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Membership Opportunities



"Multis Melior Pax Una Triumphis" "One peace is better than many triumphs"

The American Branch of the International Law Association

ABILA is the American branch of the worldwide International Law Association, the preeminent private international organization for restating and developing international law.

Founded in 1873 in Brussels, the ILA has for a century and a half played a key role in drafting treaties, guidelines, policy, and commentary in such diverse areas as human rights, environmental law, arbitration, international antitrust, international family law and adoption, commercial and trade law (including economic sanctions), law of the sea and off-shore resources claims, boundary settlements, the use of armed force, and a host of other issues. The ILA has 52 national and regional chapters in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas, and some 3500 members worldwide. It meets every two years around the globe to complete negotiated texts and allow robust debate among its diverse constituencies.

The American Branch, founded in 1922, is among the ILA's largest and most active. Membership offers a unique networking opportunity by involving you directly in an exciting international forum for practitioners, academics, diplomats and government officials, as well as non-governmental organizations, working to frame international law and principles. ABILA members take part in the work of the Branch's substantive committees, which issue reports, amicus briefs, and letters to the Congress and federal agencies, as well as to U.N. and other international officials on key issues.

Your membership covers free attendance at the annual International Law Weekend (ILW) in New York City, as well as regional conferences such as International Law West and International Law Midwest conferences (held in Denver and St. Louis in 2013). It also includes subscriptions (electronic or paper) to several timely and informative publications.

The ILA itself meets every two years, with recent conferences held in The Hague (2010), Sofia (2012) and Washington (2014). The American Branch hosted the 2014 Washington Conference jointly with the American Society of International Law. The Conference attracted a record number of some 1700 registrants. Future conferences are planned for South Africa, Australia, and Japan.

Come join us! Your membership opens a world of intellectual and moral engagement and international legal practice, at a most economical price. Students are especially welcome and join for free.

ABILA Committees

Participating in the work of the Branch committees offers an opportunity to be directly involved in exciting and cutting edge issues of international law. The Branch's 24 committees cover such diverse topics as international human rights, arms control, disability rights, international trade and commercial law, bilateral investment treaties, Islamic law, intellectual property, feminism and international law, international environmental law, the International Criminal Court, law of the sea, UN law, outer space law, use of armed force, and international humanitarian law. The complete list is available at http://ila-americanbranch.org.

Opportunities for Members

- Membership on the Branch's working committees.
- Participation in International Law Weekend in New York, an annual 2 1/2-day program, full of speakers and panel discussions (free registration).
- Participation in the Branch's regional meetings (International Law Weekend-West and Midwest) (free registration).
- ➤ Participation in the 2016 ILA Biennial in Johannesburg, South Africa and other ILA regional conferences.
- Invitational membership on an ILA working committee or study group.
- > Free subscriptions to four publications: ABILA Newsletter, International Practitioner's Notebook, and Proceedings of the American Branch, as well as Reports of the ILA's Biennial Conferences.
- Follow the ILA on Twitter:@ILA_official.

