“Whatever you decide to do and whenever you decide to do it, be aware of your impact. People will see through greenwashing, so make your actions louder than your words. Work together with others and unite to protect the planet and those living in it”.

(full article at p. 7)
GET TO KNOW EYBA MEMBERS

Georgian Young Lawyers’ Association (GYLA)

About us
Georgian Young Lawyers’ Association (GYLA) was incorporated in 1994. It was one of the first non-governmental organizations since the collapse of the Soviet Union. The organization was established by the young lawyers in an effort to distance themselves from the totalitarian law tradition of the country. Rule of law and protection of human rights are two main pillars of the organization.

GYLA provides legal consultation free of charge for up to 50 thousand individuals annually, and represent dozens of individuals before the courts and other administrative agencies to vindicate their violated rights. GYLA conducts strategic litigation before the Constitutional Court of Georgia and the European Court of Human Rights every year.

GYLA actively submits legislative proposals and opinions on the bills to the parliament of Georgia in order to strengthen human rights in Georgia. In 2017, GYLA used to be the member of the state constitutional commission in charge of drafting constitutional amendments.

GYLA has nine offices in Georgia that makes it one of the biggest non-profit organizations in Georgia. The offices conduct up to 200 meetings annually with the population, for raising their legal awareness. GYLA has up to 800 members, over 100 employees. The general assembly of the organization, consisting of the members of it, elects the board. The board appoints the chairperson for a year. The same person is allowed to be elected as a chairperson of the organization for three terms. The chairperson of the GYLA is the representative of the organization.

The employees are involved in four different programs: the Legal Aid, Good Governance, Human Rights Protection and Administration. A director nominated by the chairperson, and confirmed by the board, leads each of the programs. The funding coming from the international donors is the main income of the GYLA.

GYLA is a highly respected, impartial, non-partisan organization in charge of observing the election held in Georgia. Foreign observers often cite the finding of GYLA with regard to the electoral process of Georgia. All employees of GYLA not only observe casting and counting of votes at the electoral commissions, but also submit complaints before the relevant electoral administration and the courts of common jurisdiction in charge of adjudicating election cases. GYLA offers internship opportunities up to 200 students. The students have the opportunity to work in criminal, civil and administrative cases along with the lawyers of the organization. The students are also involved in providing free of charge legal consultations for the people visiting the offices of GYLA. The students also participate in drafting applications for the European Court of Human Rights and Constitutional Court of Georgia. The Legal Educational Center (LEC) of GYLA offers training courses for the students on the different areas of law. The LEC also organizes moot-court competition on the constitutional litigation along with the Constitutional Court of Georgia annually.

GYLA has achieved significant success in human rights protection – both in the domestic courts and at the international level. This is demonstrated by up to three thousand successful cases in the various courts of Georgia. Moreover, out of 30 lawsuits submitted to the Constitutional Court, eight have ended successfully. Out of 135 lawsuits submitted to the European Court of Human Rights, eight of these have also ended successfully, while the vast majority remain under consideration.
GET TO KNOW EYBA MEMBERS
Young Lawyers Division
American Bar Association

About us
Founded in 1934, the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division is home to the American young lawyer. Currently, the Division serves a membership of new and young lawyers, affiliated professionals, and law students. Individual membership is open to Association law student and lawyer members under 36 years old or admitted to practice for ten years or less. Affiliate membership is open to new and young lawyer organizations and special interest bars. The Division partners with more than three hundred state and local bar associations within the United States and several organizations internationally. We are always looking to expand our network and to partner with international bar associations on events and projects. Our Division is one of the largest organizations for new and young lawyers in the world, and we hope to continue to grow and expand into this new year.

Our structure and activities
The Division’s volunteer leadership is composed of elected officers and constitutional representatives, as well as approximately 300 appointed leaders and team members. The Chair of the Division is the leader of the division and policy initiatives are handled by the Assembly Speaker. Division leaders advance Division initiatives through planning and executing programs and projects. Leaders also raise awareness of and advance new and young lawyer causes. In recent years the Division has focused on law school student debt, parental leave, and portability of law licenses. The Division is governed by its Council, which is composed of approximately 70-80 leaders depending on a couple of factors. The Council is responsible for governance and determining organizational priorities.

The Assembly is the Division’s policy making body. Assembly delegates are representative of Division leaders and affiliated national, state, local, affinity, and specialty bar associations from across the country. Our Division boasts a print magazine that runs four times a year to over 100,000 members and maintains an active blog and social media presence to better engage with our membership. We are putting together virtual and in person programming for the 2022-2023 bar year and hope to see you and some of your members speaking at our conferences and definitely attending them! Our conference schedule is: September 29-October 1, 2022 in Portland, Oregon, February 1-5, 2023 in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 2-7, 2023 in New York City, and August 2-8, 2023 in Denver, Colorado.

We look forward to connecting and partnering with you—please reaching out to incoming ABA YLD Chair, Jo Bahn at jbhahn@cozen.com if interested.

Current Executive Members: Chair: Choi Portis, Chair Elect: Jo Bahn, Secretary: Tamara Nash, Treasurer: Brandon Wolff, Assembly Speaker: Abre Conner, Assembly Clerk: Shasta Inman.

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FB: ABAYLD
Instagram: abayounglawyersdivision
GET TO KNOW EYBA MEMBERS

Young Bar Association of the Netherlands
Stichting Jonge Balie Nederland (SJBN)

About us
From the year 1976 to today the Young Bar Association of the Netherlands (SJBN) represents the interests of young lawyers, up to and including seven years into their lawyer’s career, in the Netherlands.

Our goals and activities
The SJBN acts as an intermediary between the local Young Lawyers Associations and the Dutch Bar Association, the organization of the education of young lawyers and other relevant organizations that focus on (young) lawyers.

In addition, the SJBN organizes nationwide activities for trainee lawyers, associates and attorney entrepreneurs.

The SJBN is the interlocutor of the Dutch Bar Association with regards to the interests of young lawyers in the Netherlands, with a special focus on the Vocational Law Practice.

The SJBN acts as contact for experiences of trainee lawyers with the Vocational Program.

Furthermore, the SJBN annually organizes various content and social activities such as the Day for the Entrepreneurial Lawyer and the Young Lawyers Congress. For more information on our activities, please visit our website.

Apart from the activities organized by SJBN, the local associations mainly organize activities on a monthly basis, which young lawyers can attend upon invitation. Activities include: lectures on different topics and get-togethers.


website: https://www.sjbn.nl/
Linkedin: Stichting Jonge Balie Nederland
Instagram: stichtingjongebalienederland
GET TO KNOW EYBA MEMBERS

Youth Board of the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Armenia

About us
The Youth Board of the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Armenia is an advisory body operating on a voluntary basis, which was established by the President of the Chamber in 2013. It consists of six members and a chairman, who are appointed to the Chamber by the President. It organizes its duties through meetings which are governed by the chairman.

Our goals and activities
One of the main goals of the Youth Board is facilitating young attorneys’ integration into the professional field. Young attorneys are considered to be not only those who have just obtained their license, but also those who have become advocates in the last three years.

The other main goals of the Youth Board are: identifying the problems that arise during attorneys’ professional activity, presenting those issues to the Chamber, suggesting solutions, as well as promoting the cooperation and amicable relationships between advocates by organizing informal meetings, various cultural and entertaining events.

Another important intention behind the foundation of the Youth Board is establishing relations between similar bodies abroad or, in other words, developing international relations in the legal field.

In order to carry out the goals mentioned above, the Youth Board periodically organizes entertaining, cultural, integration and professional events, meetings, discussions and so on.

In addition, the Chamber of Advocates undertakes some supporting programs, such as freely providing an office for new attorneys to perform their professional activities.

The Youth Board is also called upon to ensure the proper implementation of such programs.

Current Executive Members: Mikayel DANIELYAN - President
Nazik MALKHASYAN Mikayel AHARONYAN Hasmik TADEVOSYAN Abgar POGHOSYAN Varduhi SARGSYAN Stella SAYADKHANYAN

Official e-mail: Youthboard@advocates.am
website: www.advocates.am
FB: ՀՀ փաստաբանների անդամություն
GET TO KNOW EYBA MEMBERS

Italian Association of Young Lawyers
Associazione Italiana Giovani Avvocati (AIGA)

About us
The Associazione Italiana dei Giovani Avvocati (AIGA) – Italian Association of Young Lawyers – is a non-profit association, founded in 1966, composed by Italian lawyers and trainee lawyers under the age of 45. AIGA is one of the most representative associations of lawyers in Italy. Indeed, it currently includes more than 130 local sections from the north to the deep south of Italy, bringing together more than 10,000 young lawyers. The Executive Board (Giunta nazionale) is elected during the Annual Congress for a 2-year mandate.

Our goals and activities
The aim of the Association is to: a) protect the rights of lawyers, guarantee trainee lawyers a suitable professional training, promote the specialization of young lawyers as well as facilitate their access to legal profession; b) supervise the respect for fundamental rights and in particular protect the right to an effective defense and to a fair trial within reasonable time; c) strengthen the defensive function; d) spread the values of the legal profession, reaffirming its constitutional relevance; e) promote the development of forensic skills and the harmonization of professional standards considering the international best practices.

To achieve these purposes, AIGA organizes scientific and cultural events; promotes and maintains relations with the judiciary branch, political and legal institutions, social and cultural associations; performs studies and drafts proposals, including regulatory ones, according to the evolution of legal profession.

AIGA organizes national meetings every 2 months and an main annual congress each year in different cities from the north to the south of Italy. Moreover, AIGA and its local sections organize hundreds of seminars, for lawyers and trainees, throughout the year on every kind of legal topics or related to the legal profession itself.

AIGA is often involved as expert by the Ministry of Justice with regard to legislative reforms and AIGA, and its executive board, represent a point of reference for many parliamentarians.

The latest “battles” of the association concern the right to a fair remuneration, parenting rights and reform of the bar exam. Moreover, the association fosters specialization of lawyers and professional networking models among young lawyers.

Recently, AIGA instituted a National Observatory on jail conditions in Italy, composed by lawyers, professors, politicians, and other experts, with the aim to conduct a deep analysis, raise awareness and stimulate a legislative reform of the penitentiary system.

Current Executive Members: President: Francesco Paolo Parchinunno, VPs: Carlo Foglieni and Mariarita Mirone, Secretary: Anna Lops, Treasurer: Felice Napolitano, executive members: Alessio Cerniglia, Giacomo Guidoni, Andrea Cocchini, Giuseppe Irrera, Alessandro Nicolini, Anna Coppola, Luigi Bartolomeo Terzo, Mariangela Di Biase, Gabriele De Marco, Manuela Calautti, Adamo Logrieco.

Official website: https://aiga.it
FB: aiganazionale
Instagram: aiganazionale
The three-day event, organised by the Scottish Young Lawyers’ Association and the EYBA, was focused on “The Law and the Environment”. Young lawyers from Europe and North America heard from speakers on environmental crime, the Soil Carbon Code, environmental impact assessments, and were even treated to an address by CCBE President James MacGuill. But perhaps the most memorable session was on “Becoming a more environmentally-conscious lawyer”.

The session began with a panel discussion in which Barry Fisher, CEO of Keep Scotland Beautiful, told delegates that we need to understand that climate change is an existential threat to humanity in which we play a part. Craig Allan of the Royal Bank of Scotland, representing Lawyers for Net Zero, reminded delegates that by the time you can see the tsunami, it is already too late and the time to act is now.

Following the panel discussion delegates broke into groups, comprising representatives from different countries, practice areas and organisation sizes, to discuss what can be done to reduce our impact, as lawyers, on the environment. After all, as the panel stated, the carbon footprint of the top 50 law firms in the UK is such that it would require the planting of 2.5 million seedlings to offset it at present levels.

At an organisation level it was discussed that two of the main areas on which immediate and rapid change can take place are energy consumption and supply chain management. With current fuel costs, everyone is keen to keep energy use to a minimum. The groups discussed practices in their own firms which could be reviewed to reduce electricity use in offices. A simple but important consideration was the management of lighting. It would appear that some offices are using lighting timers, which mean lights are on when staff are not in offices, or in areas where staff are working from home. It was suggested that firms could review these timers, or switch to traditional light switches in low traffic areas such as bathrooms, kitchens and printing areas.

The supply chain was an area where it was recognised that initial outlays might increase slightly but where a considerable difference could be made. Of course, we should be moving away from printing at all, but where that is not possible, recycled and recyclable paper should be used. Once shredded, paper should be recycled, and virgin paper should be avoided at all costs. Delegates also discussed the removal of disposable cups and single use plastic water bottles from offices, providing instead, drinking fountains for staff to fill up reusable bottles, and proper mugs which can be washed in the office. Another big factor was travel. In some ways the pandemic has helped change mindsets, open up options and modify habits. We now realise that we don’t need to get a flight just to attend a short business meeting; we can attend CPD from our offices rather than driving across the country; and we can email documents rather than print and mail them. This should result in fewer planes in the sky and cars on the road. But where you do have to travel, encourage climate conscious decision making. Take the bus rather than a taxi. Take the train rather than a plane, and car share if driving is an absolute necessity.

Whatever you decide to do and whenever you decide to do it, be aware of your impact. People will see through greenwashing, so make your actions louder than your words. Work together with others and unite to protect the planet and those living in it.

About the author
Ayla Iridag is Vice President of the European Young Bar Association and Past President of the Scottish Young Lawyers’ Association
WHAT'S NEXT? EYBA SUMMER CONFERENCE 23-25 JUNE 2022

FROM KYIV TO STRASBOURG

The EYBA Summer conference 2022 was supposed to take place in Kyiv but due to the tragic ongoing conflict in Ukraine we were forced to find another hosting city: Strasbourg.

“This city which, more than any other one, was the victim of the European nations’ stupidity which thought to solve their problems with the war, now has to embody the symbol of reconciliation and peace”. This is what Ernest Bevin (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, UK) said about Strasbourg in 1949.

And so it was in Strasbourg, in 1949, where the Council of Europe was established to encourage cooperation between European countries, in order to better respect democracy and to defend human rights; and in 1959 where the European Court of Human Rights was established.

No other place would have been more appropriate to host our Summer Conference during these hard times.

FOCUS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The main topic of the seminars will be Human Rights. Delegates will learn about the European «Help» program of the Council of Europe and excellent speaker will intervene to talk about the system and functioning of the European Court of Human Rights and about Judicial Reasoning and Human Rights.

EXPLORING STRASBOURG

During the 3-day conference, delegates will discover Strasbourg, from different perspectives. The conference will start on Thursday with a welcome reception at Barco Latino, a barge with an exotic atmosphere. Seminars, on Friday, will take place at the ERAGE, one of the Lawyers Schools of France. On Friday evening, delegates will be invited at a cocktail dinner hosted by the Ordre des Avocats de Strasbourg. On Saturday afternoon, we will discover the best spots of the city through a walking tour and a boat tour.

The Conference will end with a gala dinner in a traditional alsatian dinner "le Burestubel", inside a typical alsatian village.

You can get your ticket at:
https://www.billetweb.fr/summer-conference-eyba

You can get a full-conference package or get a ticket for single parts of the 3-day conference.

If you have any further request you can write to info@eyba.org and simon.warynski@seren-avocats.fr.