

# Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations



The Law Society  
of England and Wales



Organization: Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

Item 4: General debate

Date: 20 March 2025

Speaker: Joseph Doyle

## **Oral Statement to the 58th Session of the UN Human Rights Council from Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (LRWC), the Law Society of England and Wales, Lawyers for Lawyers, and the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute NGOs in special consultative status**

### **United States: Alarming deterioration of the rule of law includes threats against jurists**

Mr. President,

Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, The Law Society of England and Wales, the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute, and Lawyers for Lawyers are alarmed by recent threats to the independence of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers in the United States.

Judges have been discredited and have faced moves for impeachment in retaliation for rulings the government deems unfavourable.

Department of Justice lawyers have faced dismissals, demotions and intimidation due to their past work. Several prosecutors have resigned following instructions to drop charges in a notable corruption case.

Executive orders have revoked security clearance and access for several law firms to government buildings, in retaliation for their work which the government finds unfavourable.

Immigration detainees have been denied timely access to lawyers, and some have been subjected to enforced disappearances, and deportations without due process and/or in violation of judicial orders.

Finally, we condemn the sanctions imposed by the US on International Criminal Court (ICC).

We ask all Council member States:

- To urge the United States to ensure compliance with US court orders, and immediately halt all vilification, harassment, intimidation and threats to the independence of judges, prosecutors and lawyers, and
- To condemn and reject sanctions against the ICC.

Thank you.