

INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

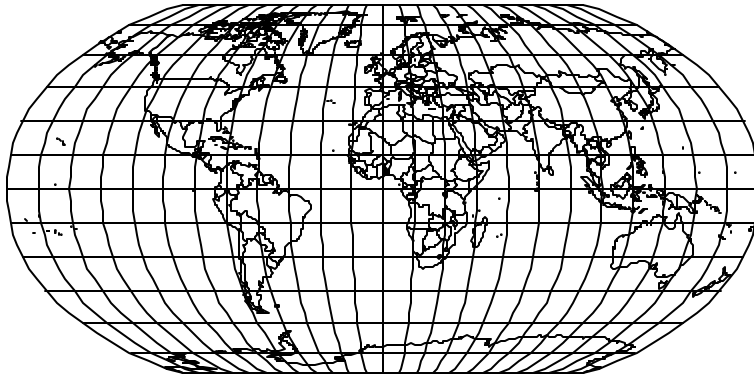
The District of Columbia Bar

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DIRECTORY OF *PRO BONO* OPPORTUNITIES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW



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INTRODUCTION

The International Law Section of the District of Columbia Bar, in conjunction with Georgetown University Law Center's Office of International & Graduate Programs, is pleased to present the fifth edition of its *Directory of Pro Bono Opportunities in International Law* (Directory). The Directory contains information about more than 30 organizations and institutions that could benefit from volunteer legal assistance. It reflects the commitment of the D.C. Bar International Law Section and Georgetown Law to community outreach programs in international law. It is also, to our knowledge, the only directory in the D.C. area on the subject of *pro bono* assistance in the international law field.

The term "international law" as used in the Directory is defined broadly to include not only projects involving traditional international law and norms, but also the role of law in the international context, such as domestic implementation of generally accepted norms and the provision of technical legal assistance to foreign governments, organizations and individuals.

The Directory is divided into six major substantive sections: arms control and conflict resolution, business and trade, environment, human rights, immigration, and rule of law. These sections do not categorize perfectly the sometimes-broad interests of certain groups. Where warranted, in certain sections we have made cross-references to entries in other sections. Each entry contains contact information for each group; a description of the group's activities; and, where available, a description of the group's projects that have benefited from or could use *pro bono* legal assistance. Following these sections is an index of the groups listed in the Directory.

The compilation of organizations and institutions in the Directory is not exhaustive, but does represent a broad range of groups that have indicated they could use volunteer legal assistance. The Directory focuses on groups in the District of Columbia area, but also includes a few groups from other areas that offer opportunities not available locally. For the most part, the groups listed are involved primarily in issues of broad, general concern, rather than dedicated to a particular ethnic, political or religious cause.

We hope that the Directory will continue to serve an important function in the D.C. area by establishing a link between attorneys willing to volunteer their time and expertise and groups that need such assistance. We view the Directory as an evolving project, and therefore encourage comments, in particular regarding whether any information should be updated or whether there are additional groups that we should include in future editions. We also would appreciate hearing comments from volunteers about their experience in contacting or working with the groups listed in the Directory.

The *Directory of Pro Bono Opportunities in International Law* is published as a public service. Inclusion in the Directory implies no endorsement by the D.C. Bar, the D.C. Bar International Law Section, Georgetown University Law Center, or any other organization.

Neither the D.C. Bar nor the D.C. Bar International Law Section, nor Georgetown University Law Center, through this publication, are providing a referral to the organizations listed in this Directory. It is at each organization's discretion as to whether they wish to accept assistance, resources and/or volunteer services from lawyers and/or law firms contacting them with such offers. It should be noted that any views expressed herein represent only those of the International Law Section and not those of the District of Columbia Bar or its Board of Governors.

The International Law Section Steering Committee would like to acknowledge and thank international attorneys Charlene Gomes of American University and Christine Washington, of the Georgetown University Law Center, for their assistance in producing past editions of the Directory. We would also like to thank international attorney Monica McKnight, who provided *pro bono* services to organize and produce the 2001-2002 Directory.

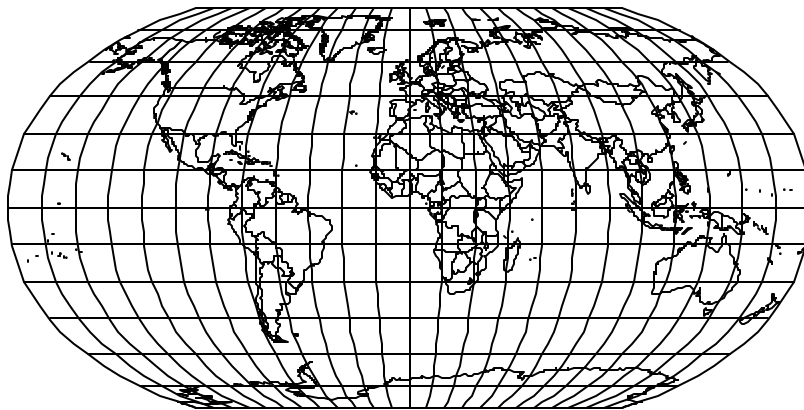
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Mary P. Michel
Nancy L. Perkins
2003-2004 Steering Committee

Mark Fajfar, Community Outreach Coordinator

International Law Section
District of Columbia Bar

May 2004

ARMS CONTROL and CONFLICT RESOLUTION



British American Security Information Council

1012 14th Street, NW
Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone: (202) 347-8340
Fax: (202) 347-4688

E-mail: basicus@basicint.org
Internet: <http://www.basicint.org>

Contact: Dr. Ian Davis, Director

Description

The British American Security Information Council (BASIC) is an independent research organization that analyzes international security policy in Europe and North America. Through issue papers, in-depth research reports, and its newsletter, BASIC works to promote public awareness of defense, disarmament, military strategy, and nuclear policies in order to foster informed debate on these issues. BASIC also facilitates the exchange of information and analysis among researchers, journalists, and parliamentarians on both sides of the Atlantic. At first the information flow was primarily between London and Washington, but now many of the continental countries are equally interested in this information exchange.

Projects

BASIC is a registered charity in the United Kingdom and has non-profit status in the United States. Because of its expanding role on the European continent, BASIC needs help in researching the relationship between a U.S. non-profit, a U.K. registered charity, and an E.C. multinational, non-profit structure. Interested persons should contact BASIC for more information about projects that are ongoing at any given time.

Peace-Action

1819 H Street, NW
Suite 420
Washington, DC 20006
Telephone: (301) 565-4050

E-mail: pdeccy@peace-action.org
Internet: <http://www.peace-action.org>

Contact: Peter Deccy, Development Director

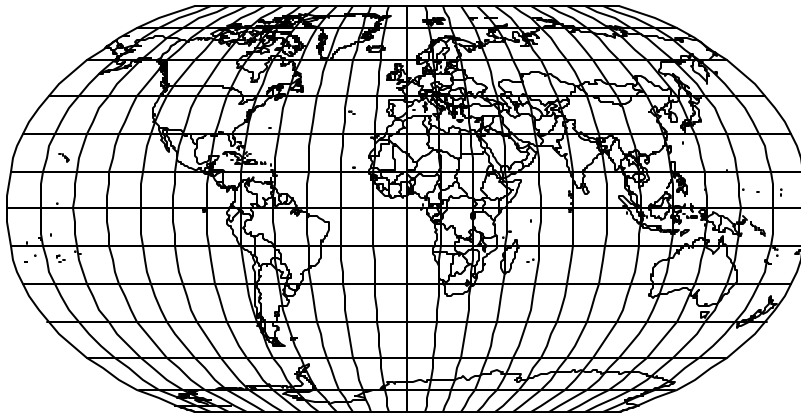
Description

Peace-Action is a grassroots organization whose mission is to educate people and form a citizens' network with the sustained political power to reverse the arms race, abolish nuclear weapons and construct a world of peace and justice. The organization, formerly known as Sane-Freeze, was founded in 1957 and changed its name in January 1993 in order to better reflect the new challenges of the post-Cold War world. The current priorities of Peace-Action are bringing an end to nuclear testing, halting the arms trade, and budget issues related to cutting military spending and promoting investment in human needs.

Projects

The nature of the legal assistance needed will vary according to Peace-Action's priorities and projects at the time when the *pro bono* lawyer volunteers. Projects will be primarily administrative in nature, and involve issues such as the interrelationship between sections 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) of the IRS code, personnel management and policies, and review of loan agreements. Interested persons should contact Peace-Action for information about projects that are ongoing at any given time.

BUSINESS and TRADE



Consumers for World Trade

1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 1110
Washington, DC 20036
Telephone: (202) 293-2944
Fax: (202) 293-0495
E-mail: cwt@cwt.org
Internet: <http://www.cwt.org>

Contact: Robin Lanier, Executive Director

Description

Consumers for World Trade (CWT) is a national non-profit organization established in 1978 for the purpose of promoting freer trade to benefit consumers. CWT supports trade expansion and liberalization to help promote healthy economic growth, to provide choices in the market place for consumers, and to counteract inflationary price increases. CWT believes that consumers have a vital interest in trade policy and must mobilize to assert that interest.

Projects

Consumers for World Trade would like help in the following areas: 1) evaluation of current trade policies; 2) assistance in the development of a grassroots network; 3) drafting statements/comments on the effect of regulatory programs on consumers; and 4) drafting press and media communications on trade issues.

International Law Institute (ILI)

1615 New Hampshire Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20009

Telephone: (202) 483-3036

Fax: (202) 483-3029

E-mail: training@ili.org

Internet: <http://www.ili.org>

Contact: Steve Hrubala, Executive Director

Description

The International Law Institute (ILI) was founded in 1955 at Georgetown University Law Center. Now an independent not-for-profit organization, ILI serves an international constituency of government officials, legal and business professionals, and scholars from its base in Washington, DC. Since the early 1970's nearly 10,000 officials from 185 countries have participated in ILI training programs in the United States and in dozens of other countries.

In addition to its Washington training center, ILI opened a campus in Kampala, Uganda in 1997. Additional foreign campuses are scheduled to open in 2002 and 2003. Further details on ILI's activities are available on the ILI web site at www.ili.org. ILI's particular area of focus is international economic and commercial law. Representative subjects include: International Procurement, WTO Rights and Obligations, Private Finance of Infrastructure, and Public Enterprise Restructuring and Privatization. ILI is also active in technical assistance, research, publishing, conferences and international exchanges.

Projects

ILI is served by an adjunct faculty of approximately 500 legal practitioners, officials from government and multilateral organizations, business representatives and others. Additional faculty members are periodically required to serve as faculty in U.S. and foreign courses. Please consider adding your name to ILI's roster of expert trainers. Assistance is also required to develop and update course curricula.

ILI is also a provider of legal technical assistance. For example, ILI recently was engaged by the Government of Albania to provide assistance in the area of government procurement – to develop regulations and procedures and assist with training. ILI has worked with scores of countries in projects like this – in subjects ranging from competition policy to court administration – and needs legal experts who can travel or who can assist from Washington.

Project development assistance is also often needed as ILI crafts proposals for foreign governments and funding agencies.

ILI-Uganda benefits from the efforts of self-funded lawyers who volunteer to serve as staff attorneys in Kampala for periods of from one month to one year. These lawyers assist by teaching, developing curricula, and assisting in the management of ILI-Uganda. For further details on how to assist ILI in these and other ways, please contact ILI directly.

TRACE
Transparent Agents and Contracting Entities

2121 K Street, NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20037
Telephone: (410) 267-6268

E-mail: info@TRACEinternational.org
Internet: <http://www.traceinternational.org>

Contact: Alexandra Wrage, Esquire

Description

Corruption is a bar to free trade, an obstacle to development, undermines good governance and saps public confidence in elected officials and civic institutions. TRACE is committed to improving the anti-corruption standards and reducing the cost associated with doing business with intermediaries internationally.

TRACE international, a non-profit organization, was created to provide business intermediaries (sales agents, consultants and subcontractors) with an opportunity to commit to an anti-corruption policy and to submit voluntarily to an independent review. The extensive background review is then made available to companies and governments seeking to do business with intermediaries committed to transparent business practices.

Through offices in Washington and London and Advisory Council members in twelve countries, TRACE provides anti-corruption training and written codes of conduct, at no cost, to TRACE members. The workshops address local anti-corruption initiatives as well as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and international conventions.

Projects

- ***Anti-corruption resources:*** TRACE welcomes submissions of articles on anti-corruption initiatives in the United States and abroad for inclusion on its website and dissemination to members.
- ***Anti-corruption workshops:*** TRACE welcomes assistance with coordinating its anti-corruption workshops at twelve locations around the world. TRACE is committed to reaching the broadest possible audience, and so does not charge for these workshops. Facilities are provided by local organizations and all speakers are volunteers.
- ***Investigations:*** Applicants for membership in TRACE submit voluntarily to a background review prior to acceptance by TRACE. These reviews are conducted by lawyers, on a *pro bono* basis. Occasionally, these reviews uncover additional information requiring a more thorough investigation; TRACE seeks assistance with these.

TRACE has a modest budget for travel to workshops and for investigations.

Washington International Trade Association (WITA)

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Suite 350

Washington, DC 20004

Tel: (202) 312-1600

Fax: (202) 312-1601

E-mail: wita@wita.org

Internet: <http://www.wita.org>

Contact: James Wilkinson, Executive Director

Description

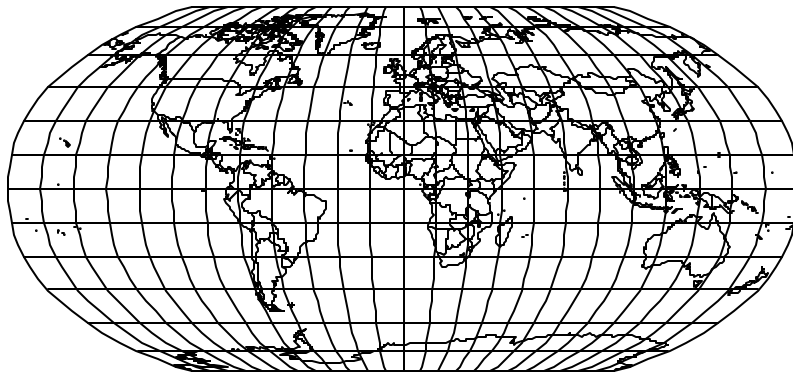
The Washington International Trade Association (WITA) is a registered non-profit organization that provides a neutral forum for trade professionals, attorneys, government officials, business owners, and academics to come together, exchange views and receive information.

To achieve these objectives, WITA sponsors programs and conferences on key issues in international trade. Recent programs have focused on the Bilateral Free Trade Agreements, Congressional Trade Agenda and other Policy and Diplomatic Issues. WITA also holds an Annual Awards Dinner and World Trade Open (WTO) Charity Golf Tournament. The organization also provides members with networking opportunities.

Projects

WITA would like assistance in trademark protection for certain of its logos and other materials.

ENVIRONMENT



Environmental Defense

1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20009
Telephone: (202) 387-3500
Fax: (202) 234-6049

E-mail: apetsonk@environmentaldefense.org
Internet: <http://www.environmentaldefens.org>

Contact: Annette Petsonk, International Counsel, ext. 3323

Description

Environmental Defense, a non-profit organization with over 300,000 members, links law, science and economics to create innovative solutions to pressing environmental and development problems at the local, national and global levels. Our atmospheric and international programs rank among the largest of any national organization in the world.

Projects

Volunteer attorneys have historically assisted Environmental Defense throughout its programmatic activities, including domestic and international initiatives relating to toxic control, atmospheric and oceans protection, forest conservation and international institutions. In the international arena, *pro bono* counsel have assisted with litigation relating to application of U.S. law in Antarctica, environmental aspects of GATT and the North American Free Trade Agreement and relevant implementing legislation, environmental reform of the World Bank, including proposals on an independent appeals commission, the role of the insurance industry in responding to climate change, and researching forest conservation legislation in developing countries.

With the emergence of emissions trading markets, both domestically and internationally, *pro bono* projects may cover a broad range of topics involving economic law, as well as environmental law.

GREENPEACE, Inc.

702 H Street, NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20001
Telephone: (202) 462-1177
Fax: (202) 462-4507

E-mail: tom.wetterer@wdc.greenpeace.org
Internet: <http://www.greenpeaceusa.org>

Contact: Thomas W. Wetterer, Staff Attorney

Description

Greenpeace, Inc. is an independent, campaigning organization that uses non-violent, creative confrontation to expose global environmental problems, and to force the solutions that are essential to a green and peaceful future.

Greenpeace's goal is to ensure the ability of the earth to nurture life in all its diversity. Therefore, Greenpeace seeks to:

- Stop the destruction of the world's remaining ancient forests;
- Protect biodiversity in all its forms;
- Stop global warming by promoting clean energy solutions;
- Protect the earth's natural environment by eliminating persistent organic pollutants;
- Eliminate the threat of genetic engineering and support a switch to sustainable, organic agriculture;
- End all nuclear weapons production, modernization and deployment; and
- Promote peace, global disarmament and non-violence.

Projects

Greenpeace maintains a database of volunteer attorneys and their interests or expertise, and encourages all interested attorneys to contact the office and become listed on their database. When legal questions or projects arise, Greenpeace contacts those who have expressed an interest in the relevant area. In addition to questions relating to the environment, Greenpeace may also encounter legal issues relating to criminal, constitutional, corporate, and employment matters. *Pro bono* attorney contributions range from telephone advice to short-term projects or long-term representation.

National Wildlife Federation

1400 Sixteenth Street, NW
Suite 501
Washington, DC 20036-2266
Telephone: (703) 438-6453
Fax: (703) 438-6433
E-mail: johnsone@nwf.org
Internet: <http://www.nwf.org>

Contact: Eileen Morgan Johnson, General Counsel

Description

The mission of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) is to educate, inspire and assist individuals and organizations to conserve wildlife and other natural resources and to protect the Earth's environment. NWF pursues these objectives through a broad range of education programs, publications, research activities, and cooperation with legislators, government agencies and private groups.

The International Affairs Office of NWF is active in international environmental work in association with non-government colleagues in the United States, Latin America and elsewhere. This collaborative work involves activities to assure that environmental considerations are incorporated into trade agreements and investment policy; to assure citizens' access to environmental decision-making processes; to help develop strong U.S. positions on international wildlife and natural resources conservation, and to support economic, cultural, human welfare and population initiatives as elements that are critical to the achievement of environmentally sustainable development.

Projects

NWF's international programs include our Globalization and the Environment Program. For this Program, NWF may seek *pro bono* legal assistance on trade and environment issues to ensure more environmentally friendly trade negotiating authority, rules, and implementation under the WTO, NAFTA, and other agreements and institutions. Issues arising under implementation of NAFTA may involve Chapter 11 investor right controversies, Article 14 and Article 15 factual record matters, or the North American Development Bank and Border Environmental Cooperation Commission (NADBank/BECC).

Legal issues and the possible need for *pro bono* assistance may also arise under other aspects of our international programs. These programs are detailed at our website, www.nwf.org. Volunteers should contact NWF to determine what projects are ongoing at any given time.

Natural Resource Defense Council

1200 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone: (202) 289-6868
Fax: (202) 289-1060
E-mail: jscherr@nrdc.org
Internet: <http://www.nrdc.org>

Contact: Jacob Scherr, Director of International Programs

Description

The Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the earth's resources and improving the quality of the human environment. Its 500,000 members in the United States support NRDC's programs of legal action, scientific research, and citizen education.

Projects

Pro bono attorneys frequently assist NRDC in its projects, including those involving international environmental issues. Current priorities include: international environmental governance; trade and environment; climate change; and, sustainable energy in the developing world, particularly China.

The Nature Conservancy

4245 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203
Telephone: (703) 841-4593
Fax: (703) 841-0128
E-mail: jrotter@tnc.org
Internet: <http://www.nature.org>

Contact: Jonathan Rotter
Regional Counsel for Latin America and the Caribbean

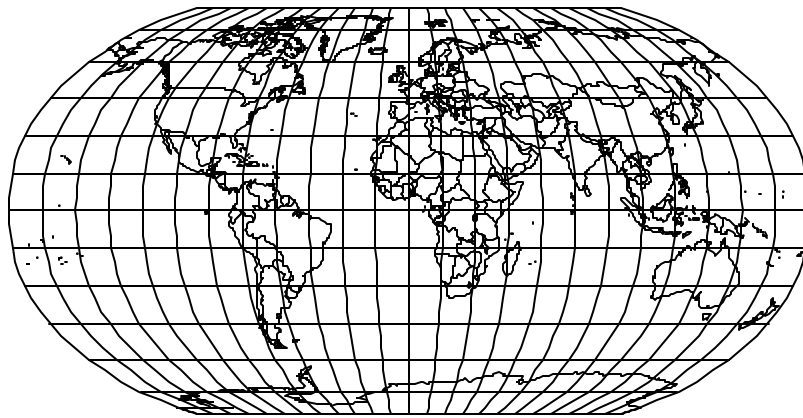
Description

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. To date, the Conservancy and its members have been responsible for the protection of 9.5 million acres in the United States and 42 million acres outside the United States. It has helped like-minded partner organizations to preserve millions of acres in Latin America, the Caribbean and the Pacific. While some Conservancy-acquired areas are transferred for management to other conservation groups, both public and private, the Conservancy owns more than 1,500 preserves - the largest private system of nature sanctuaries in the world.

Projects

The Nature Conservancy has recently expanded the focus of the work for which it seeks *pro bono* legal assistance to international legal issues. In addition to questions relating to its environmental mission, issues of corporate law, employment, taxation, real estate, and government grants and contracts, the Conservancy at times needs assistance and advice on doing business in various countries.

HUMAN RIGHTS



Break the Chain Campaign (BTCC)

c/o Institute for Policy Studies

733 15th St. NW Suite 1020
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone: (202) 234-9382 x 245
Fax: (202) 387-7915
Email: kerri@ips-dc.org

Contacts: Joy Zarembka, Executive Director
Kerri Sherlock, Managing Attorney

Description

Break the Chain Campaign (BTCC) works to combat human trafficking, modern-day slavery and the exploitation of migrant workers. BTCC provides comprehensive case management services including legal representation and social services such as assistance in locating housing, medical care, and employment. BTCC uses a holistic method to assist trafficked and exploited individuals, combining outreach, organizing, direct service, legal assistance, congressional and legislative advocacy, media outreach, and training. BTCC has been instrumental in the creation of Freedom Network (USA), a nationwide rapid-response coalition that works to ensure that every enslaved and trafficked person in the U.S. is able to enforce their legal and human rights.

Projects

BTCC's Legal Services Program offers comprehensive representation for trafficked and exploited migrant workers. Services include assistance in filing applications for special visas available to trauma survivors including victims of human trafficking, domestic abuse, and other serious crimes, and asylum applications for individuals fleeing persecution. BTCC also represents migrant workers in civil lawsuits against their abusers to recover lost wages and to seek compensation for torts including involuntary servitude, false imprisonment, assault, or fraud and contract claims. BTCC also operates PROMISE Central, the first center designed especially for enslaved and trafficked individuals in the United States.

BTCC seeks assistance with employment-related litigation under the Fair Labor Standards Act and state wage laws. Pro bono attorneys may work directly with clients who have recently escaped exploitation and abuse and the attorneys will gain knowledge of interviewing techniques for trauma survivors. Attorneys may also assist with preparation of applications for trafficking visas or asylum. BTCC will provide mentoring and legal training for pro bono attorneys. A knowledge of asylum law, civil litigation or foreign languages is helpful, however, BTCC's pro bono program has no specific requirements.

Center For International Policy

1755 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

Suite 550

Washington, DC 20036

Telephone: (202) 232-3317

Fax: (202) 232-3440

E-mail: cip@ciponline.org

Internet: <http://www.ciponline.org>

Contact: William Goodfellow, Executive Director

Description

Founded in 1975, the Center for International Policy is a non-profit educational and research organization promoting a U.S. foreign policy based on international cooperation, demilitarization and respect for basic human rights. Its leaders are present and former government officials and legislators, and its current geographical focus is on Cuba, Colombia and South Asia. The Center produces six to ten International Policy Reports each year.

Projects

Volunteers should contact the Center directly to determine what projects are ongoing at any given time.

Center For Justice and International Law

1630 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 555
Washington, DC 20009
Telephone: (202) 319-3000
Fax: (202) 319-3019
E-mail: washington@cejil.org
Internet: <http://www.cejil.org>

Description

The Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL) was established in 1991 as a consortium of nine human rights organization from North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. CEJIL offers an integrated program of full-time litigation, free legal services and monitoring of the Inter-American human rights system.

CEJIL participates in international human rights litigation and provides free legal advice on the use of international human rights instruments to non-governmental organizations in developing countries. CEJIL also disseminates publications about developments in the area of international human rights protection, emphasizing developments in its own cases, and the work of international human rights organizations, as well as actions taken by the political organs of the Organization of American States and the United Nations.

Projects

CEJIL's docket is extensive, with cases involving most states in the region and many issues, before both the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court on Human Rights. It currently is involved in over 300 cases affecting the rights and interests of those throughout North, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

CEJIL seeks *pro bono* assistance in preparing and arguing some cases and in institutional matters.

Center for Reproductive Rights
(formerly the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy)

1146 19th St., NW
Seventh Floor
Washington, DC 20036
Telephone: (202) 530-2975
Fax: (202) 530-2976
Email: dcinfo@crp.org
Internet: www.crlp.org

Contact: Julia L. Ernst, Legislative Counsel

Description

The Center for Reproductive Rights is a non-profit legal advocacy organization dedicated to promoting and defending women's reproductive rights worldwide. Reproductive rights, the foundation for women's self-determination over their bodies and sexual lives, are critical to women's equality. We believe laws and policies that protect and advance these rights are essential. They must allow women the freedom to decide whether and when to have children. They must respect women's ability to exercise their reproductive choices without coercion. They must also secure women's access to basic health services, including contraception, abortion, education, and safe pregnancy care. Ultimately, reproductive rights are imperative to ensuring justice for all members of society -- women, children, and their families. The Washington, DC office of the Center works to develop innovative strategies through analysis, lobbying, education and advocacy to influence legislative and executive action on federal and international levels.

Some of the specific areas of expertise in the DC office include analysis of the Global Gag Rule, U.S. support of reproductive rights abroad, the Child Custody Protection Act, and so called "partial-birth abortion" bans.

Projects

Projects can include general research on reproductive rights issues related to both federal and international human rights law, proposed legislation and rules and regulations.

Human Rights First
(formerly the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights)

100 Maryland Avenue, NE

Suite 500

Washington, DC 20002

Telephone: (202) 547-5692

Fax: (202) 543-5999

E-mail: MassiminoE@lchr.org

Internet: <http://www.humanrightsfirst.org>

Contact: Elisa Massimino, Executive Director
Erin Corcoran, Staff Attorney

Description

Human Rights First is an independent, U.S.-based non-governmental organization. It was founded in 1978 by a group of lawyers who believed that legal professionals have a unique role to play in the human rights movement. Since that time, it has worked to protect and promote fundamental human rights. Its work is impartial, holding every government, including our own, accountable to the standards affirmed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These rights include the right to be free from torture, summary execution, disappearance, arbitrary arrest, imprisonment without charge or trial, and indefinite detention, the right to process and a fair trial before an independent judiciary, and the right to seek and enjoy asylum from persecution.

Projects

Human Rights First's programs focus on analyzing and building the legal institutions and structures that will guarantee human rights in the long-term. It works to protect human rights advocates from harassment and threat through a network of lawyers and judges around the world who are mobilized to express their concern and intervene – through letter-writing, trial observation, and embassy visits – when their colleagues come under attack for their human rights work.

Through its Asylum Representation Program, Human Rights First recruits and trains volunteer lawyers to provide legal representation to indigent refugees seeking asylum in the United States. It also works with volunteer lawyers to influence the priorities and actions of the U.S. government in promoting the rule of law in both its foreign and domestic policies on topics such as compliance with international human rights treaties, refugee policy, and military aid.

Human Rights Watch

1630 Connecticut Ave., NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20009
Telephone: (202) 612-4321
Fax: (202) 612-4333

350 Fifth Avenue
34th Floor
New York, NY 10118-3299
Telephone: (212) 290-4700
Fax: (212) 736-1300

E-mail: hrwdc@hrw.org
Internet: <http://www.hrw.org>

E-mail: hrwny@hrw.org
Internet: <http://www.hrw.org>

Washington, DC

Africa

Contact: Janet Fleischman, Washington Director

Americas

Contact: Jose Miguel Vivanco, Executive Director

Asia

Contact: Mike Jendrzeczyk, Washington Director

Europe/Central Asia

Contact: Betsy Andersen, Executive Director

Middle East/North Africa

Contact: Joe Stork, Advocacy Director

United States

Contact: Wendy Patten, Advocacy Director

Description

Human Rights Watch is dedicated to protecting the human rights of people around the world. We stand with victims and activists to prevent discrimination, to uphold political freedom, to protect people from inhumane conduct in wartime, and to bring offenders to justice. We investigate and expose human rights violations and hold abusers accountable. We challenge governments and those who hold power to end abusive practices and respect international human rights law. We enlist the public and the international community to support the cause of human rights for all.

Human Rights Watch conducts regular, systematic investigations of human rights abuses in some seventy countries around the world. Our reputation for timely, reliable disclosures has made us an

essential source of information for those concerned with human rights. We address the human rights practices of governments of all political stripes, of all geopolitical alignments, and of all ethnic and religious persuasions. Human Rights Watch defends freedom of thought and expression, due process and equal protection of the law, and a vigorous civil society. We document and denounce murders, disappearances, torture, arbitrary imprisonment, discrimination, and other abuses of internationally recognized human rights. Our goal is to hold governments accountable if they transgress the rights of their people.

Human Rights Watch began in 1978 with the founding of its Europe and Central Asia division (then known as Helsinki Watch). Today, it also includes divisions covering Africa, the Americas, Asia, and the Middle East. In addition, Human Rights Watch has three thematic divisions on arms, children's rights, and women's rights. It maintains offices in New York, Washington, Los Angeles, London, Brussels, Moscow, Dushanbe, Rio de Janeiro, and Hong Kong. Human Rights Watch is an independent, non-governmental organization, supported by contributions from private individuals and foundations worldwide.

Human Rights Watch accepts no government funds, directly or indirectly.

International Human Rights Law Group

1200 18th Street, NW
Suite 602
Washington, DC 20036
Telephone: (202) 822-4600
Fax: (202) 822-4606

E-mail: humanrights@hrlawgroup.org

Internet: <http://www.hrlawgroup.org>

Contact: Gay J. McDougall, Executive Director

Description

The International Human Rights Law Group is a non-profit organization engaged in advocacy, strategic human rights lawyering and training around the world. Our mission is to empower local advocates to expand the scope of human rights protections and to promote broad participation in building human rights standards and procedures at the national, regional and international levels.

With a diverse staff of international human rights professionals from over 20 countries, the Law Group works to develop and strengthen international human rights norms and the institutions that enforce them worldwide. At the same time, recognizing the critical role domestic groups play in challenging human rights abuses in their countries, we develop programs to meet the needs expressed by local organizations to strengthen their capacity to respond to these abuses. We provide direct technical support to local organizations over extended periods, emphasizing essential human rights skills including fact-finding and reporting, human rights advocacy and strategic lawyering at both the domestic and international levels. Drawing on our in-country presence, we bring the voices of local activists to the attention of the international human rights community to integrate those voices into foreign policy discussions and actions, particularly in the United States and at the United Nations.

For more than a decade, the Law Group has played a leading role in the international movement to place women's rights at the forefront of the human rights struggle. As an integral part of all of our programs, we work to ensure that women everywhere enjoy the full range of human rights -including economic, social and cultural rights. Our Women's Rights Advocacy Program works with a broad coalition of human rights organizations and women's groups, providing training and technical assistance, and facilitating the strategic collaboration of women's groups throughout the world in combating violence against women committed during armed conflict or in the name of religion or custom.

Projects: World Activities At A Glance

Afghanistan Working with Afghan women refugees and Pakistani activists, our hands-on program develops advocacy campaigns and builds skills and institutional capacities essential to the long-term struggle for the protection of the rights of Afghan women. We also are helping Afghan women ensure their participation in the reconstruction and governance of Afghanistan.

Bosnia and Herzegovina IHRLG mobilizes and empowers BiH activists and legal practitioners to apply international human rights mechanisms locally, document and report on human rights violations, monitor legislation, press for legislative transparency and build issue-based legislative advocacy coalitions.

Brazil We assist Afro-Brazilian lawyers in their efforts to combat racial discrimination and create a higher level of understanding about the potential of the international and regional legal systems to guarantee racial equality in Brazil.

Burundi Our Burundi program works with the country's nascent civil society movement to develop adequate responses to the challenges of transitional and post-conflict justice, including protecting the rights of women, children and prisoners.

Cambodia IHRLG works with the Cambodian Defenders Project, a local organization that provides free legal representation to the poor and victims of human rights abuses, advocates for sound legislation and raises awareness of legal rights.

Democratic Republic of Congo We work to strengthen civil society in the eastern and western part of the country through developing avenues of mutual support and collaboration among domestic and international organizations; building capacity through trainings and workshops; and assisting civil society organizations in their advocacy campaigns.

Morocco Our Morocco program provides technical support to enhance institutional development, network building and outreach among local women's rights organizations. We also work to strengthen advocacy and protection of women's rights through training on international human rights standards and legal literacy programs in underserved communities.

Nicaragua IHRLG assists civil society on Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast to combat political, economic and social marginalization of Afro-Caribbean and indigenous communities and women's groups. Our training and advocacy program works to support these groups in accessing their communal rights to land and protecting their natural resources.

Nigeria We support the efforts of civil society organizations in playing an effective role in Nigeria's unfolding democratization process through combining training with practical application and developing concrete strategies for moving civil society's legislative priorities forward.

Sierra Leone IHRLG conducts public information campaigns on mechanisms of truth and reconciliation and works with a local network of civil society organizations in addressing transitional justice issues.

United States We bridge the gap between U.S. civil rights activists and the international human rights movement and encourage the U.S. government to fulfill its obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination. We also work with U.S. civil society groups to incorporate the language and procedures of international law into their efforts to combat racism and racial discrimination.

Yemen We train and mentor Yemeni women in promoting women's rights and advocating for the protection of the rights of Yemeni women in prison.

Promoting Women's Inheritance Rights IHRLG and our local partners campaign at the local, regional and international levels to ensure understanding that women whose right to inherit is denied suffer violence and extreme poverty and mentor local groups in Western and Southern Africa in legislative advocacy and public education and outreach.

Combating Trafficking in Persons We work with service providers, immigrant, labor and women's rights organizations and governments to ensure that all local, regional and international responses to the trafficking of human beings into forced labor, slavery and servitude are based upon internationally recognized human rights standards.

Inter-American System for Human Rights IHRLG develops the skills of local advocates, provides technical support for litigation within the Inter-American Commission and Court of Human Rights and monitors the workings of the Organization of American States.

United Nations We help human rights activists and organizations become effective participants in the international forums in which decisions about human rights standards are made. As part of our Advocacy Bridge Program, we take a delegation of activists from countries around the world to annual sessions of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, facilitate their advocacy efforts and help them network with advocates from other parts of the world.

2001 United Nations World Conference Against Racism We provided leadership, technical assistance and practical training to nongovernmental organizations to ensure their effective participation in this global initiative. We also co-hosted the VOICES special forum in Durban, South Africa to provide a platform for individuals around the world to share their experiences of racial discrimination during the Conference.

Mental Disability Rights International

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E-mail: mdri@mdri.org
Internet: <http://www.mdri.org>

Contact: Deb Benko, Communications Officer

Description

Mental Disability Rights International (MDRI) is a non-profit legal advocacy organization dedicated to the international recognition and enforcement of the rights of people with mental disabilities. Drawing on the skills and experience of attorneys, human rights activists, mental health professionals, people with disabilities, and family members, we are forging an alliance to challenge the discrimination and abuse faced by people with mental disabilities worldwide.

Since MDRI was founded in 1993, we have investigated and documented human rights violations in fourteen countries of Latin America and Eastern Europe; published reports on human rights conditions of people with mental disabilities in Uruguay (1995), Hungary (1997), Russia (1999), and Mexico (2000); and trained activists from sixteen countries by holding legal advocacy trainings, workshops, and study tours. MDRI volunteer legal consultants have also testified before international oversight agencies, including the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the U.N. Human Rights Committee.

As a result of MDRI's work, an abusive psychiatric facility was closed in Mexico, and the Mexican government hired an MDRI adviser to create its first government-funded, community-based mental health programs; new disability rights legislation in Hungary was adopted, including the formation of a human rights ombudsman system to protect people in institutions; and Amnesty International issued an Urgent Action in October 2001 regarding a state institution in Bulgaria where MDRI and Amnesty investigators reported that among other human rights abuses, women with mental disabilities were forced to live in cages.

Through the media, MDRI has achieved worldwide recognition for the rights of people with mental disabilities. MDRI's work has been profiled by *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, CNN International, BBC World Service, ABC News, Voice of America, National Public Radio, *Proceso* of Mexico, the *Daily Independent* of London, *Ha'Aretz* of Israel, and others.

Projects

As of spring 2003, MDRI is conducting legal advocacy training sessions and human rights investigations around the world. *Pro bono* legal consultants with MDRI would have the opportunity to participate in legal advocacy training, human rights investigations in institutions, and bringing human rights claims before international oversight agencies.

Pro bono legal consultants would also work with disability rights activists, people with disabilities and their family members, mental health professionals, and other legal and international human rights advocates.

While MDRI's funding currently supports work primarily focused in Latin America and Eastern Europe, we hope to expand our work to other regions should future funding allow us to do so.

Network of East-West Women

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Washington, DC 20009
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E-mail: neww@neww.org
Internet: <http://www.neww.org>

Contact: Erin M. Barclay, Esq. Executive Director

Description

NEWW's mission is to support the growth of grassroots women's movements in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE), the Newly Independent States (NIS) and Russia through dialogue, networking, and informational and educational exchanges.

Founded in 1991, NEWW's overarching goal is to support the formation of independent women's movements - movements that foster the participation of women in all aspects of decision-making. NEWW's primary objective is to increase the capacity of women and women's non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to intervene effectively on policy regarding women's lives.

NEWW has offices in Washington, D.C. and Gdansk, Poland, and is governed by a 17-member international Board of Directors. Currently, NEWW's board consists of members from Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosova, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Serbia, Russia, Ukraine and the United States. NEWW has over 1,500 members around the world. Our members include community organizers, lawyers, judges, writers, students, parliamentarians, journalists, professors, union organizers, researchers, artists, and feminist activists.

Projects

- **Legal Fellowship Program.** This intensive 16-month practical and educational training program places recently graduated women lawyers from CEE/NIS with U.S.-based international human rights organizations to work on a women's human rights project, while simultaneously participating in a law school course on international human rights. NEWW also provides support for a one-year follow-on project upon the fellow's return to her home country.
- **Economic and Social Justice Fellowship Program.** Based on the Legal Fellowship Program model, but for women working on a wide-range of economic justice issues in CEE/NIS.

- **Women's Economic Justice Network.** An on-line information portal of resources needed for women's NGOs to effectively intervene in global economic decision making processes. *See* <http://www.neww.org.pl>
- **NEWW On-Line.** Since 1991, NEWW has helped individuals and NGOs across the region go on-line, providing women leaders with computers, modems, stipends and training in basic e-mail and Internet research skills. Currently NEWW facilitates five English language listserves and one Russian language listserve with over 900 subscribers. Subscriptions to listserves are free of charge. They can be accessed at www.neww.org.
- **Book and Journal Project.** NEWW has encouraged the formation of dozens of women's research and information centers across CEE/NIS, providing small grants for innovative research and publication projects, and distributing more than 4,000 books and journals from the now vast literature on modern women's movements. Donations of women's rights and gender texts, journals and journal subscriptions, as well as funds to support independent publications in CEE/NIS, are welcome.

Tahirih Justice Center

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Falls Church, VA 22041

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Fax: (703) 575-0069

E-mail: anjum@tahirih.org

Internet: <http://www.tahirih.org>

Contact: Anjum Kapoor Sikka, *Pro Bono* Coordinating Attorney

Description

The Tahirih Justice Center is a non-profit legal services organization whose mission is to enable women and girls who face gender-based violence to access justice. The Center engages in direct litigation, public policy advocacy, and public education and outreach to ensure systemic change that protects women and girls from violence. The Center focuses on the needs of women from Africa, Asia, and the Middle East, in an effort to reach traditionally underserved populations.

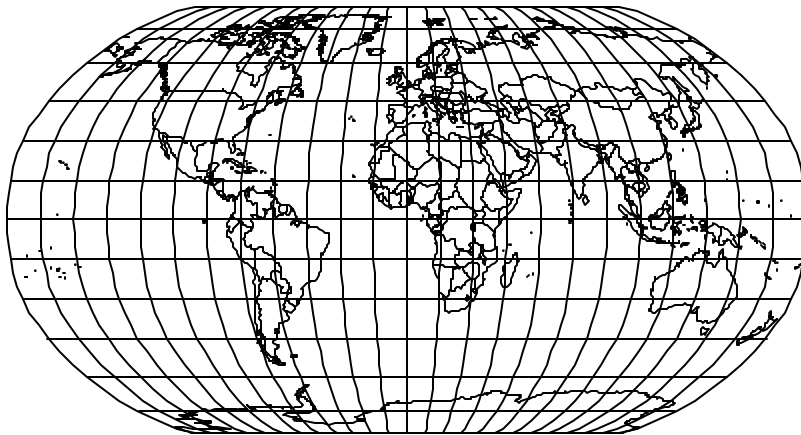
Projects

Pro Bono Legal Services for Immigrant Women and Girls

The Tahirih Justice Center is a pioneer in the protection of women and girls from violence under U.S. immigration law. The Center advocates for the development of laws to protect women and girls fleeing such abuses as female genital mutilation, honor crimes, forced prostitution, rape and incest, trafficking, gender-apartheid, forced sterilization and domestic violence through direct litigation and public policy advocacy.

The Center provides *pro bono* legal representation in-house and, in an effort to maximize the number of women served, refers additional cases to law firms that have agreed to provide *pro bono* legal services to the Center's clients. Legal remedies sought by the Center's clients include gender-based asylum, Torture Convention relief, battered spouse self-petitions under the Violence Against Women Act, and the obtaining of "T" and "U" visas for victims of trafficking and other crimes. Taking a holistic approach to serving its clients, the Center also offers a range of social and medical services referrals.

IMMIGRATION



**American Bar Association
Commission on Immigration Policy, Practice and Pro Bono**

740 15th Street, NW
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Internet: <http://www.abanet.org>

Contact: Irena Lieberman, Staff Director

Description

The American Bar Association (ABA) Center for Immigration Law and Representation monitors legislative and regulatory developments on immigration policy issues, and offers technical assistance and small grants to bar associations to establish *pro bono* services for immigrants and refugees.

Projects

The ABA recruits volunteer lawyers nationally to provide immigration representation. The ABA also sponsors ProBAR, a project that recruits volunteer lawyers and law students from across the country to provide representation to asylum applicants who are detained by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in rural Texas pending their court hearings.

ProBAR volunteers have counseled several thousand asylum applicants, and hundreds of refugees have been awarded political asylum. In conjunction with the State Bar of Texas, the ABA also maintains a full time *pro bono* coordinator and a law office in Harlingen, which is centrally located among the INS detention facilities. Volunteers who are unable to travel to Texas also may assist with appeals.

Capital Area Immigrants' Rights (CAIR) Coalition

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Washington, DC 20017
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Fax: (202) 756-2731

Email: debi@caircoalition.org, julia.caldwell@caircoalition.org

Internet: <http://www.caircoalition.org>

Contacts: Debi Sanders, Executive Director

Julia Caldwell, Asylum Project Director

Description

The CAIR Coalition seeks to advance the human and civil rights of immigrants and refugees, to foster an environment of positive human and community relations in our society and to work for a fair and humane immigration policy. The CAIR Coalition provides services to the immigrant advocacy community in the greater Washington, DC metropolitan area. We bring together community groups, *pro bono* attorneys, volunteers and immigrants to work toward our mission. CAIR Coalition provides education and training, public policy development, forums for sharing information, legal support services, and other empowerment programs to individuals and organizations that represent immigrants.

Projects

CAIR Coalition is the only organization working with individuals detained by the INS (now the Immigration and Customs Enforcement) in Virginia and the Metropolitan area. Through its Detention Project, CAIR Coalition provides advice and assistance to INS detainees and advocates for systematic reform on their behalf. The project focuses on assisting detained asylum seekers, seeking to ensure that they are represented during their credible fear interviews and during their asylum hearings. The project also provides information and *pro se* packets to immigrants who are undocumented or who are eligible for legal relief other than asylum. Through its Asylum Project and Board of Immigrant Appeals *Pro Bono* Project, CAIR Coalition provides information, legal assistance and representation to indigent asylum seekers.

In order to accomplish its mission, CAIR Coalition relies on the assistance of *pro bono* attorneys, both for individual cases and to address pressing immigration issues and concerns. CAIR Coalition is seeking volunteers for: full representation of asylum applicants at all levels of the asylum process; credible fear interviews for people who are detained as they enter the United States and express a fear of returning to their homelands; weekly "Know Your Rights" presentations for immigrants detained by INS in Virginia jails; and assistance with comments on proposed immigration regulations. CAIR Coalition staff provides training, mentoring and support to all volunteers. Our next annual, full-day asylum law training will take place at the D.C. Bar in the fall of 2004.

**Catholic Charities
of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC**

924 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Telephone: (202) 772-4348
E-mail: AtkinsonJ@CatholicCharitiesDC.org

Contact: Jeanne M. Atkinson, Director
Immigration Legal Services

Description

The Immigration Legal Services Division of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC serves refugees and asylum-seekers from around the world. The division also helps with family-based and employment-based petitions.

Projects

The division helps refugees who flee persecution based upon race, religion, nationality, particular social group, and political opinion.

Volunteers who speak French, Burmese, and Spanish are valued.

Volunteers may work five hours/week from their own offices if they desire. Some work 20 hours/week at 924 G Street, NW or at our office in Wheaton Plaza.

Donations of computers, printers, and scanners are appreciated.

**Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project**

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Internet: <http://www.washlaw.org>

Contact: Ruth Spivack, Outreach Coordinator

Description

The Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project of the Washington Lawyers' Committee provides legal representation for asylum cases with the assistance of volunteer attorneys. Cases are selected on the basis of legal significance and financial need of the applicant. The Project also provides legal assistance to newcomers in the area facing discrimination on the basis of their immigration or citizenship status, and provides information and training on the naturalization process.

Projects

The Project co-sponsors an annual asylum training program and has training materials available for use by volunteer attorneys.

Women Empowered Against Violence, Inc. (WEAVE)

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Washington, DC 20036
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E-mail: info@weaveincorp.org
Internet: <http://www.weaveincorp.org>

Contact: Claudia Ramirez, Legal Services

Description

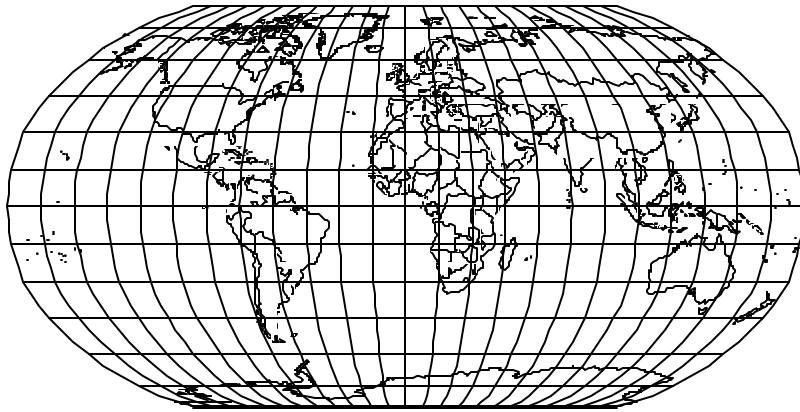
WEAVE is a non-profit holistic organization that serves victims of domestic violence in the Washington, DC area. WEAVE's mission is to empower victims of domestic violence so that they may safely remove themselves from the cycle of abuse and achieve self-sufficiency for themselves and their children. To effectuate this mission, WEAVE provides holistic legal, case management, and counseling services in the District of Columbia. The goal of WEAVE's holistic services is to give victims of domestic violence the full range of tools they need to permanently leave violent relationships.

Projects

Pro Bono Legal Services for Immigrant Battered Women:

In an effort to help as many women as possible, WEAVE refers some cases to private attorneys that have agreed to work with the clients *pro bono*. The staff attorneys at WEAVE not only are willing to mentor *pro bono* attorneys, but will often arrange for other services the client needs in order to ensure the client's well being. WEAVE will assist *pro bono* attorneys in preparing battered spouse self-petitions under the Violence Against Women Act and applications for work permits for immigrant women who are victims of domestic violence.

RULE OF LAW



**American Bar Association
Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI)**

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Internet: <http://www.abaceeli.org>

Contact: Susan Henderson, Recruitment Associate

Description

The Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (CEELI), a public service project of the American Bar Association (ABA), is designed to advance the rule of law by supporting the legal reform process in Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union. Through its work, CEELI helps to build the legal infrastructure that is indispensable to strong, self-supporting democratic, free-market systems. Active in over 20 countries, CEELI provides assistance to government ministries, judges, lawyers, law faculties, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) by supporting greater public access to, and understanding of, the law. A premise of the project is that lasting economic and political reforms are dependent on a functioning system of law. The rule of law, so basic a part of our cultural fabric, is an urgent priority and a new phenomenon in many countries moving away from communist and socialist systems. In these countries, political and economic reforms are clearly dependent upon one another, and both require a sound legal structure.

CEELI's assistance is primarily provided by liaisons and legal specialists, American legal professionals who serve on a *pro bono* basis, reside in the host countries for extended periods, and work closely with the local legal community and government representatives. Assistance is also provided through in-country workshops and written assessments of draft legislation. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is the main source of CEELI's funding.

Projects

CEELI has focused its work in several priority areas: judicial reform, reform of the legal profession, criminal law, gender issues, legal education, conflict mitigation, post-conflict transition and legislative assistance.

- ***Promoting judicial independence.*** CEELI supports efforts to organize voluntary, independent judges' associations that serve as a united voice for their members on a broad

spectrum of judicial reform issues. CEELI also has helped establish judicial training centers in Albania, Estonia, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, and Moldova.

- ***Supporting reform of the legal profession.*** By giving technical support to lawyers' groups in areas such as ethics, continuing legal education, and law practice management, CEELI helps to build professionalism and expertise among members of the legal profession.
- ***Promoting international criminal law reform.*** In a partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice, CEELI advises and assists in drafting and implementing modern criminal justice legislation, and conducts project-based reform activities and comprehensive training programs for prosecutors, judges, investigators and defense attorneys. Current issues for the program include work on: money laundering, anti-corruption, financial crimes, new criminal codes, and criminal procedure codes.
- ***Advancing gender equality.*** CEELI trains lawyers, judges, law professors, NGO leaders, and law enforcement officials on issues such as gender-based employment discrimination, sexual harassment in the workplace, domestic violence and trafficking or forced prostitution.
- ***Supporting legal education reform.*** CEELI helps law schools throughout the region incorporate interactive practice-based teaching techniques into their curricula through simulation-based classes, externships, and live client clinics.
- ***Aiding conflict mitigation and post-conflict transition.*** CEELI plays a crucial role in a number of on-going conflict-mitigation efforts by working to improve the functioning and accessibility of the justice system, increasing awareness of international human rights standards and humanitarian law, documenting human rights abuses and promoting accountability.
- ***Providing legislative assistance.*** The Legislative Assistance Program allows U.S. lawyers to help governments of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union develop their laws in accordance with modern democratic and free market principles by contributing to concept papers, commenting on draft legislation or serving on a Legislative Assistance Panel. CEELI has assessed approximately 500 draft laws, including criminal and civil codes and commercial laws, and 18 draft constitutions.

**American Bar Association / United Nations Development Programme
ABA/UNDP International Legal Resource Center (ILRC)**

740 15th Street, NW
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E-mail: liuh@staff.abanet.org
Internet: <http://www.abanet.org/intlaw/ilrc>

Contact: Hongxia Liu, Director

Description

The International Legal Resource Center (ILRC) is a joint project of the American Bar Association (ABA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) based upon their common commitment to support and promote good governance and the rule of law around the world. Housed within the ABA Section of International Law and Practice, the ILRC assists over 130 UNDP Representative Offices around the world in identifying attorneys to provide advice and training in legal institution-building, judicial reform, legislative drafting, and other law-related areas.

UNDP is actively involved in programs worldwide promoting sound governance, market development, environmental protection, HIV/AIDS prevention, and rebuilding societies in the aftermath of war and humanitarian emergencies. The ILRC brings *pro bono* legal services to developing countries and transitioning democracies through these programs. In addition, the ILRC serves as a depository of relevant rule of law and governance documents and other materials, which are made available to legal experts, UNDP staff, government officials, and others involved in UNDP supported programs. Upon request, the ILRC also provides legislative assessments of draft laws and regulations of UNDP program countries.

Projects

Since its inception in February 2000, the ILRC has responded to over 150 service requests from UNDP country offices in over 65 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Central and Eastern Europe, and the Commonwealth of Independent States. The bulk of the requests are for technical legal experts to assist in a broad array of legal fields ranging from commercial law, tax law, trade law, environmental law, labor and human rights law, as well as efforts to combat bribery of government officials. The ILRC recruits experts worldwide to meet the programmatic goals of UNDP projects in countries where language, culture, and legal traditions are important considerations.

Citizens Democracy Corps

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Internet: <http://www.cdc.org>

Contact: David Puening,
Director of Human Resources and Administration

Description

Citizens Democracy Corps (CDC), a non-profit organization established in 1990, specializes in international economic and private sector development. CDC provides on-site technical and managerial assistance to enterprises, entrepreneurs, and the organizations and institutions that support them (including financial, technical assistance, trade, and local government entities). CDC program offices also provide clients with the information, referrals, and networks they need to establish local, regional, and international trade linkages.

With a corps of more than 5,000 short- and long-term volunteers and consultants, CDC has the ability and flexibility to recruit and deliver experts with a wide range of skill sets from every type of industry sector, trade association, and local government development office to support our overseas private sector development projects.

With the acquisition of the MBA Enterprise Corps in 2001, CDC also has the capacity to place MBA graduates with 3-5 years of business experience in local enterprises, business services providers, and/or with organizations targeting specific industry clusters. MBA volunteers take on a one-year assignment with their clients to provide them with the latest tools in strategy, marketing, operations, finance, and competitiveness.

CDC provides innovative products and services that:

- Create new national and family wealth and quality, productive jobs;
- Provide direct assistance to local firms improving the productivity of client companies, introducing new business tools, recommending upgrades in machinery and equipment, and showing how such changes can enhance competitiveness;
- Provide local government representatives and working groups with the technical know-how and coalition building techniques they need to improve the legal and regulatory environment for the private sector;

- Provide information, linkages, and referral services clients need to identify trade and financing opportunities;
- Generate and build high performance private sectors and competitive enterprises of various sizes capable of participating in the global marketplace over the long term;
- Develop new markets and trade and investment opportunities for client companies in emerging economies and transitioning nations; and
- Support the growth of stability, democracy, democratic institutions, and civil society.

Projects

CDC advisors are recruited specifically for each assignment and matched according to level of experience in the client's field of business. The ability of CDC advisors to apply the experiences they faced in building their own businesses in the United States in order to help their clients has allowed these experts to overcome any national or cultural differences. The great majority of our advisors continue to maintain a professional relationship with their clients long after their return to the United States. Whether reviewing quarterly financial reports, assisting with trade partners, providing training in the United States, or continuing with a mentoring relationship, most CDC experts make their on-site activities only the beginning of a long-term effort.

CDC promotes local economic development through several modes of operation -- assisting individual companies, focusing on a particular economic sector, advising local government entities, helping build business support institutions, and building supply chain networks. The ability to integrate various development modes allows CDC to address specific and individual needs while contributing to a comprehensive economic development strategy.

CDC currently has programs in Russia, Central Asia, Central Europe and the Balkans, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Thailand. In addition, CDC recently completed a project in Guatemala. In 2003 and 2004, CDC will continue to expand into new countries and new regions.

Democracy Development Institute

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Washington, DC 20036-8623

Email: info@democracydevelopment.org

Website: www.democracydevelopment.org

DDI Contacts:

Drexel D. Journey, President Democracy Development Institute c/o Schiff Hardin & Waite 1101 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20036 Telephone: (202) 778-6420 Facsimile: (202) 778-6460 Email: djourney@schiffhardin.com	John Bonello, Executive Director Democracy Development Institute c/o Eidson & Bonello 1900 M Street, NW, Suite 850 Washington, DC 20036 Telephone: (202) 776-1144 Facsimile: (202) 318-0853 Email: John@eblawsolutions.com
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Description

In February 1990, the Federal Bar Association (FBA) created the Democracy Development Initiative (DDI). The FBA is a voluntary association of more than 14,000 public and private sector lawyers in the United States involved in federal legal practice. FBA members practice before federal courts and agencies throughout the United States. Since 1990, DDI has evolved into a non-profit corporation under District of Columbia laws with a 501(c)(3) tax status and its current name, Democracy Development Institute. DDI's Board of Directors establishes the policies of the Institute. It operates under the general direction of the Executive Director.

DDI's basic purpose is to provide *pro bono* legal services to newly emerging democracies around the world in need of information, education, and advice on the rule of law, democratic principles and free market models. DDI projects have involved Eastern and Central Europe, the New Independent States, Africa, Central America, and the Caribbean Region. DDI has assisted countries in reforming their governmental and legal systems in accordance with rule of law principles including, *inter alia*, the protection of due process, legislative processes, general judicial administration, administration of criminal justice, and protection of civil rights.

DDI has organized a talent bank of FBA members who have volunteered to assist with the legal reform efforts. Through the talent bank, FBA members are available to give assistance to governments, embassies, judicial bodies, trade and bar associations, educational institutions, and individuals. Talent bank volunteers come from government agencies, from private law firms and from academe. When DDI receives a request for assistance, DDI matches the request with relevant talent bank resources.

Projects

Examples of DDI projects include: providing advice regarding the drafting of a constitution based on democratic principles; providing advice on the restructuring of governmental energy projects and the regulation of privatized energy systems; conducting a study of the United States system for protection of classified materials and state secrets; drafting a sample statute and regulations for a government corporation to control the funding of a wide variety of charitable organizations, and the operation of entrepreneurial activities in the free market economy.

DDI projects have also provided information on governmental taxation procedures and taxation dispute resolution; operation of the legislative process at the national level; and the administration of the United States criminal justice system, including the rules of judicial administration, the role of prosecutors, defense counsel, jurors, and the press.

International Center for Not-for-Profit Law

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Internet: <http://www.icnl.org>

Contact: Doug Rutzen, Senior Vice President

Description

The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) facilitates and supports the development of civil society, the freedom of association, and citizen participation on a global basis. In cooperation with international, national, and local organizations, ICNL focuses on the development of the legal environment for not-for-profit, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in countries around the world. ICNL provides technical assistance on NGO law reform; provides training and education; maintains a documentation center; conducts research relevant to strengthening and improving laws affecting NGOs; and publishes the *International Journal for Not-for-Profit Law* (IJNL).

Projects

ICNL has an international staff of lawyers and other professionals serving in offices in Washington, Central and Eastern Europe, and Central Asia, as well as partners in numerous countries. U.S. and foreign lawyers are encouraged to assist, on a *pro bono* or expenses only basis, in ICNL programs. *Pro bono* lawyers provide a variety of services, ranging from comments on draft legislation to writing and editing articles for the IJNL. On occasion, opportunities may be available for representation on projects abroad. In particular, ICNL seeks lawyers experienced in taxation, legislative drafting and analysis, and government procurement issues.

International Foundation for Election Systems

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Description

The International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) is a private, non-profit education and research foundation that provides professional advice and technical assistance to countries worldwide in the administration of elections, rule of law, civil society, and governance.

Projects

IFES rule of law project team members are selected based on several factors, primarily expertise in one or more of the following areas: comparative electoral processes, election codes, political party laws, campaign finance laws and regulations, comparative constitutional law, judicial independence, legislative process and development, and laws governing the activities of civil society organizations.

Other selection criteria include technical election expertise, language and training capabilities, knowledge of host country, and prior experience with international assessments and rule of law activities. Members are selected on a non-partisan basis from an international pool of applicants. Interested persons should contact IFES for more information on ongoing projects and rule of law opportunities.

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition

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Michael E. Peil, Esq., Executive Director

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Description

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, founded in 1959, is administered annually by the International Law Students Association (ILSA). The Jessup Competition is an oral advocacy competition in which teams of law students from around the world prepare and argue a hypothetical case before panels of judges at regional, national, and international levels. The mock international dispute is drafted by international scholars and practitioners and argued before the International Court of Justice. Students are scored both on their written pleadings and their oral persuasion skills.

Today, the Competition has risen to the preeminent position of being the world's largest and most prestigious international law moot court competition, where annually approximately 1,600 students from more than 300 law schools in almost 45 nations compete. Regional competitions are held throughout the world from December through February each year, and the International Rounds are held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Society of International Law each spring.

The success and prestige of the Competition is due in large part to the high caliber of those involved, especially those professionals who judge the Competition. Volunteers are needed each year to evaluate the written briefs and to judge the oral arguments in the regional/national and international rounds. One of the requirements to serve as a judge is background knowledge and understanding of international law principles. Competition judges will, however, be provided with a comprehensive outline with the issues relevant to the hypothetical case. Judges are needed from late January through February for the twelve U.S. regional Competitions at sites around the United States, and from the beginning of March until the beginning of April for the International Rounds in Washington, DC.

Projects

Volunteers who would like to judge written submissions and oral arguments should contact the ILSA office. Please do not hesitate to contact the ILSA office if you have further questions.

Street Law, Inc.

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Contacts

Edward O'Brien, Executive Director
Trudy-Ann Forbes, Program Director

Description

Street Law, Inc. (formerly the National Institute for Citizen Education in the Law) is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening democracy and justice around the world through education about the law and citizen participation. Street Law, Inc. has developed innovative educational programs that empower citizens to participate constructively in their societies and governments.

Street Law, Inc.'s programs are a unique blend of substance and methodology. Via this approach, students gain information about government, laws, the legal system, and their rights and responsibilities through participatory teaching methods that promote cooperative learning, critical thinking and problem solving. In addition to law, Street Law, Inc. also educates citizens about democracy, human rights, conflict management and mediation and advocacy.

Projects

In 1985, Street Law, Inc. began to work internationally. Since then it has established law, democracy and human rights education in more than thirty countries on four continents. Street Law, Inc. has also hosted visitors from more than 75 countries from every region of the world. Almost universally, the visitors have recognized a great need in their countries for Street Law, Inc.'s experience in building effective citizenship.

All of Street Law, Inc.'s programs are designed by local educators and lawyers, and reflect each country's unique laws and culture.

STUDIES IN LATIN AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORIES
The Journal of Latin American Constitutional Law

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Description

Studies in Latin American Constitutional Histories (CONHIST) is a non-profit organization of individuals, lawyers, law professors, judges and researchers from the Americas who work to make the developing constitutional law of Latin American states accessible in public archives to citizens and educators in the Americas.

In this region, as everywhere, the ability to sustain democracy requires well-informed debate and discussion between citizens in all walks of life. As one Supreme Court Judge from the region told us, peace in his country depended on the sophistication of citizens in all strata to use and understand the democratic tools available to them to improve government, reduce corruption, and achieve difficult political compromises necessary to meet urgent fundamental needs.

Increased awareness and understanding of a country's constitutional issues and methods for resolving political differences are critical to peaceful and just democratic development -- in turbulent times, as in peaceful ones.

CONHIST is working to bring technological, infrastructural, and inter-organizational means to support civic educational development, connecting government and courts to schools and libraries and public access through use of the World Wide Web.

CONHIST and its *Journal of Latin American Constitutional Law* aim to highlight to a wide audience of readers in the Americas the growth and change in constitutional law that has taken place, as countries have emerged from authoritarian rule in the last fifteen years. We also aim to open new developments and choices to public view, and to create public archives of the democratic life and aspiration that is common, historically, to all Latin American countries.

Our volunteers work to create databases through which citizens, educators, civil society groups, journalists, and -- anyone -- can obtain up-to-date information, explanatory and educational materials

and original documents to examine constitutional problems: currently, comparatively, historically, and by subject matter.

CONHIST's outreach in the Washington, DC area includes a program of essay contests, scholarly presentations, and bibliographic curricula prepared for local public schools and universities on issues of Latin American National Constitutional Histories -- in particular the history of government and democratic reforms from independence in the late 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.

The work of CONHIST is not intended to serve the interests of any one particular ethnic or political group. Learning about democracy is by nature a comparative as well as an historical endeavor in the modern world.

In addition to increasing access to constitutional materials on the World Wide Web, CONHIST sponsors interviews, discussions and fora on controversies and issues in constitutional law.

Issues

The issues are diverse in a region of twenty-one independent states and more than 500 million inhabitants. However, patterns and trends exist that are profoundly significant to the development of modern democracy in a diverse and shrinking world. National controversies in Latin American countries and constitutional law in development include topics such as freedom of speech, religion and the press, indigenous rights and constitutional law, racial and minority discrimination, criminal and civil procedure, due process, equal protection of the law, reproductive and gender rights, right to privacy, right to access to government and other information, judicial review of the unconstitutionality of laws, executive and administrative acts, environmental rights, health and labor issues, property rights, voting issues, centralization versus decentralization of democratic processes, federalism, political parties and campaign financing, participatory democracy and referenda, the interaction of international and national constitutional law -- among others.

The nations of Latin America contain developing or emerging economies with chronic poverty afflicting their majorities. As in the United States, societies are marked by historical legacies of racial oppression, forced labor and slavery, and more recent episodes of political, cultural and speech repression and failure of traditional democratic government systems. Poorly regulated exploitation of natural resources has often resulted in dramatic adverse consequence to the environment and native peoples. The majority of Latin Americans have not benefited economically from the resources available in this vast region.

Projects

Pro bono lawyers who speak and write in Spanish will be engaged in research and analysis of judicial opinions, statutes, constitutions, and legal scholarship from the region. Their work will be part of the development of an Internet constitutional law news service and teaching device and the electronic law journal *La Revista de Derecho Constitucional Latinoamericano, (R.D.C.L.) / The Journal of Latin American Constitutional Law (J. Lat. Am. Const. L.)*. This work is being developed in

conjunction with law professors and students from the law faculty of the Universidad del Salvador, in Buenos Aires and other law schools. *Pro Bono* attorneys may write an article on a topic of constitutional law for possible submission to the electronic law journal. They may also be involved in organizational development, and serve as a liaison with technological resource companies, donors, civic organizations and government agencies in Latin America and/or the United States and Europe.

Pro bono lawyers who do not speak and write in Spanish and others may be involved in the development of curricula, bibliographies and assignments for CONHIST's outreach in the Washington, DC area. They also may be involved in organizational development, and serve as a liaison with technological resource companies, donors, civic organizations and government agencies in the United States and Europe.

Notes:

Our website is currently primarily in Spanish, and is under development through the work of law professors, lawyers and law student volunteers from the Americas. It includes constitutional cases organized according to the structure of national constitutions that are indexed, and briefed, NEWS BRIEFS, *The Journal of Latin American Constitutional Law*, and outlines of constitutional law with references to scholarship, important decisions and developing themes.

The organization does not advocate specific political positions: we seek to promote dialogue and examination of constitutional issues. No part of the organization works on behalf a political party, candidate or campaign.

We do, however, emphatically support the principles of the rule of law, individual liberty and all human rights set forth in the charters, treaties and protocols of the United Nations (UN) and the Organization of Americans States (OAS).

CONHIST is a federally regulated I.R.C. 501(c)(3) tax-exempt educational and charitable organization incorporated in the United States of America.

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Office of Democracy and Human Rights Information, Office of
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Description

The Office of International Information Programs (IIP) is the principal international strategic communications service for the foreign affairs community. IIP designs, develops, and implements a variety of information initiatives and strategic communications programs, including Internet and print publications, traveling and electronic speaker programs, and information resource services. These reach, and are created strictly for, key international audiences, such as the media, government officials, opinion leaders, and the general public in more than 140 countries around the world.

The office prides itself on using cutting-edge technology and strategic alliances to improve its effectiveness. The office's products and services, including web sites and other Internet services, electronic journals, speaker programs, print publications, and CD-ROMs, uniquely are designed to support the State Department's initiatives, as well as those of other U.S. foreign policy organizations. It also manages Information Resource Centers overseas and offers reference specialists based in Washington, DC to answer specialized information queries from abroad. The IIP was created from elements of the U.S. Information Agency when it merged with the Department of State on October 1, 1999.

IIP, through its team-based management structure, comprises three offices:

- The *Office of Geographic Liaison* is the first point of contact within IIP for missions overseas and the audiences they serve. Its teams' writer-editors, information resource officers, program officers, and translators provide regionally oriented products and services.
- The *Office of Thematic Programs* has multifunctional teams organized in one of two ways: along subject-matter lines, such as economic security, or along product lines, such as

electronic media. The thematic teams work closely with the geographic teams in preparing products and services that support Washington initiatives and mission requests.

- The *Office of Technology Services* is responsible for developing, interpreting, and applying government-wide technology policies and procedures in support of the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchanges, and IIP.

Projects

The Department of State's U.S. Speaker/Specialist Program has an active worldwide rule of law component for which it is now recruiting. U.S. judges and legal experts, at the request of American Embassies abroad, may spend up to three weeks in various countries advising governments and legal groups on legal issues. Programs cover nearly all areas of law.

Furthermore, legal experts are being recruited to participate in Digital Video Conferences (DVCs) with legal audiences abroad and also to contribute articles to our electronic journals. Interested parties should e-mail their resume to jjasik@pd.state.gov.

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