

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADOPTION OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES ON THE ROLE OF LAWYERS

September 24, 2020, 4pm-6.45pm
Geneva, Palais de l'Athénée

On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the [UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers](#), the Geneva Bar Association is honoured to host an event to celebrate this fundamental instrument.

The Basic Principles compile and address the fundamental guarantees necessary for a free, independent and proper functioning of the legal profession, which is crucial to ensure the right of access to legal assistance for all and, as an extension, the right to a fair trial and due process and, ultimately, the protection of all other rights.

Joined by the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI), the Union Internationale des avocats (UIA), the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), International Observatory of Endangered Lawyers (OIAD) the Law Society of England and Wales, Lawyers for Lawyers, the Institute for Human Rights of European Lawyers (IDHAE), the Ludovic-Trarieux International Human Rights Award, the Council of Bars and Laws Societies of Europe (CCBE), the Avocats sans Frontières (Suisse) and the Swiss Bar Association, the Geneva Bar Association, invites you to an event to reflect on the importance of the Basic Principles, to honour some among the bravest of the legal professions taking daily risks to defend the rule of law, and to discuss what can Bar associations and lawyers all around the world do to support and defend the Basic Principles.

PROGRAM

- 4pm **Welcoming words**
Philippe Cottier, Chair of the Geneva Bar Association
Mauro Poggia, Vice-president of the Council of the State of Geneva
Alfonso Gomez, Member of the administrative council of the City of Geneva
Birgit Sambeth Glasner, Vice-president of the Swiss Bar Association
- 4.20pm **The effectiveness and importance of the Basic Principles then and today**
Diego García-Sayán, Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (remotely)
- 4.45pm **Panel 1: State of the world today and the basic principles in practice**
Moderator: Marie Berger and Marc Joory, Geneva Bar Association
- Ayşe Bingöl Demir, Turkey, winner of the CCBE 2016 Human Rights Award (remotely)
 - Margaret Ng Ngoi-yee, Hong Kong lawyer (remotely)
 - Carolina Villadiego, Colombian lawyer (remotely)
- 5.30pm **Panel 2: The role of lawyers' associations**
Moderator: Myriam Fehr-Alaoui and Hadrien Mangeat, Geneva Bar Association
- Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, International Bar Association's Human Rights Institutes's Director (remotely)
 - Pascal Maurer, former Chair of the Geneva Bar Association, former Chair of the Union Internationale des Avocats
 - Richard Sédillot, International Observatory of the endangered lawyers and Conseil national des barreaux
- 6.15pm **The importance of taking action as a lawyer**
Dr. Leila Alikarami, Iranian lawyer (remotely)
- 6.30pm **Conclusive remarks**
François Zimeray, Lawyer with the Paris Bar, former French Ambassador-at-large for Human Rights
- Night Illumination of the Geneva towering Jet d'Eau fountain in red

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Venue

The event will take place at [Palais de l'Athénée](#), Geneva, 4pm-6.45pm

Physical attendance

Physical attendance limited to 50 people (with mask) with compulsory registration by e-mail to secretariat@odage.ch.

Virtual participation

Free virtual attendance via zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/91319436959>

More information [on the website](#).

En collaboration avec :

