research and legal assistance in the pharmaceutical sector. European Law.

1991 **ABOGADOS MARITIMOS Y ASOC.** Madrid

Practice of International Law (Maritime Law and Aviation Law in Spain)

Education

1993–1997 **Ph. D. - Doctor in European Law**

University of Alcalá de Henares. Center for European Studies. Madrid. Spain

EU Law – Business and Consumer Policy – Access to Justice for Consumers

in trans-frontier claims – Towards a Common European Procedural law.

Graduated Summa Cum Laude.

Doctoral research done at the European Institute (Florence, Italy), Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve, Harvard University and the Fletcher School of Diplomacy (USA).

This legal work obtained 3 research prizes in Spain.

1991 **Postgraduate Diploma in International Legal Studies**

University of the Pacific. Mc George School of Law. Sacramento, California.USA

1990–1991 **DEA en Droit Communautaire. Masters Degree in European Law**

University Paris II-Panthéon Assas. Paris. France

1984–1989 **Licenciatura de Derecho. Degree in Law**

University Complutense of Madrid. Spain. 5 years of compulsory study.

Languages

Perfectly fluent in English and French (working languages). Spanish (mother tongue). Very good Italian and Basic German. Good working knowledge of Icelandic.

Other

Several research grants given by different institutions during the period 2007-2012 (University of Iceland – The Icelandic Research Fund – EU Progress Programme) to finance research projects and hiring of research assistants.

Author of several books and legal publications in EU law. List available upon request.

Social skills and competences:

Direct experience of living, working and studying abroad as a student and professional.

First-hand knowledge of problems and obstacles usually encountered by citizens who live in another European country.

Excellent at team work. Very good mediating and intercultural skills. Used to work at international and European level as a lawyer or senior expert.

Very good organisational skills. Very good at researching and organising information.

Excellent at work presentations and drafting legal working documents in English.

Experience organising various different seminars and conferences at international/ European level.

Good computer skills. Competent with Microsoft Office programmes, internet, e-mail and web-design pages