2019 PILnet GLOBAL FORUM

11–13 November
Concorde Hotel Singapore
Singapore

Forum Champion Sponsors

DENTONS  WHITE & CASE
Welcome to the 2019 PILnet Global Forum, and welcome to Singapore. We are thrilled to welcome you to this stunning part of the globe which in so many ways typifies the world today. Here you’ll witness the height of commerce, a diversity of people and cultures, the engines of finance, and the apex of technology and communications. At the present moment, there is no better place than this historic but thoroughly modern Asian city-state to convene lawyers working for a better world.

We come together this week to engage in thought-provoking discussions, to learn from our peers, and to push all of our thinking forward so that we can collectively grapple with the world’s biggest crises, from the climate emergency at our doorsteps, to the masses of people on the move around the globe, to the disastrous effects of economic globalization for some of the world’s poorest and most vulnerable.

At PILnet, we envision a world in which law works for all. We welcome you all to share in this vision with us this week as we explore the ways that we, as lawyers, can advance a pro bono publico mission. Over the next few days, we will focus on the many ways to engage lawyers from across the legal profession to protect and advance the needs of vulnerable communities around the world. It is an opportune moment to do this. While the scale of the world’s problems are tremendous, there are more lawyers than ever who are coming forward to help develop solutions. This week, we’ll learn about the productive, innovative, and timely engagements of law students, NGO lawyers, law firm partners, and other legal professionals.

We will also explore how to empower innovation in the legal community. We will think about the role of lawyers in protecting all of our futures, by contending with the climate crisis, redesigning pro bono for a digital future, and advancing the interests of civil society and communities at a time when they are increasingly being left behind.

Finally, we will explore new ways to enable change. We will share new practices to address human trafficking and consider the challenges faced by international lawyers working on cross-border litigation. And we will pay special attention to conditions in Asia, hearing from advocates for migrants, refugees, children, and more.

We are in the midst of another challenging year, but we take heart in finding inspiration in unexpected forms and places. We also look to convenings like the PILnet Global Forum as a source of inspiration and motivation. Thank you for joining the hundreds of practitioners from dozens of countries here in Asia to share in the dynamic conversations and dialogues that we expect will continue to inspire us all to move forward with vision and purpose for another year.

Suzanne Turner and Heng-Pin “Ping” Kiang  
PILnet Board Co-chairs
We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Anna Yang and Babatunde Irukera who have just concluded their years of service as PILnet Board members. We wish them the best and look forward to continuing our work together to ensure law is working for all.
# Table of Contents

Welcome ...................................................................................................................................................................... 3  
PILnet Board of Directors ........................................................................................................................................ 4  
About PILnet ............................................................................................................................................................... 6  
2019 PILnet Annual Fund Supporters ...................................................................................................................... 7  
PILnet’s Achievements ........................................................................................................................................... 8  
PILnet’s Highlights ................................................................................................................................................... 10  
PILnet Fellows Program ......................................................................................................................................... 12  
PILnet Pro Bono Leadership Council ......................................................................................................................... 14  
2019 PILnet Global Forum Sponsors .......................................................................................................................... 15  
Global Forum Host Committee ................................................................................................................................. 16  
Welcome from the Global Forum Host Committee ............................................................................................... 17  
General Information .............................................................................................................................................. 18  
Map ........................................................................................................................................................................ 19  
PILnet Insights ......................................................................................................................................................... 20  
Global Forum Agenda Overview .............................................................................................................................. 22  
Global Forum Agenda ........................................................................................................................................... 25  
2019 Global Awards .............................................................................................................................................. 42  
What is a Pro Bono Clearinghouse? ........................................................................................................................... 48  
PILnet Clearinghouses ........................................................................................................................................... 49  
Partner Clearinghouses ......................................................................................................................................... 49  
Pro Bono Roundtables & Associations ................................................................................................................ 54
About PILnet

PILnet is an international non-governmental organization that creates opportunities for social change by unlocking law’s full potential. With programs in Europe, Asia, and the United States, PILnet aims to reclaim and reimagine the role of law so that it works for the benefit of all. PILnet builds networks and collaborations of public and private sector lawyers who understand how law works when it serves the interests of the privileged and then it uses that knowledge to strengthen civil society and serve the world’s poor and vulnerable. PILnet not only obtains high-quality, free legal assistance for civil society organizations when they urgently need it but also helps organizations to capitalize on the full range of specialized legal assistance that can be provided by corporate lawyers, including against ongoing, or even yet-to-be-determined, threats.

PILnet’s Global Clearinghouse provides access to free legal assistance for hundreds of NGOs from highly qualified lawyers. PILnet also hosts local and regional pro bono clearinghouses in Hong Kong (in English), Hungary (in Hungarian), and Eurasia (in Russian).

The PILnet Global Forum is the premier gathering place for pro bono and public interest lawyers. The forum connects hundreds of representatives—from law firms, law schools, bar associations, and NGOs—to exchange ideas and build working partnerships across sectors and locales.

PILnet’s Fellows Program provides recent law school graduates an experiential learning opportunity to acquire innovative public interest lawyering skills in PILnet’s offices in the United States, Europe, and Asia. To date, 150 PILnet Fellows have been part of this program.

PILnet’s Public Interest Law Program in Europe and Eurasia responds to the constrictions that civil society is facing in Europe and Eurasia. With the support of expert private sector lawyers, PILnet fosters innovation in operational and financial sustainability for NGOs.

PILnet’s Public Interest Law Program in Asia promotes pro bono support for access to justice, innovates legal tools to challenge human trafficking throughout Southeast Asia, and engages law students in public interest law in Hong Kong and mainland China.

PILnet’s Public Interest Law Program in the United States focuses on defending public participation. PILnet is a member of the Protect the Protest Task Force and, with the help of pro bono lawyers, is developing research on the state of SLAPP lawsuits in the United States.

PILnet Hungarian Foundation constitutes a foreign financed organization under the par. 1.1 of the Hungarian Act LXXVI of 2017.
PILnet extends its deepest appreciation to the law firms and corporations that make our work possible through their generous support.

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PILnet’s Achievements

In 2019, PILnet concentrated its efforts around a mission to make law work for all and grow its programs around three regional hubs, based in Budapest (Europe and Eurasia), Hong Kong (Asia), and New York (U.S. and Global). The 2019 Global Forum tripartite theme of engaging lawyers everywhere to serve the public interest, empowering innovation through new tools, and enabling change through strategic partnerships, reflects PILnet’s continuing efforts to deepen its connections with pro bono providers and civil society, and facilitate new practices and tools for public interest lawyers to utilize. Because globalization is quickly shifting the social change paradigm, it is crucial for PILnet to keep pace with the changing pro bono needs of civil society, as well as with the development of transactional law tools that grow increasingly more sophisticated. Against the backdrop of a shifting public interest law landscape, this year PILnet has focused on consolidating its existing areas of expertise while keeping one eye firmly fixed on the future.

The groundwork PILnet laid this year will set the stage for longer term change, seeking ultimately to ensure that law works for all. Here is how PILnet has engaged lawyers, empowered innovation, and enabled change in 2019:

- **Mobilizing lawyers—at every stage of their careers and in every field of law—to see themselves as public interest lawyers.** PILnet is committed to engaging law students in public interest law and fostering a culture of pro bono in law schools. This year, with the support of the WYNG Foundation, PILnet held its second annual Law for Change Student Competition in Hong Kong. Law students were invited to design proposals for projects that aim to solve a social justice issue relating to the theme of “community” with a focus on “family,” under the guidance of pro bono legal mentors. Teams of students submitted innovative proposals addressing issues such as preventing child abuse, assisting with drafting wills, protecting rights of migrant domestic workers, and advocating for restorative justice. EMpower, the winning team, will receive funding to use technology to raise awareness of domestic violence in ethnic minority communities and to empower victims. Additionally, for the ninth consecutive year, PILnet conducted a Legal Ethics Training for Russian law students. This four-day training session, planned with partners Moscow State University, DLA Piper, and White & Case, features workshops and seminars on pro bono, professional responsibility, ethics, and compliance for the legal profession. Through this program, PILnet has helped to train over 300 Russian law students.

- **Empowering civil society to use law to build resilience and advocate for change.** PILnet’s programs to build civil society resilience centers around providing organizations with the legal knowledge to better withstand encroachments into civil society. This year, PILnet hosted a number of workshops aimed at increasing the resilience of civil society in Hungary, Kazakhstan, and Hong Kong. PILnet, in partnership with local and international law firms and corporations, also conducted multilingual webinars to share private sector expertise on data security and the GDPR with European NGOs and civil society members. In Kazakhstan, PILnet conducted a workshop on the process of registering an NGO as an entity aimed at providing Kazakh civil society with the legal tools needed to continue their programming in the face of restrictive legal developments. Finally, in Hong Kong PILnet connected local NGOs with law firms to review and improve their governance.
Bridging the gap between NGOs and corporate lawyers to develop deeper, stronger pro bono collaborations. PILnet, in conjunction with Porticus, is expanding its anti-trafficking work further into Asia, in Cambodia, Thailand, and Myanmar, with plans to expand to Vietnam soon. This project builds relationships with local lawyers and anti-trafficking organizations and develops workshops to increase their collaboration on and awareness of technical knowledge on anti-trafficking issues. For instance, in Thailand, PILnet conducted a workshop briefing lawyers on international, regional, and national anti-trafficking frameworks. This year, PILnet also co-hosted legal workshops for migrant workers in Hong Kong with EmpowerU, a nonprofit educational and empowerment platform, to raise awareness of trafficking and avenues for legal redress for survivors. Further, PILnet continued its Compliance Bridge Project in Hungary, coordinating experts from corporate and law firm partners to develop tools and share knowledge about risk management with civil society organizations to strengthen their operational policies.

Incubating innovative strategies and business models that make law a more effective tool for change. In August, PILnet welcomed a new cohort of fellows, from Australia, China, Hong Kong, Moldova, and Taiwan, to join over 150 PILnet Fellow Alumni as the new frontline in public interest law. Through a combination of experiential learning, seminars, and workshops, fellows are gaining an understanding of the new frontiers in public interest lawyering and how to adapt to changes in the face of globalization. Meanwhile, in collaboration with partners, PILnet conducted a webinar to empower refugee entrepreneurs in Germany by educating them on the laws relating to establishing and running a business. While in Eurasia, as part of the efforts to expand local pro bono culture, PILnet, with the support of the Visegrad Fund and local partners, translated its Pro Bono Handbook, which provides information for law firms on establishing their own pro bono practices, for Moldovan, Georgian, and Azerbaijani audiences.

Convening, educating and mobilizing public interest lawyers on local and global platforms. This year PILnet continued its role as a facilitator bringing the private and public sectors together in local and global efforts to use new tools to strengthen civil society. In June, PILnet held a European Convening in London, bringing civil society members together with lawyers and tech experts to think about strategic innovations that organizations could use to enhance their resilience and sustainability in the midst of a globally shrinking space for civil society. Preceding the Convening, The Access to Justice & Technology Summit, organized by DLA Piper in collaboration with PILnet, served as a hub for various stakeholders to discuss the novel possibilities provided by technology globally in increasing access to justice. Additionally, in Hungary, PILnet held two training sessions for members of the Budapest Bar Association on children’s rights and handling juvenile justice cases. While, most recently, PILnet helped organize the inaugural European Pro Bono Week, a series of events in several different European cities bringing together law firms, clearinghouses, and NGOs to discuss developments and new strategies for pro bono in their jurisdictions.

These accomplishments, and many more not listed here, are the result of the engagements PILnet’s hardworking and dedicated staff have created with lawyers, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders from across its networks. This PILnet team is proud of these achievements and grateful for your help and support. There is still much work to be done as the threats being accelerated by globalization and the changing landscape for organized civil society are truly daunting. But with your support, PILnet stands ready to renew its efforts to build stronger and more resilient societies in which law works for all.
PILnet’s Highlights

PILnet strives to unlock law’s full potential to serve marginalized, vulnerable, and poor communities. This year, PILnet expanded operations regionally while deepening its collaborations with lawyers and civil society to better protect and advance the interests of the communities it serves. Here are three examples of recent PILnet projects that engaged lawyers in its network to use the full range of law to help victims of trafficking in Southeast Asia, develop greater transparency in Eurasia, and protect public protest in the United States.

Expanding the Anti-Trafficking Program in Asia

Since human trafficking is a multifaceted and geographically diverse problem, a broad array of tools and strategies is essential. Anti-trafficking in persons (ATIP) organizations need sufficient legal capacity and relevant expertise to use more sophisticated legal strategies to carry out their work successfully. Thus, in collaboration with Liberty Shared, PILnet’s Asia Program is running an ATIP project to enhance access to justice for victims of human trafficking in Cambodia, Hong Kong, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. PILnet is empowering its extensive legal network in Asia by providing them with the legal tools and expertise to effectively protect survivors of trafficking.

Upon completing a legal needs assessment in Hong Kong and Thailand, PILnet organized workshops for over 100 lawyers this year to create a network of lawyers armed with the necessary legal tools to support ATIP organizations. Workshops covered the international and national legal ATIP frameworks, methods of accessing rights for survivors, and ethical considerations in assisting vulnerable clients, as well as the development of pro bono initiatives and programs within law firms to channel greater resources to ATIP organizations. PILnet has since initiated similar initiatives in Cambodia and is planning to expand to Myanmar and Vietnam next year. Ultimately, PILnet will develop a specialized clearinghouse to provide legal support and guidance for ATIP in these countries.

Participants and staff from PILnet and Liberty Shared at the PILnet ATIP workshop series in Cambodia
Promoting Transparency in Eurasia

Transparency leads to impartiality in the judicial system and strengthens the rule of law. Yet, transparency is hard to achieve when society does not have the tools to navigate the complex legal sector. To address this, PILnet helped the International Legal Initiative (ILI) of Kazakhstan to procure a research analysis to create a publicly available online database that tracks open source data such as tax records, stock exchange documents, and court judgements to reveal potential conflicts of interests of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers. Through its Eurasia Clearinghouse, PILnet’s attorneys shaped the project by identifying how the legal sector could best help ILI achieve their goal and identify a law firm with the right expertise. PILnet then worked with the law firm to ensure the roadmap they delivered satisfied the client’s needs. ILI plans to officially launch the database next year and hopes to expand it to neighboring countries in the future. PILnet’s intervention will ensure that ILI is able to make good use of this database to advocate for the implementation of best practices in national law to create a fairer judicial system for all citizens.

Joining the Protect the Protest Taskforce

Strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs) suppress free speech and public protest to stifle dissenting voices in an era of increasing threats to civil society. PILnet recently joined the Protect the Protest Task Force (PTP), a U.S.-based alliance of nonprofit organizations, which includes the Center for Constitutional Rights, the ACLU, EarthRights, and Greenpeace, to fight against these meritless lawsuits that seek to intimidate, silence, and drain the coffers of organizations. PTP provides resources and training for civil society organizations, community leaders, journalists, and the broader public on how to best protect themselves from SLAPPs. This summer, PILnet engaged the Boston-based firm Foley Hoag in two projects to support the task force. Foley Hoag is conducting research on the scale and nature of the use of SLAPPs across the United States and to examine the costs to businesses of engaging in such tactics to employ in an effort to deter their use. Foley Hoag is also providing critical support to the task force as they work with other engaged parties to develop draft federal anti-SLAPP legislation to protect the rights of all Americans to speak out, criticize, and protest peacefully.
The PILnet Fellows Program provides an opportunity for recent law graduates to work in an emerging area of public interest lawyering that takes techniques historically used to benefit a powerful few and puts them to work for the most vulnerable. The program includes experiential learning in developing transactional lawyering approaches to public interest matters, complemented by workshops and classroom style training carried out by leading legal academics and practitioners. In addition to working alongside PILnet staff, the 2019–2020 PILnet Fellows are International Visiting Scholars of Fordham Law School where they have access to additional resources and networks to further expand their knowledge and impact during their fellowship.

Introducing the 2019–2020 PILnet Fellows:
PILnet Pro Bono Leadership Council

Wendy Atrokhov | Latham & Watkins | Washington, D.C.
Rene Kathawala | Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe | New York
Brian Moran | Paul Hastings | New York
Louis O’Neill | White & Case | New York
Nicolas Patrick | DLA Piper | London
Helen Rogers | Allen & Overy | London
Michael Skrein | Reed Smith | London
Laura Tuell | Jones Day | Washington, D.C.
Benjamin Weinberg | Dentons | Chicago

Suzanne Turner | Dechert | Washington, D.C. *

* PILnet Board member and Board liaison to the Pro Bono Leadership Council
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  IHS Markit
  White & Case

Welcome Reception Sponsor
  Herbert Smith Freehills
Global Forum Host Committee

The Global Forum Host Committee is a group of local lawyers, NGO leaders, academics, and business people that provide guidance and expertise to help make PILnet’s Global Forum a success. We extend sincere thanks to the members of the host committee for their invaluable support and for welcoming us to Singapore.

**Members**

Irina Akentjeva | Herbert Smith Freehills  
Rod Brown | Mayer Brown  
Matthew Coghlan | Deloitte Australia  
Elizabeth Cole | Jones Day  
Peter Cuthbert Low | Peter Low & Choo  
Esha Goel | Latham & Watkins  
Brendan Hannigan | Allen & Overy  
Matthew Leigh | Hogans Lovells Lee & Lee  
June Lim | Eden Law  
Tanguy Lim | Law Society Pro Bono Services  
Maree Myerscough | Association of Corporate Counsel, Singapore  
Ranald Or | Singapore University of Social Sciences  
Kaya Proudian | White & Case  
Dessie Silassie | IHS Markit and Singapore Corporate Counsel Association  
Cherilyn Tan | Asia Law Network  
Helena Whalen-Bridge | National University of Singapore
Welcome from the Global Forum Host Committee

It is my great joy to welcome participants to Singapore for the 2019 PILnet Global Forum. I am especially pleased to announce that this is the first year that the Global Forum is being held outside of Europe. It is undoubtedly a great honour for Singapore to be selected as host. We are privileged to receive our pro bono counterparts, colleagues and champions from across the globe here in our island state we call home.

The tripartite themes of this year’s Forum are engage with lawyers, empower innovation and enable systemic change. This is particularly pertinent to Singapore at this juncture in history. Pro bono culture in Singapore is maturing and thriving. I speak for Law Society Pro Bono Services when I say that we sincerely hope that the pro bono movement will be energized and enhanced by the wide range of events and discussions to be held over the course of the Forum.

The history of pro bono in Singapore can be traced back to one moment in time in 1985. Then, the very first pro bono legal institution, the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS), was established in Singapore. It was the vision of then President Harry Elias SC and a team of altruistic do-gooders. Today, the CLAS continues to provide pro bono legal help to the indigent in criminal proceedings and forms part of a growing institutional framework for pro bono in Singapore. The Law Society established its Pro Bono Services Office in 2007. That office caters to the pro bono needs of both needy individuals and organizations. It works in tandem with a network of NGOs serving both individuals and local organizations. These institutions have helped to foster a pro bono culture that has considerably progressed in improving the quality and quantity of access to justice for both individuals and community organizations (whether via upstream or downstream work). In time to come, we are persuaded that the greater knowledge of, and engagement in, pro bono will bring systemic changes in the Singaporean legal ecosystem to make it more accessible to all (especially unserved and undeserved communities).

With this in mind, the Global Forum is an excellent opportunity to link and connect pro bono pioneers, innovators, ambassadors, and leaders from around the world. We can mutually share insights and experiences with one another to edify and educate. The Forum will allow lawyers who perform pro bono work to engage with like-minded practitioners, and to speak firsthand and frankly with NGOs and other partnering organizations to discern their needs sharper to serve their needs better. We have the invaluable opportunity to create a global, virtual movement of legal practitioners who do public good well. We can indeed be a force for good. Author Germany Kent’s counsel is to “Live your life in such a way that you’ll be remembered for your kindness, compassion, fairness, character, benevolence, and a force for good who had much respect for life, in general.” We have that opportunity through pro bono publico.

As the global lens increasingly becomes focused on Asia, I sincerely hope that this Forum will become a pivotal point in history. May we see a natural momentum in alliances and collaborations between Singaporean pro bono providers and our international counterparts! I am confident that the Forum will provide you with broader and deeper insights about the global pro bono landscape and leave you with a renewed passion and compassion for access-to-justice initiatives in the 21st century. Like the birth of CLAS in Singapore, may future generations in our nations represented remember the 2019 PILnet Global Forum as a turning point in the pro bono movement and its delegates ... a force for global good.

With my warmest regards,

Gregory Vijayendran, SC
President, The Law Society of Singapore
Chairman, Law Society Pro Bono Services
General Information

FORUM VENUE  Concorde Hotel Singapore
100 Orchard Road | Singapore 238840 | Tel: +65 6733 8855

OPENING EVENTS

- **Monday, 11 November | 9:00–15:30**
  Global Meeting of Law Firm Pro Bono Professionals
  Location: Dentons Rodyk | 80 Raffles Place, #33-00 UOB Plaza 1, Singapore 048624
- **Monday, 11 November | 10:30–16:00**
  Global Pro Bono Clearinghouse Lab
  Location: Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee | 50 Collyer Quay, #10-01 OUE Bayfront, Singapore 049321
- **Monday, 11 November | 14:00–16:00**
  Global Meeting of In-House Counsel Pro Bono Professionals
  Location: IHS Markit | 8 Marina View, Asia Square Tower 1, #12-01, Singapore 018960
- **Monday, 11 November | 16:30–18:30**
  Joint Global Meeting of Clearinghouse, Law Firm, and In-House Counsel Pro Bono Professionals
  Location: Singapore Cricket Club | Connaught Drive, Singapore 179681

SOCIAL EVENTS

- **Monday, 11 November | 19:00–21:00**
  Global Forum Welcome Reception
  Location: Singapore Cricket Club | Connaught Drive, Singapore 179681
- **Tuesday, 12 November | 19:00–22:00**
  Global Awards Dinner Reception
  Location: Chijmes Hall | 30 Victoria Street, Singapore 187996

SOCIAL MEDIA

Forum participants are encouraged to use social media, using the hashtag #PILnetGlobalForum. The Chatham House Rule applies.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

To receive a certificate of attendance, please ask at the registration desk or email forum@pilnet.org.

SECURITY

For security purposes, delegates are requested to wear their name badges at all times during the Forum.

INTERNET ACCESS

WIFI (login and password): PILnet2019
Map

Concorde Hotel Singapore
100 Orchard Road, Singapore 238840 | Tel: +65 6733 8855

Singapore Cricket Club
Connaught Drive, Singapore 179681

Chijmes Hall
30 Victoria Street, Singapore 187996
Reclaiming Law as a Force for Good in the World

Major shifts in world history don’t happen often, but when they do, they are usually felt most acutely by those who are least likely to have control over their futures. In some Western countries, stagnant and declining incomes over the past 30 years have provided a taste of discomfort for those who did not necessarily have much political or economic power but were accustomed to steady improvements in their standard of living. Prompted in part by this and the related phenomenon of drastic inequality, a distorted response resulted in the form of a backlash to multinational institutions, open markets, and the movement of people. Elsewhere in the world, notably in South and East Asia, where inequality remains, millions are nonetheless benefitting from complementary social and economic shifts. Extreme poverty has dramatically declined over the last 30 years, while an openness to international markets, transnational cooperation, foreign university study, and travel are increasingly commonplace in once-closed societies.

Other dynamics are at play. Politics, economics, and culture have long been channeled and ordered within the Westphalian nation-state system, until multinational institutions were constructed to attempt to encourage cooperation and manage disputes. Nowadays, relations are more likely to be defined by information, data, and financial transactions traveling at high speeds along discoordinated digital railways not just between governmental or quasi-governmental bodies but also between individual, corporate, and other non-state actors.

In this shifting global landscape, law has proven to be an extremely effective tool to protect and advance the interests of those with the means to benefit from it. Many lawyers have been preoccupied with this project: insulating corporate and individual clients from risk and enabling them to profit from deals. There is nothing new in this, but globalization has opened up a world of possibilities for those who wish to avoid the sovereign reach of governments or benefit from the yet un- or deregulated parts of our globalized economies and societies.

We see in globalization an opportunity to help shape the means to protect all of our futures.

Those who join us today at the 2019 PILnet Global Forum represent something different. We see in globalization an opportunity to help shape the means to protect all of our futures. And that is why PILnet is thrilled to hold its Global Forum in Asia for the first time. Singapore, with its intersecting histories and cultures, is a perfect gathering point for PILnet to share with its partners and colleagues a forward-thinking vision of the role that law can play to become a force for good in our globalized world.

PILnet sees the interconnected world as an opportunity to establish hubs and grow networks across the globe. As a convener, connector, and provider, PILnet is on the frontline of the effort to promote pro bono and public interest lawyering that:
• Engages lawyers from across the legal profession to protect and advance the needs of vulnerable communities facing the threats, challenges, and opportunities of globalization

• Empowers innovation in the legal community to develop the relevant legal tools and services for civil society and communities who are increasingly being left behind

• Enables change through strategic partnerships that are inclusive and sustainable

PILnet’s Asia program officially launched in 2000, when PILnet first included lawyers from Central Asia in its Fellowship Program. Since then, PILnet’s Asia Program has grown significantly, especially with the start of operations in Beijing in 2008 and the opening of a Hong Kong office in 2013. That time period coincides with significant changes in geopolitical relations, not least resulting from the likely shift away from a unipolar world in the face of surging economic growth across Asia.

How global changes will affect us all remains to be seen, but what is clear is that unfolding events present an opportunity for forward-thinking actors to develop and engage new or newly redefined levers of change to benefit the public interest. The 2019 PILnet Global Forum in Singapore provides the ideal setting for the community of engaged lawyers and advocates to think hard and imaginatively about how—in a period of not just uncertainty but also promise—to develop the tools and approaches needed to respond and engage with some of the definitive issues of our time: climate change, forced migration, technology, and growing inequality.

PILnet invites attendees to approach these and all of the topics up for discussion at the 2019 Global Forum in Singapore with the energy required to match the scale of the challenges. For 20 years, PILnet has been providing committed lawyers and advocates like those gathered here today with a platform for connecting, learning, and planning together. This week, we invite you to join us once again to direct our collective energies for this singular purpose: to reclaim law as a force for good in the world.

— PILnet
Global Forum Agenda Overview

This year the sessions are organized into three streams:

- **Engaging lawyers**: Sessions that aim to inspire those from across the legal profession to protect and advance the needs of vulnerable communities around the world.
- **Empowering innovation**: Sessions that equip the legal community to develop relevant legal tools and services for civil society and communities who are increasingly being left behind by globalization.
- **Enabling change**: Sessions that encourage strategic partnerships that are inclusive and sustainable and motivate participants to join together to use law as a force for good.

**STREAM LEGEND**

- Engaging lawyers
- Empowering innovation
- Enabling change
- Pro Bono Marketplace

### Monday, 11 November

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00–15:30</td>
<td>Global Meeting of Law Firm Pro Bono Professionals</td>
<td>Open to law firm professionals only</td>
<td>Dentons Rodyk</td>
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<td>10:30–16:00</td>
<td>Global Pro Bono Clearinghouse Lab</td>
<td>Open to clearinghouses only</td>
<td>Hogan Lovells Lee &amp; Lee</td>
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<td>14:00–16:00</td>
<td>Global Meeting of In-House Counsel Pro Bono Professionals</td>
<td>Open to in-house counsel only</td>
<td>IHS Markit</td>
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<td>16:00–19:00</td>
<td>Joint Global Meeting of Clearinghouse, Law Firm, and In-House Counsel Pro Bono Professionals</td>
<td>Open to clearinghouses, law firm professionals, and in-house counsel</td>
<td>Singapore Cricket Club</td>
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<td>19:00–21:00</td>
<td>Global Forum Welcome Reception</td>
<td>Open to all Forum attendees</td>
<td>Singapore Cricket Club</td>
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<td><strong>Location:</strong> Concorde Hotel Singapore</td>
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<td>9:00–10:30</td>
<td><strong>Opening Keynote and Plenary Discussion</strong></td>
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<td><strong>When Business and Human Rights Collide: Protecting Indigenous Rights</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Kickstarting Pro Bono: Best Practices for New Jurisdictions</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Remedies to Protect Trafficked Persons and Forced Labor Victims: National and Cross-border Showcases</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PILnet Global Awards Dinner Reception</strong></td>
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<td>9:00–11:00</td>
<td><strong>Opening Plenary and Spark Talks</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;Part 1: Spark Talks&lt;/b&gt;&lt;br&gt;Spark Talk 1: Advancing Reproductive Rights Advocacy with Legal Resources&lt;br&gt;Spark Talk 2: Defending Immigrants’ Rights at the U.S.A.–Mexico Border&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;Part 2: Mobilizing the Global Legal Community to Protect Refugees**</td>
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<td><strong>Law Students: Pro Bono’s Next Generation</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Tech Revolution: Will Civil Society Be Left Behind?</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Expanding Pro Bono for Refugees in Asia</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Professional Associations and Pro Bono: A Comparative Look</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Measuring Outcomes and Impact</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Freedom of Expression and Civil Society in Asia</strong></td>
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Monday, 11 November

9:00–15:30  **Global Meeting of Law Firm Pro Bono Professionals** —*Open to law firm professionals only*

The annual global meeting of law firm pro bono professionals, in partnership with the Association of Pro Bono Counsel, provides peer-to-peer insight into pro bono trends and challenges within law firms and an exchange of best practices.

**Location:** Dentons Rodyk | 80 Raffles Place, #33-00 UOB Plaza 1, Singapore 048624

10:30–16:00  **Global Pro Bono Clearinghouse Lab** —*Open to clearinghouses only*

The global meeting of pro bono clearinghouses offers a chance to exchange ideas and inspire peers from around the world for building resilient and sustainable pro bono infrastructure. This year, the annual event transforms into an interactive Global Clearinghouse Lab. Participants co-construct a clearinghouse as part of a design thinking group exercise and learn from professionals about organizational compliance, digital clearinghouse platform-building, cybersecurity, and the power of capitalizing on new media outlets.

**Location:** Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee | 50 Collyer Quay, #10-01 OUE Bayfront, Singapore 049321

14:00–16:00  **Global Meeting of In-House Counsel Pro Bono Professionals** —*Open to in-house counsel only*

The global meeting of in-house pro bono professionals provides peer-to-peer insight into trends and challenges of doing legal pro bono work within companies and an exchange of best practices.

**Location:** IHS Markit | 8 Marina View, #12-01 Asia Square Tower 1, Singapore 018960
Joint Global Meeting of Clearinghouse, Law Firm, and In-House Counsel Pro Bono Professionals

—Open to clearinghouses, law firm professionals, and in-house counsel

The joint meeting is a platform for participants to share best practices and lessons learned as well as to explore how partnerships between pro bono clearinghouses, law firm pro bono professionals, and in-house counsel can be improved and advanced.

Location: Singapore Cricket Club | Connaught Drive, Singapore 179681

Global Forum Welcome Reception

Sponsored by HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS

—Open to all Forum attendees. Drinks and hors d’oeuvres served.

Location: Singapore Cricket Club | Connaught Drive, Singapore 179681

Welcome Remarks:
• Heng-Pin “Ping” Kiang | PILnet Board | U.S.A.

Tuesday, 12 November

PILnet Global Forum

Location: Concorde Hotel Singapore
100 Orchard Road, Singapore 238840

8:15–9:00 Registration

9:00–10:30 Opening Keynote and Plenary Discussion

Sponsored by WHITE & CASE

Room: Concorde 1 & 2

Speakers:
• Sarah Belal | Justice Project Pakistan | Pakistan
• Julia Mayerhofer | PILnet | Hong Kong
• Garth Meintjes | PILnet | U.S.A.
• Gregory Vijayendran | The Law Society of Singapore | Singapore

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break
11:00–17:00  **Pro Bono Marketplace**

Browse the marketplace to find new pro bono opportunities and connect with new partners from around the world. The marketplace is open all day as a meeting point and as an exhibition space for useful materials. Over lunchtime, representatives of NGOs and clearinghouses are available to meet at their stalls.

**Room:** Studio 1

11:00–12:30  **Women International Lawyers: Overcoming Challenges in Cross-border Litigation**

_In this interactive discussion, four women lawyers share their accomplishments and challenges while working internationally, especially in countries where women lawyers are rare. Experiencing gender stereotyping, working in male-dominated environments, and confronting the biases of judges have prompted these lawyers to acquire and hone strategies and skills to successfully litigate complex multilingual, multi-jurisdictional cases. The speakers also discuss the careful efforts they have undertaken to communicate and build strong working relationships with clients, local lawyers, and judges, and to identify and engage local experts in pro bono work._

**Room:** Concorde 3

**Moderator:**  
- Andra Matei | Avant-Garde Lawyers | France

**Speakers:**  
- Sarah Belal | Justice Project Pakistan | Pakistan  
- Malathi Das | Joyce A. Tan & Partners | Singapore  
- Kimberley Motley | Motley Legal | Afghanistan

11:00–12:30  **When Business and Human Rights Collide: Protecting Indigenous Rights**

_In the Americas and Asia, where most of the world’s indigenous peoples live, rapid business development often occurs at the expense of indigenous communities’ land, homes, livelihoods, and way of life. In this session, advocates present their domestic and international legal strategies to protect and advance the interests of the indigenous peoples of the world. Among the questions these panelists probe is the role that private sector lawyers can play in protecting indigenous communities from the negative impact of economic development._

**Room:** Studio 2

**Moderator:**  
- Haris Azhar | Lokataru | Indonesia
**TrialWatch Training: Monitoring and Responding to Trials that Pose a High Risk of Human Rights Violations**

TrialWatch is an initiative of the Clooney Foundation for Justice focused on monitoring and responding to trials around the world that pose a high risk of human rights violations. In order to scale up trial monitoring and help to foster a community of monitors and advocates, TrialWatch trains lawyers and non-lawyers to monitor through both an online training, developed in collaboration with, and approved by, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights; and in-person trainings. This presentation introduces TrialWatch, its objectives and methodology, and outlines core trial monitoring practices and standards used to monitor trials, document abuses, and evaluate a trial’s fairness.

**Room:** Studio 3

**Speakers:**
- **Sarah Mehta** | TrialWatch | U.S.A.
- **Stephen Townley** | TrialWatch | U.S.A.

**Kickstarting Pro Bono: Best Practices for New Jurisdictions**

This session provides an opportunity for peer-to-peer learning in an active discussion of the challenges and best practices for nurturing a pro bono culture in places where it is less developed. Participants engage in a group discussion facilitated by pro bono champions who are keen to share their experiences in initiating and growing pro bono under different settings. Topics include: setting up and running a pro bono clearinghouse, developing pro bono roundtables, considering public interest and pro bono practice in small law firms, establishing in-house pro bono programs, and starting a pro bono movement in law schools.

**Room:** Concorde 1 & 2

**Moderator:**
- **Alan Schiffman** | Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (retired) | PILnet Board | Hong Kong

**Speakers:**
- **Giovanni Carotenuto** | Pro Bono Italia | Italy
- **Katherine Henzell** | UBS AG | Hong Kong
- **Teresa Morais Leitao** | Pro Bono Portugal | Portugal
• June Lim | Eden Law | Singapore
• Ranald Or | Singapore University of Social Sciences | Singapore

12:30–13:30 Lunch

12:30–13:30 Pro Bono Marketplace: Meet & Greet
Browse the marketplace to find new pro bono opportunities and connect with new partners from around the world. Over lunchtime, representatives of NGOs and clearinghouses are available to meet at their stalls.

Room: Studio 1

13:30–14:30 Pro Bono Pitches
In this fast-paced session, attendees will listen to pro bono pitches for projects in areas of critical need. Seeking feedback, advice, and collaboration, the speakers aim to walk away with tangible next steps and partners. Audience members have the opportunity to ask questions and learn specific ways to get involved in projects at key stages of their development.

Room: Studio 2

Moderator:
• Lamin Khadar | Dentons | Netherlands

Speakers:
Pitch 1:
• Christina Triantafyllidi | Justice and Peace Netherlands | Netherlands
Pitch 2:
• Priyanka Chirimar | Action Against Prohibited Conduct | Singapore

13:30–14:30 Inspiring Cross-Sector Collaborations for the Public Interest
This session looks at engaging non-traditional collaborations to advance public interest partnerships to create deeper impact. Discussing examples of innovative cross-sector collaboration, the session encourages participants to think outside of the box and establish new and innovative ways to work together.

Room: Concorde 3

Moderator:
• Maree Myerscough | Association of Corporate Counsel | Singapore

Speakers:
• Minal Davis | Mayor’s Office of Houston, Texas | U.S.A.
• Leonard Lee | Community Justice Centre | Singapore
Protecting Public Protest: The Case of SLAPP Lawsuits

When large-scale global challenges require us to activate all levers of change, remarkably, those with the least means and influence often have outsized impact. In this panel, activists and lawyers speak about working with those whose local tactics drew the attention and ire of powerful interests. When those interests came to bear in the form of damaging SLAPPs (strategic lawsuits against public participation) against those with little to spare and a lot to lose, these legal defenders of the public interest are there to protect the little guy—and ultimately all of us.

Room: Studio 3

Moderator:
• Eric Koenig | Microsoft (retired) | PILnet Board | U.S.A.

Speakers:
• Nadthasiri Bergman | Human Rights Lawyers Association | Thailand
• Andrew Khoo | Bar Council Malaysia | Malaysia
• Lauren Regan | Civil Liberties Defense Center | U.S.A.

A Conversation About the Future of Pro Bono

The scale of global problems is significant: climate change, forced migration, inequality, extreme poverty. The legal profession has a wealth of skills and knowledge and is a valuable partner for civil society, governments, and other private actors to combat these challenges. Is the current model of pro bono in the legal world adequately helping the profession address these challenges? If not, how might the model be adapted to be more effective? Two human rights lawyers, one leading the pro bono efforts of a large multinational law firm and one who has been in the public sector for nearly 30 years, consider the future of pro bono. Audience participation is a significant part of this conversation.

Room: Concorde 1 & 2

Moderator:
• Leontine Chuang | PILnet | Hong Kong

Speakers:
• Garth Meintjes | PILnet | U.S.A.
• Nicolas Patrick | DLA Piper | U.K.

14:30–14:45 Break
Pro Bono for Controversial Matters

Finding pro bono legal assistance when it comes to sensitive or controversial matters can be problematic. This roundtable discussion addresses the challenges that NGOs, civilians, pro bono lawyers, and clearinghouses face when it comes to these types of matters and presents ideas to overcome those barriers. The discussion is framed around different examples of sensitive or controversial matters and explores possible solutions. Examples may include working in restrictive political environments, overcoming barriers within international organizations, defending sex workers, and supporting LGBTQ+ rights. Strategies and good practices to mitigate risks or concerns are also shared.

Room: Concorde 3

Moderator:
- Suzanne Turner | Dechert | PILnet Board | U.S.A.

Speakers:
- Priyanka Chirimar | Action Against Prohibited Conduct | Singapore
- Remy Choo Zheng Xi | Peter Low & Choo | Singapore
- Brigitte Dufour | International Partnership for Human Rights | Belgium
- Vanessa Ho | Project X | Singapore

Impact Investment Deals: Generating Social Impact Alongside Financial Return

Social impact investment brings together capital and expertise from the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors to achieve a social objective. The phenomenon of social impact investing has grown in popularity around the world in the last decade. Its growth in Asia has been accelerating as people look for new ways to have a social impact that is sustainable. Speakers on this panel discuss the growth of impact investment deals in Asia and the direction of growth for these types of deals. Will it continue to develop or be a passing fad that will disappear if economic growth slows? Panelists also provide insight into how the private sector can increasingly work with the public sector to build the impact investing ecosystem and create greater sustainable social impact.

Room: Studio 3

Moderator:
- Andy Yeo | Mayer Brown | China

Speakers:
- Valerian Fauvel | Jumanji Studio | Singapore
- Matthew Kasdin | Impact Investment Exchange | Singapore
- Rahul Rishi | Nishith Desai Associates | India
14:45–15:45 **Partnering for Child Justice**

This session highlights a variety of strategies and models for partnering with different stakeholders to ensure access to justice for children and illustrates various ways in which pro bono lawyers and other stakeholders can partner with NGOs to help achieve justice for children. By showcasing good practices for partnering for child justice, the panel hopes to inspire attendees to engage and seek such partnerships themselves.

**Room:** Studio 2

**Moderator:**
- Mariama Diallo | Regional Office of Terre des Hommes for Europe | Hungary

**Speakers:**
- Tong Lihua | Zhicheng Public Interest Lawyers | China
- Catriona Martin | DLA Piper | Australia
- Seila Samleang | Action Pour Les Enfants | Cambodia
- Chunyu Shi | Zhicheng Public Interest Lawyers | China

14:45–15:45 **Redesigning Pro Bono for a Digital Future**

The international pro bono ecosystem has reached a critical stage in its maturation. An increasingly global and technologically enabled ecosystem presents significant opportunities to more effectively direct pro bono efforts. This current pivotal moment presents an opportunity to implement a common system, protocols, and a shared data standard that can deliver significant benefits for access to justice and create the conditions for the strategic use of pro bono legal support. Justice Connect and PILnet present a proposal to collaborate to deliver a common system that can be used to connect legal need with pro bono capacity in more strategic ways.

**Room:** Concorde 1 & 2

**Speakers:**
- Kate Fazio | Justice Connect | Australia
- Andrej Nosko | PILnet | Hungary

15:45–16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00–17:30 **Training: Introduction to Street Law**

Across the world, street law programs have transformed traditional legal education into engaging programs that address unmet legal needs in the community; instill a sense of public service in law students; and strengthen collaboration among universities, the legal profession, and the community. Street law covers a variety of programs and curricula that share a common goal and interactive method to engage community members in practical law
lessons while providing law students and pro bono lawyers an opportunity to engage in meaningful collaborations focused on advancing legal literacy and empowerment. This session introduces street law principles and methodologies and provides ideas on how to adopt a similar model.

**Room:** Concorde 3

**Speakers:**
- Jennifer Cheung | Mayer Brown | Hong Kong
- Lindsay Ernst | University of Hong Kong | Hong Kong

**New Models for Social Change**

Traditionally, the not-for-profit and for-profit worlds have operated separately, with civil society powering social change. Increasingly, there is a realization that to scale and create greater social impact, the private and public worlds should collaborate and innovate new programs together. On this panel, an NGO representative, a private sector lawyer, a social impact investor, and a corporate foundation representative consider innovations to marry the public and private worlds to affect social change.

**Room:** Studio 3

**Moderator:**
- Tze-Wei Ng | Vivien & Teu | Hong Kong

**Speakers:**
- Annie Chen | RS Group | Hong Kong
- Martina Kolesarova | Pontis Foundation | Slovakia
- Trishna Mohan Kripalani | TrustLaw | India
- Matthew Leigh | Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee | Singapore

**Wielding the Law to Fight Climate Change**

“*Our house is on fire,*” as the writer and activist Naomi Klein said. The world urgently needs firefighters, and this session features three such public interest champions. As we face possibly the greatest global challenge of our time, these panelists present their targeted and determined efforts to use the law to help prevent the average global temperature from rising no more than 1.5°C. From crafting technical and policy solutions to reduce carbon emissions in the United States, to litigating for transparency in European institutions, to teaching law students to protect the environmental rights of local communities, these lawyers are protecting our future—now.
Room: Studio 2

Speakers:
- Emma Dunlevie | Russell Kennedy Lawyers | Australia
- Richard Horsch | White & Case (retired) | U.S.A.
- Pierre Kirch | Paul Hastings | Belgium

16:00–17:30 Remedies to Protect Trafficked Persons and Forced Labor Victims: National and Cross-border Showcases

Sponsored by ALLEN & OVERY

This panel presents strategies to unlock remedies for trafficked persons and forced labor victims using real case examples from different jurisdictions. The strategic use of different successful approaches are showcased to stimulate debate and build knowledge among participants. Speakers from local, regional, cross-border, and global contexts present their case methodologies and share good practices in this enlightening exchange. Attendees will appreciate the reasoning behind the decision-making process used in actual cases to secure justice for trafficking and forced labor victims.

Room: Concorde 1 & 2

Moderator:
- Archana Kotecha | Liberty Shared | Hong Kong

Speakers:
- Sarah Bessell | Human Trafficking Legal Center | U.S.A.
- Nathan Colless | Allen & Overy | Hong Kong
- Douglas MacLean | Justice Without Borders | Hong Kong
- Sokchar Mom | Legal Support for Children and Women | Cambodia

19:00–22:00 PILnet Global Awards Dinner Reception

Sponsored by DENTONS

— Open to all Forum attendees

Location: Chijmes Hall | 30 Victoria St, Singapore 187996
Wednesday, 13 November

8:30–9:00  Registration

9:00–11:00  Opening Plenary and Spark Talks

Room: Concorde 1 & 2

Part 1: Spark Talks

Moderator:
•  Sadhana Rai | Law Society Pro Bono Services | Singapore

Spark Talk 1: Advancing Reproductive Rights Advocacy with Legal Resources
•  Katherine Mayall | Center for Reproductive Rights | U.S.A.

Spark Talk 2: Defending Immigrants’ Rights at the U.S.A.–Mexico Border
•  Amy Zywicki | Jones Day | U.S.A.

Part 2: Mobilizing the Global Legal Community to Protect Refugees

Meeting the basic humanitarian needs of refugees is critical for their survival, but refugees will never truly find safety until and unless a permanent solution can be found. That solution requires the law. The legal community has the potential to address gaps in ensuring every refugee has access to a lawyer as they pursue protection and solutions. This panel explores how to mobilize the global legal community to protect refugees prior to the first Global Refugee Forum to be held in December 2019.

Moderator:
•  Brian Barbour | Act for Peace | Australia

Speakers:
•  Darius Kokou Agbeko Dzadu | Hong Kong Refugee-led Network | Hong Kong
•  Lynette Nam | Justice Centre Hong Kong | Hong Kong
•  Keane Shum | UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific | Thailand

11:00–11:30  Coffee Break

11:00–17:00  Pro Bono Marketplace

Browse the marketplace to find new pro bono opportunities and connect with new partners from around the world. The marketplace is open all day as a meeting point and as an exhibition space for useful materials. Over lunchtime, representatives of NGOs and clearinghouses are available to meet at their stalls.

Room: Studio 1
11:30–13:00  Anti-Corruption: Fostering a Culture of Integrity through Ethical Lawyering

Countering corruption and promoting effective integrity requires collaboration and partnerships between the private, public, and civil society sectors. This roundtable presents the context for counter-corruption efforts and the need to build partnerships to counter corruption and support integrity. Panelists discuss the need for anti-corruption education, the role for pro bono lawyering in supporting civil society, and public sector efforts in countering corruption. Panelists explore examples of global anti-corruption efforts, such as that of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, including its Education for Justice initiative.

Room: Concorde 3

Moderator:
• Sigall Horovitz | UNODC | Austria

Speakers:
• Adam Foldes | Transparency International Secretariat | Germany
• Khushaal Ved | Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee | Singapore
• Clare Wee | INSOL International | Singapore
• Helena Whalen-Bridge | National University of Singapore | Singapore

11:30–13:00  Tech for Good in Eurasia

This panel discussion considers how innovation and technology can serve the public interest in Eurasia considering the unique circumstances in the region. Experts from civil society, law firms, and tech companies present successful initiatives, discuss best practices, and explore ways to overcome challenges, as they describe their common aspirations to build more inclusive societies in the region.

Room: Studio 3

Moderator:
• Zaza Namoradze | Open Society Justice Initiative | Germany

Speakers:
• Ksenia Kroroleva | Latham & Watkins | Russia
• Anastassiya Miller | PILnet | U.S.A.
• Andrew Sushko | Human Constanta | Belarus
11:30–13:00 **Asia Roundtable: Growing Collaboration and Partnership**

*Sponsored by* [TSAR & TSAI LAW FIRM](#)

In this roundtable, stakeholders from different backgrounds come together to explore how pro bono can be further strengthened throughout Asia, taking care to consider differences in jurisdictions. Participants have the opportunity to discuss potential collaboration and partnerships while exploring how PILnet can also support these more effectively.

**Room:** Concorde 1 & 2

**Moderators:**
- Catherine Cheung | PILnet | Hong Kong
- Julia Mayerhofer | PILnet | Hong Kong

11:30–13:00 **Building a Pro Bono Clearinghouse to Protect Trafficked Persons**

This working meeting is an opportunity for existing and prospective members of the PILnet’s Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) clearinghouse network to consolidate their understanding of the ATIP Clearinghouse and to brainstorm effective strategies for the functioning of the mechanism. The good practices and lessons learned from the previous trafficking workshop is used to guide the conversation and as a base to open conversation. Lawyers from the network, interested lawyers, and NGO representatives are invited to share suggestions and visions for the development of guidelines and protocols for this mechanism.

**Room:** Studio 2

**Speakers:**
- Judit Geller | PILnet | Hungary
- Giulia Patane | PILnet | Hong Kong
- Kristin Rosella | Liberty Shared | Cambodia

13:00–14:00 **Lunch**

13:00–14:00 **Pro Bono Marketplace: Meet & Greet**

Browse the marketplace to find new pro bono opportunities and connect with new partners from around the world. Over lunchtime, representatives of NGOs and clearinghouses are available to meet at their stalls.

**Room:** Studio 1
14:00–15:15  **Law Students: Pro Bono’s Next Generation**

Engaging lawyers from the get-go—while in law school—has proven the world over to be an important way to develop the next generation of pro bono lawyers. This two-part session first looks at the Singapore model, where student pro bono is a mandatory feature of law school curriculum and students engage in both mandatory and voluntary pro bono projects. The successes and challenges of this model are presented by the practitioners themselves. Part two looks at collaborative models from Hong Kong and the United States, where law firms, NGOs and academics partner to engage students in voluntary pro bono projects to help instill the pro bono spirit in this next generation of lawyers.

**Room:** Concorde 1 & 2  
**Moderator:**  
Helena Whalen-Bridge | National University of Singapore | Singapore

**Speakers:**  
Justin Foo Min Hua | National University of Singapore | Singapore  
Ranald Or | Singapore University of Social Sciences | Singapore  
Damian Quek Teng Tze | National University of Singapore | Singapore  
Elizabeth Black | White & Case | U.S.A.  
Christine Lo | EMpower | Hong Kong  
Brian Tang | LITE Lab@HKU, University of Hong Kong | Hong Kong

14:00–15:15  **Tech Revolution: Will Civil Society Be Left Behind?**

Artificial intelligence is perhaps the ultimate tool of technological innovation, with the most profound impact on human societies. Understanding the impact of artificial intelligence algorithmic decision-making on justice and society differs around the world. There are elements of AI regulation evident in Europe, but civil society is visibly absent from these discussions. In this session, panelists ask: what can be done to ensure that the voices of the most vulnerable are heard and that civil society can influence how technology is used? How can the pro bono community take an active role in shaping developments in the use of technology and automated decision-making? How should technology impact our legal systems and therefore access to justice?

**Room:** Concorde 3

**Moderator:**  
Juyuan Foo | Asia Law Network | Singapore

**Speakers:**  
Pierre Kirch | Paul Hastings | Belgium  
Hannah Lim | LexisNexis | Singapore  
Rajesh Sreenivasan | Rajah & Tann | Singapore
14:00–15:15  **Expanding Pro Bono for Refugees in Asia**

Strategic pro bono partnerships between NGOs and law firms that protect the rights of refugees are nothing new in Europe, the United States, or other parts of the world. The model and the benefits that can be derived from such partnerships are less advanced in some parts of Asia. This session, therefore, explores what innovative roles private sector lawyers can play in supporting frontline refugee advocates in Asian jurisdictions. Focus is given to the innovation element and examples where partnerships have been developed that are long-term, strategic, and also go beyond providing case-by-case or individual direct legal aid and assistance for refugees.

**Room:** Studio 3

**Moderator:**
- Themba Lewis | Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network | Thailand

**Speakers:**
- Annette Bain | DLA Piper | Hong Kong
- Youn Jung Song | Barun Law | South Korea
- Alexandra Zetes | Refugee Solidarity Network | U.S.A.

15:15–15:30  **Coffee Break**

15:30–16:45  **Professional Associations and Pro Bono: A Comparative Look**

How do bar associations and law societies regulate pro bono activities? This workshop helps to distinguish and balance the relationship between state-subsidized legal aid and organized pro bono. Discussants also consider how, as bar associations and law societies define their role in pro bono, the potential upside of tailoring their approaches to inspire and engage their members. Speakers touch upon the role of technology in broadening outreach to vulnerable groups to develop access to justice and legal needs, especially for global challenges like migration, climate change, which require a truly global blueprint for strategic collaboration.

**Room:** Studio 3

**Moderator:**
- Tamas Barabas | PILnet | Hungary

**Speakers:**
- Gabriela Christian-Hare | Australian Pro Bono Centre | Australia
- Filip Czernicki | Warsaw Bar Association | Poland
- Tanguy Lim | Law Society Pro Bono Services | Singapore
- Yannick Sala | Paris Bar Association | France
Measuring Outcomes and Impact

Measurement systems for pro bono matters improve not only how we quantify inputs, outputs, and capture outcomes, but most importantly how we determine whether our work has made a societal impact. This discussion focuses on ways to think about and structure pro bono practice in order to both track and maximize impact. This includes framing pro bono initiatives to coincide with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals and by creating new partnerships with NGOs.

**Room:** Concorde 3

**Moderator:**
- Yasmin Batliwala | Advocates for International Development | U.K.

**Speakers:**
- Tom Dunn | Clifford Chance | U.K.
- Patrick Rickerfor | White & Case | U.S.A.

Freedom of Expression and Civil Society in Asia

This session showcases examples of tools developed by pro bono lawyers to advance the protection of freedom of expression and media freedom. A discussion is then facilitated on issues faced by civil society on freedom of expression in Asia and possible legal tools that can be replicated or developed to address them in the region.

**Room:** Concorde 1 & 2

**Moderator:**
- Fiona Li | TrustLaw | Thailand

**Speakers:**
- Ahmed Adam | Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development | Thailand
- Rahul Rishi | Nishith Desai Associates | India
- Caroline Stover | Article 19 | Myanmar

Closing Plenary

**Room:** Concorde 1 & 2

Wine Reception
Special Thanks

PILnet extends its sincere gratitude to those that supported participants to attend this year’s Global Forum, those that support the PILnet Fellows Program, and to those that make all of PILnet’s work possible.
2019 Global Awards

This year, PILnet welcomed an impressive array of nominations from across the world for our Global Awards. PILnet’s Award for Exemplary Partnership in the Public Interest is awarded to the best pro bono legal project undertaken as a cross-sectoral collaboration, with an impact felt in more than one country. The Award for Local Pro Bono Impact honors the best innovative pro bono legal project at the local or national level. The Publico Award recognizes legal professionals with an extraordinary, passionate, and long-standing commitment to service for the public good.

With the exception of the Publico Award, all winners are selected by a jury independent of PILnet and PILnet staff. The Publico Award recipient is chosen internally by PILnet staff. Award recipients will be announced on 12 November, at the PILnet Global Awards Dinner Reception.

The 2019 Publico Award

Called the “the leading figure of Chinese public welfare lawyers,” Tong Lihua has worked tirelessly throughout his career to provide pro bono legal services to vulnerable communities in China, particularly children. He established the Beijing Children’s Legal Aid and Research Centre in 1999, which was the first non-governmental organization dedicated to providing pro bono legal services to children in China. Lawyer Tong, who is also a PILnet Fellow alumnus, serves as the director of the All-China Lawyers Association Legal Aid Committee and is president of the Beijing Juvenile Law Research Association.

Under Lawyer Tong’s leadership, and in conjunction with the All-China Lawyers Association, Zhicheng Public Interest Law (ZPIL), an organization that was founded to support children’s rights, set up 29 Child Protection Committees at the provincial level and a further 90 in metropolitan areas. Furthermore, it has developed a network of over 9,000 pro bono lawyers working on child protection. Lawyer Tong expanded the organization to include the Beijing Zhicheng Migrant Workers’ Legal Aid and Research Center in 2005 to provide pro bono legal assistance to migrant workers in the country. He expanded it further in 2009 to handle environmental law and farmers rights and in 2011 to take on criminal justice matters. As of April 2019, ZPIL has handled more than 13,000 pro bono cases involving children, migrant workers, women, persons with disabilities and the elderly.

For his formidable accomplishments promoting public interest law and defending the rights of children and migrant workers, PILnet is pleased to bestow the 2019 Publico Award to Tong Lihua.
Baker McKenzie and Members of the Consortium for Street Children (Current members include: 3M, Abbvie, Amazon, Astellas, Cargill, CNH Google, HP Inc., JPMC, Merck, Mondelez, Salesforce, and Starbucks; and new members: BNP, Citi, LinkedIn, and Standard Chartered)

Baker McKenzie and members of the Consortium for Street Children (CSC) have developed a Legal Atlas, an interactive online tool that gives governments, advocates, community members, stakeholders, and young people themselves access to a basic and clear understanding of how various nations’ laws treat street-connected children and youth. CSC teams, made up of over 650 lawyers, researched and mapped existing substantive laws, policies, and procedures in almost every country in the world to help advocacy organizations press for laws in jurisdictions lacking adequate protections. This also allowed countries to learn from each other, measure their efforts, and devise ways to meet expectations of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child through the newly developed General Comment on Street-Connected Children. So far, this effort is the culmination of thousands of hours of pro bono legal work and will continue into the future as Baker McKenzie and members of the CSC aim to map the laws and policies of all remaining countries. This legal research, published online on the Legal Atlas, allows experts and ordinary citizens to both access the information and compare protections for children between countries. Through this project, the Legal Atlas is changing attitudes toward and treatment of street children across the world.

De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek and The Ocean Cleanup

De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek represented The Ocean Cleanup, an environmental NGO that develops advanced technologies to extract plastic pollution from the world’s oceans, in concluding a landmark agreement with The Netherlands on the legal status, operation, and protection of its technology on the high seas. Due to their novel nature, the systems that The Ocean Cleanup deploys and operates in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch in the high seas have no clearly defined status under existing international regulations. Although the systems formally qualify as ships under Dutch law, the status of unmanned vessels has to date not been explicitly addressed in international law. The Ocean Cleanup’s systems are largely equated to that of other seagoing vessels and this agreement offers clarity as to the rights and obligations of The Ocean Cleanup towards States and other users of the high seas when operating its systems. The agreement, published on 6 July 2018, deals with matters such as safety of navigation, protection of the marine environment, and the rights of other users of the high seas with respect to The Ocean Cleanup’s systems. The Agreement also confirms that The Netherlands will actively support and facilitate The Ocean Cleanup’s activities, and (where necessary) represent The Ocean Cleanup’s interests in relation to other states and in relevant international forums, such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO). A team from De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek assisted The Ocean Cleanup in legal research, negotiations, drafting of the agreement and coordination between the various parties involved, namely the Dutch State (the Secretary of State in particular, her office, and other civil servants employees from the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management).
The Ocean Cleanup’s legal and technical staff, authorities in the United States (in particular the United States Coast Guard), various law firms with specific U.S. regulatory and shipping expertise (Latham & Watkins U.S., AKD Rotterdam), and academic experts from the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea (Utrecht University).

**DLA Piper and Undikumbukire Project Zambia**

In October 2018, working with the Zambia Judiciary and Corrections Department, DLA Piper and their pro bono client, Undikumbukire Project (UP) Zambia, conducted a week-long child justice drive in Copperbelt Province, Zambia, where they interviewed, documented the experiences of, and advocated for 115 child defendants held in six adult prisons. In Zambia, as in many countries, criminal justice systems often violate child justice norms. Children are frequently detained in adult facilities for extended periods, without access to education or age-appropriate activities, and they are invariably unrepresented. UP Zambia, a dedicated and innovative Zambian NGO, works zealously to change these issues within the criminal justice system; however, with limited funds and personnel, it cannot easily serve regions outside the capital, Lusaka. UP Zambia was aware that many children in conflict with the law were being held in adult prisons in Copperbelt Province and sought DLA Piper’s help to reach them and establish a presence in the area. DLA Piper provided pro bono services, logistical support, and funding to conduct the drive. Seventeen DLA Piper lawyers from 12 countries joined UP Zambia staff to visit the six prisons holding children. The team documented cases, prepared case plans, searched neighborhoods for parents, located missing files, represented children in court, and advocated to judges and administrators. Immediately following the drive, over 34 children were transported to child-specific facilities, 17 were released, one was acquitted, and one 14-year-old boy sentenced to hard labor was granted bail pending his appeal, which a DLA Piper lawyer will handle. DLA Piper and UP Zambia are continuing to advocate for the remaining child inmates. To date, these efforts have contributed to the release of at least six more children who had been in custody for periods ranging from over one year to four-and-a-half years. The team used the findings of the survey to write a report on systemic failures to the Chief Justice. At the resulting direction of the Chief Justice, a High Court judge in Copperbelt has taken charge of reforms in processing child cases and is working with UP Zambia to monitor ongoing cases. DLA Piper’s effort also resulted in systemic changes at the national level, where the Chief Justice appointed a new judicial leader for child justice, who will work with UP Zambia to implement improvements.

**Herbert Smith Freehills and the UNHCR**

Herbert Smith Freehills (HSF) is advising the UNHCR on its ground-breaking initiative, MADE51 that empowers refugees by giving them access to global markets, enabling them to use their skills and heritage to earn a living in the countries in which they find themselves displaced. UNHCR launched MADE51, which partners refugee artisans with local social enterprises that have product development and export expertise. HSF serves an organizational and strategic role in addition to its legal work, which includes complex advice on corporate structure, intellectual property, and refugees’ right to work. Together, HSF and UNHCR developed saleable product lines that are purchased by major retailers and consumers. MADE51 has already directly supported
1,000 refugees. According to Bain & Co, by 2030, MADE51 will help 300,000 refugees, generating $30 million for refugee artisans and allowing the UNHCR to reallocate funds currently required for livelihood projects to emergency situations.

**White & Case and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

To support states in strengthening their disaster risk management (DRM) legal frameworks, the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) and Red Crescent Societies commissioned White & Case to support its work on creating and building a robust Global Disaster Risk Management Law and Policy Index. The initial framework, completed at the end of 2018, highlighted gaps in existing laws, emphasized best practice, and incorporated the changing risks the world is facing. It is currently being applied by more than 200 White & Case lawyers and legal staff to national laws in more than 200 jurisdictions around the world, and will be launched by IFRC at the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in December 2019. For the IFRC, the Index is essential to ongoing legislative advocacy programs around the world, as well as a useful and easy-to-use tool for experts in the field, parliamentarians, and policy makers. The IFRC’s hope is to positively influence legal change in DRM instruments at a global level in a manner that is both strategic and effective. The breadth of detail and analysis available via the Index will be the cornerstone of this, driving change and best practice throughout the world and, in time, leading to improved climate-smart DRM that will ensure reduced impact of natural and man-made disasters on local populations and nation states.

**2019 Award for Local Pro Bono Impact**

**SHORTLISTED PROJECTS**

**European Lawyers in Lesvos**

The European Lawyers in Lesvos (ELIL), a team of Greek asylum lawyers and volunteer European asylum lawyers, provide free, independent legal assistance to refugees on Lesvos. ELIL’s belief is that every asylum seeker should be able to receive free legal assistance from an independent lawyer experienced in asylum law before their asylum interview. So far, 156 European lawyers from 17 countries have volunteered with ELIL, and alongside its team of full-time, permanent Greek asylum lawyers, have provided free legal assistance to over 9,000 people. ELIL also helps reunite families by assisting with family reunification applications under the Dublin Regulation. In addition, ELIL provides outreach and three group legal information sessions in Moria each month, each of which is usually attended by approximately 25 people. These outreach activities and group legal information sessions are targeted to marginalized and vulnerable groups that face obstacles in accessing legal information and legal assistance, primarily unaccompanied women and unaccompanied minors. ELIL has also recently prepared a legal information leaflet in collaboration with Oxfam and the Greek Council for Refugees, which was translated into 10 languages. ELIL is currently distributing 13,000 copies of this leaflet to asylum seekers on Lesvos.
Fieldfisher, Shearman & Sterling, and Orrick and The Royal Mencap Society

The Right to Care program is a collaborative project between Mencap, an English organization supporting those with learning disabilities, and the law firms Fieldfisher, Shearman & Sterling, and Orrick. Volunteers from the firms represent vulnerable clients who have been denied state support. The project, which launched in May 2018 and remains ongoing, has achieved positive impact in two ways. The first, and most important, is enabling representation and support for vulnerable individuals across areas of law that are not covered by legal aid. In England, people with disabilities are entitled to financial assistance from the state in the form of disability benefits as well as support within the community through personal assistance, adaptations to the home, and housing. The disputes concern individuals being unlawfully denied either disability benefits or community support. By challenging these unlawful decisions, the volunteers bring an end to the financial hardship for the clients or ensure the clients are given the support they need to live an independent and fulfilled life. The project has an impressive success rate, with 83% of the disability benefits challenges and 100% of the community support challenges successfully overturned. Secondly, by increasing the numbers of clients Mencap can assist, more data can be collected as evidence that wider policy reform work is needed to challenge these issues on a larger systematic scale. Mencap is able to identify trends from this casework to pinpoint why clients routinely face the same issues and seek to address them with both local and national government. Both data and case studies from this project have been used to respond to national government consultations including the Ministry of Justice’s review of England’s legal aid project and the Department of Health and Social Care’s ongoing consultation on the future of social care in England. Data has also been used to track where unlawful policies have been implemented at a local government level.

Hogan Lovells Mexico Estandares Pro Bono Mexico Network

Lila Gasca, pro bono director at Hogan Lovells Mexico, along with the directors of three Mexican Clearinghouses—Carla Aguilar from Fundacion Barra Mexicana, Maru Cortazar and Mariana Vazquez del Mercado from Fundacion Appleseed Mexico, and Ivette Montero from Centro Mexicano Pro Bono—wrote the Pro Bono Standards Mexico and established a movement to standardize the concept of pro bono legal work and promote pro bono culture in Mexico. A large percentage of Mexico’s population is currently living under precarious circumstances due to different social, economic, and environmental deficiencies such as low income; lack of education; lack of access to basic services like healthcare, social security, and food; poor and insufficient housing; as well as lack of social cohesion. This vulnerable population does not have access to proper legal representation. This movement is the first step towards involving the legal community of this country, gathering together lawyers, law firms, in-house counsel, bar associations, law universities, and NGOs to do organized and standardized pro bono work and spread the pro bono culture throughout Mexico.
Kids in Need of Defense UK, Allen & Overy, Arnold & Porter, Covington & Burling, DLA Piper, Reed Smith, Ropes & Gray, Shearman & Sterling, Coram, and Islington Law Centre

Kids in Need of Defense UK (KIND UK) has built a network of pro bono lawyers who prepare nationality and leave-to-remain applications for undocumented children who have a right to remain in the UK. These collaborations have resulted in a 100% success rate for applications submitted to the Home Office. KIND UK and its lawyers network often provide support to communities that cannot access legal support because of cuts to legal aid and local government funding. In 2013, the scope of legal aid for immigration cases was drastically reduced in England and Wales, leaving only children with international protection claims as automatically eligible for free legal representation. To combat cuts and increased demand, KIND UK’s network of pro bono lawyers volunteer their time to improve access to justice for these vulnerable children with irregular or temporary immigration status. These children qualify for leave-to-remain under the Immigration Rules on the basis of their residence in the UK for seven continuous years and the unreasonableness of removing these children to their home country. Without this legal support to secure their right to remain, the impact on families can be devastating. KIND UK ultimately provides not only legal but also physical and emotional stability, all without the burden of additional fees.

Respect Zone Legal Aid Lawyers group (including: Nomos Law Firm, Salzer Law Firm, Mary Daphne Fishelson Avocat, Kramer Levin Paris and NYC, and Dreyfus IP Counsels)

Respect Zone is a French legal aid organization that, with the support of dozens of volunteer lawyers in three different countries, provides free legal aid for cyberviolence victims. Currently, more than 1 in 3 young people have experienced cyberthreats online. Since cyberviolence is a relatively new issue, many victims are unaware of their rights or the legal process to respond to cyberthreats. To guarantee protection for these victims, accessible and understandable support is necessary. This organization provides various tools and training programs to schools and municipalities. It has developed various easy-to-use online tools for victims of cyberbullying. With the help of over 60 legal representatives, Respect Zone can guarantee an answer for those who need it and provide legal information and documentation to educators, victims, and parents. While this project is mainly based in France, it is available to citizens of any country. Furthermore, since cyberviolence is an issue that goes beyond borders, Respect Zone advises victims wherever they may be via email and social media so that they can better understand their rights if they suffer abuse online.
What is a Pro Bono Clearinghouse?

Pro bono clearinghouses broker free advice from legal professionals for NGOs and social enterprises in need of legal assistance and foster the relationship for continued support.

What are the specific goals and principles of a clearinghouse?

• to improve access to justice
• to provide legal advice to all, regardless of race, religion, politics, background, or creed
• to promote the rule of law and the use of law as a tool to achieve social justice
• to act independently of governments, funders, law firms, NGOs, and other groups
• to raise awareness of pro bono work
• to educate people about the law and development

PILnet’s pro bono clearinghouses

PILnet’s pro bono clearinghouses work with independent NGOs to facilitate connections with law firms through its global legal network. They do this by helping NGOs pinpoint their legal needs, matching these needs with pro bono lawyers, and working with both sides to create a strategic partnership for sustained impact. The legal expertise is not limited by jurisdiction or region, as PILnet’s clearinghouses can draw on a host of legal skills from all over the world.

What kind of pro bono support is available?

Pro bono support comes in many forms and usually takes place outside of the courtroom. Pro bono projects fall into four broad categories: legal advice and advocacy; legal research; legal analysis and drafting; and legal training. NGOs might require help with a project which combines some, or all of these elements.

How do PILnet’s pro bono clearinghouses work in practice?

In order to ensure the legitimacy of the listing, PILnet’s in-house legal officers screen each NGO’s credentials. Once approved, PILnet individually works with the nonprofit to help define its legal needs. This cooperation leads to the creation of a matter, which is a short summary describing the NGO, the request, and any other pertinent information, such as the jurisdiction and the timeframe. The matters are pooled into a bi-monthly listing that is sent to all of the cooperating law firms. Once connections are made, PILnet cultivates the relationship to increase the NGO’s legal capacity to create a more sustained and strategic use of private sector legal advice.

If firms or individual lawyers want to receive the list of pro bono opportunities, PILnet will simply add their email address to the distribution list. There is no membership or other fee required. The list is open to all lawyers and law firms who want to review opportunities. For more information on clearinghouses, email clearinghouse@pilnet.org.
PILnet Clearinghouses

PILnet Hong Kong Clearinghouse | Hong Kong
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PILnet Global Clearinghouse | United States
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PILnet Eurasia Clearinghouse | United States
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Justice Connect | Australia
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<td>Alliance des Avocats pour les Droits de l’Homme</td>
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<td>i-Probono India</td>
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<td>Lembaga Bantuan Hukum Jakarta (Jakarta Legal Aid Institute)</td>
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<td>Social Corporate Law Society (SocolaS)</td>
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50 | 2019 PILnet Global Forum Singapore
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Equality and Human Rights Action Centre (ACTEDO) | Romania
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Civil Society Development Foundation | Romania
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Gyongyver Papp | PILnet: The Global Network for Public Interest Law | gypapp@pilnet.org

Pro Bono Deutschland e.V.  
Peter Braun, Speaker of the Board | Dentons | Frankfurt | info@pro-bono-deutschland.org

Hong Kong Pro Bono Roundtable  
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Hungarian Pro Bono Coordinators’ Committee  
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Tokyo Pro Bono Roundtable  
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Singapore Pro Bono Roundtable  
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Bangkok Pro Bono Roundtable  
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