

# Human Rights





Dear All

Please do circulate the following news, opportunities and events to your colleagues, students, friends and family.

# **Law Society News**

#### Law Society visit to Colombia highlights human rights issues

The visit was part of the Colombia Caravana 2014, an international initiative to support the work of lawyers in Colombia. Lawyers in Colombia receive death threats, are persecuted and harassed on a frequent basis. Read more

#### Law Society granted special consultative status at the UN

Consultative status for an organisation allows it to actively engage with the Economic and Social Council of the UN, and its subsidiary bodies, as well as with the United Nations Secretariat, programmes, funds and agencies in a number of ways.

Read more

# **Modern Slavery Bill response**

The Law Society has submitted evidence to the Modern Slavery Bill Public Committee. While the Society supports plans to address modern slavery, it raised concerns including the lack of adequate safeguarding of survivors of slavery and trafficking. Read more

#### **Access to Justice Day**

The Law Society launched an Access to Justice campaign today. Read the President's opening speech here

#### Don't forget to book your place at our annual human rights conference

The conference will cover a wide range of topics associated with business and human rights including Modern Slavery, trafficking, a treaty on business and human rights, supply chains and accountability as well as lawyers and the responsibility to respect. Click here to check out the fantastic line up and to book your place

#### **European Pro Bono Forum**

Pro bono work is a vital part of the Law Society's commitment to access to justice. The Pro Bono Forum is the only platform of it's kind bringing together pro bono lawyers and NGOs from across Europe. The Law Society is proud to host the opening reception on Wednesday 5 November to promote and support the importance of pro bono practice.

For more info and to book your place at the forum please click here

### Tajikistan: Arrest and detention of lawyer

The Law Society and Lawyers for Lawyers (in Netherlands) are concerned to learn of the arrest and detention of Shukhrat Qudratov, a prominent defence lawyer in Tajikistan who had represented the former Minister of Industry, Zaid Saidov. According the Tajikistan's Anticorruption Agency, Shukhrat Qudratov was detained on July 21 on bribe-related charges. Lawyers for Lawyers and the Law Society are concerned that the arrest of the lawyer may be related to his legal assistance and defence of the former Minister.

Read the intervention

### Law Society and Lawyers for Lawyers express concern for lawyer in Azerbaijan

The Law Society and Lawyers for Lawyers are concerned for Intigam Aliyev, a prominent human rights lawyer in Azerbaijan who was arrested and placed in pre-trial detention for three months. His detention was connected with his activity as human rights defender and lawyer, and the purpose of this is to silence him, based upon a political instruction from above.

Read the intervention here

# Law Society Interventions: International Action Team (IAT)

The Law Society is now recruiting for our International Action Team (IAT) comprising of pro bono lawyers and law students to get involved in the Society's human rights work.

Find out more

## **Events of Interest:**

# South Africa's Constitutional Democracy at Twenty - Problems and Perils

Date: 23/10/2014 Time: 18.00 – 20.00

Location: Law Society, Chancery Lane, London

More info

# **Law Society Annual Human Rights Conference**

Date: 10 December 2014 Time: 09:30 - 17:00

Location: Law Society, Chancery Lane, London

More info

### **Other News**

#### Volunteers needed

The European Human Rights Advocacy Centre (EHRAC) is in urgent need of volunteers to translate case documents from Russian into English as part of its strategic litigation work.

EHRAC assists non-governmental organisations and lawyers in Russia, Ukraine and the South Caucasus in taking cases to the European Court of Human Rights.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please send your CV and a covering letter explaining your interest in working with EHRAC, your language skills and translation experience, and detailing your availability, to Marina van Riel, EHRAC Case and Project Support Officer, at m.vanriel@mdx.ac.uk.

# **Opportunities**

Employer: Rene Cassin

Title: Trustee with Communications/PR experience

Salary: Voluntary
Deadline: October 15

More info

Employer: Stonewall

Title: International Officer
Salary: £25,000 plus benefits
Deadline: 12pm 15 September 2014

Location: Waterloo

More info

# **Podcasts/webinars:**

International Action Team (IAT)

Take our training now to become part of the IAT

Podcast: State of surveillance and the scrutiny of security services

Listen to free podcast

'Does Taser use breach fundamental human rights?'

Listen to our free podcast

Sixty years of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms Listen to our free podcast

#### Careers Brochure 2014: 'How to become a human rights lawver'

Please find our brochure for the event here.

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



: Follow us on Twitter



ii: Join us on LinkedIn

Kind regards

Sarah

# Sarah J Smith

# **Human Rights and Rule of Law Policy Adviser**

The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL t: 020 7320 5934 m: 07791524419 www.lawsociety.org.uk

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