10th Annual European Pro Bono Forum

16–18 November 2016
Beurs van Berlage
Amsterdam

PILnet Sustaining Partners
Welcome from PILnet’s President

On behalf of PILnet’s board and staff, I am extremely pleased to welcome you to the 2016 European Pro Bono Forum. This Forum marks my first year as PILnet’s president and the 10th anniversary of the Forum itself, an exciting precursor to celebrating a bigger milestone: 2017 will herald 20 years of PILnet working with you to build the field of public interest law.

In most years, this space is reserved to focus on the next exciting chapters, and what awaits you at the Forum. Given the auspicious timing, however, I want to pause and reflect on where we are, and the unique role that this event has played in the development of pro bono across the continent.

From an intimate gathering of core supporters, the Forum has grown into a gravitational force, its longtime public interest law advocates drawing in and motivating others to take the movement forward. Our common purpose—to leverage pro bono to improve our societies—has brought clearinghouses to life, supported the growth of the clinical movement, and is now increasingly being adopted beyond our European borders.

One key lesson that we have learned time and again during our decade together is this: each jurisdiction, each firm, and each NGO have a different perception of how pro bono can fit into their programs, but what ties us together is the responsibility that we feel to apply our talents for the common good. As we argue over the business case for pro bono and struggle with defining effective internal conflicts policies, we all agree that as lawyers, we have a duty to do pro bono, full stop. In addition to the Forum providing a platform for these discussions, it has spread the word, and in a concrete sense, it has created a community and the connections we all need to get the job done.

Expectations are lofty for the 2016 Forum, but in many senses, the event will be no different. We will hear about legal projects that ease the path for refugees in their settlement journey; we will learn about the power of tech tools in the hands of the most vulnerable; and we will gather in honor of a few brave individuals whose lives exemplify an unflinching, selfless fight for justice. As a founding member of the EU and often a laboratory for social change, the Netherlands is, then, a fitting host for discussions that will expand the role of public interest lawyering at home, across Europe, and across the globe.

I look forward to meeting you in the halls of the Beurs van Berlage, to having a sit-down together, and to listening to your contributions to our collective of projects, people, and progress. May you come away with the inspiration and means to carry European pro bono into its next decade.

A warm welcome,

Garth Meintjes
President, PILnet
PILnet’s Board of Directors

Barbara Schatz (Chair) | Columbia University Law School | New York
Antonia Grumbach | Patterson, Belknap, Webb & Tyler | New York
Babatunde Irukera | SimmonsCooper Partners | Lagos
Krassimir Kanev | Bulgarian Helsinki Committee | Sofia
Heng-Pin “Ping” Kiang | International Business Advisor | Seattle
Eric Koenig | Microsoft Corporation (retired) | Washington, D.C.
Aryeh Neier | Open Society Foundations | New York
Kimberly Reed | Reed International Law & Consulting | Washington, D.C.
Travis Rundlet | Rundlet Advisory | New York
Maxine Sleeper | Goldman Sachs | New York
Diane Stewart | DLS International Legal | London
Suzanne Turner | Dechert | Washington, D.C.
Robert Vanni | The New York Public Library | New York
Anna Yang | Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer (retired) | London
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About PILnet

For nearly twenty years, PILnet has stood for the proposition that the law is not a tool of the state or of particular interests, but must be made to serve society as a whole. To this end, we have helped to build the field of public interest law, first in countries transitioning away from communism in Central and Eastern Europe, and today across Europe, Asia, the Middle East/ North Africa and beyond. In all this work, we support the right as well as the responsibility of members of the legal profession to work on behalf of vulnerable communities and the common good.

Through our long-running International Fellows program and partnerships with NGOs and other public interest legal professionals, PILnet supports lawyers working on the front lines of human rights and social justice advocacy. As this work and the public interest law field have matured, a core goal now is to bring the full array of legal resources to those who need it most.

PILnet has played a key role in the development of pro bono practice among local and international law firms around the world, and in operating and supporting pro bono clearinghouses that match critical legal needs with the expertise to address them.

Through the European Pro Bono Forum, we bring together NGOs and pro bono lawyers to discuss the state of public interest law on the continent and beyond and the role of pro bono in ensuring that public interest legal practice thrives. Through our collaborative efforts, we break down the barriers between the private and public legal sectors to ensure the law is made to work for all.

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.

6 | 2016 European Pro Bono Forum, Amsterdam
PILnet’s 2016 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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PIILnet’s Pro Bono Achievements

After its 2007 launch in Budapest, the European Pro Bono Forum has traveled through Paris, Berlin, Madrid, Warsaw, London and, most recently, to Rome. This year marks the event’s tenth anniversary, and we are proud to recognize the achievements of 2016 as powerful examples of a decade’s work of bringing legal professionals and civil society actors together to enhance pro bono collaborations, and engage with the wider legal profession to ensure that law serves the interests of all.

PIILnet has been working to bring together pro bono law firms and law clinics in an effort to provide access to justice to rural and disadvantaged communities. In 2016, we have had particular success in mobilizing the private legal sector to defend the rights of Roma individuals. Through our Hungarian Clearinghouse, PIILnet recruited an international law firm to provide legal services in conjunction with a Roma Rights law clinic. The clinic was recently established, with PIILnet support, at ELTE, Hungary’s most prestigious law school. When a Hungarian NGO filed suit on behalf of 60 Roma children in the town of Gyöngyöspata, PIILnet’s efforts resulted in bringing three Hungarian and international law firms as co-counsel in the case; we anticipate litigation and appeals will last at least three years.

Two urgent human rights concerns—climate change and refugee rights—received special attention in 2016. PIILnet convened a group of public interest lawyers from around the Middle East and North Africa for a workshop on climate change litigation, drawing on the experience of litigators from the US and elsewhere who are suing on the grounds that failure to act is a violation of the public trust. To support this effort, PIILnet recruited a major international law firm to research the legal grounds for similar cases in eleven MENA jurisdictions, so that local partners can effectively map out a strategy to challenge inaction by their own governments.

During the past two years, as the needs of refugees intensified in Europe, law firms and NGOs have sought to provide coordinated legal support. PIILnet has drawn on its relationships to help move cooperation forward. Recently, PIILnet invited ten international law firms, three clearinghouses, a bar association, and refugee rights NGOs to a meeting in Berlin that produced plans to provide pro bono support to refugees and others caught up in the migration crisis.

Pro bono in China is growing at an impressive rate, but unmet legal needs remain significant. Until recently, the legal system provided little recourse to victims of workplace accidents and victims of anti-LGBTI discrimination. Projects with two PIILnet partners are changing that by developing networks of pro bono lawyers committed to these causes. Since 2015, more than 100 lawsuits have been filed on behalf of workers suffering from cancer and other preventable workplace diseases. Similarly, more and more cases of employment and other forms of discrimination have been filed on behalf of LGBTI individuals, including the first ever case on behalf of a transgender individual, at a time when the willingness of a court to hear the case is in itself a major victory.

The 2016 Asia Pro Bono Forum in Bali, in collaboration with Bridges Across Borders Southeast Asia Community Legal Education Initiative (BABSEA-CLE), brokered a new willingness to
collaborate between Indonesia's three separate bar associations, whose representatives signed the Call to Action by the Indonesian Legal Community, put forward at the Forum. Divisions between these bar associations have restrained collective action by the legal community as a whole, and their willingness to come together for this will help pave the way for the growth of pro bono in the country.

We successfully launched our first Russia Pro Bono Forum in April of this year, bringing together 91 lawyers and legal professionals from 35 law firms and 28 NGOs to discuss the incorporation and optimization of pro bono practice in Russian law firms. In a compelling endorsement committing the Bar Association and the profession to pro bono, Yuri Pilipenko, the president of the Russian Federal Bar Association said that, “pro bono... is not likely to bloom without a serious involvement of the bar, because the bar is the only organization created on the basis of a federal law as a professional community of people whose job is to provide professional legal assistance.”

PILnet focuses on using the power of law to provide equal access to justice around the globe. Our Global Clearinghouse, through an ongoing series of local roundtables in Italy and Belgium, has provided a platform for the development of locally sourced and solved pro bono matters, including an initiative to provide direct assistance to victims of the Brussels bombings, many of whom face a long-term, international process to access necessary benefits.

These are only a few highlights of our recent work, but everything we do is predicated on the lessons, network, and collaborations built up over the past ten years. PILnet measures success in what we help you—the pro bono community—to achieve. By that standard, we are especially proud of where we are, and we eagerly look forward to the next decade of working together.
PILnet’s 2016 Pro Bono Council

Leadership Committee

Rene Kathawala | Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe | New York
Jacquelyn MacLennan | White & Case | Brussels
Sarah Morton-Ramwell | Ashurst | Sydney
Nicolas Patrick | DLA Piper | London
Michael Skrein | Reed Smith | London
Laura Tuell | Jones Day | Washington, D.C.

Members

Csilla Andreko | Andreko Kinstellar | Budapest*
Wendy Atrokhov | Latham & Watkins | Washington, D.C.
Miriam Buhl | Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP | New York
Elizabeth Dewey | DLA Piper | Washington, D.C.
Lee Edwards | Shearman & Sterling | Beijing°
Anne Grewlich | Ashurst | Frankfurt*
Jan Hegemann | Raue | Berlin*
Ashley Howlett | Jones Day | Beijing°
Janet Hui | Jun He Law Offices | Beijing°
Carmen Pombo | Fundacion Fernando Pombo | Madrid*
Helen Rogers | Allen & Overy | London
Vasilisa Strizh | Morgan Lewis & Bockius | Moscow*
Suzanne Turner | Dechert | Washington, D.C.^
Agnieszka Wardak | Dentons | Warsaw*
Wilko van Weert | McDermott, Will & Emery | Brussels*
Jane Yao | Zhong Lun | Hong Kong°

* Europe Committee
° China Committee
^ PILnet Board member and Board liaison to the Pro Bono Council and its Leadership Committee
PRO BONO HANDBOOK

* A guide to establishing a pro bono program at your law firm.*

Designed to help your law firm implement an efficient and effective pro bono program with far-reaching impact.

WWW.PROBONOBOOK.ORG

PHOTO: KOSTIS NTANTAMIS | IRIN

Irida Pandiri, a social worker for ARSIS and coordinator of a shelter for unaccompanied minors located outside Thessaloniki, stands in front of photos of children who have left the shelter and arrived safely in other European countries.
Prins Maurits Army Barracks, Ede, Gelderland, 2011

ARTIST: MISHKA HENNER
COURTESY BRUCE SILVERSTEIN GALLERY, NEW YORK
Dutch Landscape Series

Artist’s Statement

When Google introduced its free satellite imagery service to the world in 2005, views of our planet only previously accessible to astronauts and surveyors were suddenly available to anyone with an internet connection. Yet the vistas revealed by this technology were not universally embraced.

Governments concerned about the sudden visibility of political, economic, and military locations exerted considerable influence on suppliers of this imagery to censor sites deemed vital to national security. This form of censorship continues today and techniques vary from country to country with preferred methods generally including use of cloning, blurring, pixelization, and whitening out sites of interest.

Surprisingly, the Dutch have been one of the most vociferous enforcers of this form of censorship. The government has hidden hundreds of significant sites including royal palaces, fuel depots, and army barracks throughout this relatively small country. The Dutch method of censorship is notable for its stylistic intervention compared to other countries; imposing bold, multi-colored polygons over sites rather than the subtler and more standard techniques employed by others. The result is a landscape occasionally punctuated by sharp aesthetic contrasts between secret sites and the rural and urban environments surrounding them.

Dutch Landscapes, the title of the series, is a nod to the tradition of 17th-century Dutch landscape painting. Almost four centuries later and post-September 11th terrorist attacks, the Dutch have created a new kind of visual legacy that captures the fear and paranoia of authorities at the turn of the 21st century. Seen from the distant gaze of Earth’s orbiting satellites, the result is a landscape unlike any other. These recently imposed digital polygons protect the Dutch government’s locations of interest against the prying eyes of an imagined human menace. With the vertical view of the satellite’s gaze, and in the abstract polygons hiding military sites of strategic and logistical importance, the Dutch censors have inadvertently invented a new form of landscape painting suited to our age.

—Mishka Henner
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Meeting Hosts
De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek
Holland Van Gijzen Advocaten en Notarissen
Houthoff Buruma
Welcome from the Forum Host Committee

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to Amsterdam for the 10th Annual European Pro Bono Forum. We are honoured to have been chosen as host city this year. Having you all here in Amsterdam, with your legal expertise and commitment to pro bono, we believe will be very beneficial to our shared cause of expanding pro bono work in our own legal community. During the next two days we hope that, through the Forum workshops, talks and side discussions, each of us will deepen our understanding of the issues that make our pro bono work more effective, and be able to go back to our respective communities with a broadened network of resources and supporters.

The Dutch legal profession has a long and respected history of standing up for the protection of justice and rights. Recent cuts to legal aid and the increasingly dire financial circumstances facing NGOs mean that protection for Dutch citizens has become less and less of a certainty. In light of these developments, domestic public interest lawyering has become increasingly important.

As of this year, Pro Bono Connect, the Dutch clearinghouse, has come into existence. Over the course of this year, the clearinghouse’s work has broadened from primarily spreading the word within the NGO community of its availability and possibilities, to receiving multiple requests per week for pro bono legal help.

As a whole, pro bono is not yet a well-embedded concept in the Dutch legal community, but we already see a shift. It is rewarding to see that there is indeed a strong will to do pro bono and that more and more law firms are considering ways to go about this, and we see it as part of our task to share best practices with our partner firms across the country. We look forward to sharing our experience thus far with you, and especially learning from those of you who have already been doing this work for years.

The Forum Host Committee wishes to extend a warm welcome to Amsterdam and the European Pro Bono Forum. We hope that you will all find this conference both engaging and enjoyable, and that you will embrace this opportunity to connect with the greater pro bono movement.
The Dutch Forum Host Committee

Jan Andringa | Holland Van Gijzen | Amsterdam
Hélène Bogaard | DLA Piper | Amsterdam
Michael Brujin | Simmons & Simmons | Amsterdam
Lamin Khadar | DLA Piper | Amsterdam
Jelle Klass | Public Interest Litigation Project | Amsterdam
Bart Koolhaas | DLA Piper | Amsterdam
Ivar Koudstaal | Stibbe | Amsterdam
Frank Noteboom | CKM Fier | Amsterdam
Johan Polet | Simmons & Simmons | Amsterdam
Barend Post | AKD advocaten & notarissen | Amsterdam
Sadhia Rafi | Dutch Refugee Council | Amsterdam
Dolf Segaar | CMS Derks Star Busmann | Amsterdam
Dirk-Jan Smit | Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer | Amsterdam
Marieke Spee | Stibbe | Amsterdam
Jasper Teulings | Greenpeace | Amsterdam
Jan Truijens Martinez | Stibbe | Amsterdam
Alexandra Vader de Rooy | Pro Bono Connect | Amsterdam
Annelies van der Pauw | Allen & Overy | Amsterdam
Bart van der Wiel | Houthoff Buruma | Amsterdam
Harald Wiersema | NautaDutilh | Amsterdam
Marlies de Wilde | Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer | Amsterdam
Gerjanne te Winkel | Jones Day | Amsterdam
Liesbeth Zegveld | Prakken d’Oliveira | Amsterdam
General Information

Conference Venue

Beurs van Berlage
Damrak 243 | 1012 ZJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Telephone: +31 20 530 4141

Social Events

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

• Wednesday, 16 November | 19:00 – 22:00
  European Pro Bono Forum Welcome Reception
  Law firm Holland Van Gijzen Advocaten en Notarissen | Antonio Vivaldistraat 150 | 1083 HP Amsterdam, The Netherlands | Telephone: +31 88 407 1000

• Thursday, 17 November | 19:00 – 21:30
  Pro Bono Awards Reception
  Felix Meritis | Keizersgracht 324 | 1016 EZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands | Telephone: +31 20 627 9477

Please note that transport is not provided.
The law firm HVG is approximately a 30-minute bus/tram ride from the Forum venue. Felix Meritis is approximately a 15-minute walk from the Forum venue.

Free Canal Tours

Free canal tour tickets are available at the PILnet registration desk. You are welcome to use the tickets at your leisure during your stay in Amsterdam.

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 Gyöngyvér Papp at gypapp@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 Beurs van Berlage; please select the connection ProBonoForum
**Forum Program Overview**

**10TH ANNUAL EUROPEAN PRO BONO FORUM**  
**AMSTERDAM | 16–18 November 2016**

### Wednesday, 16 November 2016

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<th>Time</th>
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| 10:00–18:15   | **Global Meeting of Pro Bono Clearinghouses**  
                 *By invitation only*                                                                 | **LOCATION:** Houthoff Buruma  
                                                                     Gustav Mahlerlaan 50  
                                                                     1082 MA Amsterdam |
| 17:00–18:15   | **Partnering on Pro Bono:**  
                 *a How to Conversation for the Voluntary Sector and Law Firms*  
                 *By invitation only*                                                                 | **LOCATION:** Houthoff Buruma  
                                                                     Gustav Mahlerlaan 50  
                                                                     1082 MA Amsterdam |
| 12:30–18:15   | **Global Meeting of Law Firm Pro Bono Professionals**  
                 *By invitation only*                                                                 | **LOCATION:** De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek  
                                                                     Claude Debussylaan 80  
                                                                     1082 MD Amsterdam |
| 17:30–19:00   | **Meeting of the Leadership Committee of PILnet’s Pro Bono Council**  
                 *By invitation only*                                                                 | **LOCATION:** Holland Van Gijzen Advocaten en Notarissen  
                                                                     Antonio Vivaldistraat 150  
                                                                     1083 HP Amsterdam |
| 19:00–22:00   | **European Pro Bono Forum Welcome Reception**  
                 *Open to all Forum participants*                                                                 | **LOCATION:** Holland Van Gijzen Advocaten en Notarissen  
                                                                     Antonio Vivaldistraat 150  
                                                                     1083 HP Amsterdam |
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<td>8:00</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
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<td>9:00–10:15</td>
<td>Welcome Address</td>
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<td>Keynotes</td>
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<td>Reflections on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Forum</td>
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<td>10:15–10:45</td>
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<td>10:45–12:00</td>
<td>Plenary Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>Creating a Law Firm Culture of Pro Bono from the Top</td>
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<td>12:05–13:20</td>
<td>Workshop Session 1</td>
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<td>Pro Bono in the Netherlands: Current Opportunities</td>
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<td>Pro Bono Clearinghouses: Not Just Match-Makers</td>
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<td>One Decade, One Project: Ten Years of Pro Bono to Prevent Genocide and Mass Atrocity Crimes</td>
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<td>14:30–15:45</td>
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<td>There’s an App for That</td>
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<td>Practicing Law with Respect for Human Rights</td>
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<td>15:45–17:00</td>
<td>Workshop Session 3</td>
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<td>Slaves to the System: Bonded North Korean Workers in the EU</td>
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<td>Lawyers Advancing the Rule of Law via Supporting Social Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>Not the Business Case for Pro Bono</td>
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<td>Harnessing the Power of Law to Restore Our Climate</td>
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<td>19:00–21:30</td>
<td>Pro Bono Awards Reception</td>
<td>Felix Meritis</td>
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## Friday, 18 November 2016

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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
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<td>9:00–10:00</td>
<td><strong>Plenary: Spark Talks</strong></td>
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<td>10:30–11:45</td>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 4</strong></td>
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<td>Access to Justice in Belgium &amp; Luxembourg: The Roles of Legal Aid, Pro Bono &amp; Pro Deo</td>
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<td>Closing Space for Civil Society I: Protecting Human Rights Defenders</td>
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<td>Legal Careers With Purpose: The Perspective of Young Lawyers</td>
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<td>Addressing Access to Justice: Developing Legal Clinics for Individuals</td>
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<td>11:50–13:20</td>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 5</strong></td>
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<td>The Power of Video for Justice and Accountability</td>
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<td>Closing Space for Civil Society II: Protecting NGOs</td>
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<td>The Development of EU Law Pro Bono Practice: Challenges and Opportunities</td>
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<td>NGOs &amp; Law Firms: Effective Collaboration for Impact</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14:30–15:45</td>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 6</strong></td>
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<td>Privacy Under Pressure</td>
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<td>How Can Solo Practitioners Do Pro Bono Effectively?</td>
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<td>Accessing the Legal System in Europe: A Guide for NGOs and Pro Bono Lawyers</td>
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<td>Simulation: Incorporating Human Rights into Business Decision-Making</td>
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<td>15:45–16:30</td>
<td><strong>Forum Wrap Up &amp; Closing Remarks</strong></td>
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PILnet’s 2016 European Pro Bono Forum Agenda
AMSTERDAM, 16–18 NOVEMBER 2016

Thursday, 17 November

09:00–10:15  Welcome Address
- Marieanne McKeown | PILnet | Germany

Keynotes
- Judge Jonathan Lippman | Latham & Watkins | U.S.A.
- Judge Ian Forrester | General Court of the European Union | Luxembourg

Reflections on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Forum
- Lamin Khadar | DLA Piper | Netherlands
- Garth Meintjes | PILnet | U.S.A.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal

10:15–10:45  Coffee Break

10:45–12:00  Plenary Panel Discussion
Creating a Law Firm Culture of Pro Bono from the Top
For a culture of pro bono to really embed itself within a firm there needs to be leadership from the top. In this panel discussion we will hear from law firm leaders why they think a culture of social responsibility is an important part of the fabric of their firm, and how they foster a pro bono ethos that engages staff across the firm for the good of their communities.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal

Moderator:
- Maxine Sleeper | Goldman Sachs | U.S.A.

Speakers:
- Kim Koopersmith | Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld | U.S.A.
- Simon Levine | DLA Piper | U.K.
- Ben Tidswell | Ashurst | U.K.
WORKSHOP SESSION 1

Pro Bono in The Netherlands: Current Opportunities

The Dutch legal profession has a long and respected history of standing up for the protection of justice and rights abroad. Recent cuts to legal aid have begun to erode those protections at home however, and a new wave of domestic public interest lawyering has emerged in response. Join this session to find out more about why pro bono is taking root in the Netherlands, where pro bono lawyers are needed most, and how you can access these opportunities.

Location: Administratiezaal

Moderator:
- Alexandra Vader-de Rooy | Pro Bono Connect | Netherlands

Speakers:
- Anna Collignon | Stibbe | Netherlands
- Jelle Klaas | Public Interest Litigation Project | Netherlands
- Martijn Snoep | De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek | Netherlands

Pro Bono Clearinghouses: Not Just Match-Makers

An increasing number of pro bono clearinghouses and intermediaries today provide more than matchmaking services. They develop and manage in-depth, impact-focused pro bono initiatives, induce law reform and support legal clinics. These additional services can open the door between legal pro bono and professional pro bono, thus facilitating unconventional alliances and practices.

Location: Keurzaal

Moderator:
- Alberto Alemanno | The Good Lobby | France

Speakers:
- Eithne Lynch | Public Interest Law Alliance | Ireland
- Fiona McLeay | Justice Connect | Australia
- Alexander Papachristou | Cyrus R. Vance Centre for International Justice | U.S.A.
- Claudia Schluckebier | Proboneo | Germany
One Decade, One Project: Ten Years of Pro Bono to Prevent Genocide and Mass Atrocity Crimes

For 10 years, The Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation and White & Case have been working together on designing and implementing training programs for governments in genocide and mass atrocity prevention. This panel will demonstrate how a long-standing partnership can lead to deeper impact in both treating the symptoms of an issue, and in fighting against the causes of the problem. It will also explore how this kind of collaboration works in very practical terms: Who speaks with whom? How are new ideas or problems pursued? What are the outcomes and how are they measured? The panelists will discuss how the collaboration also involved engagement with the UN and World Bank.

Location: Veilingzaal

Moderator:
• Jacqueline MacLennan | White & Case | Belgium

Speakers:
• Tibi Galis | Auschwitz Institute for Peace & Reconciliation | U.S.A.
• Owen Pell | White & Case | U.S.A.

Reproductive Healthcare for Undocumented Migrants

As a result of a range of discriminatory and restrictive laws and policies, access to reproductive health services is severely curtailed for undocumented migrant women in Europe. The recent arrival of large numbers of asylum seekers in Europe, many of whom will not receive refugee status or protection and could become undocumented migrants, is highlighting the need to address the systematic denial of rights for undocumented migrants. This workshop aims to showcase and identify opportunities for collaborative work between civil society and law firms to address these challenges and advance respect for undocumented migrant women’s human rights.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal

Moderator:
• Tom Dunn | Clifford Chance | U.K.

Speakers:
• Katharina Heinlein | Linklaters | Germany
• Alyna Smith | PICUM | Belgium
• Katrine Thomasen | Center for Reproductive Rights | Switzerland
WORKSHOP SESSION 2

Protecting Human Rights Through Creative Lawyering

Anti-human rights rhetoric has become mainstream around the world, and law is being used to quieten civil society and inhibit accountability for human rights violations. Likewise, there has been a frustration with prevailing barriers to domestic litigation to secure redress. More than ever, it is imperative that as lawyers working to uphold justice, we think creatively and act strategically to use law to effect positive change and generate new forms of accountability. The speakers in this workshop are already doing that and will share their experience and ideas for employing transnational law, class actions, universal jurisdiction and innovative strategic litigation to ensure the protection of rights.

Location: Administratiezaal

Moderator:
• Wolfgang Kaleck | European Centre for Constitutional & Human Rights | Germany

Speakers:
• Gearoid O’Cuinn | Global Legal Action Network | U.K.
• Marieke de Hoon | Public Interest Law and Policy Group | Netherlands
• Jelle Klaas | Public Interest Litigation Project | Netherlands
• Liesbeth Zegveld | Prakken D’Oliveira | Netherlands

There's an App for That

Apps and online tools are proliferating—but is the pro bono sector keeping up? Using online platforms can give ordinary people the legal empowerment to resolve their problems without resorting to lawyers—which could prove vital in a time of high legal fees and limited free legal advice. But how easily can legal concepts translate into digital form? How can lawyers and tech experts work together better to come up with systems that are easy and useful for the general public to resolve their legal disputes? This session will look at some examples of successful apps or online platforms that have been built and actually used, and consider what further opportunities might be out there for enterprising pro bono lawyers, NGOs and businesses.

Location: Keurzaal

Moderator:
• Hayley Jones | Allen & Overy | U.K.
Speakers:
- Elisabeth Baraka | Advocates for International Development | U.K.
- Mark O’Brien | ProBono.net | U.S.A.
- Nathalie Dijkman | HIIL Innovating Justice | Netherlands
- Jimmy Vestbirk | Legal Geek | U.K.

Practicing Law with Respect for Human Rights

Lawyers play a vital role in advising their clients on human rights impacts, compliance and risks, but how far do their legal, contractual and ethical obligations go? Speakers in this session will discuss the progress that law firms are making in implementing the 2011 Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, in both their advice to clients and as business enterprises themselves. They will also share some of the challenges of adding a human rights lens to a firm’s practice and operations, and explore how pro bono work can complement this.

Location: Veilingzaal

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

Speakers:
- Elodie Aba | Business & Human Rights Resource Centre | France
- Tom Dunn | Clifford Chance | U.K.
- Susan Hazledine | International Senior Lawyers Project | U.K.
- Carmen Pombo Morales | Fundacion Fernando Pombo | Spain
- Jo Weiss | White & Case | U.S.A.

Collaborating to Support Refugees in Europe

In the face of urgent and overwhelming need, law firms, clearinghouses and NGOs are mobilizing their staff and resources to provide legal assistance to those seeking protection in Europe. At the heart of these initiatives is collaboration: pooling of resources and combining expertise for deeper impact and scale. The first part of this workshop will highlight some leading examples of such collaboration and what lessons we’ve learned from them. The second part will engage participants in a discussion about where new collaborative efforts can meet the unmet legal needs of refugees.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal

Moderators:
- Marianne McKeown | PILnet | Germany
- Serena Grant | TrustLaw | U.K.
**Workshop Session 3**

**Slaves to the System: Bonded North Korean Workers in the EU**

This workshop will shine a light on the practice of companies using bonded laborers from North Korea in EU member states, and explore legal strategies and collaboration to address it. The Slaves to the System research project, initiated by Leiden University, investigated the dispatch of North Korean workers in large numbers to countries such as China, Russia, Qatar and Kuwait, as well as EU member states. Their research found that the use of North Korean workers in Poland has been documented in great detail, and they were employed using complex agreements. The workers were posted at companies which were receiving regional development funds from the EU and at shipyards building and/or repairing NATO vessels. Testimonial evidence clearly points to the fact that passports were withheld by the North Korean managers and/or the embassy and that none of the workers had any freedom of movement. The data gathered from contracts, labor inspection reports and testimonies demonstrate that the human rights of these workers have been severely infringed upon, as were their rights as employees in the EU. Moreover, these practices constitute infringements on consumer law and laws on the trafficking of human beings. The project team, which consists of academics and lawyers working on North Korea, international labor law, labor law, and international public law, would like to explore opportunities to use this research for concrete legal action.

**Location:** Administratiezaal

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

**Speakers:**
- Remco Breuker | Leiden University | Netherlands
- Klara Boonstra | Vrije Universiteit | Netherlands
- Imke van Gardingen | Dutch Federation of Labour Unions | Netherlands
Lawyers Advancing the Rule of Law via Supporting Social Entrepreneurship

This session will explore the exponential increase of pro bono needs in recent years for the promotion of social enterprises. It will also analyze how this trend advances the rule of law and promotes the UN Social Development Goals and, more concretely, the alleviation of poverty. The objective is to explore the opportunities for the legal profession to collaborate locally and internationally with a variety of organizations, including NGOs, to facilitate the work of social entrepreneurs and encourage out-of-the-box thinking for pro bono and low bono lawyers.

Location: Keurzaal

Moderator:
• Ana Higuera | Fundacion Fernando Pombo | Spain

Speakers:
• Filipe Santos Barata | Gomez-Acebo & Pombo | Portugal
• Serena Grant | Trustlaw | U.K.
• Ian McDougall | LexisNexis | U.S.A.
• Laura Tuell | Jones Day | U.S.A.

Not the Business Case for Pro Bono

This workshop will look in depth at a few of the law firms which have most successfully integrated pro bono practice into who they are, in order to understand how and why that happened. The speakers will explore the reality that, although there is a business case for pro bono at commercial firms, the business case cannot be the thing which drives pro bono practice success. They understand that making pro bono a fundamental part of a law firm is a patient process which is built around the concept of pro bono work to improve access to justice—an inherent professional responsibility of all lawyers.

Location: Veilingzaal

Moderator:
• David Hillard | Clayton Utz | Australia

Speakers:
• Eamonn Conlon | A&L Goodbody | Ireland
• Jacqueline Mulryne | Arnold & Porter | U.K.
• Steven Schulman | Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld | U.S.A.
Harnessing the Power of Law to Restore Our Climate

Governments around the world have the duty to care for their people. Public interest lawyers around the globe are using this fundamental principle to combat climate change in the courtroom, and are increasingly creative in using the law to compel governments to protect the people, their rights and the climate, atmosphere, and natural resources they depend on. Drawing on strategic climate litigation in Europe, Asia and the U.S., this panel will examine ways in which the duty of care is established, used and applied to climate change in different jurisdictions, and demonstrate why law firms should join this growing movement.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal

Moderator:
- Gillian Lobo | Client Earth | U.K.

Speakers:
- Michelle Jonker Argueta | Greenpeace | Netherlands
- Dennis van Berkel | Urgenda | Netherlands
- Elizabeth Brown | Our Children’s Trust | U.S.A.

19:00–21:30 Pro Bono Awards Reception

Location: Felix Meritis | Keizersgracht 324 | 1016 EZ Amsterdam

Friday, 18 November

09:00–10:00 Sparks Talks: Putting Publico at the Heart of Pro Bono

Pro Bono Publico is the Latin phrase at the heart of the pro bono movement; it speaks to the intimate connection between pro bono and public interest lawyering. Law is a social process that belongs to all of us, but the good that “publico” represents is often forgotten. Lawyering for the good of the public does not simply mean helping clients who cannot pay, it is based on the belief that law should work for everyone. This Spark Talks series aims to remind us why ‘publico’ is at the heart of pro bono.

M.C.:
- David Hillard | Clayton Utz | Australia

Speakers:
- Climate 21: 21 Kids fighting for Climate Recovery by 2100: Kelly Matheson | Our Children’s Trust | U.S.A.
10:00–10:30  Coffee Break

10:30–11:45  WORKSHOP SESSION 4

Access to Justice in Belgium & Luxembourg: The Roles of Legal Aid, Pro Deo & Pro Bono

Access to justice in Belgium and Luxembourg has traditionally been protected by legal aid systems, in conjunction with pro deo legal assistance provided by trainee and legal aid lawyers to low income individuals. However, NGOs typically do not have access to these resources, the availability of legal aid outside of criminal matters is limited, and there are growing numbers of lawyers that want to use their legal expertise for good causes. This workshop will explore the needs, opportunities and growth of pro bono in Belgium and Luxembourg.

Location: Administratiezaal

Moderator:
  • Jan Peeters | Stibbe | Belgium

Speakers:
  • Charles-Albert Helleputte | Mayer Brown | Belgium
  • Celine Maes | Dutch Brussels Bar | Belgium
  • Anne-Francoise Meeus | European Citizen Action Service | Belgium
  • Frank Wies | Barreau de Luxembourg | Luxembourg

Closing Space for Civil Society I: Protecting Human Rights Defenders

This workshop is the first in a two-part series on closing space for civil society. Around the world those that speak against injustice and advocate for the protection of human rights are under threat; arrested, detained and harassed for challenging the status quo. As a community of lawyers, it is our responsibility to stand in solidarity with them and to use the tools and expertise at our disposal to help them. The speakers in this workshop are already doing this, and are seeking to inform and engage a wider network of lawyers in their work.

Location: Keurzaal

Moderator:
  • Jan Truijens Martinez | Stibbe | Netherlands
Speakers:
- Galina Arapova | Mass Media Defence Centre | Russia
- Bruno Langhendries | Avocats Sans Frontières | Belgium
- Tess McEvoy | International Service for Human Rights | Switzerland
- Alinda Vermeer | Media Legal Defense Initiative | U.K.

Legal Careers With Purpose: The Perspective of Young Lawyers
Young lawyers are increasingly seeking legal careers outside the traditional model. Attracted to law by the desire to promote access to justice and make a difference in their communities, they don’t want to choose between commercial, private and public interest practice; they aspire to be socially responsible lawyers in whatever law firm or organization they work for. In this workshop, young lawyers will share their perspective on what the future of socially responsible lawyering is, and how law firms, companies and NGOs can harness and support their aspirations.

Location: Veilingzaal

Moderator:
- Henrique Olsen | Linklaters | U.K.

Speakers:
- Jessica Allen | European Law Students Association | U.K.
- Freya Claydon | Howard League for Penal Reform | U.K.
- Amy Collins | A&L Goodbody | Northern Ireland
- Daphne Dijkman | PAX for Peace | Netherlands
- Anastasia Kalinina | European Law Students Association | U.K.

Addressing Access to Justice – Developing Legal Clinics for Individuals
In response to legal aid cuts in the U.K. and the corresponding severe impact on access to justice for vulnerable people, 40 leading law firms have signed up to the U.K. Collaborative Plan for Pro Bono: a commitment to directing a growing proportion of their pro bono work to promote access to justice for low income individuals. In this session members, of the Collaborative Plan will share their learning on developing legal clinics in partnership with other firms in the U.K. and across Europe, and offer practical tips and advice for others wishing to do the same.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal

Moderator:
- Amy Heading | DLA Piper | U.K.
The Power of Video for Justice and Accountability

In the age of citizen journalism and online-streamed conflicts, human rights defenders, investigators, journalists and courageous citizens document human rights violations on their mobile phones every day around the world. But can this footage help bring accountability for egregious abuses? This panel brings experts together to examine the importance of the game-changing role that frontline documenters and technology are playing in transforming the fields of justice and accountability, as well as the concrete steps they can implement to capture, organize, and manage the rich information they collect via mobile devices and video cameras during violent events, armed conflicts or political and social turmoil.

Location: Administratiezaal

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

Speakers:
- Vincent Cillessen | National Police of the Netherlands | Netherlands
- Raquel Vázquez Llorente | eyeWitness to Atrocities – International Bar Association | U.K.
- Kelly Matheson | WITNESS | Netherlands

Closing Space for Civil Society II: Protecting NGOs

This is the second in a two-part workshop series on closing space for civil society. In parts of Europe and all around the world today, governments are tweaking laws and regulations in order to curtail the ability of NGOs to oppose exploitive or repressive agendas. How can we use the law to fight back? From diplomatic channels to domestic courts, our panelists have been thoughtful and committed advocates in defense of independent civil society organizations. This panel will consider the role of lawyers in helping NGOs survive and thrive in a harsher new environment.

Location: Keurzaal
Moderator:
• Devon Kearney | PILnet | U.S.A.

Speakers:
• Cornelius Hacking | Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Netherlands
• Veronika Mora | Okotars | Hungary
• Edwin Rekosh | Cardozo School of Law | U.S.A.

The Development of EU Law Pro Bono Practice: Challenges and Opportunities
There are over 600 NGOs operating in Brussels, and many of them are involved in public interest law advocacy targeted at the EU institutions. In this light, Brussels seems ripe to become a pro bono capital of Europe. In fact, recent surveys indicate that Brussels-based lawyers are engaged in a wide range of pro bono work, particularly in the field of EU law and policy. The first part of this session will explore what work is being done, what works and what doesn’t and provide examples of particularly innovative projects. The second part of the session will explore other issues that arise in the context of EU-oriented pro bono work: conflicts of interest, lobbying assistance and individual legal assistance with respect to EU law rights.

Location: Veilingzaal

Moderators:
• Alberto Alemanno | The Good Lobby | France
• Lamin Khadar | DLA Piper | Netherlands

Speakers:
• Michael Diedring | European Programme for Integration and Migration | Belgium
• Claire Fourel | Ashurst | U.K.
• Charles-Albert Helleputte | Mayer Brown | Belgium
• Gillian Lobo | Client Earth | U.K.
• Jacqueline Mulryne | Arnold & Porter | U.K.
• Anthony Valcke | EU Rights Clinic, University of Kent in Brussels | Belgium

NGOs & Law Firms: Effective Collaboration for Impact
This interactive workshop will bring together NGO and law firm participants to find solutions to problems they encounter while working together and to maximize the impact and effectiveness of their pro bono collaborations.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal
Facilitators:
- Ozgur Kahale | DLA Piper | France
- Rene Kathawala | Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe | U.S.A
- Oliver Lewis | Mental Disability Advocacy Centre | U.K.

13:20–14:30 Lunch

14:30–15:45 WORKSHOP SESSION 6

Privacy Under Pressure
Big data, predictive policing and profiling through algorithms: the Dutch state and companies are struggling to deal with these new phenomena that significantly impact the privacy rights of citizens. This year the Dutch government released an influential report on the issue and a number of ground-breaking court-cases have been launched in the Netherlands. In this workshop, lawyers, experts and NGOs will discuss the strategies and challenges of litigating on privacy and big data.

Location: Administratiezaal

Moderator:
- Jelle Klaas | Public Interest Litigation Project | Netherlands

Speakers:
- Vincent Böhre | Privacy First | Netherlands
- Quirine Eijkman | Leiden University | Netherlands
- Otto Volgenant | Boekx lawyers | Netherlands

How Can Solo Practitioners Do Pro Bono Effectively?
Pro bono is a challenge for everyone, but it is especially tough for lawyers practicing on their own, whose only resource is their own time. In many parts of the world, especially (but not only) in less developed regions, in rural areas and small towns, this is, in fact, an overwhelmingly prevailing form of law practice. Lawyers play a pivotal role in forming the life of local communities. How can they be engaged in meaningful pro bono work that has a positive impact on the local status quo? Our panelists will share their experiences of both providing pro bono services as individual lawyers and stimulating pro bono commitment, as well as actually placing pro bono matters, among such individual lawyers in England and Wales, Hungary, and on a global level.

Location: Keurzaal
Moderator:
• Dmitry Shabelnikov | PILnet | Russia

Speakers:
• Tamas Barabas | PILnet | Hungary
• Richard Honey | Barrister (public and environmental law) | U.K.
• Anne-Francoise Meeus | European Citizen Action Service | Belgium

Accessing the Legal System in Europe:
A Guide for NGOs and Pro Bono Lawyers and Pro Bono Lawyers

This workshop will provide practical information for NGOs and pro bono lawyers alike on how to bring cases to the European Court of Human Rights. Article 6 of the European Convention of Human Rights guarantees the right to a fair trial, including the right of access to the legal system, but taking a case to the Court can be a lengthy, complex and resource-heavy process. Through insights into the conditions set by the Court, both NGOs and their pro bono counsel will come away with a matter-of-fact understanding of the conditions, and be better prepared to take a case to the Court.

Location: Veilingzaal

Moderators:
• Machteld Claessens | Stibbe | Netherlands
• Marieke Spee | Stibbe | Netherlands

Simulation:
Incorporating Human Rights into Business Decision Making

This role-play session will focus on how human rights are relevant for business. The setting of the session will be a boardroom discussion in a multi-national infrastructure/construction corporation. An executive management meeting has been called to discuss a proposed joint venture with a state-owned company in a fictitious developing country. Various human rights-related dilemmas have emerged in relation to the prospective deal. There are four characters in the executive management meeting: CEO, Managing Director, Head of CSR and General Counsel. The session will seek to explore how their discussion would unfold, how human rights issues might be considered and discussed and what factors might influence their approach to decision making. This executive management simulation will seek to assist the audience to understand the factors that can influence business decision makers.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal
Facilitator:
- Danny Bradlow | University of Pretoria | South Africa

Role Players:
- Barbara de Ridder-Jongerden | Vodafone | Netherlands
- Karen Sample | Boston Consulting | Netherlands
- Derk Ter Braak | Plan Nederland | Netherlands

Discussants:
- Nicolas Patrick | DLA Piper | U.K.
- Edwin Rekosh | Cardozo School of Law | U.S.A.

15:45–16:30

Forum Wrap Up & Closing Remarks

Forum Wrap Up:
- Miriam Buhl | Weil, Gotshal & Manges | U.S.A.
- Felicity Kirk | Ropes & Gray | U.K.
- Suzanne Turner | Dechert | PILnet | U.S.A.

Closing Remarks:
- Marianne McKeown | PILnet | Germany
- Garth Meintjes | PILnet | U.S.A.

Location: Effectenbeurzaal
2016 European Pro Bono Awards

The sixth annual European Pro Bono Forum Award for Exemplary Partnership in the Public Interest is awarded to the best pro bono legal project undertaken as a collaboration between an NGO and a European law firm. The selection committee for this award is comprised of the 2015 award winners and representatives from PILnet’s partner organizations.

The European Pro Bono Award for Local Pro Bono Impact, inaugurated last year, goes to the best innovative pro bono legal project undertaken by a law firm and/or an NGO at the local level, in one of the European Union’s Member States. The award recipient will be selected by a member of the 2015 winning organization and other members selected by PILnet.

Established this year, the European Publico Award will recognize the courageous efforts of those advocating in favor of the public interest. It acknowledges an individual (or team of lawyers) whose work has had significant impact on fighting social injustices and protecting citizens’ fundamental rights. PILnet’s Board of Directors and staff will select the inaugural award winner(s).

Award winners will be announced on 17 November, at the Forum’s Pro Bono Awards Reception.
2016 European Pro Bono Award for Exemplary Partnership in the Public Interest

SHORTLISTED PROJECTS

Legal organizations collective and Citizens UK

Safe Passage UK powered by Citizens UK (SPUK-CUK) and a collective of legal organizations have been nominated for PILnet’s 2016 European Award for Exemplary Partnership in the Public Interest. Among the several thousand people living in the unofficial “Jungle” camp of Calais, there were a significant number of unaccompanied minors (UMs), separated from their family and left vulnerable to trafficking and violence. Asylum-seeking UMs in an EU country have a legal right to be reunited with family members legally residing in another EU country under the Dublin III regulation, if in their best interest. Despite the existence of this framework and the French and UK governments’ human rights obligations, there was no process for UMs in Calais with UK family members to access their rights in practice. In January 2016, Bhatt Murphy, Islington Law Centre’s Migrant Law Project, Doughty Street and Blackstone Chambers performed strategic litigation for the consideration of asylum claims by three UMs and one vulnerable adult seeking admission to the UK following notification to the French authorities. In response, SPUK-UK worked with a collective of lawyers from a number of law firms and NGOs in the UK and France to ensure that as many UMs in Calais as possible were offered a legal, safe and quick passage to the UK, as long as an accessible process continued to be lacking. This collective included Bhatt Murphy, Islington Law Centre, Wesley Gryk Solicitors, Jackson Center, Duncan Lewis, Kingsley Napley, Ashurst, Maitres Marie-Charlotte Fabié and Lou Salomé Sorlin of France. (While current list of organizations is incomplete, it will be extended upon receiving approvals from all contributors.) Between January–July 2016, with SPUK-CUK identifying UMs in Calais and facilitating trips by UK and French lawyers to the Jungle camp, approximately 50 UMs stranded in Calais were reunited with their families in the UK.

Linklaters and the European Council on Refugees and Exiles

Together, Linklaters and the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) developed a unique database that furnished up-to-date asylum and refugee case law summaries. The database provides free access to jurisprudence from 19 European States in 14 different languages, as well as jurisprudence from the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) and the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). These case summaries have been crucial to the dissemination of asylum judgments and to keeping lawyers, policy makers, and legislators abreast of how States and the judiciary are transposing and implementing EU legal obligations. The summaries have also been used to substantiate arguments advanced in ECRE’s third party interventions before the ECHR, in ECRE’s policy papers, ECRE’s comments on proposals for EU asylum legislation, ECRE/ELENA, a legal network of asylum practitioners across Europe, case law fact sheets, and ELENA’s research papers. Additionally and crucially, the circulation of Linklaters summaries has assisted domestic practitioners in the provision of quality legal counsel to those in need of international protection and subsequently the improvement of their own
argumentation. Linklaters lawyers have provided over 600 hours of pro bono assistance across eight European offices, including Madrid, London, Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Frankfurt and Düsseldorf since May 2015, and 42 lawyers across 13 different practice groups have collaborated together to review and summarize cases for European Database of Asylum Law.

Reed Smith and METAdrasi

Reed Smith and Greek NGO METAdrasi, in response to one of the worst refugee crises in modern history, collaborated to provide legal assistance to refugees on the Greek islands of Lesvos and Chios. The displaced suffer from a severe lack of resources, including legal assistance, as they wait for their admissibility and asylum proceedings to be resolved. Reed Smith has been instrumental in developing systems to provide access to legal counsel, by working with local authorities to implement a working system for international lawyers to provide support to refugees during in proceedings. Working with METAdrasi’s lawyers, Reed Smith’s team of volunteer lawyers are on the ground in the refugee camps, providing assistance to refugees facing deportation to Turkey through preparation for interviews, attending interviews and supporting Metadrasi lawyers with appeals, supporting unaccompanied minors by identifying family reunification cases and gathering necessary evidence, and assisting torture victims through counsel in hearings, gathering forensic evidence and helping to obtain medical support. 60 volunteers travelled to Greece to work on the project between May–September 2016, assisting with 270 adult cases and 150 unaccompanied minors. An additional team of 30 lawyers also provide remote legal assistance through research and drafting.

White & Case and ECPAT

White & Case and ECPAT International’s (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes) collaborative effort resulted in the first comprehensive global study of substantive and procedural law related to online child sexual exploitation. New technologies—from cloud computing to the dark web—have made online child sexual exploitation (OCSE) more pervasive than ever. Governments, law enforcement bodies, and NGOs are not always prepared to adequately confront these new challenges. A lack of coordination among these institutions has also limited their effectiveness in fighting this global problem. Drawing on its uniquely global expertise, White & Case helped ECPAT conduct the first comprehensive global study of substantive and procedural law related to OCSE. This 92-country effort, entitled Global Study of Laws Relating to Sexual Exploitation of Children Online, provides an accurate assessment of the legal landscape on OCSE around the world, highlighting best practices and identifying legal gaps across multiple jurisdictions. ECPAT has used the study to fine-tune its interventions from country to country, strengthening anti-OCSE legislation and enhancing the ability of law enforcement to prosecute offenders. ECPAT has also used the findings to inform the advocacy papers and expert advice it presents to regional and international child-rights groups. Thirty partners and 164 associates contributed to the report, and White & Case lawyers contributed more than 3,900 hours to this project.
2016 European Pro Bono Award for Local Pro Bono Impact

SHORTLISTED PROJECTS

Attorneys Pro Bono

Attorneys Pro Bono has been shortlisted for PILnet’s 2016 European Award for Local Pro Bono Impact for its work towards better policies for the homeless in Slovakia. In collaboration with NGOs and law firms, the clearinghouse worked to affect state policies regarding rising homelessness in Slovakia. The Ministry of Justice formed a Pro Bono Working Group which made various proposals to amend the law, in part through affecting the wording regarding bankruptcy proceedings, debt-repayment calendars, and provision of legal aid for people in material need. Research of the Insolvency Codes pertinent to NINA (No Income No Assets), led by European and American lawyers, lead to a proposal for reasonable system measures in Slovakia. The working group also contributed to a proposal for the Public Procurement Act to support disadvantaged groups in accessing work opportunities, as well as a proposal of a National Strategy to Promote Social Inclusion and Combating Poverty, which omitted homeless people as one of the vulnerable groups. Through this project, both lawyers and NGOs feel they have formed a lasting working bond and hope that their collaboration will extend past the consultation process. Many are now personally invested in the project and hope to work on other social problems, such as the lack of a social housing system, access to health insurance, and lack of employment opportunities for the homeless in Slovakia. Inspired by the project, Attorneys Pro Bono opened a Legal Homelessness Clinic in March 2016.

Centrum Pro Bono/Law in Transplantation Firm

Aneta Sieradzka, a young independent lawyer working in Poland has been shortlisted in recognition of her actions to change health care regulations in Poland. Sieradzka led the efforts of the Lexfirma Law Firm in Cracow to update and inform the public regarding the new government’s laws on health care provision and access to treatment. She began her analysis in December 2015, a month before the new regulations came into force. Through active advocacy via social media and legal action, Sieradzka successfully initiated changes within the regulations, proving that these were not in accordance with the European Union’s basic terms for availability of medicines and showing that they violated health rights of Polish citizens. Through legal action, she headed changes that would make treatment and immunosuppressive drugs newly accessible to both children and adults. Previous changes to the law had been detrimental to transplant patients – Sieradzka’s firm succeeded in providing assistance to 13,000 patients after organ transplant. The regulations were also changed to make modern methods of treatment widely available to patients of all economic backgrounds, thereby ensuring equality before the law in the country’s health system. In April of this year, she was the recipient of the first pro bono lawyer award in Poland, for her activity and commitment to the needy, in accordance with democratic principles and social justice.
Fundacion Fernando Pombo

Since 2011, Fundación Fernando Pombo’s MULTIPLICATE program has shaped future lawyers into the new generation’s social leaders through an interactive training and teaching program. MULTIPLICATE aims to promote social responsibility in the legal profession as well as strengthening the rule of law and promote legal clinics. The program enlists lawyers to teach undergraduate and postgraduate law students in lectures and seminars and work together on the resolution of complex legal cases. Through training sessions and legal clinics, MULTIPLICATE has resolved more than 50 cases presented by NGOs and disadvantaged groups. Fundación Fernando Pombo’s project has helped to bring the legal community closer to social realities and created a framework for dynamic interaction between advocacy, law students and social institutions. Since its beginning, the project has served more than 3,000 students in more than 20 Spanish universities, contributing to the expansion of pro bono in the legal environment. Training sessions and reports by MULTIPLICATE have touched on various issues, from legal issues of the homeless, to gender-based violence, to rare diseases. The FFP was nominated for the European Pro Bono Award in 2015 as well as the 2016 IBA Pro Bono Award. It was recognized by the Financial Times Innovative Lawyers Report for its continued advocacy of social responsibility in the legal profession.

ACTEDO Pro Bono Network for Human Rights

ACTEDO’s Pro Bono Network for Human Rights matches lawyers and law firms to vulnerable individuals or NGOs in cases of human rights violations. Since its launch in 2014, it has partnered with 4 law firms and 50 pro bono lawyers, and provided legal assistance to NGOs across Romania on various issues, including discrimination, gender violence, rights of people with disabilities, and hate speech. In addition to helping individuals and NGOs receive free legal advice and representation in court, the Pro Bono Network has also worked to promote legislation regarding human rights and raise awareness on the vulnerability of certain groups. Through a more consistent partnership between lawyers and NGOs, the network aims to reconfigure the legal profession as a “consolidated democracy”, and to ensure respect for human rights and equality before the law for all, regardless of financial ability. Among its initiatives, the Pro Bono Network for Human Rights held training sessions on anti-discrimination legislation and case-law, working meetings, as well as two public debates on access to justice and the use of the legal clinic as a human rights tool, both of which were attended by over 100 participants. ACTEDO has created a methodology that it considers to be easy to understand and replicate in different environments, regardless of political, social or economic background.

LawWorks

LawWorks has been shortlisted for PILnet’s 2016 European Award for Local Pro Bono Impact for its Welfare Benefits Advocacy project. The project supports solicitors so that they can provide in-depth pro bono assistance and representation at 1st tier tribunals. Lawyers from law firms including Kirkland & Ellis International, Clyde & Co, BLP, Norton Rose Fulbright and Sidley Austin, receive bespoke training by recognized expert trainers on the relevant area of law and procedure to develop a ‘secondary specialization’ in social security law. These lawyers then support their
clients through every stage of their appeal. In the context of UK financial austerity and hugely diminished legal aid and social welfare budgets, the project provides an increasingly relevant service, addressing the unmet need for advocacy at appeal tribunals by providing representation for vulnerable people experiencing poverty, social exclusion and stigma, and who would otherwise face an appeal process unsupported. Since September 2015, the project has supported 17 individuals with representation for appeals against adverse Employment Support Allowance decisions, with a 100% success rate. Currently, a further 7 clients are awaiting appeal hearings. In light of the successes with ESA appeals, the project has recently been extended to include Personal Independent Payments appeals. The programme has a pool of over 100 trained volunteer lawyers across five London law firms. To date, approximately 900 hours have been spent on the project, around 635 hours provided by pro bono lawyers (including senior partners) and the remainder by LawWorks in providing training and supporting volunteers with their cases.
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](http://www.probonomanual.org).
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We applaud PILnet for its exemplary leadership in inspiring principled pro bono service to persons and communities in need.

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