Regulatory system in The Netherlands

Act on Advocates
(1952, last major reform in 2015)

	REGULATION	SUPERVISION	DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY
CENTRAL	**Netherlands Bar** - regulation (by-laws) - registration of lawyers - (inter)national representation	**Supervisory Board** oversight on: - supervision - handling of complaints by local Bar presidents	**Disciplinary Court** appeal
LOCAL (11 judicial districts)	**11 local Bars** 11 independent bodies: - admission to profession - overseeing traineeship (*first three years of practice*) - local representation	**informal council of Bar presidents** **11 local Bar Presidents** - supervision (*quality, integrity and compliance*) - handling of complaints - resolve disputes between lawyers and lawyers-clients	**4 Disciplinary Boards** adjudication of complaints
	17.700 lawyers - population of 17 million		

Netherlands Bar

General council

President of the Netherlands Bar

- 4 to 8 members
- lawyers
- elected members of the Bar

regulation (by-laws)

registration of lawyers

(inter)national representation

Supervisory Board

President of the Netherlands Bar

- 2 members
- non-lawyers
- appointed by royal decree

oversight on supervision and handling of complaints by local Bar presidents

- adopt binding policies for Bar presidents on supervision and handling of complaints
- give instructions to a local Bar president regarding his supervisory task

request to suspend, dismiss or relief a local Bar president of his tasks, in case of neglecting his duties or other circumstances, such as bankruptcy