



International Bar Association

the global voice of the legal profession



Mark S Ellis

Executive Director

As Executive Director of the International Bar Association (IBA) Mark Ellis leads the foremost international organisation of bar associations, law firms and individual lawyers in the world. The IBA is comprised of 206 national bar associations, major international law firms and 85,000 individual members from around the world.

Prior to joining the IBA, he spent ten years as the first Executive Director of the Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (CEELI), a project of the American Bar Association (ABA). Providing technical legal assistance to twenty-eight countries in Central Europe and the former Soviet Union, and to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague, CEELI remains one of the most extensive international pro bono legal assistance projects ever undertaken by the US legal community.

He served as Legal Advisor to the Independent International Commission on Kosovo, chaired by Justice Richard J Goldstone and was appointed by OSCE to advise on the creation of Serbia's War Crimes Tribunal. He was actively involved with the Iraqi High Tribunal and also acted as legal advisor to the defense team of Nuon Chea at the Cambodian War Crimes Tribunal (ECCC).

In 2013, Dr Ellis was admitted to the List of Assistants to Counsel of the International Criminal Court. In 2015, he was appointed Chair of the UN Security Council's established Advisory Panel on Matters Relating to Defence Counsel of the Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals.

Dr Ellis was a long-time consultant to The World Bank on investment policies in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, and was an Adjunct Professor at The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. He is presently an Adjunct Professor at The Florida State University College of Law.

Twice a Fulbright Scholar at the Economic Institute in Zagreb, Croatia, he earned his J.D. and B.S. (Economics) degrees from Florida State University and his PhD in Law from King's College, London. He is the recipient of two research grants to the European Union and the Institut d'Etudes Europeenes in Brussels, Belgium focusing on the law and institutions of the European Union.

A frequent speaker and media commentator on international legal issues, he appears regularly on *CNN International*, *Al Jazeera*, and *BBC*. He has published extensively in the areas of international humanitarian law, war crimes tribunals, and the development of the rule of law and his op-eds have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The International Herald Tribune*, *The Huffington Post* and *The London Times*. His latest publication – *The International Criminal Court in an Effective Global Justice System* (with Carter and Jalloh) – was published by Edward Elgar Publishing.

Dr Ellis is a member of the *Council of Foreign Relations* and serves on a number of boards, including the DLA Piper 'New Perimeter' pro bono project, the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights, the Leiden University ICC Moot Court Competition, and the International Advisory Board for the *Asian Yearbook on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law*. He serves on the editorial boards for the *Journal of National Security Law and Policy* and *The Hague Journal on the Rule of Law*.

He is the co-recipient of the American Bar Association's *World Order Under Law Award*, the recipient of Florida State University's *Distinguished Graduate Award* and *Torch Award* and the University's College of Social Sciences & Public Policy *Distinguished Alumni Award*. In 2012, he was awarded the Degree of Doctors of Laws (LL.D), *honoris causa*, from The College of Law of England and Wales.

The International Bar Association (IBA) is the global voice of the legal profession. It is the world's leading organisation of international legal practitioners, bar associations and law societies. The work of the IBA began in 1947 in New York, alongside the founding of the United Nations (UN), in the firm belief that an association of the bars, the law societies and the lawyers of the world could make a difference to the cause, of justice and peace globally. The work of the IBA is concerned with the development and the upholding of international law. A fundamental belief of the IBA is that the interests of human rights and commercial prosperity share the same dependence on a stable environment for justice and the rule of law, in which people and their businesses can find the freedom to flourish.

The IBA has a membership of more than 80,000 individual lawyers and more than 190 bar associations and law societies spanning over 160 countries and has considerable expertise in providing assistance to the global legal community.