



**UIA**

Union Internationale des Avocats  
International Association of Lawyers  
Unión Internacional de Abogados



# **UIA INTERNATIONAL BAR LEADERS SENATE**

*Special Mid-Term Session*

***London, Friday 6 June 2025***

**Initiatives and Projects of Law Societies and Bar Associations  
for the Protection of Lawyers at Risk**

**The European Convention on the Profession of Lawyer**

## Conference Venue

**The Law Society's Hall**  
**The Law Society of England and Wales**  
**113 Chancery Lane**  
**London WC2A 1PL - United Kingdom**

## Schedule

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

### **Visit to The Royal Courts of Justice**

Strand, London WC2A 2LL

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM

### **Lunch**

#### **Brasserie Blanc - Chancery Lane**

119 Chancery Lane  
London WC2A 1PP

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

### **International Bar Leaders Senate session**

The Law Society's Hall  
The Law Society of England and Wales  
113 Chancery Lane  
London WC2A 1PL

## Recommended Hotels

There are no specific arrangements for hotels, but the following hotels are located in the vicinity of the meeting venue:

- Apex Temple Court
- Mercure Bloomsbury
- Thistle Bloomsbury
- Leonardo Holborn Hotels

## General Information

*\*Spaces for the meeting are limited to 40 participants.*

*\*Only Bar Presidents or their representatives should attend. Accompanying persons may not register.*

*\*Simultaneous interpretation may be available in French, English and Spanish.*

### **For any information, please contact**

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## Part I

### **Initiatives and Projects of Law Societies and Bar Associations for the Protection of Lawyers at Risk**

Many Bars Associations and Law Societies around the world are undertaking international initiatives and projects for the protection of lawyers at risk, under threat or being persecuted by governments or other governmental or judicial authorities for discharging their legal duties and responsibilities or pursuing their profession.

This session will consist of several panels to present and illustrate a number of such initiatives and projects, and discuss interactively with the participants how synergies can be found and how the UIA, which has always been very active in defending lawyers at risk through the UIA-IROL (the Institute for the Rule of Law), might support these initiatives and projects and encourage developing alliances and coordinating actions and responses on a global basis.

## Part II

### **The European Convention on the Profession of Lawyer**

On 12 March 2025, the Committee of Ministers adopted the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer. This marks the successful conclusion of over two years of hard work of both the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ) and the Committee of Experts on the Protection of Lawyers (CJ-AV). The next step, for the Convention to take effect, is the official opening for signature by the Council of Europe member states scheduled to take place on 13 May 2025 during the ministerial conference in Luxembourg. The Council of Europe will encourage member states to support the Convention in spite of the short time leading up to the signing ceremony. It is hoped that as many states as possible will be able to sign it on this occasion.

The International Bar Leaders Session is the first opportunity at the international level to present the Convention and encourage member states to sign and thereafter to ratify the Convention, which is opened for signature also to States that are not members of the Council of Europe.

# PROGRAMME

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

## Opening of the Session and Welcome

**Carlo Mastellone**, President of the Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA), Florence, Italy

**Mark Evans**, Vice-President,  
The Law Society of England and Wales,  
London, United Kingdom

**Martin Pradel**, UIA-IROL Director General,  
Paris, France

**Alain Grosjean**, Secretary General, UIA International Bar  
Leaders Senate, Luxembourg, Luxembourg

2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

## Initiatives and Projects of Law Societies and Bar Associations for the Protection of Lawyers at Risk

### *Chairs*

**Alain Grosjean**, Secretary General, UIA International Bar  
Leaders Senate, Luxembourg, Luxembourg

**Nuhad Ponce**, Vice-President, UIA International Bar  
Leaders Senate, Mexico City, Mexico

### *Interactive debate*

## EUROPE

### *United Kingdom*

The “Lawyers at Risk” project

**Mark Evans**, Vice-President,  
The Law Society of England and Wales, London

### *France*

- The “Répit” project

**Vanessa Bousardo**, Vice President,  
Paris Bar Association, Paris

- The “Maison de l’Avocat” project  
**Julie Couturier**, President,  
Conseil national des barreaux, Paris

- The “Refugee” project  
**Louis-Georges Barret**, President,  
Nantes Bar Association, Nantes

### *Belgium*

**Olivier Haenecour**, Ordre des Barreaux Francophones  
et Germanophone (OBFG), Avocats Sans Frontières,  
Brussels, Belgium

### *Italy*

**Antonino La Lumia**, President,  
Milan Bar Association, Milan

### *Germany*

**Christian Lemke**, Bundesrechtsanwaltskammer (BRAK),  
Berlin

### *Hungary*

**Andras Szecskay**, Vice-President of the Hungarian Bar  
Association, Budapest

### *European organisation*

**Sara Chandler**, Past President - European Bars  
Federation (FBE), Secretary, Human Rights Commission  
of the European Bars Federation (FBE),  
London, United Kingdom

## AMERICA

### *USA*

**Christopher Pioch**, The Association of the Bar of the City  
of New York, New York

### *Mexico*

- Ana María Kudisch Castelló**, President, Barra  
Mexicana Colegio De Abogados, Mexico City
- José Ángel Santiago Ábrego**, President, Asociación  
Nacional de Abogados de Empresa Colegio de  
Abogados (ANADE), Mexico City
- Arturo Pueblita Fernández**, President, Ilustre y  
Nacional Colegio de Abogados de México (INCAM),  
Mexico City

## ASIA-PACIFIC

### *Japan*

**Tokyo Bar Association**, Tokyo (name to be confirmed)

## AFRICA

### *DR Congo*

**Cherine Luzaisu**, President of the Kongo Central Bar  
Association, Matadi



4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Coffee break

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

## The European Convention on the Profession of Lawyer

### *Chairs*

**Luc Deshaies**, Vice-President, UIA International Bar Leaders Senate, Montreal, Canada

### *Speakers*

**Georges-Albert Dal**, Ordre Français des Avocats du Barreau de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium

**Valérie Dupong**, Past President, Luxembourg Bar Association, Luxembourg

**Tony Fisher**, The Law Society of England and Wales, London, United Kingdom

**François Moyse**, Counsellor to the UIA President, Luxembourg

**Laurent Pettiti**, President, Délégation des Barreaux de France, Paris, France



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Kindly complete one form per delegate  
IN CAPITAL LETTERS and return it to:  
uiacentre@uianet.org

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**Special Mid-Term Session**  
**London, 6 June 2025**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**INTERNATIONAL BAR LEADERS SENATE REGISTRATION**

Family Name: .....  
First Name: .....  
Firm / Organisation: .....  
Address: .....  
Postcode: ..... City: ..... Country: .....  
Tel: ..... Email: .....  
Date of Birth : \_\_ / \_\_ / \_\_ Special requests (special diet, handicap, etc.): .....

**OPTIONAL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES (Reserved to the meeting participants)**

Please tick and confirm number:

☐

Visit to The Royal Courts of Justice, 6 June

Price: €24 per person

Please tick and confirm number:

☐

Lunch, Brasserie Blanc - Chancery Lane, 6 June

Price: €75 per person

**TOTAL ..... €**

**METHOD OF PAYMENT**

The registration fees for optional social activities must be paid in Euros only:

☐

By BIC / SWIFT bank transfer, specifying on the transfer order: "no charges for the beneficiary", in favor of the Union Internationale des Avocats, indicating your surname and first name and the reference: "London IBLS".

Account holder:

Union Internationale des Avocats

Société Générale – Agence Paris Institutionnels

50 rue d'Anjou - 75008 Paris - France

BIC / SWIFT: SOGEFRPP

IBAN: FR76 3000 3033 9200 0503 4165 164

☐

By credit card:

☐

Visa

☐

Mastercard

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date (MM/YY): \_\_ / \_\_

Security code : \_\_\_\_

Name of card holder : .....

I authorise the Union Internationale des Avocats to debit the above mentioned credit card in the amount of

€ (EUR) .....

Date: \_\_ / \_\_ / \_\_

Signature: .....

**THE SIGNATURE IS COMPULSORY TO AUTHORISE THE PAYMENT**