



*PANEL #3*

## **Independence of the Justice Sector, Media and Civil Society: Institutional and Individual Impacts on Sustainable Development**

**May 10, 17:00 GMT // 19:00 CEST // 1:00pm EDT**

Co-organised by



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The independence of lawyers, prosecutors, and judges—as well as the media and civil society organizations—is increasingly under attack in many countries across the globe. Recognized as one of the main components of the rule of law, their independence is necessary to ensure the viability of economic and social development; healthy and sustainable economic and social development requires clearly defined rights and obligations of all stakeholders. Panelists will discuss the relationship between independence and economic and social development and the role that independent individuals and institutions play in promoting the Rule of Law.

### *Introduction/Welcome*

- *Ms Jacqueline R. Scott, Director General of UIA-IROL (UIA - Institute for the Rule of Law)*
- *Mikolaj Pietrzak, Dean of the Warsaw Bar Association*

### *Opening remarks*

- *Diego García Sayán, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers (video)*

### *Moderator*

- *Wojciech Bagiński, Warsaw Bar Association*

### *Speakers*

- *Pauline Adès-Mével, Spokesperson & Media Relations at Reporters Without Borders (RSF)*
- *Saïd Benarbia, Director of Middle East and North Africa Program of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)*
- *Michał Chodorek, Warsaw Bar Association*
- *François Godbout, Programme Officer & International Relations at the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU)*