

Statement of Continued Support

06 September 2023

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that the International Bar Association (IBA) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact during the period September 2021 – August 2023. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication on Engagement, we include reports published by the organisation on activities undertaken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles. We have also listed activities and events that the IBA has participated in which support and uphold the UN Global Compact and its Principles.

The list of reports is as follows:

1. 2022: IBA Annual Report - <https://www.ibanet.org/document?id=IBA-AnnualReport-2022>.
2. June 2022: Global Employment Institute Report - <https://www.ibanet.org/document?id=IBA-GEI-Tenth-Annual-Global-Report-2022>.
3. January 2023: IBA President's Brochure - <https://www.ibanet.org/document?id=President-Brochure-2023>.

The list of activities and events is as follows:

1. September 2021: 44th Round Table on Current Issues of International Humanitarian Law.
2. October 2021: ESG oil and gas general counsel discuss recent developments and what the future holds - a webinar presented by the IBA North American Regional Office.
3. October 2021: The IBA and Modern Slavery - <https://www.ibanet.org/Global-Showcase/The-IBA-and-modern-slavery>. During this session we presented the work of the IBA Taskforce on Modern Slavery and considered whether Modern Slavery in the supply chain of a company already breaches or could easily breach laws in other parts of a legal system.
4. October 2021: Strengthening the International Criminal Court and the Rome Statute System: The Role of States Parties.
5. November 2021: Online conference on the United Nations War Crimes Commission.

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6. November 2021: Corporate ESG strategies: the role of lawyers in achieving goals and managing litigation – webinar exclusively for IBA Corporate Counsel Forum and Group Members only.
7. December 2021: IBA training initiative for Italian lawyers in business and human rights - Mandatory human rights due diligence: implications for Italy
8. January 2022: How to advance gender equality throughout the legal profession - Interactive session with presentations of good practices and peer learning opportunities. Event hosted by the UN Global Compact initiative as part of their Target Gender Equality accelerator programme. Sara Carnegie, IBA Director of Legal Projects, spoke about the '50:50 by 2030' Gender project - <https://www.ibanet.org/gender-equality-in-the-legal-profession>.
9. January - June 2022: '50:50 by 2030' - UN Global Compact Spain assisted the IBA Legal Policy & Research Unit (LPRU) in distributing the Gender survey amongst Spanish legal workplaces - <https://www.ibanet.org/gender-equality-in-the-legal-profession>.
10. February 2022: Response to the call for input for OHCHR report on the application of the UNGPs in the tech sector - IBA Working Group on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights submitted its response to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) report on the practical application of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in the tech sector - <https://www.ibanet.org/document?id=IBA-Response-to-OHCHR-report-on-application-of-UNGPs-in-Tech-Sector>.
11. March 2022: Anti-corruption and ESG: how ethics and integrity compliance may help corporations achieve their ESG goals and attain better ratings - <https://www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2204> - A webinar presented by the IBA Anti-Corruption Committee.
12. November 2022: IBA granted observer status at UNFCCC; given a Blue Zone pass; held side event at COP27 - <https://www.ibanet.org/LPRU/Climate-Crisis>.
13. November 2022: Third-party due diligence and compliance-related contract clauses - A webinar presented by the IBA Anti-Corruption Committee - <https://www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2314>.
14. November 2022: 2nd UK Anti-SLAPP Conference. The IBA's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI) co-organised this conference together with the Foreign Policy Centre and Justice for Journalists Foundation. The Conference focused on 'Spotlighting Solutions' - <https://anti-slappconference.info/>.
15. February 2023: Strategies to enhance advocacy relating to the independence of the legal profession and the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines – IBAHRI Committee Project.
16. March 2023 – present: Promotion of 'A Tool of Justice' The Cost Benefit Analysis of Legal Aid. As part of UNCW67 - Promotion of a legal aid handbook developed by IBA in

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partnership with the World Bank and launched in IBA annual conference Seoul in 2019. The handbook is a data-based analysis of the advantages of funding legal aid, as against not funding it.

17. May 2023: The LPRU participated in sixth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy in Geneva. The meeting was organised by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development - <https://unctad.org/meeting/intergovernmental-group-experts-e-commerce-and-digital-economy-sixth-session>.
18. May 2023: UN Global Compact Transformational Governance Think Lab Consultation
19. June 2023: Side session at SB58 in Bonn – IBA LPRU spoke on a UNFCCC side session panel titled “The role of lawyers and law associations in the Global Stocktake: Implementation at a domestic level” discussing the unique role of law and law associations in regulating, training, and sharing best legal practice examples to further climate objectives & implementation strategies for the net zero transition and realisation of country Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) - <https://unfccc.int/sb58>.
20. June 2023: 2023 RELX SDG Inspiration Day – IBA spoke on a panel to discuss the right to nature and legal implications of Biodiversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals - <https://sdgresources.relx.com/events/relx-sdg-inspiration-day-2023>.
21. June 2023: The rise of ESG: how important is it for law firms and their client relationships? - Part 5 of a 9 webinar series presented by the China Working Group of the IBA Asia Pacific Regional Forum and the Section on Public and Professional Interest Committee/IBA Young Lawyers Committee - <https://www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2395>.
22. June 2023: ESG: emerging regulatory risks in the US and Europe - A webinar presented by the IBA Business Human Rights Committee. Featuring keynote by Melissa Hodgman: Acting Director, Division of Enforcement, US Securities & Exchange Commission, Washington, DC. - <https://www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2419>.
23. July 2023: Commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute - Conference marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute at UN headquarters in New York - <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/commemoration-twenty-fifth-anniversary-adoption-rome-statute#:~:text=The%20Assembly%20of%20States%20Parties,Nations%20Headquarters%20in%20New%20York>.
24. July 2023: IBAHRI participated in the 53rd Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council. IBAHRI organised side events and issued a joint statement - <https://www.ibanet.org/IBAHRI-at-the-53rd-session-of-the-United-Nations-Human-Rights-Council>.

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25. July 2023: UIA Madrid Forum on Business and Human Rights (3rd Edition) - IBAHRI contributed to the 3rd edition of the UIA Madrid Forum on Business & Human Rights - <https://www.uanet.org/en/events/uia-business-and-human-rights-forum-legal-practitioners-3rd-edition>.
26. July 2023: Updated and Simplified IBA Guidance on Business and Human Rights for Business lawyers - Over the last 12 months, work has been underway to update and simplify the 2016 IBA Guidance on Business and Human Rights for Business lawyers - <https://www.ibanet.org/Updated-business-and-human-rights-changing-role-of-lawyers>.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mark Ellis". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr Mark Ellis
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