2015 EUROPEAN PRO BONO FORUM

Rome
11-13 November
NH Collection Roma Vittorio Veneto
2015 European Pro Bono Forum

11–13 November
NH Collection Roma Vittorio Veneto
Rome
Welcome from PILnet’s Board of Directors

As chair of PILnet’s Board of Directors and a pro bono advocate, I warmly welcome you to PILnet’s 9th annual European Pro Bono Forum.

Over the past nine years, PILnet’s Pro Bono Forums in London, Warsaw, Madrid, Paris, Berlin and Budapest have played a major role in building support for pro bono across the continent. PILnet now brings its 2015 European Pro Bono Forum to Rome, with the goal of reinforcing the vital role that pro bono can play in addressing the serious problems that bedevil our world.
The refugee and migrant crisis. Violence against women. Human trafficking. Climate change. The closing space for civil society throughout the world. The Forum will provide all of us with opportunities to learn about, discuss and debate the ways pro bono lawyers can best contribute to ameliorating these and other problems. Through our collective efforts, we hope to spark ideas, strategies and commitments that will maximize the impact of pro bono work in Europe.

We thank our Italian hosts and applaud their energy in developing an infrastructure to encourage and facilitate pro bono in Italy.

On behalf of PILnet’s Board of Directors and staff, I wish each of you a productive and rewarding conference, and hope that you walk away inspired to apply pro bono to the justice issues that are dear to you.

Barbara Schatz
Chair of PILnet’s Board of Directors
**PILnet’s Board of Directors**

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PILnet would like to thank the Oak Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, the River Star Foundation and the Sigrid Rausing Trust, all whose generous support makes PILnet’s work possible.

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About PILnet

PILnet envisions a world where law delivers justice. We connect and equip lawyers to protect human rights, advance social justice and defend the most vulnerable.

PILnet has two core strategies: training, supporting and collaborating with public interest lawyers on a global scale and strengthening the global pro bono community. Our approach is to connect and collaborate with partners to create globally-available resources that make local public advocacy more effective. While PILnet’s reach is worldwide, our innovating strategies are driven by local actors.

Strengthening Public Interest Lawyers

PILnet strengthens the effectiveness of public interest lawyers around the world through fellowships, training programs and other special initiatives. We provide unique connections and resources to global networks of like-minded advocates. For example, our international Fellows program has transformed the lives and careers of more than 100 leading public interest lawyers from 36 countries. Our Fellows work on a wide range of issues from protecting economic and social rights, to addressing climate change, LGBTI rights and human trafficking.

Building the Global Pro Bono Community

PILnet is leading the way in a global effort to build pro bono communities locally in order to strengthen civil society and ensure access to justice. PILnet has linked together a global network of pro bono clearinghouses – including its own pioneering initiatives in Asia, Europe and West Africa – which connect law firms and corporations as pro bono service providers with NGOs and individuals in need of legal assistance. Further, PILnet widens and deepens the global pro bono community through convening annual Pro Bono Forums in Europe and Asia bringing together the key actors in those regions. As global pro bono culture grows around the world, PILnet is creating resources that make local advocacy more effective.

For more information on PILnet’s work and how to get involved, visit www.pilnet.org.
PILnet’s Pro Bono Achievements

Mobilizing pro bono resources in response to societal challenges is one of PILnet’s core strategies for expanding justice and the rule of law. This is especially true in times when we face challenges that threaten the very core of who we are as society. In 2015, the refugee and migrant crisis has accelerated the need and urgency for pro bono legal assistance across Europe and beyond. How we, as an organization, respond to these calls has the potential to define us, and the wider pro bono community, for years to come.

In 2015, PILnet’s Hungarian Clearinghouse partnered with Migration Aid and other community-based initiatives and NGOs to provide pro bono assistance to migrants and refugees in Budapest and across the country. Our Global Clearinghouse brokered pro bono support for NGOs and asylum seekers in Italy and beyond. Meanwhile, the Global Clearinghouse team re-imagined the 2015 European Pro Bono Forum to include a Europe-wide discussion on how pro bono can help alleviate the crisis and aid NGOs in their humanitarian efforts.

While—like many organizations—we have had to react to these extraordinary times, our work expanding and growing pro bono culture in Europe and around the world continued unabated. This year alone, our Clearinghouses in Hungary, Russian and Hong Kong as well as our Global Clearinghouse matched lawyers with 173 NGOs from 20 countries. These pro bono services addressed a wide variety of needs, including some of Europe’s most critical human rights issues. For example, our Global Clearinghouse sourced pro bono lawyers to monitor the trials of persecuted human rights defenders in Azerbaijan and to provide pro bono advice to help draft Slovenia’s first law on legal gender recognition.

In addition, by working with partner clearinghouses in over 30 European countries, PILnet continued to strengthen pro bono infrastructures. In 2015, we organized local pro bono roundtables that resulted in the creation of two new partner clearinghouses in Italy. Similarly, with our support, the roundtables in the Netherlands and Belgium have ramped up their pro bono engagement.

Meanwhile, the growth of pro bono in Asia is continuing to gather pace. This year’s Asia Pro Bono Forum moved to Thailand, attracting over 200 participants from over 20 different countries. The 2015 agenda that drew on the richness of the regional context, sparked pro bono discussions amongst Thai law firms and policy makers and helped civil society explore the benefits of pro bono, especially in cross-border issues like migration and anti-trafficking. Despite being one of our newest programs, our Hong Kong Clearinghouse is now the leading platform connecting NGOs with lawyers and law students who wish to pursue pro bono avenues. As of September 2015 it has helped over 55 charities and social enterprises, providing first-class assistance across the legal spectrum.
As an important development in our efforts to expand the pro bono culture and opportunities within Asia, PILnet supported the establishment of three pro bono clearinghouses in Mainland China. Zhicheng in Beijing; For NGO in Shanghai; and Wider Access to Justice in Shenzhen have already made significant progress during their short periods of operation, offering a range of legal support for local NGOs, individuals and communities.

PILnet is exceptionally proud of this work and the expansion of pro bono culture in Europe and abroad since the inaugural European Pro Bono Forum in 2007. This is why, after more than eight years of successful pro bono operation in Russia, PILnet is gearing up to stage our first Russian Pro Bono conference in the spring of 2016. The conference is designed to celebrate the pro bono movement in Moscow and St Petersburg, reflect on its evolution in the region, and act as a catalyst for new developments across other cities within the region. We look forward to supporting and growing each new pro bono community as they expand justice and the rule of law.
PILnet’s 2015 Annual Fund Supporters

PILnet extends its deepest appreciation to the law firms and corporations that make its work possible through their generous support.

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PILnet’s 2015 Pro Bono Council

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* Europe Committee
° China Committee
° PILnet Board member and Board liaison to the Pro Bono Council and its Leadership Committee
Welcome from the Forum Host Committee

It is our pleasure to welcome you to Rome, and to PILnet’s ninth annual European Pro Bono Forum.

Italy has a long tradition of human solidarity and aid to the disadvantaged. Every day, hundreds of volunteers all over the country devote a considerable amount of their time to helping others. This also holds true for those who operate in the field of law, such as NGOs, lawyers, in-house counsel, academics, law graduates and students, who willingly and regularly provide their professional assistance on a voluntary basis. Such activity can rightfully be attributed to the anglo-saxon notion of “pro bono,” although the concept is, as a formal construction, almost unknown to the legal profession as carried out in Italy.

Indeed, one of the goals of this year’s Forum is to raise awareness about the need to coordinate, both at national and international level, the efforts of law professionals engaging in the “Italian way to pro bono.” By doing so, we believe that the dramatic issues we are facing these days—not only in Italy, but in the whole of Europe and the world at large—such as human trafficking, access to information, discrimination, and access to justice, can be tackled in a more efficient and effective way.

In this context, we are excited to host PILnet’s annual European Pro Bono Forum, and trust that it will play a crucial role in achieving our goals. Hence, we expect each and every participant at the Forum to bring new ideas, discuss them with others, and help us develop strategies and methods for making pro bono grow in Italy and the rest of Europe.

PILnet and the Forum Host Committee are pleased to welcome you to the Eternal City and the European Pro Bono Forum. Take on the challenge, and put your energies to the service of a good cause, here and now.

Giovanni Carotenuto | Carotenuto Studio Legale
Stefano Macchi di Cellere | Macchi di Cellere Gangemi

On behalf of the 2015 Forum Host Committee
Forum Host Committee

Amanda Andreazza | GE Oil & Gas | Florence
Miryam Camilleri | Avvocatura per i Diritti LGBTI – Rete Lenford | Rome
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Giulia Masi | Studio Legale Giulia Masi | Rome
Carloandrea Meacci | Ashurst | Milan
Veronica Pinotti | McDermott Will & Emery | Milan
Kenneth Resnick | ATRQ Global | Florence
Francesca Rolla | Hogan Lovells | Milan
Ulrich Stege | International University College of Turin | Turin
Luca Ulissi | Freshfields | Turin

Forum Planning Committee

Amanda Andreazza | GE Oil & Gas | Italy
Jean-Luc Bedos | Dentons | France
Hubertine Bergsma | Stibbe | Netherlands
Giovanni Carotenuto | Carotenuto Studio Legale | Italy
Oliver Lewis | Mental Disability Advocacy Centre | U.K.
Stefano Macchi di Cellere | Macchi di Cellere Gangemi | U.K.
Laura Parcher Tuell | Jones Day | U.S.A.
Nicolas Patrick | DLA Piper | U.K.
Veronica Pinotti | McDermott Will & Emery | Italy
Carmen Pombo | Fundacion Fernando Pombo | Spain
David Raeburn | LawWorks | U.K.
Pro Bono Publico

La seguente definizione di pro bono publico è stata redatta e adottata al Meeting Italiano di Pro Bono Publico al fine di chiarire il significato di Pro Bono nel contesto locale e per guidare il lavoro del Meeting Italiano di Pro Bono Publico.

**Premessa**

Il termine ‘Pro Bono’ deriva dalla frase in Latino “pro bono publico” che vuole significare, attività resa, per il bene pubblico.

Vi sono differenti definizioni di Pro Bono, che dipendono dalla storia e dal sistema giuridico di ciascun paese e dalle norme deontologiche cui sono soggetti gli scritti alla professione legale, e secondo i compiti che si prefiggono le organizzazioni che promuovono servizi legali nell’interesse pubblico per chi è bisognoso.

Il nostro intento non è quello di trovare una definizione di Pro Bono che possa essere universalmente accettata, ma riteniamo utile descrivere gli scopi e i limiti dell’attività legale che gli avvocati italiani, iscritti negli ordini professionali, possono decidere volontariamente di perseguire, individualmente o in forma associata, a beneficio di enti meritevoli di ricevere supporto legale o di persone che non possono permettersi di pagare l’assistenza legale o non abbiano diritto al patrocinio gratuito.

Tale attività, che consideriamo compresa nella definizione di Pro Bono che PILnet appoggia, si vuole che escluda qualunque assistenza legale fornita da un avvocato a fini di lucro, e qualunque prestazione resa ai sensi delle norme sul gratuito patrocinio che assicurano accesso alla giustizia, e non deve essere confusa con i servizi di beneficenza in genere, sponsorizzazione, raccolta fondi, o sostegno finanziario a organizzazioni che forniscono servizi legali a persone con mezzi limitati.

**Definizione**

Con attività Pro Bono s’intende la prestazione lavorativa strettamente volontaria, resa non a fini di lucro ma gratuitamente, che un avvocato svolge facendo affidamento sulle sue capacità professionali, secondo le sue inclinazioni personali, su base non discriminatoria, sotto la sua valutazione e responsabilità, in ottemperanza, tra gli altri, delle leggi, regolamenti e norme deontologiche applicabili che disciplinano lo svolgimento dell’assistenza e consulenza legale e la rappresentanza in giudizio, a favore di:

A) Organizzazioni nonprofit, cooperative e imprese sociali, organizzazioni non governative, ed enti pubblici o privati, che hanno come finalità:

- l’assistenza a persone in ambito sanitario, sociale, ambientale, educativo o culturale; e/o
- garantire l’accesso alla giustizia; e/o
- il beneficio dei beni comuni o azioni per la comunità; e/o
- promuovere il progresso del bene pubblico in generale;
B) Soggetti svantaggiati che:

- non hanno mezzi economici sufficienti per pagare i normali onorari necessari ad ottenere il livello di assistenza legale indipendente e senza compromessi del quale hanno bisogno; e/o
- non soddisfano i requisiti per avvalersi del patrocinio gratuito, o comunque non hanno modo di adire tribunali o avere accesso alla giustizia.

Dal carattere gratuito della prestazione Pro Bono consegue che ai clienti non viene addebitata parcella per i compensi degli avvocati, così come le spese ordinarie (come ad es., fotocopie, fax, telefonate e corrispondenza postale) sostenute nel corso della prestazione professionale resa, ad eccezione delle spese straordinarie (come ad es., spese di viaggio, corrieri espressi o mezzi di indagine e ricerca), che saranno sostenute dai legali con il preventivo assenso del cliente.
The following definition of pro bono has been drafted and adopted by the Italian Pro Bono Roundtable to clarify what pro bono means in the local context and to guide the work of the Roundtable.

**Premise**

The term “pro bono” originates from the Latin phrase “pro bono publico” which means, activity carried out, for the public good.

There are different definitions of pro bono, depending on each country’s history and legal system, the bar rules applicable to the members of the legal profession, and the aims of the organizations that are promoting public interest legal work for those in need.

It is not our intent to find a definition of pro bono that can be universally accepted. We deemed it helpful, however, to describe the purpose and boundaries of certain legal activities which Italian lawyers, as members of the local bars, may voluntarily decide to carry out—as a sole practitioner or in associated form, for the benefit of entities worthy of receiving legal support, or for individuals that cannot afford paying for their legal assistance, or for those who may not be eligible to receive legal aid.

This activity, which we consider to fall under the definition of pro bono espoused by PILnet, is intended to exclude any legal assistance provided by a lawyer for profit, any activity already regulated by applicable laws and falling under a governmental system of “legal aid” granting access to justice, and shall not be confused with any generic charitable service, sponsorship, funding or financial support to organizations that provides legal services to persons of limited means.

**Definition**

Pro bono activity shall mean the strictly voluntary, not-for-profit and free professional activity that lawyers undertake that rely on their legal skills, according to their personal beliefs, on a non-discriminatory basis, under their personal judgment and responsibility, and in compliance with, inter alia, the applicable laws, regulations and bar rules governing the performance of legal advice, assistance and representation, in favor of:

A) Nonprofit organizations, social cooperatives and enterprises, non-governmental organizations, and private or public entities, having as their purpose:
   - the pursuit of health, social, environmental, educational or cultural assistance to people; and/or
   - ensuring access to justice; or
   - the benefit of the common good or actions for the community; and/or
   - promoting the progress of the public good in general;
B) Disadvantaged individuals that:
   - do not have sufficient economic means to pay customary fees for independent and uncompromised quality legal assistance that they may be in need of; and/or
   - have no access to legal aid or to the courts and the legal system.

The gratuitous character of the pro bono activity means that clients are not charged lawyers’ fees, nor ordinary expenses (e.g., photocopying, fax, telephone and mail) incurred from the performance of the professional activity required, except for extraordinary costs (e.g., travel expenses, express couriers and legal investigation or search tools), which are incurred by lawyers, with the prior consent of the client.
General Information

Conference Venue
NH Collection Roma Vittorio Veneto Hotel
Corso D’Italia, 1 | Rome, Lazio 00198 | Italy
Tel: +39 02 8736 8144

PILnet Mobile Contact Number  +36 20 569 7170

Social Events
All Forum participants are welcome to attend the following social events:

• Wednesday, 11 November | 19:00 – 21:00
  Forum Welcome Reception & Documentary Film Screening of *Closed Sea*
  ZaLab | Via Nino Bixio, 80/a | Rome, Italy

• Thursday, 12 November | 19:00 – 22:00
  Pro Bono Awards Dinner
  Parco dei Pricipi Grand Hotel & Spa | Via G. Frescobaldi, 5 | Rome, Italy

Please note that transport is not provided. The ZaLab is approximately a 20-minute metro ride from the Forum venue. Parco dei Pricipi Grand Hotel & Spa is approximately a 20-minute walk from the Forum venue.

Twitter
Conference participants are encouraged to tweet, using the hashtag #ProBonoForum. The Chatham House rule applies.

Certificate of Attendance
To receive a certificate of attendance, please ask at the registration desk or email Nina Kalandadze, Director of Digital Communications, at nkalandadze@pilnet.org

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

Internet Access
There is complimentary Internet access at the NH Collection Roma Vittorio Veneto Hotel; select the public connection.

Forum Mobile App
You can review the full Forum agenda on your phone at http://m.twoppy.com/pilnet or by scanning the QR code.
2015 European Pro Bono Forum Sponsors

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## Summary Agenda

All sessions will take place at the NH Collection Roma Vittorio Veneto Hotel unless otherwise noted.

**Location:**  
**NH Collection Roma Vittorio Veneto Hotel**  
Corso D’Italia, 1 | Rome, Lazio 00198 | Italy

Simultaneous translation English/Italian and Italian/English will be available for sessions marked with the 🎤 symbol.

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<tr>
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<td><strong>11 November 2015</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00–17:00</td>
<td>Global Meeting of Pro Bono Clearinghouses <em>(by invitation)</em></td>
<td>DLA Piper</td>
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<td>17:30–18:30</td>
<td>Meeting of PILnet’s Pro Bono Leadership Committee <em>(by invitation)</em></td>
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<td>16:00–18:00</td>
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| 19:00–21:00   | **WELCOME RECEPTION**  
A screening of the award-winning ZaLab documentary *Closed Sea* | ZaLab Cinema  
Via Nino Bixio 80/a  
00185 Rome |

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<td>08:00–17:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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| 09:00–11:00   | **OPENING PLENARY**  
Keynote speeches  
Panel Discussion: Responding to the Refugee Crisis in Europe | Sala Botticelli                                |
|               | **WORKSHOP SESSION 1**  
Pro Bono in Italy I: The Current State of Play 🎤  
The Middle East and North Africa at the Heart of the Refugee Crisis  
Freedom of Movement in Europe for LGBT Families  
The Global Goals and What They Mean for Your Pro Bono Practice | Sala Botticelli  
Sala Raffaello  
Sala Puccini  
Sala Verdi |
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<td>12:35–13:30</td>
<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 2</td>
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<td>Pro Bono in Italy II – Next Steps</td>
<td>Sala Botticelli</td>
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<td>Addressing the Refugee Crisis: the Perspective of South &amp; Central Europe</td>
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<td>Pro Bono: Not Just for Lawyers</td>
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<td>Advancing the Rule of Law Through Pro Bono: A Case Study on Sierra Leone</td>
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<td>13:30–14:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 3</td>
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<td>NGO Pitches: Focus on Italy</td>
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<td>NGO Pitches: International Opportunities</td>
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<td>Masterclass: Organizing a One-Day Pro Bono Marathon</td>
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<td>Masterclass: Communicating the Impact of Pro Bono</td>
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<td>Assessing the Impact of European Court of Human Rights Judgments on Italian Law</td>
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<td>Pro Bono for Access to Justice: A Case Study on Statelessness in Italy</td>
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<td>What’s Next for Climate Change Litigation?</td>
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<td>Combating Violence Against Women: What Can Pro Bono Lawyers Do?</td>
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<td>16:15–16:35</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 5</td>
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<td>Precautionary Detention and Family Rights in Italy</td>
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<td>Developing Collaborative Models for Transactional Pro Bono to Assist NGOs</td>
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<td>Pro Bono Partnerships that Advance Human Rights Through Litigation and Advocacy</td>
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<td>What Does Pro Bono Impact Look Like?</td>
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<td>19:00–22:00</td>
<td>PILNET PRO BONO AWARDS DINNER</td>
<td>Parco dei Principi Grand Hotel &amp; SPA, Via G. Frescobaldi, 5 00198 Rome</td>
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<td>08:00–10:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>NH Hotel Roma Vittorio Veneto</td>
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<td>09:00–10:00</td>
<td><strong>OPENING PLENARY</strong>&lt;br&gt;Keynote Speeches&lt;br&gt;SparkTalks: Human Trafficking</td>
<td>Sala Botticelli</td>
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<td>10:00–11:00</td>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 6</strong>&lt;br&gt;Pro Bono in Europe—Meet the Clearinghouses</td>
<td>Sala Botticelli</td>
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<td>Anti-Trafficking &amp; Pro Bono: Advocacy Strategies and Challenges</td>
<td>Sala Raffaello</td>
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<td>Legal Clinics I: Instilling Social Responsibility in Future Lawyers</td>
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<td>Developing Pro Bono in MENA</td>
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<td>11:00–11:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>11:30–12:30</td>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 7</strong>&lt;br&gt;War and Peace: A Collaborative Response to Legal Questions Arising from Conflict</td>
<td>Sala Botticelli</td>
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<td>Training Lawyers to Deliver Legal Services to Asylum Seekers</td>
<td>Sala Raffaello</td>
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<td>Legal Clinics II: Collaborative Strategies for Tackling Issues of Social Justice in Italy</td>
<td>Sala Puccini</td>
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<td>Closing Space for Civil Society</td>
<td>Sala Verdi</td>
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<td>12:30–13:15</td>
<td><strong>CLOSING PLENARY</strong>&lt;br&gt;Spark Talk: The Psychology of Pro Bono Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Sala Botticelli</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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PILnet’s 2015 European Pro Bono Forum Agenda
ROME, 11–13 NOVEMBER 2015

Wednesday, 11 November

The following events are by invitation only:

09:00 – 17:00  **Global Meeting of Pro Bono Clearinghouses**
Location: DLA Piper
Studio Legale Tributario Associati
Via dei Due Macelli 66 | 00187 Rome

17:30 – 18:30  **Meeting of PILnet’s Pro Bono Leadership Committee**
Location: Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
Piazza della Croce Rossa, 2 | 00161 Rome

Open to all Forum registrants:

16:00 – 18:00  **Registration Open**
Location: NH Hotel Roma Vittorio Veneto
Corso D’Italia, 1 | 00198 Rome

19:00 – 21:00  **Forum Welcome Reception**
Location: ZaLab Cinema
Via Nino Bixio 80/a | 00185 Rome

A screening of the award-winning ZaLab documentary *Closed Sea*—which follows a group of African refugees and migrants in their journey from Libya to Italy, and the treatment they receive from authorities as they are “pushed back” to Libya. This documentary exemplifies the experience of thousands of refugees and enables a better understanding of why this crisis is happening, and the risks facing refugees in their countries of origin and passage.
Thursday, 12 November

Simultaneous translation English/Italian and Italian/English will be available for sessions marked with the symbol.

Registration and all workshops will take place at: NH Hotel Roma Vittorio Veneto Corso D’Italia, 1 00198 Rome

08:00 – 17:00  Registration Open

09:00 – 11:00  Opening Plenary  Sala Botticelli

Opening Speakers:
- Atanas Politov | PILnet | Hungary
- Marianne McKeown | PILnet | U.K.
- Mauro Vaglio | Council of the Bar Association of Rome | Italy
- Irene Khan | International Development Law Organisation | U.K.

Panel Discussion: Responding to the Refugee Crisis in Europe
Refugee and migration experts will offer an introduction to the multi-faceted issues surrounding the refugee crisis, and discuss how pro bono lawyers can and should respond.

Facilitator:
- Habib Nassar | PILnet | U.S.A.

Speakers:
- Mulham Al-Jundi | World Vision | Turkey
- Roberto Barbieri | Oxfam International | Italy
- Luca Masera | Associazone per gli Studi Giuridici sull’Immigrazione | Italy
- Marta Pardavi | Hungarian Helsinki Committee | Hungary
- Nicolas Patrick | DLA Piper | U.K.

11:00 – 11:30  Coffee Break
WORKSHOP SESSION 1

Pro Bono in Italy I: The Current State of Play

What pro bono is already being done in Italy and who is delivering it? Who is receiving it? What are the cultural, political and practical challenges of building up a pro bono practice for law firms in Italy? Who are the NGOs and individuals that really need pro bono help and how can they access it? What good models of pro bono practice and partnership already exist? This workshop will answer all of these questions and more, providing participants with a panorama of the pro bono landscape in Italy.

Moderator:
- Giovanni Carotenuto | Carotenuto Studio Legale | Italy

Speakers:
- Giusy D’Alconzo | Save the Children | Italy
- Stefano Greco | Studio Legale Schiavetti, Greco, Pignotti & Popolizio | Italy
- Marina Ingrasci | Avvocati Per Niente | Italy
- Carloandrea Meacci | Ashurst | Italy

The Middle East and North Africa at the Heart of the Refugee Crisis

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region concurrently represents points of origin, transit and destination for migration. Earlier this year, the number of refugees fleeing Syria to neighboring countries passed four million, triggering the world’s largest humanitarian crisis since World War II. Five countries alone—Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt—are host to 95% of these refugees. A large number are leaving for Europe, where they are potentially exposed to violence, discrimination and exploitation. Speakers will provide firsthand knowledge of the threats facing refugees and migrants, which will facilitate discussion on what action can be taken, the role pro bono lawyers can play in addressing challenges, as well as the gaps in relation to the protection of migrants and refugees across the Mediterranean.

Moderator:
- Nizar Saghieh | Legal Agenda | Lebanon
Freedom of Movement in Europe for LGBT Families

Sala Puccini

Freedom of movement is a core principle of the European Union but it is not the reality for many LGBT families. The legal position of same-sex partnerships and parental rights, as well as the treatment of transgender individuals and parents, is inconsistent across EU member states, meaning that LGBT couples that move between countries may not have their partnership and/or parental rights recognized in another EU country. This workshop offers a chance to discuss how lawyers can play a role in fighting for the rights to family and freedom of movement for the LGBT community in Europe.

Moderator:
• Ferdinando Poscio | Clifford Chance | Italy

Speakers:
• Maria von Kanel | Network of European LGBT Families Association | Switzerland
• Alexander Schuster | University of Trento | Italy
• Matteo Winkler | HEC Paris | France

The Global Goals and What They Mean for Your Pro Bono Practice

Sala Verdi

In January 2016 the Sustainable Development Goals, now known as the Global Goals, will come into force, replacing the Millennium Development Goals. UN member states will be expected to use this new, universal set of 17 goals to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years. This workshop will give a short introduction to the Global Goals and how they will influence the shape and priorities of law firm pro bono practice in the coming years.

Moderator:
• Yasmin Batliwala | Advocates for International Development | U.K.
Speakers:

- **Erwin van der Borght** | International Development Law Organisation | U.K.
- **Claire Fourel** | Ashurst | U.K.
- **Joss Saunders** | Oxfam International | U.K.
- **Suzanne Turner** | Dechert | U.S.A.

**WORKSHOP SESSION 2**

**Pro Bono in Italy II: Next Steps**

Sala Botticelli

Following on from Pro Bono in Italy I, this session offers a chance to discuss what the pro bono community in Italy should focus on over the coming months and years in order to strengthen and expand the local culture of pro bono. Individual lawyers, law firms, companies, NGOs, law schools and bar associations all have a role to play and this workshop will explore how each of these stakeholders can work together to instil pro bono commitment within the legal profession.

**Moderator:**

- **Stefano Macchi di Cellere** | Macchi di Cellere Gangemi | U.K.

**Speakers:**

- **Alberto Cuomo** | Coordinamento Nazionale dei Centri di Servizio per il volontariato | Italy
- **Giovanni Lega** | Associazione degli Studi Legali Associati | Italy
- **Andrea Menapace** | Italian Coalition for Civil Rights and Freedoms | Italy
- **Vinicio Trombetti** | Jones Day | Italy

**Addressing the Refugee Crisis: Perspectives of South & Central Europe**

Sala Raffaello

Undocumented migrants who are unable to receive early legal advice or, as is often the case, legal assistance at all, are significantly hampered in their search for protection and justice. This workshop will explore the limited reception and protection capacities of Southern and Central European countries against a large number of arrivals, respective Member States’ obligations, and efficiency of their legal redress mechanisms. It will also highlight litigation and legal advice.
opportunities that pro bono lawyers can pursue in order to ensure the rights of undocumented migrants, and underscore the need for constructive cooperation between legal practitioners, pro bono experts and civil society organizations to achieve this aim.

Moderator:
- Julia Zelvenska | European Council on Refugees and Exiles | Belgium

Speakers:
- Maria Manieri | Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants | Belgium
- Luca Masera | Associazone per gli Studi Giuridici sull’Immigrazione | Italy
- Marta Pardavi | Hungarian Helsinki Committee | Hungary

Pro Bono: Not Just for Lawyers

Sala Puccini

Sponsored by Freshfields Bruckhaus & Deringer

Legal pro bono is only the tip of the iceberg. The needs of NGOs extend far beyond their legal needs; they also need help marketing themselves, drafting fundraising strategies, branding themselves and building a website. At the same time, more than half of all staff at some large law firms are not lawyers. Meanwhile, a rapidly growing network of clearinghouses are beginning to connect this supply and demand. Join this workshop to hear how law firms and clearinghouses can increase their support to NGOs by offering a wide range of professional skills-based pro bono.

Moderator:
- Ariana Gonzalez | Taproot Foundation | U.S.A.

Speakers:
- Claire Everest | Freshfields Buckhaus Deringer | U.K.
- Sandra Meyer | Proboneo | Germany

Advancing the Rule of Law Through Pro Bono: A Case Study on Sierra Leone

Sala Verdi

A properly functioning legal system is fundamental to the development of peaceful, inclusive and prosperous societies. This workshop will focus on the ways in which law firms can work
together with NGOs and governments to develop programs that have real impact in reducing poverty, promoting the rule of law and providing greater access to justice. It will discuss the successes, challenges and lessons learned by international law firm Herbert Smith Freehills in establishing and running their Fair Deal Sierra Leone program as one example of an initiative which uses the law to build capacity and advance sustainable international development.

**Moderator:**
- Ade Daramy | Sierra Leone Diaspora Network | U.K.

**Speakers:**
- Susan Hazledine | International Senior Lawyers Project | U.K.
- Richard Honey | Sierra Leone Pro Bono Network | U.K.
- Rebecca Perlman | Herbert Smith Freehills | U.K.

**WORKSHOP SESSION 3**

**NGO Pitches: Focus on Italy**

Listen to pitches made by representatives of three amazing NGOs working at the coalface of human rights and access to justice in Italy and hear why your law firm, NGO, company or university should get involved.

**Moderator:**
- Henrique Nobre | PILnet | U.K.

**Speakers:**
- Michela Manente | On The Road Onlus | Italy
- Susanna Marietti | Antigone | Italy
- Guido Romeo | Diritto di Sapere | Italy

**NGO Pitches: International Opportunities**

Listen to pitches made by representatives of three new projects that are taking an innovative approach to advancing human rights internationally and hear why your law firm, NGO, company or university should get involved.
Moderator:

- **Marieke Spee** | Stibbe | Netherlands

Speakers:

- **Alberto Alemanno** | The Good Lobby | France

  *The Good Lobby operates a new clearinghouse that offers multi-disciplinary professional support to NGOs in Europe in order to build their capacity and strengthen their voice when advocating before EU institutions.*

- **Gearoid O’Cuinn** | Global Legal Action Network | U.K.

  *The Global Legal Action Network launches innovative collaborative legal actions to challenge injustice around the world.*

- **Joss Saunders** | Lawyers Against Poverty | U.K.

- **Joanna Salsbury** | Lawyers Against Poverty | U.K.

  *Lawyers Against Poverty is a scheme enabling the legal community to help fight the injustice of poverty.*

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**Masterclass: Organizing a One-Day Pro Bono Marathon**

Sala Puccini

You don’t need to be a runner to participate in a pro bono marathon. These events bring together volunteers with a range of talents and specializations with the goal of solving an NGO problem within a 12 or 24 hour timeframe. This model has the benefit of delivering a large volume of work for NGOs needing a tight turnaround, while also providing an excellent team-building opportunity. Learn how your law firm, clearinghouse or NGO can use the marathon model to boost your pro bono performance.

**Speaker:**

- **Ariana Gonzalez** | Taproot Foundation | U.S.A.

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**Masterclass: Communicating the Impact of Pro Bono**

Sala Verdi

Outstanding pro bono work is being done by lawyers and clearinghouses across the world but how effective can this work be if it is not communicated to a wider audience? Lawyers and NGOs can use simple, quick communication tools to communicate their work, mission and message. Participants in this workshop will gain an understanding of the various traditional and social media methods that can be used to promote pro bono work and boost their
media profile, including practical examples of what works and what doesn’t. Participants will also learn about what journalists look for in a good pro bono story.

**Speakers:**
- Serena Grant | Trustlaw | U.K.
- Lauren Meyer | Trustlaw | U.K.
- Jo Weiss | White & Case | U.S.A.

### WORKSHOP SESSION 4

**Assessing the Impact of European Court of Human Rights Judgments on Italian Law**

Sala Botticelli

Out of the 47 states party to the European Convention on Human Rights, Italy has one of the highest number of judgments against it and, in parallel, one of worst records of implementing judgments. What does it mean for human rights and access to justice when the international arbiter of human rights lacks power and influence? In this workshop experts will explore the relationship that Italy has with the European Court of Human Rights and discuss how lawyers and human rights advocates can bring the court’s judgments to life in Italy.

**Moderator:**
- Anton Giulio Lana | Studio Lana Lagostena Bassi | Italy

**Speakers:**
- Francesco Crisafulli | European Committee on Legal Cooperation | Italy
- Andrea Saccucci | Saccucci Fares & Partners | Italy

**Pro Bono for Access to Justice: A Case Study on Statelessness in Italy**

Sala Raffaelo

At least 10 million people worldwide, 15 000 in Italy, continue to suffer the privations of living a life without a nationality for a variety of reasons: emergence of new states, transfers of territory between existing states and irregular migration. Statelessness has serious consequences for people; they are denied identity documents, employment, education and access to health services. There is a
growing international consensus acknowledging the need to protect the stateless people and a pro bono movement to bridge the access to justice gap. DLA Piper and the Italian Refugee Council set up a "Statelessness Legal Clinic" to help stateless people gain access to recognition and legal stay in Italy. The session aims to increase the visibility of the rights violations that undocumented and stateless people suffer as well as the possible solutions pro bono can bring.

**Moderator:**
- **Ozgur Kahale** | DLA Piper | France

**Speakers:**
- **Helena Behr** | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees | Italy
- **Ilaria Curti** | DLA Piper | Italy
- **Daniela Di Rado** | Italian Refugee Council | Italy
- **Sandokan Halivovic** | Stateless applicant | Italy

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**What’s Next for Climate Change Litigation**

Sala Puccini

In June 2015, a Dutch court ruled that its government is in breach of its legal duty to protect its citizens from the dangers of man-made climate change. The court combined this duty with well-established science to order the government to achieve emissions reductions far greater than it originally planned. The “Urgenda case” is, therefore, a watershed moment. The principle that governments have such a duty, and that citizens can hold them to account for it, is a potential game-changer following years of talk but little action in response to the climate crisis. In this workshop, leading experts in the field will discuss what’s next for climate change litigation.

**Moderator:**
- **Nick Flynn** | Avaaz | U.K.

**Speakers:**
- **Dennis van Berkel** | Urgenda | Netherlands
- **Gillian Lobo** | Client Earth | U.K.
- **Jasper Tuelings** | Green Peace | Netherlands
Combating Violence Against Women: What Can Pro Bono Lawyers Do?

Sala Verdi

Sponsored by Freshfields Bruckhaus & Deringer

Violence against women and girls is one of the world’s endemic human rights problems that shows no distinction between race, religion and social status. It is the one issue that resonates if you are a lawyer in South Africa or in London, or a survivor in the U.S. or in India. Yet it remains a topic that is unrepresented in our pro bono programs. We hope this session will change that.

Moderator:
- Clarissa O’Callaghan | Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer | U.K.

Speakers:
- Jane Gordon | Sisters for Change | U.K.
- Karen Ingala Smith | U.K.
- Fatima Laher | Bowman Gillfillan | South Africa

16:15 – 16:35
Coffee Break

16:35 – 17:30
WORKSHOP SESSION 5

Precautionary Detention and Family Rights in Italy

Sala Botticelli

Precautionary detention is one of the most sensitive and problematic issues in Italian justice and criminal procedure. The procedure is abused by prosecutors while individuals are kept in inhuman conditions and families are torn apart. There is appetite for reform but there is still much to be done to highlight the range of family rights being violated under the current system. Lawyers, as part of their pro bono practice, can help. This workshop will explore how lawyers, NGOs and victims can work together to challenge and reform the current legal framework for precautionary detention.

Moderator:
- Jean-Paule Castagno | Clifford Chance | Italy
Developing Collaborative Models for Transactional Pro Bono to Assist NGOs

Sala Raffaello

NGOs have the ability to multiply the impact in communities if they are able to operate effectively and within the legal context. Collaborative partnerships which match NGO legal needs with expert lawyers from law firms and corporations enable nonprofits to focus their energies and resources on the goals of their work. Pro bono is evolving in this sector; more and more law firms and corporations are operating globally and are prepared to partner to achieve the goals of the nonprofits. The purpose of this workshop is to introduce and develop models for successful transactional pro bono, brainstorm best practices and engage a variety of sectors in thinking about how to collaborate, including nonprofits, law firms, in-house counsel and law schools.

Moderator:

• Marcia Levy | Pro Bono Partnership | U.S.A.

Speakers:

• Amanda Andreazza | GE Oil & Gas | Italy
• Anna Collignon | Stibbe | Netherlands
• Ana Higuera | Fundacion Fernando Pombo | Spain
• John Sander | Jackson Lewis | U.S.A.
materials. Learn the most effective ways to utilize the resources of a global law firm, the management of a pro bono project across multinational offices, and best practices for NGO supervision.

**Moderator:**
- Rupert Skilbeck | Open Society Justice Initiative | U.K.

**Speakers:**
- Tom Dunn | Clifford Chance | U.K.
- Leah Hoctor | Center for Reproductive Rights | Switzerland
- Adam Weiss | European Roma Rights Centre | Hungary
- Paul Yates | Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer | U.K.

**What Does Pro Bono Impact Look Like?**

Sala Verdi

We are all trying to make a difference through our pro bono programs, be it as a provider, a broker or a recipient. But how do we quantify impact and how do we measure change? This workshop will explore a few different approaches to this question. It will look at how law firms in the U.K. are working together to increase the impact that pro bono is having on access to justice through the Collaborative Plan. It will examine the impact of pro bono on the beneficiary NGO or individual. And it will explore what insight statistics and impact measurement matrixes can provide.

**Moderator:**
- Sarah Morton-Ramwell | Ashurst | Australia

**Speakers:**
- Lara Adamson | Linklaters | U.K.
- Serena Grant | Trustlaw | U.K.
- David Hillard | Clayton Utz | Australia
- Tammy Taylor | Pro Bono Institute | U.S.A.

**PRO BONO AWARDS DINNER**

Sponsored by White & Case

*Location:* Parco dei Principi Grand Hotel & SPA
Via G. Frescobaldi, 5 | 00198 Rome
Friday, 13 November

Registration and all workshops will take place at: NH Hotel Roma Vittorio Veneto
Corso D’Italia, 1 | 00198 Rome

08:00 – 10:00

Registration Open

09:00 – 10:00

Opening Plenary

Sponsored by DLA Piper

Opening Speakers:
- Marianne McKeown | PILnet | U.K.
- Maria Grazia Giammarinaro | U.N. Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children | Italy

Spark Talks: Human Trafficking

Short stimulating talks that will shed a light on the human trafficking pandemic and inspire action to combat it.

Speakers:
- Princess Okokon Inyang | Progetto Integrazione Accoglienza Migranti | Italy
- Archana Kotecha | Liberty Asia | Hong Kong

10:00 – 11:00

WORKSHOP SESSION 6

Pro Bono in Europe—Meet the Clearinghouses

Sponsored by Dentons

The European Pro Bono Alliance is a network of pro bono clearinghouses and initiatives in Europe, working together to strengthen pro bono cultures across the continent. Come to this meet-and-greet session to hear what pro bono looks like from Ireland to Turkey and everywhere in between. National clearinghouses will be on hand to talk about where they work, how they work and what local opportunities there are for pro bono lawyers in their jurisdiction.

Moderator:
- Lorna Kralik | PILnet | Hungary
Speakers:

- Tamas Barabas | PILnet | Hungary
- Martin Barnes | LawWorks | U.K.
- Lucia Borovska | Pontis Foundation | Slovakia
- Simona Constantinescu | Civil Society Development Foundation | Romania
- Alberto Cuomo | Coordinamento Nazionale dei Centri di Servizio per il volontariato | Italy
- Filip Czenicki | Pro Bono Centrum | Poland
- Idil Elveris | Bilgi University | Turkey
- Floris van Hees | Pro Bono Connect | Netherlands
- Sandra Meyer | Proboneo | Germany
- Teresa Morais Leitao | Pro Bono Portugal | Portugal
- Grazia Parisi | Italian Coalition for Civil Rights and Freedoms | Italy
- Carmen Pombo Morales | Fundacion Fernando Pombo | Spain
- Mykola Sioma | Ukrainian Legal Aid Foundation | Ukraine
- Eamonn Tansey | Public Interest Law Alliance | Ireland
- Noanne Tenneson | Alliance of Lawyers for Human Rights | France

Anti-Trafficking & Pro Bono: Advocacy Strategies and Challenges
Sala Raffaello

Trafficked individuals are among the most vulnerable populations today, and one that exists in virtually every country in the world. This panel will help distinguish between migrants and victims of trafficking—those who are also smuggled across borders, but further exploited for profit without consent. They will introduce advocacy strategies designed with the complex needs of trafficked victims in mind, examine the factors that contribute to the unique legal challenges, and share opportunities for lawyers to contribute positively to the movement.

Moderator:

- Miriam Buhl | Weil Gotshal & Manges | U.S.A.

Speakers:

- Rene Kathawala | Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe | U.S.A.
- Archana Kotecha | Liberty Asia | Hong Kong
- Paula Riedemann | Ban Ying | Germany
- Marjan Wijers | Human Rights Research & Consultancy | Netherlands

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Legal Clinics I: Instilling Social Responsibility in Future Lawyers

Sala Puccini

Universities across Europe are waking up to the potential that student legal clinics can play in cultivating the next generation of socially responsible lawyers and also in addressing current critical issues of social justice. This workshop, the first of two sessions devoted to the clinical legal education model, will provide an overview of the development of legal clinics across Europe and explore how to deepen collaboration between law schools, bar associations and law firms.

**Moderator:**
- Atanas Politov | PILnet | Hungary

**Speakers:**
- Ufuk Aydin | Anadolu University in Eskisehir | Turkey
- Filip Czernicki | Polish Legal Clinics Foundation | Poland
- Jose Garcia Anon | Generalitat Valenciana | Spain
- Ulrich Stege | International University College of Turin | Italy
- Maurizio Veglio | Associazione Studi Giuridici sull’Immigrazione | Italy

Developing Pro Bono in MENA

Sala Verdi

This workshop will explore the current context, challenges and opportunities for promoting access to justice and pro bono in the MENA region. This discussion-based session will bring together representatives from civil society and international law firms to start a dialogue on how to best promote a pro bono culture in the MENA region and to exchange knowledge and information on similar experiences in other parts of world.

**Moderator:**
- Maysa Zorob | PILnet | U.S.A.

**Speakers:**
- Sylvain Aoust | Allen & Overy | Morocco
- Margaret Cole | White & Case | U.A.E.
- Ramzi Kassem | City University of New York | U.S.A.
- Nizar Saghieh | Legal Agenda | Lebanon

11:00 – 11:30

**Coffee Break**
Workshop Session 7

War and Peace: A Collaborative Response to Legal Questions Arising from Conflict

Sala Botticelli

Media reports show us the humanitarian and economic consequences of war and conflict around the world on a daily basis. As individuals we cannot fail to be moved. As lawyers, we also view it through a legal lens. We might ask: what does access to justice look like for those seeking accountability for war crimes? How can reliable evidence be gathered in the chaos of war? Is it truly possible to re-establish the rule of law in post-conflict jurisdictions? This workshop will provide examples of how law firms are working with NGOs to offer a collaborative response to these and other questions.

Moderator:
• Helen Rogers | Allen & Overy | U.K.

Speakers:
• Wendy Betts | International Bar Association | U.K.
• Susan Hazledine | International Senior Lawyers Project | U.K.
• Mark Lattimer | Ceasefire Centre for Civilian Justice | U.K.

Training Lawyers to Deliver Legal Services to Asylum Seekers

Sala Raffaello

Latham & Watkins

Sponsored by Latham & Watkins

For the individuals and families seeking protection, the asylum procedure may be the most important process they experience in their lifetime. Due to the potentially irreversible consequences of erroneous decisions, quality legal aid for asylum seekers is needed to ensure that those in need of international protection are recognized as such. As asylum claims in Europe are increasingly being processed through sophisticated and complex legal procedures, the importance of legal representation and assistance in guiding asylum seekers through these processes is crucial. This workshop will highlight successful pro bono partnerships which have been used to deliver legal services to asylum seekers. It will show attendees how best to utilize their resources and build effective, long-term relationships between global law firms and NGOs.
Legal Clinics II: Collaborative Strategies for Tackling Issues of Social Justice in Italy

Sala Puccini

There are a growing number of Italian university-based legal clinics, which are working to advance social justice issues in Italy. Their main focus is to sensitize the students as future professionals to the problems of social justice, foster their sense of social responsibility and to provide much-needed pro bono legal support to under-represented individuals and organizations, in cooperation with other social justice actors, including pro bono lawyers, NGOs and foundations. This workshop will look at the impact of law clinics on social justice in Italy today and on exploring how the cooperation with other social justice actors can be improved.

Moderator:
• Ulrich Stege | International University College of Turin | Italy

Speakers:
• Sofia Ciuffoletti | University of Florence | Italy
• Maria Rosaria Marella | University of Perugia | Italy
• Francesco Rizzi | University of Brescia | Italy
• Mirko Sossai | University of Roma Tre | Italy

Closing Space for Civil Society

Sala Verdi

In countries around the globe, human rights advocacy is under threat. But today, instead of torture, tear gas and bullets, governments are using NGO regulations to cut off funding and drain their capacity to work effectively to defend basic rights. This style of bureaucratic repression has spread rapidly—more than 50 countries adopted new restrictions on how foreign and domestic NGOs operate between 2012 and 2014. The panel will examine this disturbing trend from a global perspective as well as through the
eyes of two public interest lawyers working in increasingly difficult environments as they advance human rights and the rule of law in their home countries.

**Moderator:**
- Edwin Rekosh | PILnet | U.S.A.

**Speakers:**
- Julie Broome | Sigrid Rausing Trust | U.K.
- Eleonora Davidyan | human rights lawyer | Russia
- Balazs Denes | Open Society Foundations | Hungary
- Oanh Ngo | Judicial Academy | Vietnam

**CLOSING PLENARY**

Sala Botticelli

**Spark Talk: The Psychology of Pro Bono**
- Amy Heading | DLA Piper | U.K.

**Closing Remarks**
- Giovanni Carotenuto | Carotenuto Studio Legale | Italy
- Stefano Macchi di Cellere | Macchi di Cellere Gangemi | U.K.
- Marianne McKeown | PILnet | U.K.
- Atanas Politov | PILnet | Hungary

**Lunch**
Forum Speakers Biographies

Lara Adamson is the global pro bono advisor for Linklaters LLP and a qualified solicitor, working from their London office. She is responsible for coordinating the pro bono practice for Linklaters across 29 offices globally. Prior to her current role, Adamson trained at Linklaters and qualified into the banking practice advising on restructuring, insolvency and leveraged finance transactions. Prior to pursuing a graduate degree in Law, Adamson graduated from the University of Oxford with a B.A. in Oriental Studies and has spent time living and working in China.

Alberto Alemanno is Jean Monnet Professor of Law at Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales (HEC) Paris and Global Clinical Professor at New York University School of Law. Together with Lamin Khadar, Alemanno co-founded TheGoodLobby, an innovative skill-based matching organization connecting people with expertise and knowledge with civil society organizations that need them. The World Economic Forum named him 2015 Young Global Leader. Originally from Italy, Alemanno is a graduate of the College of Europe and Harvard Law School. He holds a Ph.D. in international law and economics from Bocconi University.

Mulham Al-Jundi is a grant manager with World Vision, an international children’s charity. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Communications and Network Engineering from Philadelphia University in Jordan. The Syrian revolution inspired Al-Jundi to leave his then corporate position and focus his efforts on activism. As co-founder of a Syrian NGO, he has obtained a deep understanding of the various aspects of the Syria crisis. With four years of experience in humanitarian aid and work with refugees and displaced persons, Al-Jundi is very keen to share his knowledge about the Syrian situation.

Linda Al-Kalash is the founder and director of Tamkeen Fields for Aid, a human rights NGO that seeks to enhance social and legal protection for marginalized groups in Jordan, including migrant women, migrant workers, and refugees. She is the founding chairperson of the Arab Network for Migrant Rights. In 2010 she was one of nine individuals awarded a Trafficking in Persons Report Heroes by the U.S. Department of State’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons.

Sylvain Aoust is a counsel within Allen & Overy in Casablanca. He has over ten years of experience in acquisitions, disposals of companies and group restructuring programs in Europe, Morocco and Africa. He generally advises international, corporate clients, institutional investors and investment funds. His practice mainly covers mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, private equity and foreign investments in Morocco and French speaking African countries.

Ufuk Aydin is the dean of the faculty of law at Anadolu University in Turkey and an official mediator of the Labour and Social Security Ministry. He is a member of Eskisehir Legal Bar
Association and founded the first legal clinic at a state university in Turkey. He is a graduate of the Ankara University Faculty of Law and Anadolu University. His field of expertise is labor and social security law.

**Tamas Barabas** is a senior legal officer in PILnet’s Budapest office. He runs PILnet’s Hungarian Pro Bono Clearinghouse and supports pro bono projects in Central and Eastern Europe. His main responsibility is working with NGOs to broker their legal needs with law firms in Hungary and elsewhere. As a student at ELTE University, he specialized in the French legal system and in Hungarian nonprofit law, and studied communication strategies of religious minorities in inimical social environments. He also spent two years as a coordinator of the ELTE University-based nonprofit clinical legal project.

**Yasmin Batliwala** is chief executive officer of Advocates for International Development (A4ID). A4ID provides international pro bono opportunities to its 50,000+ lawyers working worldwide and runs training programs on law and development. Batliwala has extensive experience in the public sector, having held a number of leadership positions over the years. She is a magistrate serving on the Youth and Adult Bench and has also undertaken work with the United Nations office of Drugs and Crime. Last year she was the recipient of the City of London Woman of Achievement Award, which she won in respect to her work in the public sector.

**Dennis van Berkel** is legal counsel at the Urgenda Foundation. Urgenda recently won a landmark lawsuit against the Dutch government, in which the district court of The Hague determined that the Dutch State is taking insufficient measures to prevent dangerous climate change, and ordered it to reduce its emissions by at least 25% before 2020 compared to 1990. Previous to working for Urgenda, Dennis van Berkel worked at Stibbe, specializing in competition law and European regulation, and the Dutch Competition Authority.

**Wendy Betts** is the director of eyeWitness to Atrocities at the International Bar Association. eyeWitness aims to help bring perpetrators of atrocities to justice by verifying footage and ensuring it is admissible in court. Betts has twenty years of experience in international development, rule of law reform, and transitional justice. She previously served as the director of the American Bar Association War Crimes Documentation Project. Betts has a M.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and a J.D. from the University of San Francisco School of Law.

**Erwin van der Borght** is director of programs at the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). IDLO enables governments and empowers people to reform laws and strengthen institutions to promote peace, justice, sustainable development and economic opportunity. He previously worked with Amnesty International and Medecins Sans Frontieres, and has extensive knowledge and working experience in rule of law, good governance, international humanitarian and human rights law. He holds an LL.M. in international human rights law from the Irish Centre for Human Rights, National University of Ireland, Galway and a B.A. in business economics.
Lucia Borovska is with the Slovakia-based nonprofit Nadacia Pontis, and has spent six years in the sector, developing employee and legal volunteer programs. Currently she is developing the “Attorneys Pro Bono” network, by trying to find innovative ways to engage pro bono lawyers in social issues such as homelessness. Borovska manages attorney involvement in Comenius University’s legal clinic program. She is also a member of an informal platform of NGOs that helps homeless people, contributing to the creation of a first draft of a national prevention and solutions strategy. Borovska believes that pro bono work that attorneys and law firms do is character-defining, and should be at the heart of their profession.

Miriam Buhl is Pro Bono Counsel at Weil and has coordinated the firm’s award-winning global pro bono program since 2005. In 2015, Weil’s 1,100 attorneys performed more than 60,000 hours of pro bono work on a wide range of issues including human rights, economic development, corporate governance, political asylum and environmental protection. Buhl co-teaches the Externship on Pro Bono Program and Design at Columbia University Law School. She is a member of PILnet’s Pro Bono Council, the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law Public Service Council, and the New York City Bar Association Pro Bono & Legal Services Committee.

Clarissa O’Callaghan is global head of pro bono at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, a position she has held for nine years. Before that she was a litigator at the firm. O’Callaghan is a practicing lawyer and has a particular interest in the issue of violence against women, women’s rights and access to justice.

Giovanni Carotenuto is an Italian lawyer, admitted to plead before the Supreme Court of Cassation. He has been practicing law for more than 20 years and has recently founded his own law firm, Carotenuto Studio Legale. He holds a law degree from Federico II University of Naples, and an LL.M. in European law from Queen Mary College, University of London. Giovanni spent his career in first-rank Italian and international law firms, global corporate banks, and was named partner of a global U.S. firm, where he also coordinated their pro bono activities in Italy.

Jean-Paule Castagno is a senior associate with Clifford Chance, and has more than ten years’ experience in criminal defense and advocacy as well as a Ph.D. in Criminal Procedure. Although she specializes in white-collar crimes, corporate crime and regulatory investigations and litigation, throughout her career, Castagno also successfully acted on her own time as counsel of records for victims of murder and stalking, seeking and obtaining the payment of damages to the victims and their families. Her pro bono experience also includes, inter alia, collaboration with Human Rights Watch, PILnet and other organizations on projects concerning criminal justice, universal jurisdiction, women’s rights and compulsory treatment.

Sofia Ciuffoletti is a research fellow at the department of legal sciences of the University of Florence. She is a member and a researcher of L’Altro diritto NGO, a documentation center on prison, deviance and marginality, providing legal counsel within the prisons of Tuscany and Bologna. She is a member of the inter-university research center, L’Altro diritto that aims to establish legal clinics in Italian universities. She is currently working as a researcher in the EU Justice Project-Prison Litigation Network.
Margaret Cole is a partner at White & Case LLP, heading the firm’s Abu Dhabi office. Cole was a partner with White & Case from 1995–2005 in the London, Bangkok and Singapore offices before moving in-house as general counsel of a company listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. She has over 30 years of experience in international financing and has played a lead role in various forms of financing, including limited recourse project financing, securitizations and private placements. She has represented lenders and investors in emerging and developed markets worldwide and has also worked as counsel at the IFC.

Anna Collignon is a senior associate at Stibbe, Amsterdam, a leading Benelux law firm with an internationally oriented full-service practice. Collignon specializes in general administrative law, environmental and planning law, human rights, and governmental liability issues. She acts for a wide range of companies, developers, and public bodies, representing them before the Dutch and European court and in negotiations with government agencies and other public authorities. She also litigates in these fields before national and European courts on a pro bono basis.

Brian Collins is the senior solicitor at the Irish Refugee Council Independent Law Centre. He was admitted to practice as a solicitor in November 2014, having previously worked in the Law Centre as a Legal Officer since 2012. He is a graduate of University College Cork and holds a bachelor of law degree and a master of law. He continued his studies at King’s Inns and was called to the Irish Bar in 2010. He is the European Legal Network on Asylum co-coordinator for Ireland, and moderates the Refugee Legal Forum on behalf of the Irish Refugee Council.

Francesco Crisafulli joined the judiciary and in his first role he was appointed as a judge in Udine. He served as legal counsel to the President of the Republic from 1992 until 2000. Crisfulli was then appointed as legal attaché to the Italian Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe and co-agent of the Italian Government before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, where he held the office until 2009. He is currently a judge in the civil chamber of the Rome District Court, and chair of the European Committee for Legal Cooperation of the Council of Europe.

Gearoid O Cuinn is director of the Global Legal Action Network, a nonprofit organization that pursues innovative legal actions from Europe aimed at realizing human rights standards in the global activities of state and non-state actors. He is also an academic fellow at Lancaster University Law School, where his work focuses on public international law, human rights and public health governance. O Cuinn has active links with the legal profession and is interested in new avenues in clinical legal education, especially within public international law and the use of technologies in pro bono legal work.

Alberto Cuomo is coordinator and chief of the Europe Department of CSVnet, the Italian Coordinating Body of Volunteer Support Centers (CSVs). Additionally, he is a board member of the European Volunteer Center (CEV). In the last 15 years he has been working in the profit and nonprofit sectors, in communications/IT, culture, environment and events organization, both as a professional and as a volunteer. CSVs provides Italian volunteer organizations with free
advice, service, training, information and stimuli for networking. CSVnet brings together and represents over 95% of the 72 Italian CSVs, with more than 300 branches all over Italy.

**Ilaria Curti** is attorney-at-law in the corporate crimes, investigations and compliance group of DLA Piper. She is a member of the Italian pro bono steering committee of DLA Piper and is actively involved in national and international pro bono projects of the firm. Recently, she wrote the Italian chapter of the report “Street Harassment—Know your Rights” for Hollaback and cooperated with the DLA Piper international team in the drafting of the “Justice for Children Handbook” for UNICEF. She is currently engaged in the DLA Piper and Italian Refugee Council “Statelessness Legal Clinic” project.

**Filip Czernicki** works on the development of legal clinics as well as promoting professional lawyers pro bono activity. Since 2002, he has been the president of the Polish Legal Clinics Foundation and member of the steering committee of the Global Alliance for Justice Education. Since 2006, he has served as head of the supervision council of the Polish National NGO’s Forum. Czernicki was involved in the establishment of a number of legal clinics and national legal clinic umbrella organizations, providing legal and organizational expertise. He is the author of several articles and publications on legal clinics and access to justice.

**Giusy D’Alconzo** is an expert on human rights law & policy. She has been providing legal advice, research and advocacy for the rights of individuals and groups at risk of violations in Italy for 15 years. D’Alconzo has led research missions, edited several reports for Italian and international NGOs and designed advocacy initiatives and campaigns. At Save the Children Italy, she is the coordinator of legal services. The latter organization provides pro bono legal advice to families and children at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

**Ade Daramy** was educated in Sierra and the U.K., having studied sociology and international relations. He is a founding member of the Sierra Leone Diaspora Network and the Sierra Leone–UK Diaspora Ebola Response Taskforce, and is an experienced senior government policy advisor. He is a trustee of the Sierra Leone Cancer Charity, and trustee and founding member of the National Association for Peace and Positive Change. Daramy is an ambassador for the anti-FGM charity FORWARD and a trustee of the African Foundation for Development. He is a communications professional and experienced editor, TV broadcaster, and media commentator who works as a consultant on African diaspora affairs.

**Eleonora Davidyan** has worked for the Human Rights Center Memorial for eight years, first as a project lawyer, and later as a head of the Legal Clinic for Applicants to the European Court of Human Rights project. In 2014 she joined the PILnet Fellowship program to develop her project of creating a clinical course on international mechanisms of human rights protection for a law school, on which she is currently working. Since 2009, Davidyan has been collaborating with the Institute of Human Rights and their program Right to Asylum, protecting asylum seekers in the European Court of Human Rights.
Balazs Denes is a Hungarian lawyer and a human rights activist. In 1997 he joined the Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, and served as its executive director from 2004 to 2012. Since early 2013, he is the director of the European Civil Liberties Project at the Open Society Foundations. He is a founding member of many Hungarian NGOs, and serves on the board of the CSDP Foundation. He focuses on civil liberties, communication, new forms of civic advocacy and activism. He received his law degree in 1998 from ELTE University Budapest and is a 2003-2004 Columbia University/PILnet Fellow.

Maud Depresle is project coordinator of the Legal Aid for Refugees in Morocco program, run by NGO Droit & Justice. She is responsible for providing free legal assistance to asylum seekers and organizing training sessions on refugee law for the benefit of pro bono lawyers, law students, members of NGOs and migrant organizations in Morocco. Prior to joining Droit & Justice, she worked for different NGOs in France as a legal advisor for migrants. She holds an LL.M. in International Law from the Law Faculty of Clermont-Ferrand.

Daniela Di Rado has been working for the Italian Council for Refugees for 20 years and is currently the deputy head of the legal department. She provides legal advice to asylum seekers, refugees and stateless people in Italy and is an expert in the problems related to access to protection at the border. She has managed projects at the national and international level regarding the Dublin Regulation, counselling services at the border and gender issues. She has expertise on statelessness and is carrying out advocacy activities to ameliorate the existent regulations and improve the public knowledge of the issue.

Tom Dunn is the director of pro bono at Clifford Chance. Before joining the firm in 2008, he worked as a legal aid solicitor for eight years in London, acting for tenants in dispute with their landlords and undertaking public law challenges on behalf of homeless people. For three years he led a College of Law public legal education project on a housing estate in Brixton in London, where students devised and delivered workshops about the law for residents. He is a trustee of LawWorks and Why Me and is on the Management Committee of University House Legal Advice Centre.

Anais Elbassil is the head of the NGO Terre d’Asile Tunisie, the Tunisian office of the French organization France terre d’asile. She is in charge of the development and management of a daily reception service for migrants where social, medical and legal assistance is provided. Elbassil graduated from Sciences Po Strasbourg and the Viadrina University in European Studies, with a strong focus on migration policies and human rights.

Idil Elveris graduated from Istanbul University School of Law in 1996. She obtained her LL.M. in 1998 from Tulane University. As a legal consultant and attorney, she practiced in jurisdictions such as New York, Kosovo, Britain and Istanbul. In 2003, she joined Istanbul Bilgi University and pioneered legal clinics in Turkey. She obtained her Ph.D. in 2012 from Istanbul Bilgi University School of Political Science. Her areas of interest and teaching include access to justice; legal profession; law and politics; and mediation. She is a certified mediator in Turkey. She has established the pro bono clearinghouse at Istanbul Bilgi University.
Claire Everest leads the Professional Skills Pro Bono Programme at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer. Claire has worked in the pro bono field for over 12 years and in 2009 was tasked with the development of a pro bono program for those in business services. Following a pilot, the Professional Skills Pro Bono Programme was launched in 2012. Utilizing the professional skills, experience, talents and education of non-legal business service staff gives pro bono clients access to the business skills and experience they need to develop and implement sound business strategies, increase their capabilities and improve their organizational infrastructure.

Claire-Marie Fourel is senior associate and international pro bono manager at Ashurst, responsible for the development and coordination of pro bono practice in Europe, the Middle East and the US. Fourel has extensive experience in structuring and implementing complex pro bono projects, and advising leading global non-profit organizations, charities and NGOs on a range of human rights, development and governance issues. She holds an M.Sc. in international development from the London School of Economics, a Masters in European law from the University of Rennes I, an LLB in comparative English and French law from Exeter University and an LPC from BPP University. She has also held positions as a lawyer for AgDevCo, a volunteer legal researcher at GrupoFaro, and a youth trustee for Self-Help Africa.

Jose Garcia-Anon is director general of democratic reforms and public freedoms in the Department of Justice of the Generalitat Valenciana in Spain. He obtained his Ph.D. in law and is professor in the School of Law and Researcher in the Human Rights Institute at the University of Valencia. Garcia-Anon has been the director of the International Human Rights Clinic in the Legal Clinic for Social Justice at the University of Valencia. He is member of the board of directors of the Global Alliance for Justice Education and of the steering committee in the European Network for Clinical Legal Education.

Ariana Gonzalez acts as the bridge between the BMW Foundation and Taproot Foundation, working as global program manager for both organizations. In this dual role, Ariana is building Taproot’s global program, which aims to support pro bono intermediaries around the globe in their efforts to make professional expertise available to mission-driven organizations. Simultaneously, she is the BMW Foundation’s North America Networking Partner and supports the foundation’s pro bono initiatives, including organizing the annual Global Pro Bono Summit and supporting the growing Global Pro Bono Network.

Jane Gordon, B.A., LL.M., is a lawyer with 18 years’ experience working in human rights law, policy and practice at domestic, regional and international levels. Gordon has advised statutory and public agencies across the U.K.; has brought cases against Russia and Ukraine to the European Court of Human Rights; and has advised on human rights accountability mechanisms in India, Iraq, Malawi and Turkey. In 2013/2014, Gordon served as gender advisor/SGBV investigator to the UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria. Gordon is the co-founder and legal director of Sisters For Change, an international nonprofit working to eliminate violence against women and girls.

Serena Grant is the director of TrustLaw, the Thomson Reuters Foundation’s global pro bono service that aims to spread the practice of pro bono to drive social change. Prior to joining the
foundation, Grant worked as a corporate lawyer at Baker & McKenzie in London and Sydney, and at Hogan Lovells in Tokyo.

Susan Hazledine is the director of International Senior Lawyers Project-UK (ISLP). ISLP is an NGO that utilizes highly skilled and experienced pro bono lawyers to advise civil society and governments on key development, human rights, and rule of law issues. Hazledine has over 20 years’ experience as a litigator, including 14 years as a partner at Allen & Overy. She headed A&O’s social investment program globally from 2009–2013. Under her leadership, the firm undertook several award-winning global initiatives relating to pro bono, community, diversity and the environment. She is a board member of ROLE UK.

Amy Heading is the director of pro bono at DLA Piper’s U.K. practice. She completed her legal qualification in Australia, and holds a master of international laws from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in the U.S. Heading has worked both in the U.S., where she was responsible for the creation of the LL.M. pro bono program for New York University School of Law, and in Australia, where she headed the legal clinics program for Queensland Public Interest Law Clearinghouse.

Floris van Hees is the first project coordinator of the Dutch clearinghouse, Pro Bono Connect. He was in charge of researching the need for a clearinghouse in the Netherlands on behalf of the Dutch Section of the International Commission of Jurists. This led to the establishment of the Dutch clearinghouse, which is endorsed by the Netherlands’ leading law firms. Trained as a lawyer, van Hees worked for more than nine years as a litigator for Clifford Chance in Amsterdam. He holds a law degree from Maastricht University and a Master’s from the European Master’s Program in human rights and democratization.

Ana Higuera is a lawyer and pro bono coordinator at the Fernando Pombo Foundation since October 2014. Higuera is also a lecturer at the Universidad Pontificia Comillas, a post she has held since 1998, and at IE Law School since 2004. Higuera is an expert in employment and social security law, and worked as a lawyer at the law firm Uria Menendez for more than 15 years. She collaborates regularly on legal projects with social organizations, and is the secretary of the board of the Mashumano Foundation. Of particular note, she was the coordinator of the legislative proposal that created a new social security benefit for parents suffering from a serious illness in Spain.

Leah Hoctor joined the Center for Reproductive Rights in November 2014, and directs the organization’s litigation, advocacy and policy work in Europe. Previously, Hoctor was a senior legal advisor with the International Commission of Jurists. There, she established and led ICJ’s inaugural Women’s Human Rights Program, implementing cross-regional projects on women’s access to justice and women in the judiciary. She also coordinated and drafted Corporate Complicity & Legal Accountability: The Report of the ICJ’s Expert Legal Panel on Corporate Complicity in International Crimes. Before joining ICJ, Hoctor worked for the Human Rights Unit of the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs. Hoctor studied law at UCD in Ireland and international law at the University of Lund, Sweden.
Richard Honey is a barrister at Francis Taylor Building in London. He is a member of the bars of England and Wales (2003) and Northern Ireland (2013), and the Attorney General’s Panel of Counsel to the Crown. Honey practices in public and environmental law, with particular specialisms in judicial review and statutory challenges, infrastructure projects, compulsory purchase, and land valuation. He has visited Sierra Leone on a number of occasions to provide legal training and assistance, with Project Umubano and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He is chairman of the steering group of the U.K. Sierra Leone Pro Bono Network.

Marina Ingrasci is a lawyer experienced in family and juvenile law, specializing in cases of separation, divorce, parental responsibility and custody of children. She is a legal adviser for the victims of human trafficking for the municipality of Milan. As a teacher, she is in charge of training courses on the rights of women, with particular reference to the topic of violence. Ingrasci is president of Avvocati per Niente Onlus, an organization which provides free legal assistance to people with social problems and promotes the protection of fundamental rights and non-discrimination.

Ozgur Kahale is the director of pro bono for DLA Piper’s Continental European offices, managing the pro bono practices of 23 offices in 16 countries. She provides pro bono legal assistance to key European NGOs, UN agencies, developing countries and disadvantaged individuals through the firm’s pro bono counsel appointments. Kahale has an LL.M. in international human rights from Essex University and a Ph.D. from Lancaster University, where she was involved in business and human rights studies, focusing on corporate social responsibility, human rights due diligence and impact-assessment research.

Maria von Kanel is the president of the Network of European LGBT Families Association (NELFA). NELFA is the European platform of LGBT families associations, bringing together LGBT parents and parents-to-be from all over Europe. She has been in a registered partnership since 2007, when Swiss law first started recognizing same-sex partnerships, and lives near Zurich with her wife and their two children. Her wish for the future is the mutual recognition of registered partnerships within the EU as a next step toward full legal recognition for rainbow families.

Ramzi Kassem is associate professor of law at the City University of New York School of Law. He directs the Immigrant and Non-Citizen Rights Clinic which represents immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers and prisoners of various nationalities presently or formerly held at American facilities in Guantanamo Bay; Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan; at so-called “Black Sites;” and at other detention sites worldwide. Kassem also supervises the Creating Law Enforcement Accountability and Responsibility Project, which aims to address the legal needs of Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and other communities in the U.S. that are affected by post-9/11 law enforcement policies and practices.

Rene Kathawala serves as Orrick’s pro bono counsel and is responsible for managing and initiating the firm’s pro bono activities. He supervises and works on cases in areas such as immigration law, family and matrimonial law, housing law, public benefits law, employment law, impact litigation and nonprofit advice. Kathawala also helped to develop, launch and
strengthen the firm’s innovative Impact Finance team that provides representation in diverse transactional areas to nonprofit, for-profit and hybrid organizations dedicated to providing basic services to the poor, including microfinance, water, education, energy, housing and health.

Irene Khan is the director general of the International Development Law Organization. She was secretary general of Amnesty International from 2001—2009 and, prior to that, she worked for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees for 21 years. Khan is a member of the World Bank Advisory Council on Gender and Development. She received the Sydney Peace Prize in 2006 for her work to end violence against women and girls. Her book, The Unheard Truth: Poverty and Human Rights has been translated into seven languages. She was born in Bangladesh and studied law at the University of Manchester and Harvard Law School.

Archana Kotecha is head of legal at Liberty Asia. She has worked on a number of trafficking-related asylum cases, produced an anti-trafficking toolkit for U.K. lawyers and served on the Victim Care Committee of the U.K. Human Trafficking Centre that was instrumental in setting up the National Referral Mechanism of the U.K. in 2009. In her current role with Liberty Asia, Kotecha has produced a Hong Kong focused Victim Identification Toolkit, set up an online legal resources center and is involved in lobbying, training and advising human rights practitioners on trafficking in persons.

Fatima Laher is a lawyer with B.Proc., LL.B. degrees from the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. She is the pro bono manager at the pan-African corporate law firm, Bowman Gilfillan, managing both pro bono and corporate social responsibility for the past four years. Prior to joining the firm, she worked for Legal Aid South Africa for six years, specializing in child law and later in human rights law, working in legal aid funding and litigating matters on behalf of the poor in the Constitutional Court.

Anton Giulio Lana is senior partner at the Lana Lagostena Bassi law firm, and the secretary general of Unione forense per la tutela dei diritti umani. He is an expert on domestic law—with particular regard to health law, family law, protection of minors and matters related to migration and citizenship—and international law, especially on the protection of human rights before the European Court. He won PILnet’s 2012 European Pro Bono Award as part of an “exemplary partnership in the public interest.” He regularly conducts conferences and writes commentaries concerning international law and Italian civil law.

Mark Lattimer is director of the Ceasefire Centre for Civilian Rights, which promotes civilian-led monitoring of violations in armed conflict, and accountability for abuses of the rights of civilians. While at Amnesty International, he worked on the Pinochet case, and at Minority Rights Group International on the first Congo cases before the International Criminal Court. He is co-editor of, among other books, Justice for Crimes against Humanity (Hart, Oxford, 2003).

Giovanni Lega is the founding and managing partner of LCA Studio Legale and the current chairman of ASLA—the Italian Association of Law Firms. He is formerly managing partner of the Freshfields Italian offices and has over 30 years’ experience as a business lawyer, advising
both Italian and international corporations. Lega is a member of the board of directors of several companies and associations, as well as a speaker and lecturer at many conventions and universities.

**Marcia Levy** is the executive director of Pro Bono Partnership, a nonprofit that provides free business and transactional legal services to nonprofits in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Her distinguished legal career includes experience as a pro bono counsel at a major New York law firm, a clinical law professor and director, a practicing attorney, and a public interest program director. She serves as a special advisor to the Permanent Commission to Expand Access to Civil Legal Services, and on several bar association committees on pro bono. She was selected as a NYLJ 2015 Lawyers Who Lead By Example for her public service work.

**Gillian Lobo** joined ClientEarth in spring 2015. She is an experienced in-house lawyer specializing in civil litigation. She is a qualified solicitor and holds a law degree from the University of Sheffield and a masters degree in law and development from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). Before joining ClientEarth she worked for the Treasury Solicitor’s Department, working in areas such as claims in negligence, human rights and inquests into the deaths of British soldiers while on operations. She also worked on the Equality Bill during its passage through Parliament and on the implementation of the Equality Act 2010.

**Stefano Macchi di Cellere** is head partner of the European law firm Macchi di Cellere Gangemi, London office, and the firm’s pro bono coordinator. He is a dual-qualified lawyer; solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales and Avvocato of the Supreme Court of Cassation of Italy. Macchi di Cellere has a master in laws degree from King’s College London, and is a member of the Law Society of England and Wales, International Bar Association, American Bar Association, Inter-Pacific Bar Association (former council member), alumni association of the Academy of American and International Law (former deputy secretary general) and the Italian Bar.

**Maria Giovanna Manieri** is the program officer at PICUM. She develops PICUM’s legal strategies and is responsible for the management of the two working groups on migration policies and legal strategies. Previously she worked as a human rights lawyer in the U.K., specializing in migration policies and the issue of internal forced displacement. She studied law at the University of Bologna, Italy, and at King’s College, London. She holds a master’s degree in diplomacy and international relations from the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Diplomatic School and is a qualified lawyer and member of the Spanish Bar Association.

**Maria Rosaria Marella** is professor of law at the University of Perugia Department of Law, where she teaches private law. She studied law in Rome (J.D. Universita degli studi di Roma –La Sapienza, 1983), Freiburg im Breisgau—Germany (scientific assistant 1984, visiting scholar 1985–86), Florence (Ph.D. in comparative law 1991), Harvard (visiting scholar 1996–97); EHESS–CENJ and Paris (visiting professor 2014/2015). Her main areas of interest are family law, legal theory, tort law, property and contract law.
Susanna Marietti is the national coordinator of the NGO Antigone. She has been working at Antigone’s Observatory on Italian prisons since its establishment, promoting campaigns and cooperating on reports. She wrote essays on the Italian penitentiary system as well as on contemporary philosophical topics. She authors and hosts the radio broadcast Jailhouse Rock. She is the President of Atletico Diritti, a soccer team composed of prisoners, migrants, parliamentarians and students.

Luca Masera is a professor of criminal law at the University of Brescia and a lawyer. He is the author of two books and several articles published in major national law journals. Masera specializes in environmental law and migration law. As a lawyer, he has participated in important cases at the European Court of Justice (El Dridi and Sagor cases) and the European Court of Human Rights (Khalifia case), all concerning migration law.

Karla McKanders is a scholar and practitioner in the field of refugee and immigration law and clinical legal education. Her scholarly writings address issues of access to justice and immigration federalism, as she has sought new ways of approaching legislative and executive reforms to the immigration system. In 2011, she received a Fulbright fellowship to lecture in Morocco at the University of Mohammad V. She continues to collaborate with law professors and nonprofit organizations in the Middle East and North Africa to address implementing clinical legal education and disparities in access to justice.

Marieanne McKeown is PILnet’s manager for Europe based in London. She is responsible for developing and managing projects that promote public interest law and strengthen local cultures of pro bono in Europe. This includes coordinating PILnet’s Global Pro Bono Clearinghouse, organizing the annual European Pro Bono Forum and supporting NGOs, public interest lawyers, law firms, companies, and law schools to grow their pro bono programs. Prior to joining PILnet, McKeown worked with a number of human rights and strategic litigation organisations in Northern Ireland, and holds an LL.B. in law and an LL.M. in human rights from Queens University Belfast.

Andrea Menapace is the executive director of CILD (Italian Coalition for Civil Rights and Liberties). He has extensive experience as a researcher in human rights and digital media, most recently at the Independent Reporting Mechanism of the Open Government Partnership. Menapace also works for the Transparency and Accountability Initiative, where he coordinates TABridge, a network of professionals working on advanced ways of using technology to share among civil society groups. Menapace is the co-founder of Diritto di Sapere (DDS), an NGO which focuses on access to information in Italy.

Lauren Meyer is the legal manager of TrustLaw, the Thomson Reuters Foundation’s global pro bono program that connects law firms and corporate legal teams with high-impact NGOs and social enterprises working to create social and environmental change. Meyer is a solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales and a qualified attorney of the High Court of South Africa. She previously worked as a corporate and commercial lawyer in private practice at Webber Wentzel, as in-house legal counsel at Cantor Fitzgerald, and worked pro bono at the South African Human Rights Commission and at the NGO, Lawyers for Human Rights.
Sandra Meyer, attorney at law, has joined the team of Proboneo to help establish the new legal clearinghouse activities of Germany’s first agency for pro bono engagement. After her law studies at the University of Leipzig, Germany, she gained experience in the field of international law in Canada and the U.S. She continued her legal career at the law firm Heuking Kuhn Luer Wojtek in Hamburg, advising corporate clients on different commercial law matters. Prior to supporting Proboneo, Meyer successfully founded her own start-up in Berlin.

Teresa Morais Leitao has been a lawyer with a top law firm in Portugal for 20 years, a foreign lawyer with Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton in New York and more recently, a JAMS Fellow in San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York. Leitao’s studies and training have included, among others, an honors law degree and master’s in Portugal, an LL.M. from the European University Institute and recently, mediation training at Harvard (PON) and Pepperdine Universities.

Sarah Morton-Ramwell is a partner and global head of pro bono at Ashurst. With a background in human rights law, gender rights and reproductive rights, she works full-time in pro bono. Sarah worked at the Center for Reproductive Rights in New York and International Planned Parenthood Federation in London. She sits on the Leadership Committee of PILnet and the Council of TrustLaw, is a founding member of the Institute of Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability and helped create the U.K. Collaborative Plan for Pro Bono. Morton-Ramwell was named as Qantas Australian Woman of the Year in the U.K. 2014.

Habib Nassar is PILnet’s acting co-executive director since March 2015. As a program director, Nassar has been responsible for the organization’s capacity building and education programs, including its Fellowship Program. Habib joined PILnet in October 2012 as Director for the Middle East and North Africa, regional program that he developed and expanded, focusing on the use of public interest law approaches, such as human rights litigation and legal clinics. He has more than 15 years of experience working on human rights and transitional justice in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Additionally, he teaches human rights and transitional justice at Hunter College (Roosevelt House) in New York.

Oanh Ngo teaches at Judicial Academy, the only institute that provides mandatory skills training for judges, lawyers, prosecutors in Vietnam. Ngo has served as a national consultant to the UNDP and Vietnam Bar Federation in legal education. She helped found the South East Asia Research and Development Institute, which provides pro bono services for indigenous people in Vietnam and South East Asia. In 2005, she received her Ph.D. in jurisprudence from the Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia. As a PILnet International Fellow, Ngo is developing a project to establish a juvenile justice advocacy center at the Judicial Academy, Vietnam.

Henrique Nobre is a pro bono assistant in PILnet’s London office. Currently, he is responsible for Pro Bono Roundtable logistics as well as aspects of the European Pro Bono Forum. He is a penultimate year law student at Birkbeck College –University of London, and hopes to pursue a career as a solicitor. His areas of interest are intellectual property, finance and corporate law. He does not consider human rights to be merely an area of interest, but a duty carried by lawyers to ensure that its importance is never diminished.
Princess Inyang Okokon is a cultural mediator at PIAM Onlus Asti and a survivor of trafficking. She provides assistance to victims of trafficking and is responsible for the Street Unit for sex workers. She coordinated the “Safe Sex Long Life” project in Nigeria for the prevention of STDs among sex workers. In recent years, she has engaged in the identification of trafficking victims among young female refugees from Libya.

Marta Pardavi is co-chair of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee (HHC), a leading human rights watchdog NGO in Hungary. She joined the HHC in 1995 as a student, while pursuing her studies at the Budapest-based ELTE Faculty of Law. As the organization’s co-chair, she oversees the Helsinki Committee’s work in the area of asylum and immigration in addition to her overall management responsibilities. She was a board member and later vice-chair of the pan-European NGO, the European Council on Refugees and Exiles, from 2003 till 2010. Currently she serves on the board of the PILnet Foundation in Hungary Foundation.

Grazia Parisi is responsible for coordinating CILD’s Italian Pro Bono Clearinghouse activities. She is also an administrative officer at Associazione Antigone’s Rome headquarters, where she supports the everyday work of the organization. Parisi graduated in translation and interpretation from the University of Pescara, with a bachelor’s degree in languages for business and international cooperation. After graduation she lived in London, where she attended an advanced English course for postgraduates. In 2015 she was awarded a master’s degree in human rights, migration, and development from the University of Bologna. Parisi is also a member of the Observatory on Prison Conditions in Italy.

Nicolas Patrick is a pro bono partner and head of responsible business for DLA Piper in Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific. Patrick’s pro bono practice is focused mainly in the area of human rights law. He is a trusted advisor to leading global NGOs, UN agencies, governments and businesses. He serves on the board of DLA Piper’s nonprofit affiliate—New Perimeter—enabling the firm to deliver large scale, high-impact pro bono projects in developing and post-conflict countries.

Rebecca Perlman is a lawyer and pro bono specialist at Herbert Smith Freehills. Perlman manages and coordinates the firm’s pro bono practice for the U.K., U.S. and EMEA. She advises the firm’s pro bono clients on a wide range of legal issues. Perlman has worked on secondment with the U.K. National Council for Civil Liberties and with the government of Sierra Leone as legal adviser to the Public Private Partnership Unit in the Office of the President. She is a trustee of the Prisoners’ Advice Service and a co-founder of the U.K. Sierra Leone Pro Bono Network.

Atanas Politov is the acting co-executive director of PILnet, based in Budapest. He is also responsible for managing PILnet’s pro bono efforts and other initiatives. He has developed large-scale legal aid reform projects in Bosnia Herzegovina and Serbia, coordinated PILnet’s contributions to legal aid reform in other countries and has overseen the development of PILnet’s pro bono clearinghouses in China, Hungary, Russia, and globally. Politov received legal training in Bulgaria and worked as a staff attorney for Bulgarian Lawyers for Human Rights. He subsequently received an LL.M. from Columbia Law School and is a former Fulbright Scholar.
Carmen Pombo manages Fundacion Fernando Pombo, an organization that promotes social responsibility within the legal profession. A graduate of the ICADE Law School, Pombo entered the Colegio de Abogados de Madrid in 1998. For 10 years she specialized in intellectual property law at Clarke, Modet & Co., and was a member of the board of directors. She earned an M.B.A. in 2005 and was a founding co-chair of the International Bar Association’s Young Lawyers’ Committee. She gained a master’s in nonprofit organization management in 2011, after which she headed the business development area at Centro de Investigacion Principe Felipe, a biomedical research center. She was appointed as a trustee of Save the Children Spain in 2012.

Ferdinando Poscio is a partner at Clifford Chance in Milan. He graduated from the University of Milan with a thesis on the ordination of women to the priesthood in the Church of England. Since qualifying in 2001, he has worked in Italy and in the U.K., specializing in general and syndicated lending, structured and acquisition finance, and restructuring. He is the partner responsible for corporate responsibility and diversity initiatives in Italy. He is also a member of Clifford Chance’s global CSR committee, which is responsible for formulating the strategy of the firm’s CSR activities.

Edwin Rekosh founded PILnet in 1998, as a program of Columbia Law School. In addition to his long tenure with PILnet, Rekosh teaches human rights, law and development at Columbia Law School and has been a visiting professor at Central European University. Prior to this, he consulted for the Ford Foundation, worked for the International Human Rights Law Group (now Global Rights), practiced law at Coudert Brothers, and co-founded the Human Rights Watch Film Festival. Rekosh received the American Bar Association’s International Human Rights Award in 2009. He is a graduate of Cornell University and Columbia Law School.

Helen Rogers is a practicing solicitor and manages Allen & Overy’s global pro bono practice. Her work spans strategic support to the nonprofit sector and developing country governments, including the firm’s ongoing work in Myanmar. She has wide experience in the area of human rights and sits on the firm’s human rights working group executive committee. Rogers is a long-term supporter and advocate for the work of law centres in the U.K. She is a trustee of the Law Centres Network and sits on the global and London grants committees of the Allen & Overy Foundation.

Guido Romeo is co-founder of Diritto Di Sapere, an Italian NGO spearheading the Foia4Italy movement for the first Italian Freedom of Information Act, and developer of #Chiedi, the first Italian RTI platform-based freedom of information request tool. An award-winning journalist with experience both in print, radio and digital media, Romeo is data and business editor at WiredItaly. He led and coordinated investigations on funding of political parties, safety of school buildings, hospital mortality rates and the use of asbestos. He has worked for Il Sole24Ore as a science and technology reporter; for Reuters; and has collaborated with U.S. outlets Scientific American and Propublica.

Mario Rossetti has a degree in economics and is a Harvard Open Business School graduate. He spent his almost thirty-year career in various companies like Banca di Roma, Benetton,
Vodafone, Fastweb and Cobra Automotives. Currently, he is senior advisor of Long Term Partners and board member of Mid Industry Capital. In February 2010, Rossetti, former Fastweb CFO, was arrested for VAT fraud and international conspiracy. In October 2014 Rossetti was acquitted of all charges. In February 2015 Mondadori published “Io non avevo ‘l’avvocato—Una storia italiana” that tells his story.

**Andrea Saccucci**, of the international law firm Saccucci Fares & Partners, has a Ph.D. in human rights from the University of Palermo; is an associate professor of international law at the Seconda Università di Napoli and at the LUMSA of Rome; is a professor of human rights at the Universita Cattolica of Milan; and was a visiting scholar at Columbia University Law School in New York. As a practicing lawyer, Saccucci specializes in litigating cases before the European Court of Human Rights and received the PILnet European Pro Bono Award for Exemplary Partnership in the Public Interest in 2012.

**Lia Sacerote** is a philosophic analyst (concerning adults and children), associated with La Societa di Analisi Biografica a Orientamento Filosofico (SABOF), a trainer, a scientific contributor and author of seminars. Sacerote is the founder and president of the NGO Bambinisenzasbarre, where she coordinates counselling for imprisoned parents in Italy. She is responsible for research and editorial activity and is a member of the board of the COPE Network.

**Nizar Saghieh** is a lawyer and co-founder and executive director of The Legal Agenda as well as the editor of its publication of record. He has researched and written extensively on a wide-range of legal topics, including war memories, freedom of expression, and vulnerable groups. He has also pursued strategic litigation in relation to complex social issues such as arbitrary detention of refugees and the disappeared in Lebanon’s civil war.

**Joanna Salsbury** is a qualified solicitor in England and Wales, and spent the first few years of her career representing asylum seekers and refugees. After completing a masters in international law at Essex University and an internship at the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights, she joined the International Bar Association’s Human Rights Institute. During her time at the IBA, Salsbury focused on the international legal challenges of terrorism, fair trials and international criminal law. In 2011 she joined Oxfam, first working in partnership development and later coordinating Lawyers Against Poverty.

**John L. Sander** is a shareholder in the New York City office of Jackson Lewis P.C. He is practice leader of the international employment issues practice group, and a member of the firm’s pro bono committee. Sander’s focus is on cross-border labor and employment matters for multinational clients. Previously, Sander served in senior in-house roles for more than 16 years at Merck & Co., and its predecessor, Schering-Plough Corporation. He is president of the Pro Bono Partnership, a nationally recognized nonprofit in the U.S., which provides business legal services and educational resources to community-based and public interest organizations in New Jersey, Connecticut, and Westchester County, New York.
Joss Saunders has been general counsel of Oxfam since 1998. Saunders has been closely involved with pro bono issues throughout his time at Oxfam and has championed international pro bono. He chairs Oxfam’s Enterprise Development Fund and helps to run its green energy projects. He is director of the Legal Response Initiative, which won a Financial Times Innovative Lawyer of the Year Award (environmental section) for its pro bono panel work on climate change negotiations. Saunders helped to found Advocates for International Development and chairs the Semiliki Trust, which works in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He previously worked in Uganda, Poland, France and Germany.

Alexander Schuster is currently a senior researcher and lecturer at the University of Trento. Schuster is also an Italian attorney and an independent legal expert to the EU Commission and the Council of Europe, European governments and NGOs. He is the European coordinator of the EU co-funded project, Rights on the Move.

Mykola Sioma is executive director of the Ukrainian Legal Aid Foundation (ULAF), which develops and disseminates legal practices that help to ensure the protection of human rights in Ukraine. As a researcher, Sioma has a special interest in the roots of Anglo-American legal positivism and its connection to the lex naturalis doctrine. He defended his Ph.D. thesis on legal philosophy, and is the author of publications concerning sensitive issues of analytical jurisprudence. Sioma is currently engaged in various projects at ULAF regarding the implementation of the right to a fair trial and the protection of fundamental freedoms.

Rupert Skilbeck is the litigation director at the Open Society Justice Initiative. He oversees strategic human rights litigation in cases involving discrimination, freedom of expression, torture, deaths in custody, fair trial rights, corruption, national security, and international criminal law. He has litigated cases before the African, European and Inter-American regional human rights systems, as well before the UN Treaty Bodies. He is a barrister at the Bar of England and Wales, having practiced in the field of criminal law, human rights law and international criminal law.

Karen Ingala Smith is chief executive of nia, a London-based charity which champions an integrated approach to addressing all forms of men’s violence against women and girls. She has been recording and commemorating U.K. women killed by men since January 2012, in a campaign called “Counting Dead Women.” As one of the developers of The Femicide Census—in partnership with Women’s Aid, Freshfields and Deloitte—and with 25 years’ experience in the women’s sector, she was awarded the Positive Role Model for Gender at the 2014 National Diversity Awards.

Mirko Sossai is assistant professor of international law at the department of law of Roma Tre University. He is one of the coordinators of the clinical education and moot competition programs at the law school. He has published on access to justice in international law, counter-terrorism law, and the role of non-state actors in international humanitarian law.
Marieke Spee is a junior associate at Stibbe, Amsterdam, a leading Benelux law firm with an internationally oriented full-service practice. Spee is part of the financial markets group/finance department of Stibbe, and specializes in complex loan deals and financing transactions. She also focuses on financial services regulations in relation to fund structures, marketing and selling restrictions, and is involved in the pro bono committee of Stibbe.

Ulrich Stege is a qualified lawyer registered at the bar in Turin, Italy, and Dresden, Germany. In addition, he is a faculty member of the International University College of Turin (IUC), and is the director the IUC Clinical Program. For several years, he has acted as trainer, speaker and expert in different conferences and international expert groups regarding clinical legal education and asylum/immigration law. Stege is a founding and board member of the European Network for Clinical Legal Education, and is a member of ASGI (Associazione per gli Studi Giuridici sull’Immigrazione), the Global Alliance for Justice Education and the Migration Law Network.

Eamonn Tansey is Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA) project officer. Tansey works with the legal officer to connect organizations with legal practitioners through their pro bono referral scheme. He makes contact with organizations and helps them to identify legal questions or problems that might be appropriate for assistance from the scheme. He manages relationships between organizations and legal practitioners, as well as with community organizations and law centres on PILA’s Pro Bono Register, and organizes legal education sessions for organizational staff.

Tammy Taylor, as director of the Law Firm Project at Pro Bono Institute (PBI), administers the Law Firm Pro Bono Challenge®, a unique, global aspirational pro bono standard for the world’s largest law firms to acknowledge their institutional, firm-wide commitment to provide pro bono legal services to low-income and disadvantaged individuals, families and nonprofit groups. Before joining PBI, she directed the American Bar Association’s Post Conviction Death Penalty Representation Project. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and her law degree from American University, Washington College of Law.

Noanne Tenneson graduated from the American University in Washington D.C. with an LL.M. in international human rights law and from the Sorbonne with an LL.M. in civil law. As a lawyer, Tenneson specialized in torts and business law, and worked as an associate at JeantetAssocies law firm in New York and in Paris. Subsequently, she graduated from Praxisa with an LL.M. in child psychology. In May 2009, she founded the first French pro bono platform, Alliance of Lawyers for Human Rights, and is currently the general director of the organization.

Jasper Teulings is the general counsel/advocate at Greenpeace International in Amsterdam. Teulings currently serves on the boards of EarthRights International and SOMO. He has served on the board of the INGO Accountability Charter and helped develop the Global Reporting Initiative’s NGO Sector Supplement. He also was a board member of NJCM, the Dutch section of the International Commission of Jurists, and acted as an independent advisor to the international commission investigating the “Probo Koala” case. He regularly speaks and publishes on a wide range of topics, such as climate change litigation, free speech & peaceful protest, and Greenpeace’s corporate campaigns.
Vinicio Trombetti’s practice focuses on banking and structured finance, with particular experience in securitizations, covered bonds, and principal finance transactions. In the area of securitization and principal finance, Trombetti has significant experience across a broad range of structures with bespoke features, including securitizations with single issuance, master trust programs, partly-paid notes and warehouse programs, as well as cross-border transactions involving multiple jurisdictions. Trombetti has broad experience in financings with different asset classes, including trade receivables, personal loans, auto loans, bonds/securities, leasing receivables, and mortgage loans.

Suzanne E. Turner is a partner at Dechert and chair of the firm-wide pro bono practice. She is a trustee of PILnet and the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Turner has more than 25 years of experience as a litigator, concentrating primarily in civil rights work.

Maurizio Veglio is a lawyer specializing in asylum, immigration and criminal law. He is a lecturer at the Human Rights and Migration Law Clinic at the International University College of Turin since 2011, and a member to the Torino Bar Association and ASGI (Associazione Studi Giuridici sull’Immigrazione). He worked for five years at Narcomafie, a monthly magazine covering organized crime and geopolitics, and contributed to several national newspapers and magazines. After attending London’s Westminster University, he graduated in 2002 from Torino’s Law University; his dissertation focused on comparative drug policy and the “harm reduction” approach.

Adam Weiss is responsible for managing the European Roma Rights Centre’s (ERRC) strategic litigation work, which currently involves some 80 active cases in 14 jurisdictions on topics including school segregation, housing segregation, and police harassment. Weiss is a member of the New York State Bar and holds an LL.M. from King’s College University, London; a J.D. from Columbia Law School; a master of advanced studies from La Sorbonne; and an A.B. from Harvard University. Weiss joined ERRC in August 2013. He is particularly passionate about strategic litigation and regularly blogs about the topic on ERRC’s blog.

Jo Weiss leads the strategic development and operations of the White & Case global pro bono practice, legal education programs, charitable contributions, volunteering and environmental sustainability initiative. She is managing editor for the firm’s social responsibility communications. Weiss created the global philanthropy initiative at Lehman Brothers as well as the global advisory services practice at Catalyst, which helps companies develop diverse talent. As a consultant at McKinsey & Co, she served Fortune 100 clients on matters ranging from acquisitions to change management initiatives. She received her B.S. summa cum laude from Wittenberg University and her M.B.A. from The Wharton School.

Matteo Winkler arrived at the tax and law department of HEC Paris in 2014, after a decade of practicing as a litigator in international law firms, and five-years of experience teaching international and EU Law at Bocconi School of Law. He holds a Ph.D. in international law and economics from Bocconi University and an LL.M. from Yale Law School. He has published articles in the fields of transnational litigation, international commercial law and human rights.
Winkler has published three books and many articles related to protecting LGBTI rights in Italy, Europe and the United States.

Paul Yates runs Freshfields’ London pro bono practice. Since 2008 he has overseen a 170% increase in the volume of Freshfields’ U.K. pro bono work, and received a 2015 Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year award for the CourtNav project (with RCJ Advice). Yates has higher rights of audience in the civil courts and appears as an advocate at the asylum support tribunal. He is vice-chair of the Asylum Support Appeals Project, acts for victims of human trafficking in civil enforcement claims, and is closely involved in developing the firm’s third-party intervention practice. He was previously seconded to the legal team of the human rights group Liberty.

Julia Zelvenska is responsible for coordination within the European Legal Network on Asylum. She is in charge of the European Council on Refugees and Exiles’ litigation related activities. Zelvenska joined ECRE in 2004 and worked on several projects that aimed to improve the protection of the rights of refugees and other forcibly displaced people in Eastern Europe, promote the rule of law and enhance domestic asylum systems. Before joining ECRE she was a corporate lawyer and also worked as a legal counsellor providing legal aid to refugees and vulnerable citizens in Ukraine. Zelvenska holds a degree in European law.

Maysa Zorob is a senior legal officer for PILnet’s Middle East and North Africa (MENA) program, where she is responsible for developing and managing strategic litigation and clinical legal education programs in the region. Prior to joining PILnet, Zorob worked as Justice Officer at the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, coordinating justice-related activities across Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Between 2008 and 2012, she established and managed the Brussels-based European Office of Al-Haq, a Palestinian human rights organization. She has eight years’ experience working in human rights, justice and social change in MENA. Zorob holds an LL.M. in European and international law with a focus on human rights, as well as an LL.B. in German law from the University of Hamburg, Germany.
What Is a Pro Bono Clearinghouse?

Pro bono clearinghouses broker free advice from legal professionals for nonprofit organizations in need of legal assistance.

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 nonprofit organizations to connect them to services through its global legal network. They do this by helping NGOs pinpoint their legal needs, and then match these requirements with pro bono lawyers. This 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 our listings, we begin by having one of our in-house legal officers screen each nonprofit’s credentials. Once approved, PILnet individually works with the nonprofit to help define its legal needs. This cooperation culminates in 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 monthly listing that goes out to all of the cooperating law firms.

Joining is easy. If firms or individual lawyers want to receive the list of pro bono opportunities, PILnet will simply add your 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, you are welcome to consult the online Pro Bono Clearinghouse Manual, developed by PILnet in collaboration with Advocates for International Development (A4ID): www.probonomanual.org.
PILnet Pro Bono Clearinghouses

PILnet Hong Kong Clearinghouse | Hong Kong
Tze-Wei Ng | tng@pilnet.org | www.pilnet.org | The Good Lab, L1, The Sparkle 500 Tung Chau Street, West Kowloon Hong Kong

PILnet Hungarian Clearinghouse | Hungary
Tamas Barabas | tbarabas@pilnet.org | www.pilnet.org | Paulay Ede utca 50, 1061 Budapest, Hungary | Tel: (+36 1) 461 5700

PILnet Global Clearinghouse | U.K.
Marieanne McKeown | mmckeown@pilnet.org | www.pilnet.org | 48 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1JF, U.K. | Tel: (+44 20) 7092 3976

PILnet Russian Clearinghouse | Russia
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Partner Clearinghouses

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María Delfina Balesta | coprobono@colabogados.org.ar | www.probono.org.ar | Montevideo 640 – Ciudad Autonoma de Bs. As. (C1019ABN), Buenos Aires, Argentina | Tel: (+54 15) 5486 6904

JusticeNet SA | Australia
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Australian Pro Bono Centre | Australia
A national center of expertise about pro bono that supports clearinghouses in Australia
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