



PRESENTATION OF THE CONFERENCE

The essential premise of the ASF conference *Lawyering for Change* is that today, access to justice is limited - or even non-existent - for millions of people in both the northern and southern hemispheres.

This situation is an obstacle to socio-economic development and to the rule of law, in that these people seeking justice have no way of asserting their rights.

In view of this cause for concern, what is the role of lawyers and of civil society?

At a time when legal aid systems are threatened, in the future should lawyers have more interaction with other stakeholders – psychologists, doctors, paralegals, etc. – to be able to respond to the needs of the most disadvantaged people seeking justice?

Does the change to better access to justice depend on *legal empowerment*? Is strengthening the power of action of people seeking justice, communities, and legal stakeholders – including through strategic litigation – the best way to solve these problems?

These are just some of the questions that will be discussed with practitioners from more than 15 countries from several continents. They will share their experiences in order to address the challenge: to reconnect people seeking justice with justice, and to make legal rights a reality.

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DAY 1 - Wednesday 30 November		
8:30am	Greeting and registration of participants	
9:00am	<p>PLENARY SESSION: <i>What is the lawyer's role in social change?</i></p> <p>Change is a concept that we often hear about, but one which can mean different things. What do we mean by social change? What does it mean in terms of the justice system? How do we view it and how do we support it? How can a lawyer act to bring about social change which will facilitate access to justice and strengthen the effectiveness of the rule of law? What is the experience of ASF in this area?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Francesca BONIOTTI, ASF Director General (Belgium) - Edgar BOYDENS, Lawyer, ASF President (Belgium) - Franck SIGNORET, Coordinator of the COTA (Belgium) - Bruno LANGHENDRIES, Access to Justice Expert at ASF (Belgium) 	FR EN NL Dupréel
10:00am	Break	
10:30am	<p>PLENARY SESSION: <i>Lawyering for change: straight from Africa, Asia and Europe</i></p> <p>North, South, East and West - those involved on the ground are mobilising to guarantee respect for fundamental rights and to contribute to the achievement of fairer and more peaceful societies. Their actions are varied and depend on their respective socio-political circumstances: to promote legal advice for all, guarantee the rights of LGBT people and also promote de-radicalisation and the reintegration of people on the margins of society. All of these stakeholders share the common goal of acting to bring about change in their own societies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arvind NARRAIN, Founding member of the Alternative Law Forum (India) and Director of ARC in Geneva (Switzerland) - Sunil POKHAREL, Secretary General of the Nepal Bar Association (Nepal) - Christophe MARCHAND, Lawyer, member of the Brussels Bar (Belgium) - Delphine DJIRAIBE, President of the Public Interest Law Centre (Chad) - Moderator: Chantal VAN CUTSEM, Strategic Coordinator at ASF (Belgium) 	FR EN NL Dupréel
11:45pm	Discussions	
12:15pm	Lunch	
13:15pm	Departure to the workshop venues	
1:30pm	<p>WORKSHOP 1: <i>From Rule of Law orthodoxy to legal empowerment</i></p> <p>W1.1: <i>Client-centered approach: hot tips</i></p> <p>Which professional practices, particularly during consultations, can lawyers and those with front-line involvement make use of in order to strengthen the ability of clients and beneficiaries to take action? This workshop highlights the client-centred approach, clear legal language and the inter-cultural approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jake STEVENS, Lawyer and Capacity Development Expert (USA) - Didier KETELS, Director of Droits Quotidiens (Belgium) - Reza KAZEMZADEH, Director of Exil (Belgium) - Moderator: Miriam CHINNAPPA, ASF Asia Representative <p>W1.2: <i>Can lawyers bring justice closer to rights holders?</i></p> <p>Is access to justice simply synonymous with access to legal institutions? How can we strengthen the relationship of trust between people seeking justice and the legal institutions? Social, economic or geographic obstacles can hinder the establishment of institutionalised legal advice systems. Increasing accessibility to services means shifting the centre of gravity from professionals to people seeking justice, by integrating their perceptions but also by better understanding their expectations and their needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liola DE FURSTENBERG, Coordinator of the lawyers' collective "Droit sans Toit" (Belg) - Camille MUNEZERO, Researcher and Director of the APDH (Burundi-DRC) - Liliane UMUBYEYI, Researcher at the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan (France) - Moderator: Cathy Lecrenier, ASF Country Director in Zambia 	FR EN NL Dupréel FR Inst. Etudes Europ.

	<p>W1.3: Bridging the gap between legal education and access to justice. Strategies, programmes and the use of narrative as example</p> <p>This session provides insight into many of the ways and means justice education, including clinical legal education, needs to be one of the core components in helping to ensure access to justice and support lawyering for change in the immediate and long term, and how this is currently being done as a part of a global movement. A variety of justice education models will be highlighted, as well as the strategies and planning needed to ensure their sustainability. The session will further demonstrate how the use of the interactive teaching methodology "Narrative" (the use of story telling) can and is used in these justice education programs as one example of the many different types of effective pedagogy approaches.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helena WHALEN-BRIDGE, Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore - Christopher MBAZIRA, professor of law and coordinator of the Public Interest Law Clinic at the Makarere University (Uganda) - Ulrich STEGE, Executive Secretary of the European Network for Clinical Legal Education, Program Director at the International University College of Turin (Germany-Italy) - Moderator: Bruce LASKY, Director of Bridge Across Borders Southeast Asia Community Legal Education Initiative (USA-Thailand) 	<p>EN Solvay</p>
	<p>W1.4: International justice: from victims to rights holders</p> <p>For post-conflict justice mechanisms to contribute to a process of reconciliation, victims - long regarded as passive - must be given the capacity to advance their own interests. How does legal support for victims make it possible to reinforce their ability to act (recognition of rights, changing of attitudes, restoration of trust between people seeking justice and institutions)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Julie GOFFIN, Lawyer, Human rights Coordinator at the International Association of Lawyers (Belgium) - Mariana PENA, Legal Officer for international justice with the Open Society Justice Initiative (Netherlands) - Jean-Claude SAFARI ZOZO, Lawyer, Secretary of the Honorary Order of the Bukavu Bar Association (DR Congo) - Moderator: Jean-Philippe KOT, International Justice Expert at ASF (Belgium) 	<p>FR Inst. Etudes Europ.</p>
2:45pm	Break	
3:15pm	WORKSHOPS 2: From empowered people to committed institutions	
>	W2.1: ILN: How to build a community of practice?	
4:30 pm	(this workshop W2.1 will last until 5pm)	
	<p>ASF's network of pro bono practitioners, the International Legal Network (ILN), has made it possible to support processes for change in many countries. It will shortly celebrate its 10th birthday. This workshop highlights the positive experiences, but also experiences which have not worked so well. This meeting, to which all members of the network are invited, will also allow collective discussions about the issues of tomorrow: how do we promote discussions between members of the network? How do we make local expertise more visible both nationally and internationally? How do we act within sustainable and long-term processes? What is the role of communities of practices in planning future actions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yvonne INAMUCO, Lawyer, member of the Bujumbura Bar (Burundi) - Bruno LANGHENDRIES, Access to Justice Expert at ASF (Belgium) - Matthieu LYS, Lawyer, member of the Brussels Bar (Belgium) - Bruno MEESEN, Economist at the Institute of Tropical Medicine (Belgium) - Julien MORICEAU, Research Coordinator at ASF (Belgium) 	<p>FR EN Inst. Etudes Europ.</p>
	<p>W2.2: The hidden side of strategic litigation</p> <p>What is strategic litigation? What might its impact be? How can we implement processes which support positive change in societies? Using case studies provided by the panellists, the aim of this workshop is to propose possible solutions to the questions raised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Catherine FORGET, Lawyer, member of the Brussels Bar (Belgium) - Antonio MANGANELLA, ASF Country Director in Tunisia - Pascal PARADIS, Director of ASF Canada - Moderator: Catherine DENIS, Legal Counsel at ASF (Belgium) 	<p>FR EN NL Dupréel</p>

W2.3: Domino effect of legal aid on law players

Taking the specific case of the prison situation in many European and African countries, how can lawyers and civil society influence how the judicial and administrative apparatus works? How can lawyers, administrations and judges work together? How do we promote the emergence of judicial and administrative practices which respect the rule of law?

- Nicolas COHEN, Lawyer, President of the Belgian section of the **International Prison Observatory** (Belgium)
- Sistor HAVYARIMANA, Programme Coordinator at **ASF** (Burundi)
- Joëlle VAN EX, Judge, advisor to the criminal division of the **Brussels Court of appeal**
- Moderator: Damien SCALIA, Professor in criminal and penal law at the **ULB** (Belgium)

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W2.4: Influencing access to justice policies: case studies

Access to justice is a major political issue because it is a prerequisite for the establishment of the rule of law and the socioeconomic development of populations. How do we ensure that this priority is on government agendas? How can lawyers and civil society act to support the work of political players?

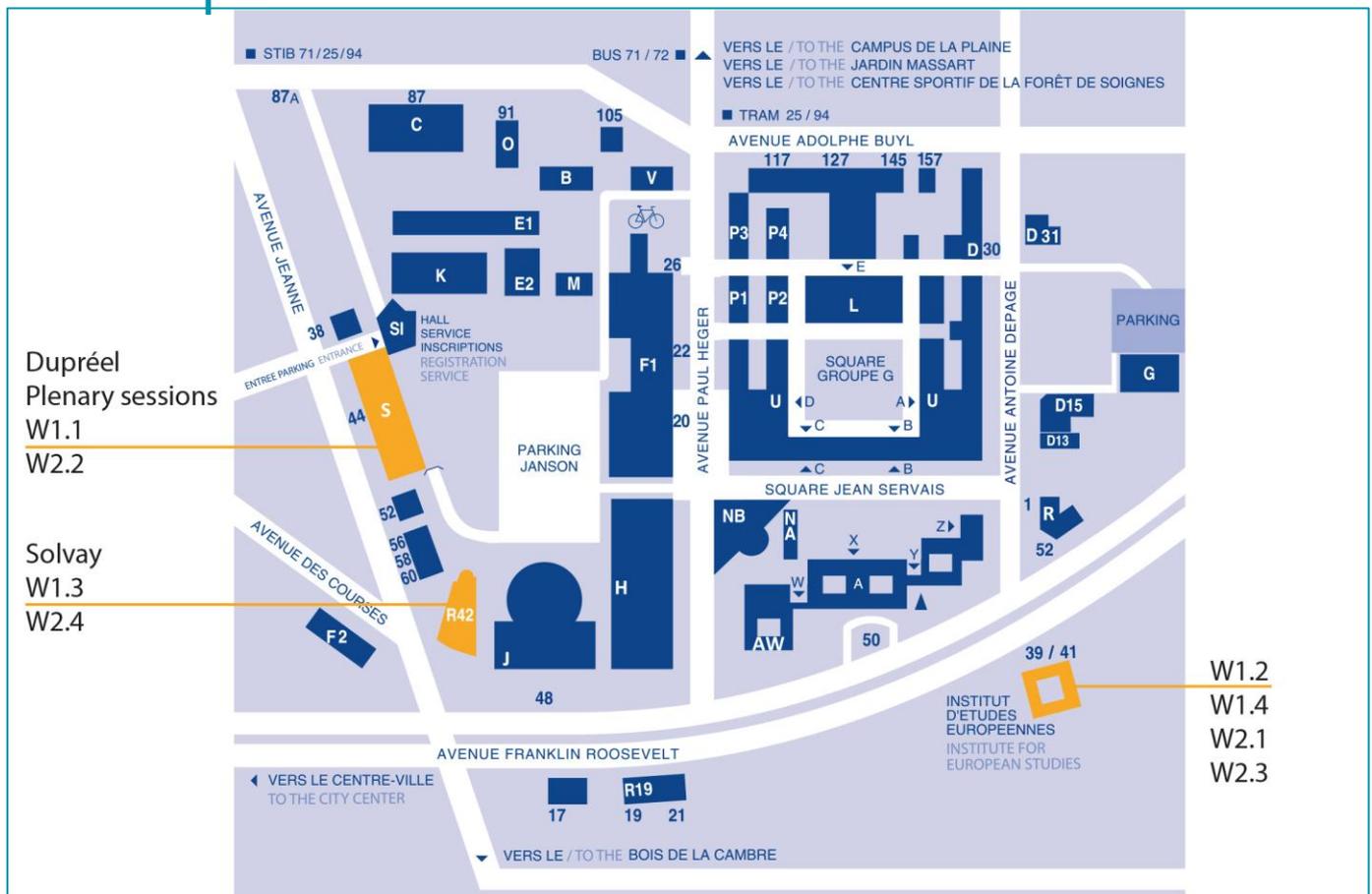
- Manuella CADELLI, President of the **Association syndicale des magistrats** (Belgium)
- Zoé GENOT, Brussels Member of **Parliament** (Belgium)
- Isabelle DE VIRON, Lawyer, Board Member of the **Syndicat des avocats pour la démocratie** (Belgium)
- Moderator: Catherine LALONDE, Strategic Coordinator at **ASF** (Belgium)

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5:30pm Drink and appetizers
Bar La Cour, rue Eugène Cattoirstraat 14 - 1050 Brussels

Bar La Cour

rue Elise



DAY 2 - Thursday 1 December - Plenary sessions

8:30am	Greeting of participants	
9:00am	<p>Introduction: From field practices to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals</p> <p>Larry TAMAN, International Expert on Justice Sector Reform</p>	FR EN NL
9:45am	<p>Access to justice as a catalyst for socio-economic development</p> <p>Paul PRETTITORE, Senior Public Sector Specialist at the World Bank (USA)</p>	FR EN NL
10:15am	Break	
10:45am	<p>Access to justice and sustainable development: facts and figures from the field</p> <p>Assessing the impact of actions has become a vital issue for stakeholders in the development sector. Since access to justice is one of the Sustainable Development Goals which came into effect in 2016, how do we assess the impact of access to justice initiatives on the ground? How is this interrelated with the strengthening of the rule of law and sustainable development? Experts on the ground and from the academic world present their ideas about this complex dynamic and the results of field studies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Imane CHAARA, PhD, University of Oxford (UK) - Kirstie FARMER, Research and Policy Adviser at the Norwegian Refugee Council - Julien MORICEAU, Research Coordinator at ASF (Belgium) - Camille MUNEZERO, Researcher and Director of the APDH (Burundi-DRC) - Moderator: Franck SIGNORET, Coordinator of the COTA (Belgium) 	FR EN NL
12:00pm	Discussions	
12:30pm	Lunch	
1:30pm	<p>The role of bar associations in the transition to democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Patrick HENRY, Lawyer, Former President of the Belgian French-speaking Order of Lawyers, President of the human rights Commission of the Council of Bar and Law Societies of Europe, ASF Vice-President (Belgium) - Ameer MEHREZI, President of the Tunisian Order of Lawyers 	FR EN NL
2:00pm	<p>Sustainable development goals and access to justice: one year after</p> <p>The 17 Sustainable Development Goals were adopted in September 2015 by the United Nations. Goal 16 seeks access to justice for all as a lever for truly sustainable development. What is the current state of play, thirteen months after adoption of that goal? In what way are lawyers, law practitioners and civil society asked to be involved when it comes to defining the programmes implemented by national governments? What role can they play? How do international cooperation policies integrate access to justice as a sustainable development goal?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Michel BENICHO, President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (Fr) - Dominique DELLICOUR, Former EU Ambassador in Senegal & Head of Cooperation in South Africa (Belgium) - Bill BOWRING, President of the European Lawyers for Democracy and Human Rights (UK) - Moderator: Francesca BONIOTTI, ASF Director General (Belgium) 	FR EN NL
2:45pm	Discussions (end of conference at 3:15 pm)	

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Dates:

- Wednesday 30 November 2016 (8:30am-5pm)
- Thursday 1 December 2016 (8:30am-3:30pm)

Venues:

- Plenary sessions: [Salle Dupréel](#) at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Campus du Solbosch, Building S, 1st floor, 44 avenue Jeanne, 1050 Brussels.
- Workshops:
 - [Salle Dupréel](#) at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Campus du Solbosch, Building S, 1st floor, 44 avenue Jeanne, 1050 Brussels.
 - [Institute for European Studies](#) at the ULB, 39 Avenue F.D. Roosevelt, 1050 Brussels.
 - [Solvay](#) Brussels School of Economics and Management de l'ULB, 42 avenue F.D. Roosevelt, 1050 Brussels.

Registering for the conference

- Given the limited number of places, registration for the conference is **required**, via the ASF website: www.asf.be/l4c.

Paid admission

- Full fee:
 - €80 for both days
 - €50 per day
- Reduced fee (trainee lawyers, students and members of the International Legal Network as of 01/06/2016):
 - €40 for both days
 - €25 per day
- Payment: your registration will be confirmed when your registration fee is transferred to the ASF account (communication: "L4C") (no cash payment allowed)
IBAN: BE08 5230 8022 2513
BIC: TRIOBEBB

Catering

- Entry to the conference includes coffee breaks and a light lunch.

Working languages

- Plenary sessions: French, English and Dutch, with simultaneous interpretation.
- Workshops: see programme above.

Training credits

- AVOCATS.BE and OVB: 5 training credits per day.
- Institut de formation judiciaire.

Contact

- For more information on the content of the conference and the speakers: www.asf.be/l4c.
- Tel: +32 (0)2 223 36 54
- Email: l4c@asf.be