



International
Legal Assistance
Consortium

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a group of African women. In the foreground, a woman with a blue headwrap is seen from the back, embracing another woman. To the left, a woman with a yellow headwrap is smiling broadly, showing her teeth. Other women in colorful headwraps are visible in the background, creating a sense of community and joy.

Equal access to justice for all

ILAC ANNUAL REPORT 2019



**International
Legal Assistance
Consortium**

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Improving access to justice in conflict-affected countries

Who we are

ILAC is an international non-governmental organisation based in Sweden. We work to strengthen the rule of law, empower legal professionals and to ensure equal access to justice for all where people's justice needs are greatest – in conflict, crisis or transition.

ILAC was established in 2002 as a mechanism to coordinate the work of international and regional actors in the re-establishment of the rule of law in war-torn countries. Over the past 18 years, ILAC has carried out rule of law assessment missions and initiated legal reform programmes in 16 countries.

As an international consortium of over 80 professional associations and technical assistance organisations and individual experts that have come together to help rebuild justice systems in fragile, conflict-affected and post conflict states, ILAC is well suited to responding rapidly to emerging rule of law challenges in fragile settings. As a justice hub, our objective is to coordinate between local stakeholders and the international community, so that technical assistance programmes are impactful, complementary and do not overburden in-country partners.

In making its assessment reports public, ILAC seeks to assist national rule of law actors identify both gaps and opportunities for reform, and to contribute to better coordinated and more effective international support to post-conflict rule of law reconstruction.

While legislation and capable institutions are front and centre of ILAC's engagement, we also see the need for changing mindsets and behaviour of legal professionals and working with broader political reforms. We do this through ILAC's network of legal professionals, Bar Associations and other non-governmental organisations.

As a consortium, ILAC is well positioned to harness its members' efforts in aligning their priorities with SDG16+. ILAC draws on its assessments and in-country programmes to identify how to further promote access to justice under SDG16.3 and concomitantly accountable institutions under SDG 16.6. With 2019 being the first year for a review of SDG 16, ILAC has been active in pushing for a broader remit of the framework for how the rule of law is defined at the national and international levels. It has lifted its programme work to show that institutions are front and centre in bringing about access to justice for all.



Strategic focus

1. To enhance the capacity of justice sector institutions, bar associations and their members to address public demands for accountability and justice in accordance with international standards.
2. To influence international policy and practice in rule of law reform in conflict-affected countries.



How we work



Rule of Law and Justice Sector Assessments

We provide independent and specific recommendations on how legal institutions can uphold the rule of law and ensure people's access to justice.



Programmes

We develop and coordinate programmes to respond to identified rule of law challenges.



Policy Dialogue

We build on our work on the rule of law to influence policy and practice in rule of law reform in conflict-affected countries.

Our Vision

Equal access to justice for all.

Our Mission

To rapidly respond to and assess the needs of the justice sector in conflict-affected and fragile countries, and help strengthen the independence and resilience of justice sector institutions and the legal profession.

80 legal member organisations and experts representing over 3 million legal professionals worldwide.

” We partner with judges, lawyers, prosecutors and court administrators from around the world. Together, we work to strengthen the independence and effectiveness of legal and judicial institutions and empower legal professionals working in these institutions.

Foreword

As a rule of law consortium, ILAC draws on its global network of experts to support justice sector reform efforts in the regions where our members work and builds on its assessments and programmatic work to inform policy dialogue on the rule of law. Last year was a big year for the promotion and strengthening of the rule of law worldwide. While Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG16) was under review in 2019, we saw that the justice gap continued to widen and that 1.5 billion people had unresolved justice problems. This shows that ILAC's mandate to strengthen justice sector institutions and access to justice in conflict-affected and fragile states, such as in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, Liberia and Guatemala, is vital to closing the justice gap in the contexts where we work.

The rule of law is under duress across the globe, with continuing backsliding in countries which previously were known for robust democratic governance and sound legal frameworks. We have seen how this decline has directly impacted the rule of law in the countries where we actively work with members and national partners. Through our mandate and membership, we seek to reverse this trend by supporting key actors of change to bring about effective, accountable and transparent justice sector institutions. With that in mind, ILAC is committed to promoting the rule of law and ensuring access to justice as a Justice Partner of the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, the Task Force on Justice, and through further engagement in policy dialogue on SDG16. In this endeavour, the singular importance of a broad-based justice consortium with expertise including judges, legal professionals, thematic experts and programme specialists is crucial in furthering these goals.

Turning to our assessment work in 2019, ILAC published a report on harmonising the dual legal system in Liberia in order to strengthen access to justice. The report's recommendations will be front and centre in defining next steps for how ILAC develops its engagement in Liberia with national and international partners. In Guatemala, we continue to look for ways to support justice institutions and actors. The rule of law has been further undermined since the closing of the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala

(CICIG). Together with our members, we continue to build on our programmatic work in Syria, with a focus on justice and accountability, and throughout the MENA region, where we prioritise administrative justice, the promotion of economic, cultural and social rights and community-level transitional justice processes.

ILAC welcomed the World Justice Project (WJP) and the Center for Justice & Accountability (CJA) as members of the consortium at our 2019 Annual General Meeting, which was hosted by the Law Society of England and Wales. Both new member organisations will enable ILAC to be even better positioned to address some of the most pressing rule of law challenges in the countries where we work. Christopher Lehmann, Executive Director of the Central and Eastern European Law Initiative (CEELI Institute), was elected as a new member of ILAC's Board of Directors and Rolf Ring, Deputy Director of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI), was re-elected as ILAC's Treasurer. The Public International Law and Policy Group (PILPG) also became a member of ILAC's Advisory Council and Mark Ellis, the Executive Director of the International Bar Association (IBA), was named an Honorary ILAC Life Member in recognition of his long-term commitment to ILAC and as a founding member of the consortium.

As this report went to publication, the COVID-19 pandemic was in full force and we had begun to see its initial negative impacts upon the delivery of justice across the globe. Once the pandemic is brought under control, the adverse consequences it has had on the administration of justice will only become further evident. It will be more important than ever for ILAC and its members to ensure that access to justice for all is given the necessary attention for the recovery of the rule of law in the aftermath of the public health crisis.



PHOTO: ILAC

Elizabeth Howe
ILAC President



PHOTO: ILAC

Agneta Johansson
ILAC Executive Director



TRIBUNAL DE GRANDE INSTANCE DE BANGUI



ILAC in the world

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

ILAC's MENA Programme ensures equal access to justice and enhances public trust in the judiciary through strengthening the effectiveness of institutions and by promoting human rights and transitional justice. The MENA Programme has projects in Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

Members: ABA ROLI, IBAHRI, NCSC, PILPG, RWI

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CUBA

ILAC's Cuba Programme supports achieving sustainable development and strengthening the rule of law in Cuba through partnership building and professional exchanges between Sweden and Cuba and within the region.

Members: IBA, Swedish Bar Association

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GUATEMALA

ILAC initiated a follow-up rule of law assessment in Guatemala to find ways to support justice institutions and actors since the closing of CICIG.

Members: The Law Society of England and Wales and Cyrus Vance Center

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LIBERIA

ILAC published a rule of law assessment report which examines the interplay of Liberia's dual legal system and recommends steps for strengthening access to justice.

Members: ABA ROLI, ICCBA, German Bar Association, PILPG

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SYRIA

ILAC's Syria Programme strengthens access to fundamental justice structures, with an emphasis on empowering the Syrian legal profession to promote the rule of law as well as the right to legal identity.

Members: IBAHRI, IBJ, CEELI Institute

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PALESTINE

ILAC engages with Palestinian judges and other key actors within the justice sector to provide guidance and advice on constructive ways forward in building and strengthening the judiciary in Palestine.

Member: CEELI Institute

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ILAC's projects in 2020



ILAC members' headquarters

Middle East and North Africa





Middle East and North Africa – Improving access to justice

Syria – Promoting the rule of law

ILAC supports Syrian legal professionals in the administration of justice, enhancing their knowledge on relevant legal and transitional justice-related topics, while simultaneously building their capacity to inform ongoing and future reconciliation efforts. ILAC coordinates its members' activities, building on common synergies and ensuring that principles of the rule of law remain a priority for the international community.

ILAC cooperates with its member organisation, International Bridges to Justice (IBJ), to support Syrian lawyers through capacity development, engaging justice stakeholders through knowledge exchanges and empowering local communities through legal awareness campaigns. IBJ has also developed an innovative open-access mobile application that connects Syrians with lawyers and facilitates immediate access to legal counsel. This is representative of how ILAC is constantly seeking new methods and ways of working for the advancement of justice in such constrained environments. In 2019, ILAC and IBJ supported lawyers in the north-west of the country to provide legal counsel to more than 680 Syrians and facilitate over 1,000 legal consultations.

Together with CEELI Institute, ILAC has developed its thematic approach to addressing housing, land and property rights (HLP) in Syria. Engaging Syrian legal professionals, as well as peers from other sectors, shows that legal reform and improving governance is not only about the law. HLP rights are front and centre due to the displacement of Syrians during the conflict and are a prerequisite for credible reconstruction ef-

forts. ILAC has trained Syrian legal professionals to set standards for a future Syria. The training and support are a vital component in highlighting key messages for the international community on how to document and safeguard HLP rights. ILAC is extending this engagement on HLP rights in Syria and will scale up its work to also include training of Syrian lawyers to provide legal services.

ILAC collaborates with the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI) to support Syrian lawyers based in Europe to provide additional training to Syrian human rights lawyers based in Turkey. This broadened the scope of the accountability approach, beyond criminal accountability, to ensure that Syrian lawyers both inside and outside the country play an active role in engaging with UN human rights mechanisms.

The formation of the Constitutional Committee at the end of 2019 provides an opportunity for reforms of the judiciary and of public institutions. Together with an active civil society inside and outside of the country, there will be concerted efforts to advocate for the rule of law in Syria. Even if the road is long with few

A stylized map of the Middle East region. The landmasses are shown in a light gray color, while the bodies of water (Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Persian Gulf, and surrounding oceans) are in a dark blue color. The country of Syria is highlighted in a solid purple color, making it stand out from the rest of the map. The map is oriented with North at the top.

Highlights

- Facilitating over 680 instances of pro-bono legal services and 1,140 legal consultations for Syrians in the north-west region.
- Developing an innovative open-access mobile application which connects Syrians with lawyers to facilitate immediate access to legal counsel.
- Supporting over 200 Syrian legal professionals in furthering the application of HLP rights, increasing the use of universal jurisdiction for accountability and providing criminal defence representation in underserved jurisdictions.
- Implementing a rights awareness campaign in Afrin on *Violence against Women in Times of War and Conflict*.

immediate incentives for change, ILAC will continue to build on its formidable and well-positioned networks nationally and internationally to support Syrians in an ever-changing political and legal landscape.

Civil documentation and the right to legal identity

During times of armed conflict, legal identity continues to be a fundamental right under international law. In Syria, access to documentation of life events, such as births, marriages and deaths, has been compromised from the beginning of the conflict, potentially leaving millions of people inside and outside of Syria undocumented. ILAC has supported the issuance of civil documentation to Syrians, allowing people in the

south-west and north-west of the country to record vital life events, to exercise their rights and to ensure protection of their human rights.

ILAC's operational support to civil documentation in Syria ceased at the beginning of 2019, due to territorial shifts in the conflict. An impact study on ILAC's civil documentation component was conducted in 2019 and will be published in 2020. Its preliminary findings confirmed that recording and documenting life events have been key to beneficiaries, notably in terms of accessing humanitarian aid, education, health services and allowing freedom of movement inside parts of Syria. ILAC continues to inform policy dialogue and to position civil documentation as a core justice issue within the international community.

PHOTO: PEXELS



A stylized map of the Middle East region is shown in the background. The landmasses are light gray, and the surrounding water bodies are dark blue. Syria is highlighted in a solid purple color, making it stand out from the rest of the map.

Syria Programme summary

ILAC's Syria Programme builds on our previous work and achievements, both in-country and internationally. Since 2017, the programme has sought to further strengthen access to fundamental justice structures, with an emphasis on empowering the Syrian legal profession to promote the rule of law as well as the right to legal identity.

Cooperation

In 2019, the programme was implemented together with the following ILAC members: International Bridges to Justice, the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute and the Central and Eastern European Law Institute. Previous members in the programme included the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative.

Partners

In addition to its member organisations, ILAC works closely with Syrian partners, including the Syrian Judges Council, Syrian bar associations and Syrian legal professionals based inside and outside of the country.

Goals

- Supporting Syrian justice professionals to maintain their legal skills and knowledge, as well as effectively engage with relevant international and national human rights and accountability mechanisms.
- Establishing conditions for the provision of higher legal education to Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries in the region.

Promoting human rights and effective institutions

In the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, ILAC engages with national partners in context-specific projects to improve access to justice and strengthen the rule of law.

In Tunisia, ILAC's collaboration with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) has resulted in improved court administration with a primary focus on Tunisia's Administrative Tribunal and its efforts to decentralise and increase access to justice. Case-flow management and accountability in decision-making have been improved through incremental changes aimed at institutional reform by upgrading internal administrative processes, IT systems and communication with justice seekers. In 2019, we designed measures to improve the reception and orientation of court users, lawyers and the general public, together with our partners. We also supported the development of an integrated electronic application to track case activity, consolidate statistics and enable monitoring of open and archived cases. Together, these efforts have contributed to enhanced transparency, effectiveness and accountability at the Tribunal.

ILAC focuses on supporting young legal professionals in the early, formative stage of their careers. Together with American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI), ILAC partners with the Lawyers' Training Institute, the Tunisian Bar and the Young Lawyers' Association to explore innovative and interactive teaching methods to prepare young lawyers to handle attorney-client relations and the practicalities of working in the justice system from a rights-based perspective. ILAC and RWI collaborate with judicial training institutes and law faculties in Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia, to integrate human rights education and interactive teaching into curricula to promote the application of international human rights law standards in court.

Justly applying economic, social and cultural rights is vital for meaningful reform in Tunisia; this is not only in terms of reform of the justice sector, but also as an underlying factor to prevent social unrest. In partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), ILAC and IBAHRI engage with Tunisian administrative judges and lawyers on the justiciability and application of economic, social and cultural rights to ensure that all court decisions are made in accordance with the relevant human rights conventions.

In Libya, ILAC addresses the challenges of supporting legal professionals in an ongoing conflict and instability. Focusing on what is feasible and most effective given the context, we have continued our long-term commitment to raise awareness among people on their individual rights under international law. ILAC and ABA ROLI continue to support Libyan legal professionals to deliver public legal education on rights-based topics through radio outreach and community consultations across the country. To prepare Libyan legal professionals for a potential future transition, ILAC and PILPG support education of the public on transitional justice and conduct community needs assessments across Libya. This includes informing Libyans of transitional justice processes to pursue in the event of the conflict ending and identifying which issue areas to prioritise, such as prosecution, truth-seeking and institutional reform.

MENA Programme summary

ILAC's MENA Programme is a continuation of our engagement in the region since 2012. The goal of the programme is to ensure equal access to justice and enhance public trust in the judiciary through strengthening the effectiveness of institutions and by promoting human rights and transitional justice. The MENA Programme has projects in Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

Cooperation

The programme is implemented together with the following ILAC members: the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, the National Center for State Courts, the Public International Law and Policy Group, the International Bar Association Human Rights Institute and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights.

Partners

In addition to its member organisations, ILAC works closely with the OHCHR in Tunisia and the National Bar Association of Tunisia.

Goals

- Working in partnership to reinforce the administration of justice in the Administrative Tribunal of Tunisia.
- Improving the application of economic, social and cultural rights in court proceedings and within justice sector institutions in Tunisia.

- Strengthening the integration of human rights education at judicial and legal training institutes across the MENA region.
- Supporting legal awareness campaigns for the public and community-level participation in transitional justice efforts in Libya.

Highlights

- Improving access to information to facilitate a more efficient and transparent court system for justice seekers, lawyers and the general public in the Administrative Tribunal of Tunisia.
- Implementing legal awareness activities, reaching 255 community activists and leaders in Libya. As a result, young Libyans from Benghazi launched a social media campaign to raise awareness and promote youth participation in peace-building and reconciliation.
- Enabling the training of 100 judges on economic, social and cultural rights, including relevant methodologies to run workshops on economic, social and cultural rights for their peers.
- Continuing legal awareness campaigns on transitional justice in Libya, through community dialogue, radio programming and articles in newspapers.



Palestine – Pushing back against the closing space for judges

Judicial unity is a key aspect of any attempt to build an independent judiciary in Palestine with the strength to withstand challenges from the executive or from the occupying power.

ILAC engages with Palestinian judges and other key actors within the justice sector to provide guidance and advice on constructive ways forward. There is consensus that the current reform process of the Palestinian judiciary is not consistent with either Palestinian or international law, and that choices made will impact the separation of powers in Palestine for the foreseeable future. Experiences from other countries have shown that even when there are weak constitutional structures to protect judicial independence, judges who come together as a collective of colleagues have a higher chance to successfully protect the integrity of the courts.

ILAC continues to support formal and informal structures, such as the Judges Club, in building and strengthening the judiciary in Palestine. This includes facilitating a dialogue with Palestinian, Swedish and other international justice sector actors, organisations and donors, to ensure that the rule of law and justice reform are prioritised in international support efforts in Palestine. ILAC will work to ensure that judicial independence in Palestine remains a priority on the Swedish and international policy agendas.



ILAC's engagement in Palestine

- Continuing to support independence of the judiciary in Palestine through dialogue and peer-to-peer trust building among national justice actors and key stakeholders in the international donor community.
- Emphasising the importance of respecting the separation of powers and the need for reform to ensure that the judiciary remains transparent, accountable and independent.
- Ensuring that support to the Palestinian justice sector continues to be a priority for international donors.

Latin America



Latin America — Fostering the rule of law



Cuba Programme – Promoting sustainable development and the rule of law

ILAC believes that building partnerships for rule of law reform requires long-term commitment and adaptable programme implementation. Different contexts require different approaches and an understanding that rule of law reform takes time.

Professional partnerships

ILAC held its first exchange with Cuban jurists from the Unión Nacional de Juristas de Cuba (UNJC), a countrywide association of legal professionals, in Stockholm, Sweden, in February 2019. The exchange was organised in collaboration with ILAC's member organisation the Swedish Bar Association and opened the door for tangible ways to promote the necessary rule of law principles for sustainable economic reform.

Professional exchange on international commercial law

ILAC and the IBA support Cuba's legal community in its role in building on the constitutional reform process to advance economic development. Over the last four years, ILAC and its long-term national partner, the Organización Nacional de Bufetes Colectivos (ONBC), have identified a critical mass of legal professionals from across the country to participate in professional exchanges on international commercial law. The collaborative partnership has resulted in the addition of an exchange on globalisation and ethics to address the issues that arise from working as a legal professional in a global context. In 2020, ILAC will coordinate an additional professional exchange on anti-corruption with the ONBC. To date, 250 Cuban legal professionals have completed the course.

In 2020, RWI will join ILAC's Cuba Programme to explore implementing new practical methodologies of learning for law students at the University of Havana.

PHOTO: ILAC



Guatemala – Strengthening judicial independence

After the closure of CICIG in September 2019, ILAC continues to monitor the impact the closure has had on justice sector reform and the rule of law in Guatemala. ILAC, with its member organisations the Law Society of England and Wales and the Cyrus R Vance Center for International Justice of the New York City Bar, returned to Guatemala in late 2019 to further enquire into the effects of CICIG's closure on the justice sector. The ILAC team met with over 20 organisations and interviewed more than 40 individuals from various sectors of Guatemalan society, resulting in the publication of a follow-up assessment report in March 2020. The report highlights the urgency of the situation in the run-up to CICIG closing and the need for new multi-lateral cooperation agreements to combat corruption, strengthen judicial independence and prevent further rule of law backsliding.

In 2020, building upon the Vance Center's engagement in reforming the judicial nominations process in Guatemala, ILAC and the Vance Center will collaborate to initiate a cross-sector dialogue to ensure that the momentum for reform is maintained.



Cuba Programme summary

Since 2013, ILAC has supported achieving sustainable development and strengthening the rule of law in Cuba through partnership building and professional exchanges between Sweden and Cuba and within the region.

Cooperation

In 2019, the programme was implemented together with the following ILAC members: the International Bar Association and the Swedish Bar Association.

Partners

In addition to its member organisations, ILAC works closely with the following partners: Organización Nacional de Bufetes Colectivos, Unión Nacional de Juristas de Cuba and the People's Supreme Court of Cuba.

Goal

Cuban legal professionals have a greater awareness and understanding of the demands of working towards economic and legal reform in an international setting.

Highlights

- Coordinating a professional exchange in Stockholm between Cuban and Swedish legal communities on Swedish rule of law frameworks, private sector investment and sustainable economic development.
- Implementing an exchange on globalisation and ethics for Cuban lawyers.
- Awarding 250 Cuban lawyers with a diploma in international commercial law.

West Africa – Preventing recurrence of conflict







Liberia – Still looking for justice

Following an assessment mission in April 2019, ILAC launched a rule of law assessment report – *Still Looking for Justice, Customary Law, the Courts and Access to Justice in Liberia*. The report examines Liberia's dual legal system, which incorporates both a formal judiciary operating primarily in the country's cities and towns, and customary adjudication of minor disputes by traditional authorities in the rural interior. Examining the interplay of these two systems, the report identifies obstacles to access to justice for Liberians and opportunities to overcome those obstacles.

The report's focus on customary justice was shaped by an ongoing dialogue between ILAC and the g7+ group of conflict-affected and fragile states. This dialogue has focused on priority needs and challenges

for fragile countries in implementing SDG16. Finding ways for the justice systems to work together so that the population can resolve their conflicts effectively is crucial to the ongoing legal reform process in Liberia and preventing a new conflict from taking place. Some of the key findings emerging from the report concern improving trust in the judiciary, greater access to legal aid and that follow-up from the 2010 Gbarnga Conference on harmonising the dual system is still relevant to date.

The assessment was conducted with representatives from the following ILAC member organisations: German Bar Association, PILPG, ABA and International Criminal Court Bar Association.

A map of the African continent is shown in a light gray tone. The country of Liberia is highlighted in a solid purple color, located on the west coast of Africa. The map is set against a dark blue background.

ILAC's engagement in Liberia

- Publishing a rule of law assessment report, *Still Looking for Justice: Customary Law, the Courts and Access to Justice in Liberia*.
- Key findings emerging from the report concern improving trust in the judiciary, greater access to legal aid and that follow-up from the 2010 Gbarnga

Conference on harmonising the dual system is still relevant to date.

- Using the report as a stepping stone for further engagement with actors for the prevention and resolution of local conflicts that could trigger broader unrest.

Supporting SDG16+

ILAC supports the achievement of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDG16 on peace, justice and strong institutions in the countries where it has long-standing partnerships through its members. SDG16 is a goal in and of itself, and a key enabler for other goals in the SDG framework. Effective, inclusive and accountable institutions are key in reducing corruption, guaranteeing respect for human rights and ensuring equal access to justice. Further, SDG16+ underscores the importance of the quality of governance and transparent and accountable justice institutions as preconditions in reaching development goals on poverty, gender equality, hunger, health and education.

In 2019, SDG16 was under review for the first time at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum. In conjunction with the review, ILAC engaged in policy processes on access to justice under SDG16.3, as a Justice Partner of the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, the Task Force on Justice. This partnership included contributing to the *Justice for All Report*, drawing on lessons learned from our programmes. The report highlights the challenges and way forward for ensuring a more fair, equitable and accessible justice system for all, particularly for vulnerable groups and those trapped in a conflict spiral. At the Dili 2019 Sixteen Plus Forum, ILAC and g7+ members had a key role in the discussion on ensuring access to justice for all and bridging the justice gap in conflict settings. ILAC will continue to build on its partnership with the g7+ and its emphasis on the harmonisation of customary and formal justice systems in Liberia and other priority countries. Additionally, ILAC was invited to contribute to the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) technical review of SDG16+. Our programmatic work within the framework of our MENA Programme was showcased as a success story to further the fulfilment of SDG16, both in the technical review and in the resulting Global Alliance report, *Enabling the implementation of the*



2030 Agenda through SDG16+: Anchoring peace, justice and inclusion. Our work to promote effective, transparent and accountable processes in the Tunisian justice sector was further registered as an acceleration action on the SDGs Partnerships Knowledge Platform.

As highlighted in our policy briefs throughout the year, ILAC will continue to support the achievement of SDG16.3, but we will also prioritise the role institutions play in rule of law reform through SDG16.6.

Stockholm Human Rights Award

The International Rescue Committee (IRC), and its Chief Executive Officer David Miliband, were awarded the 11th Stockholm Human Rights Award. Mr Miliband received the award on behalf of the 13,000 IRC staff and 15,000 volunteers working in more than 40 countries and 190 field sites around the world. Among many other achievements, in 2018, the IRC trained more than 23,000 people on child protection, gender-based violence and protection principles, and service delivery; reached 1.2 million people through its efforts to raise awareness on human rights, protection and gender-based violence; provided support through safe spaces to over 107,000 children and more than 274,000 women and girls; and conducted awareness-raising sessions for over 21,000 participants on governance-related topics, such as individual rights, conflict mitigation and local government hotlines.

In Mr Miliband's acceptance speech, he noted that:

There is something especially appropriate about the recognition by the legal community of the need to uphold the rights of civilians caught up in war, the internally displaced forced from their homes and refugees forced from their country – the people served by the International Rescue Committee. My message tonight is that we need your help to defend and uphold the regime of human rights that defined the ambitions of the second half of the 20th century. Today we face a triple emergency around the world, and that makes tonight's award all the more poignant and important. It is not just an honour. It needs to serve as a rallying call.

Bestowed annually by the Swedish Bar Association, IBA and ILAC, the Stockholm Human Rights Award recognises outstanding work done in advancing international justice, contributions to democracy based on the rule of law and for promoting and protecting human rights.



PHOTO: PRESS PHOTO

Mr Miliband, Chief Executive Officer, International Rescue Committee (IRC).

Past recipients of the Stockholm Human Rights Award:

2018: Judge Thomas Buergenthal
2017: International Criminal Court
2016: Mary Robinson
2015: Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein
2014: B'Tselem
2013: Professor M Cherif Bassiouni
2012: Thomas Hammarberg and European Roma Rights Centre
2011: George Soros and Aryeh Neier
2010: Navi Pillay
2009: Richard Goldstone

Governance & Membership

ILAC Member Organisations

American Bar Association
www.abanet.org

Arab Lawyers Union
www.alu1944.org/Sections/Home

Association Internationale des Jeunes Avocats
www.aija.org

Bar Association of India
www.barindia.in

Bar Council Malaysia
www.malaysianbar.org.my

Bar Council of England and Wales
www.barcouncil.org.uk

Canadian Bar Association
www.cba.org

CEELI Institute
www.ceeliinstitute.org

Center for Justice & Accountability
https://cja.org

Council of Bars and Law Societies of the EU
www.ccbe.org

Danish Bar Association
www.advokatsamfundet.dk

Faculty of Advocates
www.advocates.org.uk

Finnish Bar Association
www.asianajajaliito.fi

French National Bar Council
www.cnb.avocat.fr

German Bar Association
www.anwaltverein.de

Hong Kong Bar Association
www.hkba.org

Inter-American Bar Association
www.iaba.org

International Association for Court Administration
www.iaca.ws

International Association of Prosecutors (Stichting Treasury)
www.iap-association.org

International Association of Women Judges
www.iawj.org

International Bar Association
www.ibanet.org

International Bridges to Justice
www.ibj.org

International Commission of Jurists
www.icj.org

International Criminal Court Bar Association
https://www.iccba-abcpi.org

International Foundation of the ROL and the Independence of Lawyers and Judges

International Judicial Academy
www.ijaworld.edu

International Legal Foundation
http://theilf.org

International Senior Lawyers Project
www.islp.org

Japan Federation of Bar Associations
www.nichibenren.or.jp

Law Society of England and Wales
www.lawsociety.org.uk

Law Society of Scotland
https://www.lawscot.org.uk

Law Society of South Africa
http://www.lssa.org.za

Magna Carta - Human Rights Network International

National Center for State Courts
www.ncsc.org

New York Bar Association - Vance Center of International Justice
www.nycbar.org

Norwegian Bar Association
www.advokatforeningen.no

Org. of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Association

Palestinian Center for Human Rights
www.pchrgaza.org

Pan African Lawyers Union
www.lawyersofafrica.org

Public International Law and Policy Group
www.publicinternationallawandpolicygroup.org

Raoul Wallenberg Institute
www.rwi.lu.se

RCN Justice & Democratie
www.rcn-ong.be

Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights
www.siracusainstitute.org

Swedish Bar Association
www.advokatsamfundet.se

Tunisia Bar Association
www.avocat.org.tn

Union Internationale Des Avocats
www.uianet.org

World Justice Project
www.worldjusticeproject.org

Individual ILAC Members

Nasser Amin
Egypt

Samir Annabi
Tunisia

Sareta Ashraph
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Elisabeth Fura-Sandström
Sweden

Richard Goldstone
South Africa

Ivana Hrdlickova
Czech Republic

Kabineh Ja'neh
Liberia

Karim Khan
United Kingdom

Ebenazar Kwaitoo
Ghana

Nina Lahoud
United States of America

Kadhim Lami
Iraq; United Kingdom

Susannah Linton
Malaysia

Finn Lynghjem
Norway

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Bahamas

Susan McCrory
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Quinn O'Keefe
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United Kingdom

Mike Enwall
United States of America

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Zambia

Hans Corell
Sweden

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Sweden

Mark Ellis
United States of America

ILAC Annual General Meetings

2003
Stockholm, Sweden

2004
Cairo, Egypt

2005
New Delhi, India

2006
San Juan, Puerto Rico

2007
Stockholm, Sweden

2008
Rome, Italy

2009
Edinburgh, Scotland, United
Kingdom

2010
Accra, Ghana

2011
Lisbon, Portugal

2012
Stockholm, Sweden

2013
Prague, Czech Republic

2014
Tunis, Tunisia

2015
Helsinki, Finland

2016
Stockholm, Sweden

2017
Tokyo, Japan

2018
Stockholm, Sweden

2019
London, United Kingdom

ILAC Board of Directors

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President of ILAC
United Kingdom

Nina Lahoud
United States of America

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Kimitoshi Yabuki
Japan

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**International Association of
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**International Association of
Women Judges**

**International Bar
Association**

**International Bridges for
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**National Center for State
Courts**

**Palestinian Center for
Human Rights**

**Public International Law &
Policy Group**

RCN Justice & Democratie

Salli Swartz
Individual member

Swedish Bar Association

**The Cyrus R. Vance Center
for International Justice**

**The Law Society of England
and Wales**

**Union Internationale des
Avocats**

Joan Winship
Life member

Annual Accounts

INCOME STATEMENT	(Footnote 1)	2019-01-01 2019-12-31	2018-01-01 2018-12-31
Operating Income			
Membership fees		100 686	73 503
Contributions	(Footnote 2)	9 627	215 247
Grants	(Footnote 2)	34 241 960	36 048 440
<i>Total operating income</i>		34 352 273	36 337 190
Operating Expenditure (Footnote 3, 4)			
Purpose costs		-31 072 635	-33 279 280
Administrative costs		-3 209 065	-2 852 902
<i>Total operating income</i>		-34 281 700	-36 132 182
Operating result		70 573	205 008
Result from Financial Income & Costs			
Financial income	(Footnote 5)	-	1 526
Financial costs	(Footnote 6)	-4 137	-90
Banking costs		-34 194	-43 037
<i>Total result from financial income & costs</i>		-38 331	-43 601
Result		32 242	161 407

*The International Legal Assistance Consortium's financial reporting currency is Swedish Krona (SEK)

BALANCE SHEET		2019-12-31	2018-12-31
ASSETS			
Fixed Assets			
Financial Assets			
Long-term securities	(Footnote 7)	2 874 719	2 797 569
Short-term Assets			
Advances to partners	(Footnote 8)	15 019 601	11 328 022
Other receivables		371 196	216 863
Pre-paid expenses	(Footnote 9)	160 628	145 847
Total short-term assets		15 551 425	11 690 732
Cash and Bank Balances		10 618 934	7 402 359
TOTAL ASSETS		29 045 078	21 890 660

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES (Footnote 10)		2019-12-31	2018-12-31
Earmarked capital Syria		46 701	103 692
Capital brought forward		926 060	707 663
Year-end result		32 242	161 407
		1 005 003	972 762
Current Liabilities			
Account payables		272 310	209 297
Liabilities not used grants (Footnote 11)		26 310 038	19 446 315
Tax liabilities		1 650	7 914
Other liabilities		319 068	217 886
Accrued expenses	(Footnote 12)	1 137 009	1 036 486
Total Current Liabilities		28 040 075	20 917 898
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		29 045 078	21 890 660

FOOTNOTES

1 Accounting Principles

Applied accounting principles are in accordance with Swedish law and approved practices.

Applied Accounting Principles

Income

Income is accounted for based on the amount to be received. Grants are accounted for based on the principle of revenue recognition. Hence a grant is considered as a debt until expenses occur to be covered by the grant.

Programme Costs for Partner Organisations

Disbursement to Partner Organisations is considered as a claim until the required reporting has been received from the Partner. It will, once reporting is received, be accounted for as programme costs.

Receivables and Liabilities

Receivables and Liabilities are individually accounted for as the amount to be received or reimbursed.

Exchange Rate

Receivables and Liabilities in any foreign currency are, with the exception of claims to Partner Organisations, recalculated to SEK based on the exchange rate from the last day of the fiscal year.

2 Contributions and Grants	2019	2018
Contributions		
Public	9 627	3 647
Other NGOs	-	211 600
	9 627	215 247
Grants		
Sida CORE	8 067 369	6 900 583
Sida MENA	14 360 157	9 546 054
Sida Syria	9 915 370	17 737 295
Foreign Ministry Palestine	-	250 000
Sida Cuba	1 393 382	1 098 803
Other NGOs	505 682	515 708
	34 241 960	36 048 444

3 Staff Costs		2019		2018	
Number of Staff, Gender					
		Women		6	
		Men		7	
		Total		13	
Gender Board of Directors and Management					
		2019-12-31		2018-12-31	
		Total	Women	Total	Women
Board Members		7	3	6	3
Senior Management Team		4	1	4	1
Salaries, Fees and Payroll Taxes		2019		2018	
Salaries and fees					
President and Executive Director (ED)		1 061 171		1 009 507	
Other employees		5 836 684		5 053 681	
Total salaries and fees		6 897 855		6 063 188	
Payroll taxes		2 106 187		1 839 626	
Pension premiums to ED		339 196		343 222	
Pension premiums to other employees		487 264		408 071	
Pension premium tax		200 499		182 264	
		3 133 146		2 773 183	
Total salaries, fees and related benefits		10 031 000		8 836 371	

4 Operational Leasing

The current operational leasing at ILAC is mostly for office rents and rental cars. The total expenditure for operational leasing 2019 amounted to 796 320 (1 048 517) SEK.

	2019	2018
Future operational leasing commitments		
Within 1 year	756 000	756 000
1–5 years	441 000	1 197 000

5 Financial Income

	2019	2018
Interest	-	11
Exchange rate gains on short-term assets	-	1 515
	0	1 526

6 Financial Costs

	2019	2018
Interest	31	90
Exchange rate losses on short-term assets	4 106	-
	4 137	90

7 Long-term Securities

	2019	2018
Opening acquisition value	2 797 569	723 471
Acquisition	77 150	2 074 098
Realisation	-	-
Closing acquisition value	2 874 719	2 797 569

8 Advances to Partners

	2019	2018
Advances to Partners per programme		
MENA	10 866 449	8 951 054
SYRIA	4 153 152	2 376 968
	15 019 601	11 328 022

9 Pre-paid Expenses	2019	2018
Pre-paid rents	63 000	63 000
Other expenses	97 628	82 847
	160 628	145 847
10 Equity	2019	2018
Opening balance	32 243	161 408
Earmarked by Donor	-	-211 600
Usage	56 991	127 342
Closing balance	89 234	77 150
11 Liabilities not used Grants	2019	2018
SIDA CORE	1 412 048	1 479 417
Swedish Foreign Ministry	1 952 322	1 952 322
SIDA MENA	13 410 739	10 970 896
SIDA Syria	7 727 114	4 142 484
SIDA Cuba	1 807 815	901 197
	26 310 038	19 446 315
12 Accrued Expenses	2019	2018
Salary for vacation	476 032	429 620
Payroll taxes	346 802	313 972
Other accrued expenses	314 174	292 894
	1 137 008	1 036 486

ILAC IS A GLOBAL rule of law consortium based in Sweden, providing technical assistance to justice sector actors in conflict-affected and fragile countries.

ILAC's mission is to rapidly respond to and assess the needs of the justice sector in conflict-affected and fragile countries, and help strengthen the independence and resilience of justice sector institutions and the legal profession.

Today, ILAC has more than 80 members including individual legal experts as well as organisations representing judges, prosecutors, lawyers and academics worldwide.



**International
Legal Assistance
Consortium**

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