

## Return visit from the Bilateral Exchange between Regional Administrative Court (Vilniaus chamber) and Cour administrative d'appel de Versailles

18 June 2025

## Process:



- Application (~ October, 2023)
- Acceptance (February, 2024)
- First visit:
  - Delegation of the Cour administrative d'appel de Versailles visit on 7–11 April, 2025 in Vilnius

# First visit:



- News about the start of the First visit (in Lithuanian)
- <u>Summary information about the First visit</u> (in Lithuanian)











## Process:



- Application (~ October, 2023)
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## Return visit:

• Delegation of the Regional Administrative Court (Vilnius chamber) visit on 9–13 June, 2025 in Versailles

# Return visit: 9–10 June 2025

- Meeting with Nathalie Massias, the President of the Cour administrative d'appel de Versailles
- Introductory meeting:
  - Organization of justice system in France (historical background)
  - Organization of administrative courts system:
    - <u>4 255 people keep the administrative justice system running on a daily basis</u>
    - Supreme Administrative Court
      - Conceil d'Etat: 9 763 (2024, cases; cassation); 975 (2024, opinions)
        - Members: 238
        - Staff: 441
    - Ordinary administrative courts:
      - Administrative Tribunals: 254 644 (2024)
        - Case examination term: ~ 9 months (2024): migration, housing, civil service, social assistance, etc.
      - Administrative courts of appeal: 31 025 (2024)
        - Case examination term: ~ 11 months (2024): migration, civil service, tax, urban planning, etc.
      - Judges: 1 265
      - Clerks: 1 494
    - Specialized administrative courts (etc.):
      - National Court of Asylum Law (1953 Commission des recours des refugies; 2007 Cour nationale du droit d'asile)
        - Judges: 30 (2024)
        - Clerks: 637 (2024)
        - 61 593 (2024)
        - Case examination term: ~ 5 months (2024)
        - Origin countries: Bangladesh, Turkey, Afghanistan, Guinea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, Sri Lanka, Georgia, Nigeria, Russia (1 526)
        - Appeal only on a point of law (recours en cassation)
      - Cour des comptes (Court of accounts)
      - Paying Parking Court (2025): 146 404 (2024)
        - Judges: 15
        - Clerks: 135



#### Introductory meeting:

- Cour administrative d'appel de Versailles
  - Jurisdiction via territory: administrative courts of Cergy-Pontoise, Orléans and Versailles
  - Jurisdiction via population: 8 000 000 inhabitants
  - Appeals: 3 600 (~ May 2025)
  - Composition:
    - Judges (26): junior (conseiller), senior (premier), president
    - President (President de chamber)
    - Associate President (President assesseur)
    - Reporting judges (Rapporteurs)
    - Public reporting judge (Rapporteur public):
      - Giver of the personal legal opinion
    - Court secretary (Greffière de chambre) (10; one for chamber)
      - Court secretary's assistant (Greffière-adjointe)
    - Judicial Assistant (Assistant de justice) (6; one for chamber)
      - Start: 2002; at ordinary administrative courts
      - Judicial assistants' assistant (Juriste assistante)
  - 5 chambers:
    - According to the litigation matters
  - Migration cases (Etrangers)
    - Meeting about Foreign Nationals Unit (Division) (Pôle Etranges) (2018; 2024):
      - Reasons:
        - Steady rising number of applications (claims, appeals)
        - Complexity of the law governing foreign nationals
        - Short cases examination terms
      - Procedure:
        - First stage: court order (~ 78 %)
        - Second stage: court decision (void decision, significant legal issues, uncertain outcome): to internal hearing (LTU: written procedure), to a chamber (LTU: oral procedure) (~ 22 %)
      - Result: increasing the number of proceeded cases (~ 10 %)





#### Presentation:

- Court orders Code de justice administrative (2000) R.222-1 (52 %):
  - Classical (expanded in 2017 by adding additional ground to issue a court order)
  - Goals to:
    - Accelerate proceedings
    - Ensure consistency in repetitive litigation (regarding identified series of cases)
    - Lighten the workload
  - Proceedings:
    - Single judge
    - No rapporteur public
    - No public hearing (written procedure)
    - No adversarial procedure
    - Motives: standard formulas
    - Object to appeal (are exceptions)
  - Defined list of subjects empowered to issue a court order
  - Defined list of legal cases where a matter can be resolved by issuing a court order
    - Inadmissibility cases
    - Withdrawals
    - Mootness
    - Litigation costs
    - Strictly limited: manifestly ill-founded
- <u>Other</u>:
  - Payment order, fact-finding order, expertise order, closing-reopening investigation, referral (internal, external), removal, enforcement, other
  - Emergency Provisional Procedure
    - Proceedings:
      - Single judge
      - Oral public hearing
      - Adversarial procedure
      - Short time



## Visit to the Tribunal Administrative de Versailles:

#### Public oral hearings:

Provisional Emergency Proceedings

Case #1	Case #2
Dispute about the installation of the satellite antennas	Dispute about the local authority authorization to execute a construction project

### Meeting with judge Emmanuel Jauffret:

- Specifics of Provisional Emergency Proceedings:
  - Claim accepted
  - Single judge
  - No rapporteur public
  - New evidence allowed
  - Prove only a doubt







## Visit to the Tribunal Administrative de Versailles:



- Meetings with Jenny Grand d'Esnon, the President, and Julien Ileboudo, the Registrar of the Removal Division:
  - Management of the cases with short examination deadline (2–10 months), emergency and migration cases:
    - Territory jurisdiction
    - Internal division
      - Analysis of national and international legal regulation:
        - Complexity
        - Rapid and ongoing changes
        - Political tensions regarding migration policy, etc.
  - Cases rising from the misadministration:
    - For instance:
      - Migration cases regarding delays to schedule a meeting.







Les Fācheux de Moličre (1661)

## Return visit: 11–12 June 2025



 <u>Visiting Conseil d'Etat and meeting with Terry Olson, member of the Conseil d'Etat</u> and former President of the Cour administrative d'appel de Versailles:



## **Conseil d'Etat (Council of State)**:

Advising the Government Not binding, but followed

Administrative divisions

Publishing the annual reports, studies, coordinating research projects Adjudicating disputes *Court of the last resort (cassation)* 

Litigation division







#### Visiting the Conseil constitutionnel (Constitutional Council; 1958):

- Part of France judiciary system
- 9 members for 9 years
- Defined list of subjects empowered to apply
- Constitutional review object: parliamentary statutes
- *Ex ante* constitutional control: before entering into effect
- *Ex post* constitutional control (2010): indirect individual constitutional complaint (through Counsil of State)
- + Election supervision











## Ambassade de Lituanie





# Attending 2 court hearings in Cour administrative d'appel de Versailles:



#### • Process:

- Single judge or Panel of judges (president of the chamber and 2 judges belonging to the chamber)
- Participants: judge(s), rapporteur public, greffière de chambre
- President of the chamber in control of case hearing proceedings
- Rapporteur public presents its legal opinion
- Investigation closed before the court hearing
  - Note en delibere
- First appellant, then defendant
- After the court hearings: deliberation among judges (without rapporteur public)
- Dissenting opinions are forbidden
- Greffière de chambre: proof-reading; in charge of the notification of court decision

Case #1	Case #2
Dispute about the authorization to build 2 residential blocks	Dispute about temporary living

# Return visit: 13 June 2025



#### Analysis-based information about case law:

- Centralization: Council of State's internet (website)
- Decentralization: Cour administrative d'appel de Versailles website
  - Information about court decisions

#### <u>Centralized know-how system</u>:

Council of State's intranet

#### Case management systems:

- Télérecours: outside case management system
- Skipper: internal case management system
- Next:
  - Portail contentieux
  - Fiche navette



# **Documentary research method**:



- French National Database system:
  - Legifrance
- Database system for administrative courts:
  - Ariane
- Other systems





### Visiting Yvelines Prefecture:

- Constitutional principal
- Director for regulation and local authorities:
  - Legality (recommendations; right to refer to administrative court)
  - Intermunicipal affairs
  - State grants (administrative duties)
  - Urban Planning
  - Building Permit
  - General Regulation
  - Environment
  - Public Inquiries
  - Elections (administrative and adjudicating duties)







## Visiting Versailles Court of Appeal:

- Justice system
- Ordinary court system:
  - Judges
  - Prosecutors
- Challenges:
  - Difficult political situation:
    - Searching for an objective mechanism for financing courts
  - Recruitment of new judges







#### Meeting with Versailles Bar Association:

- Small number of lawyers specializing in administrative law
- Attractiveness and need for lawyers specialization in public law



# Merci pour votre attention Dėkojame už jūsų dėmesį