



*We are the voice of the global legal education community!*

## Who We Are

The International Association of Law Schools is a non-political, non-profit, learned society dedicated to serving the worldwide legal education community. It is an association of more than 170 law schools and departments from over 60 countries representing more than 7,500 law faculty members. Our primary mission is the improvement of legal education throughout the world. The idea for an international association of law schools emerged from several meetings of legal educators from around the world who recognized the growing interrelationship of norms from transnational legal systems.

The first such meeting was held in Florence, Italy in the year 2000, and consisted of 50 invited legal educators from 27 countries. This meeting led to additional meetings of international legal educators, and during the May 2004 meeting in Hawaii, 130 legal educators from 47 different countries unanimously adopted a resolution to form the International Association of Law Schools. In May 2005, a select group of legal educators from 14 different countries, representing all types of the world's legal systems, gathered in Istanbul, Turkey, and agreed to the terms of a charter for the International Association of Law Schools. In October 2005, the IALS was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia in the United States of America.

Since its transition in 2014 to a new charter and an independent Board of Governors, the Association has embarked upon an ambitious and innovative agenda of developing a global consensus on the fundamental principles, guidelines and outcomes of a legal education. To that end, we have convened over 35 meetings, fora, conferences and workshops to ensure that all voices of our worldwide community of law teachers be heard and respected. These foundational agreements could only have been concluded through such cooperative and consensus-building efforts. These discussions have resulted in the adoption of the Singapore Declaration on Global Standards and Outcomes of a Legal Education, Madrid Protocol on the Principles of Evaluation of a Legal Education, and the Judicial Standards of a Legal Education.

## Where We Meet

Over 50 conferences in the past 7 years alone, in over 30 countries. Annual Meetings in China, Canada, Australia, Germany, Italy, Argentina, India, Spain, United States, Qatar and Poland. Global Law Deans' Forums in Singapore, Spain, India and Poland. Regional Fora in African region – South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, Namibia, Zambia, Ghana and Rwanda; in the Americas region – United States, Chile, Colombia, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic; in the Asia-Pacific region – Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Russia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Australia and China; in the European region – Netherlands, Estonia, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Jordan and Spain.

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*"When one of my Professors introduced me to IALS in 2014, I decided to give it a shot. After participating in IALS for about four years now, I have experienced an astonishing expansion in my network of professional friends and linkages with many institutions around the world...IALS, made up of all great law schools in the world, provides a platform for interaction with both large and smaller law schools to appreciate our similarities and common challenges, while devising universal but peculiar solutions towards surmounting the myriad of problems all law schools and faculties face."*

**- Abdulkarim A. Kana  
Dean Emeritus  
Nasarawa State University,  
Keffi, School of Law, Nigeria**



## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Rwanda

## Mission

- To foster a mutual understanding of and respect for the world's varied and changing legal systems and cultures as a contribution to justice and a peaceful world.
- To enhance and strengthen the role of law in the development of societies through legal education.
- To serve as an open and independent forum for discussion of diverse ideas about legal education.
- To share experiences and practices regarding legal education.
- To contribute to the development and improvement of law schools, and conditions of legal education throughout the world.
- To contribute to the better preparation of lawyers as they increasingly engage in transnational or global legal practice, and when they pursue careers other than private practice, including governmental, non-governmental, academic, and corporate careers.

*"My own school is very much committed to the task and willing to place all its resources to make sure that the contribution of IALS is substantial and long-lasting. Together we have the knowledge, values and skills to guarantee a very bright future for legal education throughout the world. Let's make it happen!"*

– *Javier de Cendra, Dean, IE Law School*



## Benefits of Membership

*"I have had the privilege of being involved in the Association's activities since the General Assembly in 2009 in Canberra, Australia. Since then I have stayed engaged as I believe that the Association fulfils an important role as a forum to bring law schools around the world to engage in mutual learning, discussion and debate. Legal education has evolved significantly over the last fifteen years and law schools around the world are collaborating on a far greater scale than ever before. The IALS' mission, which includes fostering greater mutual understanding of different legal systems and traditions, the development and improvement of law schools, and the sharing of educational practices, has never been more important. I have found my work in the Association immensely satisfying and I invite you to be a part of this."*

*—Cheng Han Tan  
Dean Emeritus  
National University of  
Singapore, Faculty of  
Law, Singapore*

- Being part of a network of law schools that cooperates in various types of faculty, student, and scholarly exchange.
- Invitation to attend our Annual Meeting, Global Law Deans' Forum, Regional Law School Leadership Fora and Legal Education Workshops.
- Financial assistance and travel accommodations available for participants from emerging economies to attend our meetings and workshops, on a need-basis.
- Reduced registration fees to attend our Annual Meeting.
- Access to Delegate Papers, Minutes, Reports from Previous Conferences and Meetings on our website.
- Opportunity for faculty to apply and participate in the Visiting Professor & Scholar Program.
- Invitation to join a Doctrinal Study Group of faculty member's choice.
- Access to IALS membership on Groupsite—our social network site.
- Free postings on our Job Board .
- Opportunity for faculty to apply and participate in our new committees: Student Law Institute Committee, Philanthropic Engagement Committee, and Principles and Guidelines Committee.
- Opportunity for faculty to post drafts of, and completed, scholarly articles on Groupsite and seek comments from colleagues throughout the world.
- Receive IALS Newsletters containing articles of interest, announcements of programs at other member schools, and notices of possible exchange agreements.
- Opportunity to collaborate with other schools and faculty.
- Participation in the development of curriculum and other guidelines to adapt legal education to the needs of diverse cultures and societies and be recognized as a school that subscribes to such guidelines.

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*"I've been delighted to have participated in numerous workshops and meetings of the International Association of Law Schools. The Association serves as a vital forum where law schools have an opportunity to engage with each other in developing new relationships for collaboration and scholarship in enriching legal education worldwide."*

*—Mary Kay Kane, Chancellor and Dean Emeritus, UC Hastings  
College of the Law, USA*

# Programs

Our discussions and decisions are informed by the mission and experiences of all our members. These discussions have resulted in the adoption of the following:

### Evaluation, Assistance, and Certification Program

- The criteria will be developed from the opinions, concerns, suggestions, and decisions of the membership and EAC Committee. We are committed to ensuring that all viewpoints and perspectives are represented, and that the EAC process is sensitive to the multiple contexts of our members.

### Foundational Principles:

- **Singapore Declaration on Global Standards and Outcomes of a Legal Education**  
A set of principles that outline global standards and outcomes of a legal education. These principles establish a baseline and a common language for future efforts to improve legal education.
- **Madrid Protocol on the Principles of Evaluation of a Legal Education**  
A set of principles in the evaluation of legal education
- **Judicial Standards for a Legal Education**  
A set of basic principles promulgated by our Judicial Council in teaching law and the foundation of an effective, ethical, and responsible legal education.

### Visiting Professor and Scholar Program

- The visiting faculty member will teach, pursue a collaborative research project with the host institution faculty, participate in workshops and conferences, and prepare a paper on their scholarship. We have expanded the program to include beginning law professors to help advance and support them in their research and teaching skills.

### Doctrinal Study Groups

- The Doctrinal Study Groups focus around the doctrinal interest areas of our faculty members and their scholarship. Currently, these groups are investigating modern pedagogic approaches in educating a new cohort of students to increase student learning and participation; in addition, future work is aimed at enabling faculty to be recognized for their scholarship through peer reviewed publication outlets.



## What We Do

### Regional Law Deans' Fora

There are four Regional Law Deans' Fora: African, Americas, Asia-Pacific, and European. These regional fora adopt a workshop format and concentrate on topics of interest to the leadership of the region's law schools.

### Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting is IALS' largest event where everyone from each region around the world come together once a year to learn from each other followed with the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues from doctrinal study groups. Within the Annual Meeting plenary session speakers present innovative approaches and thought-provoking papers, which help advance legal education globally. The Annual Meeting is open to all members and non-members.

### Global Law Deans' Forum

The Global Law Deans' Forum occurs every other year, in which law school leaders from around the world meet to exchange ideas in relation to the region they teach. It serves to distill and focus regional-global perspectives on legal education.

*"The IALS...serves as a platform through which law schools get involved with each other to bring up new relationships, partnerships and scholarships in order to enhance the legal know-how in the world. In this regard, the University of Petra was honored to host the 2017 European Deans Law Forum and this was one of the most exciting times which our faculty has lived through since its establishment."*

- Mohamed Olwan, Dean Emeritus, University of Petra School of Law, Jordan

# Annual Membership Dues

## Least Developed Countries – USD \$500

*May petition to lower membership fee, if needed.*

Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

## Developing Countries – USD \$500

Albania, Algeria, American Samoa, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, French Polynesia, Gabon, Gaza Strip, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guam, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Korea, Dem Rep. Korea, South Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Montserrat, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palau, Palestine, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Romania, Russia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Samoa, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Syria, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United States Virgin Islands, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zimbabwe

## Developed Countries – USD \$1,000

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bermuda, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vatican City

## Organizations & Associations – USD \$1,000

Organization & Association Memberships

*Dues are for one year and collected January-March for the calendar year (January-December).*

***“The IALS is a “unique”, very democratic, and open worldwide forum for significant and fruitful discussions about the current challenges for legal education across the world. Over the years IALS has offered to me the opportunity to debate about various core issues which, throughout the world, are common to all the law schools: faculties’ governance, mission and visions, goals and values, in educating law students.”***

***— Nerina Boschiero, Dean, University of Milan, Faculty of Law, Italy***



## APPLICATION

Please complete and return the application below to become an IALS Member.

Calendar Year: \_\_\_\_\_ (January-December)

Official Name of Law School: \_\_\_\_\_

University Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School Dean's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School Dean's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Law Faculty: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Law Students: \_\_\_\_\_

Private or Public: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Founded: \_\_\_\_\_

List Degrees Granted: \_\_\_\_\_

Any Specialties: \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter School Name) \_\_\_\_\_ submits this application for membership in the International Association of Law Schools (IALS). By submitting this application, \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledges that (he, she or it) is the type of institution described in Article 3 of the Charter and pledges commitment to the mission and goals of the IALS; furthermore, agrees to pay annual dues in the amount determined by the Charter and Governing Board of the IALS.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Include or send separately:**

- A list of your Law School Faculty Names and Email Addresses
- Law School Dean's biography, curriculum vitae, and picture
- Law School's Website

Please send the application to [ials@ialsnet.org](mailto:ials@ialsnet.org)

Visit our Website: [www.ialsnet.org](http://www.ialsnet.org)