MAKE A DIFFERENCE. JOIN US. DONATE TODAY.
A message from the President...

Dear IAWJ Members,

This Newsletter shows some of the numerous activities of IAWJ members and associations in various countries furthering the rule of law and equal justice, combatting human trafficking and violence against women and promoting the important role of judges’ associations and education on equality. As well, we recognize honors bestowed on IAWJ judges. We applaud them for their excellence. Our virtual proximity and ability to learn from each other is a benefit of being part of IAWJ’s international network of judges.

I was recently honored to speak on behalf of IAWJ in the opening ceremony of the IAWJ-sponsored regional conference on human trafficking for Latin America and the Caribbean held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on July 30-31, to coincide with the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. The conference brought together knowledgeable judges from countries across the region as well as prosecutors, police and representatives from international and civil society organizations. They discussed best practices and the need for coordinated cross-border approaches to combat international human trafficking. Of central importance was the emphasis on a victim-centered approach to the investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases. With individualized support and follow-up those victims can become survivors, by addressing their health, employment, documentation and housing needs, and provide hope to rebuild their lives and future. The Conference concluded with specific recommendations and action items.

The success of the conference would not have been possible without the leadership of board member Esther Agelán and the support of our chapter in the Dominican Republic, AJURD (Asociación de Juezas de República Dominicana): Judges Katia Jimenez (President), Rafaelina Peralta, Judhit Contreras and Josefina Grullon. They not only participated in the conference but also rallied the co-sponsorship of local partners: the Ministry of Foreign Relations, Supreme Court, Judicial School, Constitutional Court and Electoral Court, as well as the Attorney General. Very special appreciation is due to the fantastic substantive and organizational work of IAWJ professional staff, Senior Program Officer Jane Charles-Voltaire, Human Rights Education Director Anne Goldstein, and Communications and Development Consultant Laura Campiglia de Méndez, all under the guidance of Executive Director Shawna Wilson. To raise awareness of human trafficking, the courts were bathed in blue light during the conference. The United States Ambassador, Robin Bernstein, welcomed conference participants at the Embassy residence and spoke of her personal efforts in fighting human trafficking. The conference had invaluable financial support from the US Department of State.

IAWJ members and associations and staff have developed considerable expertise on human trafficking from this and other events over the years. This regional conference could serve as a model for similar conferences in other regions of the world.

In closing, I remind you that registration for the next year’s biennial conference in Auckland, New Zealand is now open. The registration form, call for speakers at the conference and applications for scholarships to attend the conference are all linked below. We urge you to register soon to take advantage of the discounted registration fee during the early bird period.

With my best wishes,

The Hon. Vanessa Ruiz
IAWJ President
Hello IAWJ members. As you will see from this month's newsletter, July was a busy month. When looking at all the great work all of our members are doing to advance the rule of law, I am constantly inspired and awed by it all. One of the things I really appreciate about our members is your willingness to share your knowledge and experiences with others. For example, I was really impressed with all of the applications we received for the two United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) expert meetings. I want to thank everyone who took the time to submit their information for these meetings. Because I know that we have such a wealth of talent and knowledge within our membership and we continue to get such a great response to our solicitations, I am continuing to look for these types of opportunities for our members. We had a few meetings with the U.S. Departments of Justice and State thus far this summer to discuss strategic partnerships. It is my hope that these agencies would reach out to IAWJ members when they have a need for judicial expertise. Since the Department of State funds programs all around the world and the Department of Justice implements programs in more than 70 countries, these agencies seemed like good starting points for discussions. The initial meetings went well and I hope in the coming months, we will be able to offer more opportunities to our members to participate in international development programs sponsored or implemented by these agencies.
Latest News

• On July 30 and 31 2019, the IAWJ and the Association of Women Judges of the Dominican Republic convened a Regional Conference on Trafficking in Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean, in recognition of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons on July 30. #NOTrataTraffickingTraite2019 #FightTraffickinginLAC #CombatelaTrataenLAC #LutteContreLaTraiteenALC

• The Association of Women Magistrates of the Ivory Coast conducted an activity to promote human trafficking awareness to commemorate World Day against Trafficking in Persons. #EndHumanTrafficking
Our newly affiliated association, the *Yemen Women Judges Forum* organized a symposium on the role judicial associations play in promoting justice.

Former IAWJ Executive Director, *Joan Winship (US)* and BMT Member, *Ambassador Sue Esserman (US)* team up on human trafficking program.
Latest News

- The Hon. Anisa Dhanji (UK) wrote an article for UK’s Judicial College on the Global Judicial Integrity Network.
- The Peruvian Association of Women Judges has elected its new Board of Directors for 2019-2021.

- The Botswana Association of Women Judges was praised for its role in fighting human trafficking by the country’s Minister of Defense, Justice and Security.
- The Hon. Gifty Adjei-Addo (Ghana) and the Hon. Naa Adoley Azu (Ghana), participated in the Sixth Annual Africa Regional Judges Forum to discuss the progress, challenges, and latest developments in the region’s response to HIV and tuberculosis from a human rights perspective.
IAWJ members were present at the Central and Eastern European Law Initiative’s Annual Meeting in Prague. At the meeting were IAWJ Board of Managerial Trustees’ members, the Hon. Mary McGowan Davis (USA), the Hon. Margaret McKeown (USA), the Hon. Judith Chirlin (USA) and Laura Stein (USA), as well as IAWJ member, the Hon. Ivana Hrdlickova (Czech Republic).
• IAWJ Board Member and President of the Association of Women Judges of Spain, the Hon. Gloria Poyatos wrote a blog post for Huffington Post Spain titled "The law has gender, and it is not female."
• The Tunisian Association of Women Judges has elected its new Executive Council. This was the association's first election, proof of their institutional growth.

• The Association of Women Judges of Spain, as part of their program "Educating in Equal Justice," conducted a mock court with high-school students in Lanzarote, Spain.
• In an interview for eldiario.es, IAWJ Member and Founder of the Association of Women Judges of Spain, the Hon. Lucia Aviles addressed Spain's Supreme Court "historic" ruling on the rape case by the "Wolf Pack."
• The Association of Women Judges of Argentina has elected its new Executive Council.
- The Tunisian Association of Women Judges hosted a seminar titled "Reality and Perspectives of Women Judges in the Tunisian Judiciary."

- The Association of Women Judges of Spain released a statement on their website on the "Need for All Public Authorities to Believe in Equality and Fight Against Gender-Based Violence."

- Pakistan will create over 1,000 Courts to address violence against women. IAWJ member, with IAWJ support, the Hon. Ayesha Malik, is responsible for creating the pilot court in Lahore, Punjab for one of our programs.

- The United Kingdom Association of Women Judges participated in a wellbeing event for lawyers and judicial officers.
Latest News

- In Nigeria, 80 million women and girls still fall victims to gender-based violence, despite the progress made by the country.
- Governments in Africa have joined activists in the fight against sextortion.
- The Commonwealth Magistrate and Judges Association issued a statement jointly with other organizations concerned about the proposed changes to the Constitution of Zambia which could affect the independence of the judiciary.

Resource of the month

- The International Bar Association released a report on Bullying and Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession. IAWJ Senior Advisor, Nancy Hendry collaborated in this report.

Women Judges in the Spotlight

- The Hon. Carla Vallejo (Spain), founding member of the Association of Women Judges of Spain, has been appointed deputy minister of Justice and Security of the Canary Islands’ Government.
- Magistrate Pilar Maturana (Chile) has been selected to participate in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights’ court-training Professional Internship Program.
- The Hon. Raoudha Laabidi (Tunisia) received the Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Hero Award.
- Sandra Veronica Guagnino (Argentina) designed and implemented an alternative rule of conduct against gender-based violence. She collaborated with other IAWJ members: The Hon. Susana Medina (former IAWJ president and AMJA president), the Hon. Flora Acselrad, and Gabriela Van Marrewijk.
- Omnia Gadalla (Egypt) was interviewed by the Women's Network for Change (WNC) on her initiative #HerHonorSettingtheBar.
- IAWJ Board of Managerial Trustees member, Hon. Margaret McKeown (USA) will receive the American Bar Association's John Marshall Award in August. The award will be presented by the association's Judicial Division and the Standing Committee on the American Judicial System.
- IAWJ Board Member, the Hon. Julie Thorburn (Canada) has been appointed to the Court of Appeal for Ontario.
- The Hon. Shirley Abrahamson (USA), has been honored as she retires from being "Wisconsin's longest-serving and first female state Supreme Court Justice."
- IAWJ Past President, Lady Brenda Hale (UK) was interviewed by BBC Radio.

To read all Women Judges in the Spotlight News click here.
IAWJ Projects Update

- The US Department of State recently published its 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report. In the chapter on Haiti, the report addresses the program that the Haitian Chapter of the IAWJ (CHAIFEJ) conducted in the country, with IAWJ support, on Combating Human Trafficking in Haiti.

Professional and Leadership Opportunities

- Registration is open for the International Bar Association's Annual Conference 2019 in Seoul in September 22-27. #IBASeoul
- UN Women's Generation Equality Forum has a date: "The Generation Equality Forum is a global gathering for gender equality, convened by UN Women and co-chaired by France and Mexico, with the leadership and partnership of civil society. The Forum will kick-off in Mexico City, Mexico, on 7-8 May 2020 and culminate in Paris, France, on 7-10 July 2020."

*Please note, the IAWJ is not associated with the organization of these conferences. For more information, contact UN Women and IBA directly.*
Don't forget to check out our Calendar of Events for more information!

Look out for the next newsletters on:
September 9 | October 14 | November 11 | December 9

Please send us content for next month's newsletter to office@iawj.org before August 31.