

1. The Mandate and the 8 Key Questions

(NB references to paragraphs and annexes refer to [the Intervention Manual, December 2011](#))

1.1. Volunteers should first identify which of the following 3 strands of Law Society's mandate this intervention falls:

- in support of lawyers, judges and their co-workers whose human rights have been violated or who risk intimidation, assault or other interference for carrying out their legitimate duties;
- opposing threats to independence of the legal profession, the independence of the judiciary, or the proper administration of justice; and
- opposing gross or systemic human rights violations or breaches of norms generally accepted and recognized by the international community which undermine respect for the rule of law.

1.2. Volunteers should then ask themselves the following 8 key questions:

1. Is the victim a lawyer or a judge?
2. Does the violation impede the work of or threaten the independence of the judiciary or independence of the legal profession?
3. Is the victim a non-lawyer who is effectively doing the work of a lawyer?
4. Is the victim a non-lawyer who works for a lawyer, law firm, an organisation doing legal work or organisation representing those doing legal work?
5. Is the victim a non-lawyer who has been denied access to a lawyer or to court or has been hindered in obtaining such access (eg travel restrictions, threats of violence etc)
6. If none of the above, has another organisation or person produced a report about or a comment on the matter? Is that organisation or person a lawyer, law firm, an organisation doing legal work or organisation representing those doing legal work?
7. If none of the above, is the violation of the rule of law gross and systemic. It is so exceptional and clear-cut that the Law Society should comment on it?
8. If you cannot answer "yes" to any of the above, it is unlikely to be an intervention. Please contact the Law Society to discuss alternative actions by leaving a comment here:
<http://www.doodle.com/qj8dya98g3yr7nig>

1.3. Finally, review the list of issues/violations on the first page of the relevant Annex as follows:

- Lawyers at risk (Annex 2)

- Threat to independence of judiciary or legal profession (Annex 3)
- Rule of law violation (Annex 4)
- Death penalty (Annex 5)