

A Conference presented by the IBA Bar Issues Commission, supported by the Lithuanian Bar Association.



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15th Annual Bar Leaders' Conference



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18 – 19 May 2022,

Radisson Blu Hotel Lietuva, Vilnius, Lithuania

Working programme and list of participants

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**ALL SPEAKER MATERIALS AND BIOGRAPHIES CAN BE FOUND AT
WWW.IBANET.ORG/CONFERENCE-DETAILS/CONF2161**

Conference Chair

Kimitoshi Yabuki *Yabuki Law Offices, Tokyo; Chair, IBA Bar Issues Commission*

Wednesday 18 May

**All working sessions will be held in meeting room BETA.
Coffee and tea breaks will be held in the Conference Centre Foyer.**

1130 – 1700 **Registration**

1200 – 1315 **Lunch**
Riverside Restaurant

1320 – 1330 **Welcome and opening remarks**
Paulius Griciunas *Lithuanian Bar Association, Vilnius*
Sternford Moyo *Scanlen & Holderness, Harare; President, International Bar Association*
Kimitoshi Yabuki *Yabuki Law Offices, Tokyo; Chair, IBA Bar Issues Commission*

1400 – 1530 **Core values and lawyers' ethical rules – old and new challenges 2006-2022**
Certain principles of the legal profession transcend national borders and are accepted in both civil law systems. Among the more obvious of these are rules relating to client confidentiality, competence and responsiveness, and conflict of interest, among others. Over the past seventeen years, however, technological changes, the intervention of other actors involved in providing what may be considered legal services, and the increased globalisation of cross border practice has raised the question as to whether the old rules remain sufficient, whether their premises remain valid, and whether new rules should be in place.

The panel, from diverse geographical regions and legal systems, explores these questions to determine where we were, where we are now, and whether not just core values, but the specific rules governing lawyer conduct, need to be changed, or whether they remain sufficient.

Session Chair

Steven Richman *Clark Hill, Princeton, New Jersey; Chair, IBA Credentials Committee*

Speakers

André Andersson *Mannheimer Swartling, Stockholm*

Hanim Hamzah *ZICO Law, Singapore; Co-Chair, IBA Law Firm Management Committee*

Ellyn Rosen *American Bar Association Center for Professional Responsibility, Chicago; Chair, IBA Bar Issues Commission Regulation Committee*

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Wednesday continued

1600 – 1800

Joint session with the Lithuanian Bar Association - modern challenges to the Rule of Law

The unexpected pandemic meant a period of uncertainty and as these difficult times are ending, they should be reassessed by their impact on the Rule of Law. Rights and liberties have experienced unprecedented restrictions, a right to a fair trial, a right to a lawyer and access to court were not left outside of the impact, although use of technologies also could be used to improve access to justice. Other recent developments in the world also cannot be disregarded. A crackdown and repressions on lawyers in Afghanistan, Belarus and other countries illustrate that a profession of lawyer is the last line of defense of the Rule of Law. Moreover, the migration crisis showed that access to lawyer and legal aid should be preserved in all times.

Session Co-Chairs:

Christina Blacklaws *Blacklaws Consulting, London; Officer, IBA Bar Issues Commission*

Professor Ignas Vėgėlė *President, Lithuanian Bar Association, Vilnius*

Speakers:

Babatunde Ajibade *SPA Ajibade & Co; Co-Chair, IBA African Regional Forum*

Sarah Hutchinson *BARBRI, London, England; Co-Vice Chair, IBA Rule of Law Forum*

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC *Director, IBA Human Rights Institute, London*

Mikołaj Pietrzak *Dean, Warsaw Bar Association, Winner of CCBE Human Rights Award 2019*

Jonas Saladžius *Lithuanian Bar Association, Chairman of Ethics Court, Vilnius*

1900 – 2200

Reception hosted by the Lithuanian Bar Association

National Gallery of Art

Konstitucijos pr. 22, Vilnius 08105, Lithuania

The National Gallery of Art is walking distance from the Hotel Radisson Blu Lietuva.

Host Committee reception sponsors

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0830 – 1730 **Registration**

0900 – 1030 **The Bar Associations as guardians of the Rule of Law – have we done enough? 2006-2022**

The UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers and the IBA Standards on Independence of the Legal Profession was adopted in 1990. Both have still worked as the principles of lawyers and the bar association to sustain the rule of law in the world. The IBA also adopted the Business and Human Rights Guidance for Bar Associations in 2015, which also purports to encourage the bar associations to implement the rule of law. The BIC has made efforts to support its member bar associations in their efforts to guard the rule of law in their respective jurisdictions in Europe, Africa, Asia/Pacific and Americas.

In the session, the speakers will discuss what the IBA and its member bar association have done as guardians of the rule of law and what they should do further to ensure their roles in the future.

Session Co-Chairs

Claudio Visco *Macchi di Cellere Gangemi, Rome; Secretary-General, International Bar Association*

Kimitoshi Yabuki *Yabuki Law Offices, Tokyo; Chair, IBA Bar Issues Commission*

Speakers

Olumide Akpata *Nigerian Bar Association, Lagos; President/Chairperson, Nigerian Bar Association*

M Eugènia Gay Rosell *President, Barcelona Bar Association, Barcelona*

Valentyn Gvozdiy *Vice President of the Ukrainian National Bar Association, Kyiv*

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC *Director, IBA Human Rights Institute, London*

Paulius Gričiūnas *Lithuanian Bar Association, Vilnius*

1030 – 1100 **Coffee/tea break**

1100 – 1230 **Bullying, sexual harassment, and wellbeing in the legal profession: what more should bars, law societies, and regulators be doing to help?**

In recent years, the IBA has launched two major reports on the problems of bullying and sexual harassment and the crisis in lawyer wellbeing in the legal profession. Overall, the findings of these reports demonstrated that these are global and interconnected problems, with deep rooted causes. This session will be a roundtable discussion, focusing on what bars and law societies are, and should be, doing to combat these issues, including training, guidance, and even regulation where applicable.

Roundtable Panellists

George Artley *International Bar Association, London; Member, IBA Diversity & Inclusion Council*

Sara Carnegie *International Bar Association, London*

Deborah Enix-Ross *Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, New York; President-Elect, American Bar Association*

Steven Richman *Clark Hill, Princeton; Chair, IBA Credentials Committee*

1230 – 1400 **Lunch**

Riverside Restaurant

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1400 – 1530

Role of the Bar Association in training – improving legal education in a time of pandemic?

Even before the pandemic changes in the law, practice and technology were focussing attention on what new lawyers were taught, how they were taught and what they would do with what they have learned. Since early 2020 however the global response to Covid-19 has given us an idea of what the future practice of law could be like: virtual meetings, court appearances and a heightened attitude of flexibility in serving the client.

This session which will bring together recognised experts in their fields is designed to examine what role Universities, Bar Associations and Law Societies have in the training of lawyers, and what will be expected of those bodies in the future.

Issues which will be covered include: the development of legal education and the role which Bar Associations played; what Bar Associations do today to train lawyers; what clients, practising lawyers and aspiring lawyers will want by way of training in the future.

Session Co-Chairs

Michael P Clancy OBE *The Law Society of Scotland, Edinburgh; Chair, IBA Constitution and Governance Committee*

Tshepo Shabangu *Law Society of South Africa / Spoor & Fisher, Pretoria; Officer, IBA Bar Issues Commission*

Speakers

Victoria Cromwell *Barbri International, London; Co-Chair, IBA Academic and Professional Development Committee*

Zoya Ilyenka *North Legal, Barcelona; Vice Chair, Law Firm Management Knowledge Management & Technology*

Subcommittee

Rob Marrs *Head of Education Policy, The Law Society of Scotland, Edinburgh*

David McQuoid Mason *President of the Commonwealth Legal Education Association, South Africa*

1530 – 1600

Coffee/tea break

1600 – 1730

Bar Associations in crisis situations – experiences and lessons to learn 2006 – 2022

A crisis for a Bar Association can take a very wide variety of forms. A voluntary-membership bar can start to haemorrhage members, for many different reasons, with financial and credibility risks to its very survival unless the causes of the crisis are effectively addressed. A regulatory bar can face a crisis of public confidence and consequent Government proposals to remove its regulatory powers. A bar can be subjected to a successful cyber-attack or a serious fire at its headquarters. A reputational crisis can engulf a bar or its members with deeply damaging effects in terms of public esteem. A bar can find itself on collision course with government if it publicly opposes 'reforms' that may undermine the incomes of lawyers, the rights of citizens or the rule of law itself. A crisis may be minor or major, but when one arrives it is likely to test the skill and resilience of a bar leader like nothing else. How you handle a crisis can define you and your organisation. Are there common themes and lessons to be learned from the variety of crisis experiences that bars have endured over recent years? A distinguished panel of speakers from a variety of bars will share their crisis experiences and what they have learned.

Session Co-Chairs

Deborah Enix-Ross *Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, New York; President-Elect, American Bar Association*

Ken Murphy *Law Society of Ireland, Dublin; Vice Chair, IBA Bar Issues Commission*

Speakers

Stephanie Boyce *President, The Law Society of England and Wales, England*

Professor Piotr Kardas *Polish Bar, Warsaw*

Paul Mollerup *The Association of Danish Law Firms, Copenhagen; Co-Chair, BIC Bar Executives Committee*

1730

Closing remarks

Kimitoshi Yabuki *Yabuki Law Offices, Tokyo; Chair, IBA Bar Issues Commission*

1930

Gala dinner

Gala dinner at the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania, Katedros a. 4, Vilnius 01143. Black tie optional.

Transport will be provided.

€120

Please enquire about availability at the IBA registration desk.

Coaches will depart from the Radisson Blu Lietuva at 1850 hrs.