



The UIA Institute for the Rule of Law

DIRECTOR GENERAL'S STATEMENT

Paris, 8 November 2024

UIA-IROL REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO THE RULE OF LAW

The UIA Institute for the Rule of Law (UIA-IROL) reaffirms its unwavering commitment to promoting and protecting the fundamental values of the Rule of Law. In a world where public discourse sometimes promotes a reductive and exclusive view of contemporary societies, UIA-IROL stands with all independent voices who strive – and are sometimes forced to defend themselves – to uphold the values of inclusion, the supremacy of law over arbitrary force, and the fight against racism and hatred.

Our institution underscores that the Rule of Law is not merely a legislative framework; it is built upon fundamental democratic principles, including judicial fairness, the separation of powers, and freedom of expression. These elements are essential to ensuring a truly independent judiciary and a balance of powers that is indispensable to any democracy.

In an era where “alternative truths” can be constructed and disseminated to mislead and divide, UIA-IROL underlines the critical role of free and responsible media in upholding truth and fostering informed discourse. We condemn any attempts to distort or manipulate information, especially for divisive purposes, as these actions erode public trust and threaten the foundations of democracy.

At a time when we witness ongoing wars conducted with impunity, UIA-IROL emphasizes the urgent need for accountability to prevent unchecked violence and ensure justice for victims. The absence of accountability only deepens cycles of violence and undermines the values upon which peaceful and just societies are built.

Today, in the face of growing tensions and attempts to undermine these principles, UIA-IROL calls upon leaders and civil society to protect international law, which fosters peace and cooperation among nations.

UIA-IROL reaffirms its support for lawyers, judges, journalists, academics, scientists and intellectuals, as well as human rights defenders, who continue to fight for these values despite the pressures and threats they may face and whose independence must be protected.

UIA-IROL calls upon each individual lawyer and all bar associations, bar councils, unions of lawyers and lawyer associations, to remain united and to act in concert to respond, with determination and immediacy, to any threat to the fundamental principles of the Rule of Law. Together, through active solidarity and constant vigilance, we can stand together against attacks on the values that form the foundation of our mission and our responsibility to the societies we serve.



Martin PRADEL
Director General of UIA-IROL



Julie GOFFIN
Deputy Director General of UIA-IROL



Avi SINGH
Deputy Director General of UIA-IROL

More about the UIA-IROL

The Institute for the Rule of Law of the International Association of Lawyers (UIA-IROL) promotes the Rule of Law and supports and defends, in particular, (1) lawyers, judges and human rights defenders who are harassed, threatened and/or persecuted in the exercise of their professions, (2) the independence of the legal and judicial professions, and (3) the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, especially in defense of human rights.

For more information go to: www.uianet.org - uiacentre@uianet.org
Press contact: Julie ROSA, Communication Officer jrosa@uianet.org

UIA-IROL

(UIA) International Association of Lawyers – 23 rue de la Victoire – 75009 Paris (France), Association Loi 1901 n° W751207624
Tél. : +33 1 44 88 55 66 / Fax : +33 1 44 88 55 77 / E-mail : uiacentre@uianet.org / Web : www.uianet.org