

# **Human Rights**



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Dear All

Please find below the October edition of our human rights update full of news, opportunities and events. As always please do feel free to circulate this update to your colleagues, students, friends and family.

# Law Society News

## Human rights work at the Law Society - get involved

The Law Society carries out a wide range of human rights work both domestically and internationally. I explain how you can get involved in the latest Law Society blog: Read blog now

## 'Where are human rights headed?'

This event will mark the launch of the Human Rights in Collaboration programme which will see events taking place throughout the UK to celebrate human rights. Register your place now

## Solicitors vital in UK business' understanding of human rights

Solicitors' role in protecting human rights is key when advising UK companies on their conduct at home and abroad. Read more

## Places still available at Law Society Business and Human Rights Workshops

These 2-hour workshops will provide an opportunity to learn about emerging developments in the area of business and human rights, and changing expectations of law firms. We will discuss the following:

- key developments regarding business responsibilities to respect human rights
- what these developments could mean for your clients and your practice;
- emerging expectations regarding how firms manage human rights risks associated with their client relationships, employees and supply chains; and
- the potential implications of professional responsibilities for the way in which law firms respond to these developments.

There are a few places still remaining for our workshops, to register please <u>click here</u>.

## Stakeholder engagement – Business and Human Rights

Stakeholder engagement is an important part of our business & human rights programme and we want to hear from you. Written submissions will be published on the Law Society website and will be used to guide the Law Society as it moves forward to determine how it can best help members respond to developments in the area of business and human rights. The deadline for sending your views is 20 October 2015. <u>Find out more</u>

## Helena Kennedy QC to speak at Law Society awards ceremony

The Law Society of England and Wales is delighted to announce that Baroness Helena Kennedy QC will be the keynote speaker at the Law Society Excellence Awards ceremony on Thursday 22 October at the Hilton Park Lane Hotel, London. <u>Find out more</u>

The winner of the 'Human Rights Lawyer of the Year' will also be announced at the ceremony and with an impressive shortlist it is going to be a very fierce competition! Shortlist for Human Rights Lawyer of the Year

## Bangladesh: Adilur Rahman Khan – Lawyer at Risk

The Law Society expressed concern about recent reports of intimidation and threats made against Mr Adilur Rahman

Kahn. Mr Adilur Rahman Kahn is one of Bangladesh's most prominent lawyers and human rights defenders. <u>Read intervention</u>

#### Thailand: Mr Andy Hall – Human Rights Defender at risk

The Law Society is concerned about the indictment of Mr Andy Hall, a researcher into issues relating to the labour rights of migrants and a human rights defender. Read more

#### Law Society Interventions

All interventions can be found on our website

#### What is the International Action Team (IAT) and are you interested in joining it?

The International Action Team or IAT is a Law Society driven project that relies on a pro-bono network of lawyers and law students who intervene on behalf of lawyers at risk across the globe. Please note the IAT may be required to undertake both factual and legal research as well as drafting. Find out more and get involved

# **Events of Interest:**

#### Where are human rights headed?

#### Justice for All. What can Law and the Courts do in Hard Times?

Date: 16/10/2015 Time: 14:00 – 18:30 Venue: Rutledge Suite, Ashley Building, Middle Temple Register

#### Save the Date:

To mark international Human Rights Day and to coincide with European Lawyers Day on 10 December the Law Society of England and Wales and the Bar Council will be holding a joint seminar on Freedom of Expression. More info to follow!

# **Opportunities**

Legal Research Intern Job title: Employer: Business & Human Rights Resource Centre Deadline: 18 October Location: Central London More info Job title: Senior Legal Officer Employer: Open Society Foundation Location: London or New York Deadline: 26 Oct 2015 More info **Executive Director** Job title: Employer: REPRIEVE Location: Central London £46k-£55k Salarv: Deadline: 21 Oct 2015 More info

Other news:

Law Society launches solicitors' mentoring scheme for minority groups Read more

The human rights lawyers challenging corporate abuse Read more

### Take our survey on business and human rights

Get involved with the Law Society Business and Human Rights programme by completing our survey. You will have a chance to win one of three £50 vouchers for Prezzo restaurant! Complete the survey

## Training:

International Action Team (IAT) Take our training now to become part of the IAT

# Don't forget to join us on social media:

E: Follow us on Twitter

. Join us on LinkedIn

Kind regards

Sarah

#### Sarah J Smith Human Rights and Rule of Law Policy Adviser

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