

# Anti-Corruption and Anti-Money Laundering

## OECD Global Anti-Corruption & Integrity Forum 2025

In March the IBA attended the OECD 2025 Global Anti-Corruption & Integrity Forum (GACIF), where it presented the findings of a new IBA report on the effects of corruption on the legal profession. Part of OECD Integrity Week, the session, titled *Ethics in Action: Lawyers as Guardians Against Corruption*, brought together OECD representatives and lawyers in corporate practice to share practical insights and outline next steps to strengthen anti-corruption frameworks, as they explored the profession's pivotal role in addressing corruption amid rising global challenges.



George Artley presents the findings of the IBA report alongside senior officers of the IBA Anti-Corruption Committee

## FATF Private Sector Collaborative Forum



Sara Carnegie speaks about the role of the legal profession in anti-money laundering and beneficial ownership at FATF Private Sector Collaborative Forum

In March the LPRU attended the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Private Sector Collaborative Forum in Mumbai, which brought together a range of stakeholders from the public and private sectors and civil society. Focus areas included financial inclusion, beneficial ownership, payment transparency and anti-money laundering, and reinforced the importance of collaboration between the public and private sectors. Sara Carnegie spoke about the work of the IBA in collaboration with the FATF and International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) to address the challenges faced by the legal profession and efforts made to comply with FATF recommendations.

## UN Financing for Development Conference (FfD4)

In July the LPRU, with support from the BIC, Law Firm Management Committee and Anti-Corruption Committee, hosted an official online side event – *Enablers or Allies? Regulation and the Role of Professional Service Providers in the Fight for Financial Integrity* – at the fourth UN Financing for Development Conference. The conference provided a unique opportunity for financing reform at all levels, including to support reform of the international financial architecture and addressing financing challenges preventing the urgently needed investment push to support the UN sustainable development goals.

## International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)



IBA co-hosts anti-money laundering initiative in the Cayman Islands

In October, the IBA participated in the first of an anticipated series of regional anti-money laundering (AML) capacity building initiatives, convened jointly with the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). The event brought together expert trainers from several IBA Committees, including the Chair of the



André Ebanks, Premier of the Cayman Islands speaking at the IBA event

Bar Issues Commission, Steven Richman, staff leadership from IFAC and the IBA's LPRU, along with representatives and attendees from various Caribbean Professional Accountancy Organisations, Bar Associations, and FATF bodies. Its aim was to strengthen anti-money laundering mechanisms in the region by raising awareness of the FATF recommendations, and exploring ways to help professional bodies better support their members, and enhance the anti-money laundering frameworks within their jurisdictions. The event was funded by the Cayman Islands government, with its Premier, André Ebanks, giving the welcome and opening remarks.

## UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) Conference of States Parties (CoSP)11



David Sachar and Sara Carnegie speak on panel at UNCAC CoSP 11 in Qatar

In December, the IBA co-organized two sessions at UNCAC CoSP 11 in Qatar. The first, *Judicial Well-being as the Foundation of Integrity* explored initiatives to promote judicial well-being as a cornerstone of integrity, trust and accountability. It featured diverse perspectives from judicial actors and experts, including David Sachar, senior vice-chair of the IBA Anti-Corruption, Debarment and Exclusions Sub-Committee, LPRU's Sara Carnegie, and PNG's leadership, in drafting the proposed Commentary to the Nauru Declaration, while addressing evolving demands on the judiciary. Secondly, *Out of the Grey Zone: the Role of Professional Service Providers*, included contributions from Colette Best of the IBA Regulation of Lawyers Committee. Speakers considered the path forward for Member States and professional service providers in countering corruption and illicit financial flows.



Panellists at the session: *Out of the Grey Zone: the Role of Professional Service Providers* at CosP 11

## UNFCCC Bonn Climate Conference SB62 and COP30



LPRU's Emily Morison, Dr Cristoph Schork and Prof Alessandra Lehmen at the 2025 UNFCCC Bonn Climate Conference

In June 2025, the IBA co-convoked an official side event at the UNFCCC Bonn Climate Conference, made possible by the IBA's UNFCCC observer status, and supported by the IBA Energy, Environment, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Law Section (SEERIL). Co-convoked with the Brazilian Bar

Association (OAB), the American Bar Association (ABA) and Law Society of England and Wales, the event explored what climate change and broader sustainability challenges mean for lawyers' professional roles in a changing geopolitical environment; and offered practical tools for bar associations, law firms & educational institutions to advance climate competence & uphold the global climate agenda. Moderated by Emily Morison (Project Lawyer, LPRU), the event featured insights from IBA officers Hon Roger Martella (Vice Chair, IBA SEERIL), Dr Cristoph Schork (Officer, IBA Environment Health and Safety Committee), and Lara Douvartzidis (Special Projects Officer, IBA Business Human Rights Committee).

In November, the IBA, in collaboration with other bar associations, convened an official side event at UNFCCC COP30 examining how law firms, legal associations and practitioners can support implementation of government and corporate climate commitments. Focus included the role of pro bono and strategic litigation in promoting accountability, challenges facing lawyers representing climate-affected communities, and more. The session featured insights from IBA members and officers including Beatriz Paulo de Frontin (Nominated Representative, IBA Water Law Committee); Clara Pacce Pinto Serva (Vice Chair, IBA Business Human Rights Committee) and Els Reynaers (Co-Chair, IBA Environment, Health & Safety Law Committee).



Panellists at the UNFCCC COP30 side event co-convoked by the IBA, American Bar Association and Brazilian Bar Association, from left to right: Gabriel Mantelli (Senior Policy Advisor, LACLIMA), Beatriz Paulo de Frontin, Santiago Gomez Cifuentes (Associate, Steptoe; Representative, ABA), Clara Pacce Pinto Serva, Syed Bulent Sohail (Managing Partner, Sohail & Partners; Representative, Pakistan Bar Council), and Marie Kingston (International Pro Bono Counsel & Thematic Lead, Biodiversity, DLA Piper)

## Climate Law & Governance Day 2025

In November the IBA, along with bar associations, academic institutions, law firms and leading organisations, convened an expert roundtable exploring the consequences of recent international advisory opinions on climate change for corporations and legal practitioners. The session explored how these developments influence national laws, corporate climate governance and litigation, and the role of bar associations in equipping lawyers to advise clients effectively. Dominique Hogan-Doran SC (Chair, IBA Bar Issues Commission Regulation Committee) co-chaired the session, which featured contributions from IBA Water Law Committee officers Ana Chagas and Mariana Herrero.



# UN and international cooperation events

## UN Global Digital Compact



In February the IBA continued its work with the UNDC, contributing to a consultation on the establishment and functioning of the *Independent International Scientific Panel on Artificial Intelligence* and the *Global Dialogue on AI Governance*. The IBA Legal Practice Division (LPD) was subsequently briefed on the consultation and its outcomes.

## United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

In April, the LPRU participated virtually by invitation to organizations with Observer Status, in a briefing session on UNCTAD16: *Shaping the future, driving economic transformation for equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development*. The session focused on multistakeholder dialogue on global trends and policy frameworks for the digital economy. The LPRU highlighted IBA's research and the contributions of relevant LPD committees on law and technology, including work on AI, digital identity, and cybersecurity (namely the IBA AI Task Force, Technology Law Committee, Alternative and New Law Business Structures Committee, Global Employment Institute).

## Council on General Affairs and Policy of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH)

In March the IBA, in recognition of its Observer Status, was invited to attend the HCCH Council on General Affairs and Policy meeting to discuss engagement in ongoing and future private international law projects, particularly in civil and commercial law, and the interface of law and technology concerning the digital economy. The IBA LPRU, together with the IBA Litigation Committee and IBA Banking and Financial Law Committee, has supported major HCCH projects – including those on jurisdiction, Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs), and the digital economy – by providing expert input, legal research, and participation in working groups and international forums.



LPRU's Anurag Bana at the HCCH, pictured alongside Professor Keisuke Takeshita from Japan, Chair of the Working Group on Jurisdiction

## Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts (SIFoCC)



LPRU's Anurag Bana at SIFoCC, pictured here alongside Hon. Mr. Justice David Barniville, immediate past chair of the IBA Judges' Forum, now member of the Advisory Board

In June, the IBA was invited to attend a stakeholder networking event as part of the SIFoCC Observation Programme 2025. The programme brought together visiting judges from across jurisdictions (this year hailing from Montenegro, Ukraine, The Gambia, Cambodia and Vietnam) to observe court proceedings and engage with the profession through a week-long programme of activities. The 6th full meeting of SIFoCC took place in India in November and saw delegations from international jurisdictions

come together to share best practice, identify innovative solutions and consider how to meet to global challenges, opportunities and expectations.