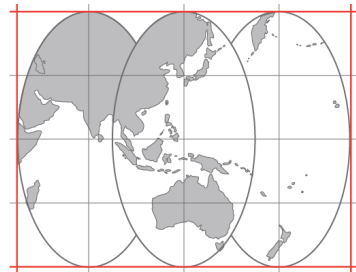


MEMBERSHIP PROSPECTUS



LAWASIA

THE LAW ASSOCIATION FOR
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

FOUNDED IN 1966

CONNECTING THE LEGAL PROFESSION
IN THE ASIA PACIFIC



2019-2020

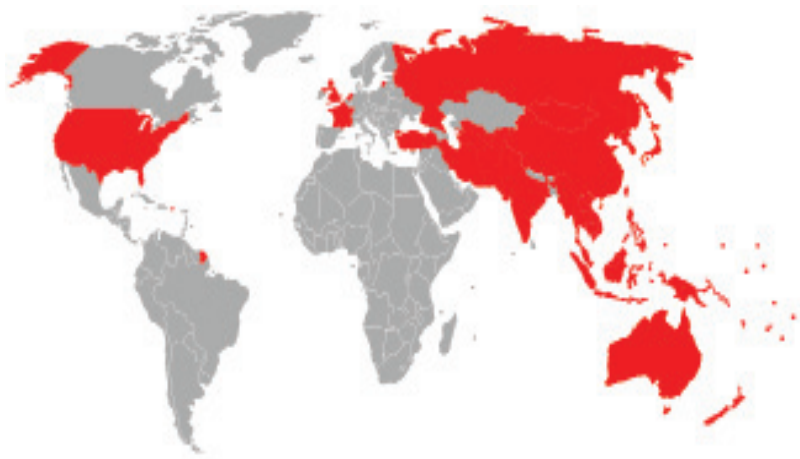
About LAWASIA

LAWASIA is a regional association of lawyers, judges, jurists and legal organisations, which advocates for the interests and concerns of the Asia Pacific legal profession.

Structure

LAWASIA's governing body, the LAWASIA Council, comprised of representatives from peak legal bodies within the United Nations ESCAP region. As such, its policies and agenda are informed by, and directly address, issues confronting the legal profession throughout the Asia Pacific.

In addition to the bodies represented on its Council, LAWASIA has individual, organisational, law firm and corporate members drawn from over 40 jurisdictions. Every member has the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to LAWASIA's activities by participating in one or more of its Sections and Committees.



Mission Statement

As the representative of lawyers and peak legal organisations from over 40 jurisdictions, LAWASIA's combined activities serve to:

- **encourage and facilitate** regional interaction at all levels amongst law associations, judges, lawyers and others involved in the legal community,
- **provide an established voice** for the interests of the legal community in Asia and the Pacific,
- **promote the rule of law**, respect for human rights, and high standards of legal practice,
- **facilitate quality cross-border legal education** that is available and relevant to all jurisdictions, regardless of resources or level of development, for the purpose of enhancing the calibre of legal practice throughout the region, and
- **Promote business law initiatives** which strengthen relationships.

Objectives

LAWASIA's central aim is to strengthen professional and business relations among law associations, lawyers, the private sector and government representatives in the Asia Pacific.

In the course of its activities across diverse political, social, cultural and economic contexts in the Asia Pacific, LAWASIA is further guided by the objects described as follows:



Promote the administration of justice,
the protection of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law within the region



Advance the standard of legal education
within the region by all practicable means



Encourage communication and liaison
between members in relation to general and specialised areas of law



Enhance the development of members' legal practices
and their professional and business relations within the region



Further the diffusion of knowledge of the laws
of the various countries within the region



Promote development of the law in the region



Advance the science of jurisprudence in all its phases
and to promote the study and development of international law and of comparative law



Promote uniformity
within the region in appropriate fields of law



Further international understanding and goodwill



Assist and co-operate with international, regional, or other organisations
having all or any of the above mentioned objects or similar objects



Foster relations and exchange
between lawyers and associations and organisations of lawyers within the region



Uphold and advance
the status of the legal profession within the region

What We Do

LAWASIA advocates for the interests of the legal profession, the cross-border exchange of legal resources, and commitment to the rule of law, professional integrity and human rights.

Our Conferences

LAWASIA holds a number of legal conferences, seminars and meetings throughout the year as a means of supporting professional development, regional networking and the exchange of legal knowledge and insight. These events are open to the broader legal profession and span both generalist and specialised areas of law, such as family law, children's rights, employment law, intellectual property and human rights.

The annual conference is LAWASIA's flagship event and the highlight of its professional events program. The conference is a platform for the convergence of bar leaders, jurists, professional organisations and individual lawyers from across the Asia Pacific, and is designed to facilitate the discussion of regional developments in law, including such issues as judicial practice, legal education, cross-border business and investment law, and dispute resolution.

As a generalist legal event, the annual conference also serves as an important forum for sharing ideas, building professional networks, reinforcing shared professional values, advocating for the rule of law in varied jurisdictions, and advancing the status of the legal profession in the Asia Pacific.

Every second year, the annual LAWASIA conference is scheduled to coincide with the biennial Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific—an event long viewed as the most notable achievement of LAWASIA's Judicial Section. The Conference of Chief Justices is a valuable opportunity for leaders of the regional judiciary to collaborate on current issues and foster a cohesive legal framework in the Asia Pacific.



2012
Bali, Indonesia



2013
Singapore, Singapore



2014
Bangkok, Thailand



2015
Sydney, Australia



Resolutions, Declarations & Statements of Principle

The LAWASIA Council often promulgates statements of principle that seek to reflect a consensus view of its members on matters of law, legal practice, the legal profession and/or the rule of law.

Significant examples include:

- Declaration on Children's Rights and Siem Reap Principles



- Statement on Principles of Access to Justice
- Resolution on Separation of Powers
- Declaration on the Need for Adequate Privacy Laws in the Region
- Resolution on Freedom of Assembly for Lawyers

Human Rights Initiatives

LAWASIA has been active in the area of human rights and protection of rule of law, principally as a reflection of the issues in its region that have concerned its member organisations and the broader legal community.

Among other things, LAWASIA works to promulgate and support the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and, in 2019, LAWASIA hosted its inaugural Human Rights Conference in New Delhi, India.

Statements of concern about challenges to human rights and the rule of law are regularly considered and released by LAWASIA's Executive Committee and Council. In addition, LAWASIA undertakes observer missions, fact-finding assignments and related projects where the presence of its delegates is beneficial.

Recent initiatives include:

- Maldives Capacity Building Project
- Presidential Taskforce on the Humanitarian Crisis in Rakhine State
- Observe Mission to Sri Lanka: to observe the Supreme Court proceedings on the hearing of petitions against dissolution of Parliament by President Sirisena
- Statements of concern regarding the acquittal of Asia Bibi and subsequent protests in Pakistan
- Statements of concern regarding the ongoing violence against lawyers in Philippines
- LAWASIA resolution on the death penalty calling on all jurisdictions within the ESCAP region that currently retain the death penalty to review their policies on capital punishment and to implement a moratorium on the death penalty while carrying out this review.



2016
Colombo, Sri Lanka



2017
Tokyo, Japan



2018
Siem Reap, Cambodia



2019
Hong Kong, SAR

Our Members

Members are the very core of LAWASIA. We are proud to represent a constituency of individual lawyers and peak legal organisations drawn from over 40 jurisdictions.

Why Join LAWASIA?

Members are LAWASIA's foundation, constituting its Executive Committee as well as its governing body, the LAWASIA Council.

Many lawyers join the association in order to support LAWASIA's ongoing work in promoting the rule of law and the protection of human rights. By joining LAWASIA, members may also contribute to the sensitivity of the legal profession to human rights in all facets of its work and in its standing as a driving force within civil society.

Membership of LAWASIA offers to individuals and their law firms the opportunity to interact on a regional basis, to build their knowledge and understanding of legal issues and to develop a network of colleagues throughout the world with a common interest in the practice of law in this region.

LAWASIA provides its member organisations with the opportunity to advance their interests and to exert their influence as part of a regional grouping of professional legal associations.

All members receive:

- regular LAWASIA publications, including Asian Jurist, Update, and the LAWASIA Journal;
- LAWASIA Certificate of Membership and Lapel Pin;
- reduced registration rates for LAWASIA seminars and conferences;
- the opportunity to present papers at LAWASIA seminars and conferences;
- access to the LAWASIA website, which contains LAWASIA news and resources, Section and Committee information and the details of upcoming conferences, as well as links to other legal professional websites in the region;
- the opportunity to actively participate in Sections and Standing Committees; and
- an opportunity to form long-standing international relationships.

Representing a Law Firm or Corporation? LAWASIA also offers a membership package that includes:

- complimentary advertising in LAWASIA digital newsletters;
- the opportunity to link to the LAWASIA website and use the LAWASIA Logo on your firm's promotional material;
- reduced registration fees for seminars and conferences for three members of your firm/corporation;
- free section membership.



LAWASIA Memberships



Individual Membership

Members of the legal profession



Young Lawyer Membership

Individual legal practitioners (including barristers) in their first five years of practice or ≤ 35 years of age, law students or recent law graduates



Associate Membership

Non-practising members of the legal profession or any person who supports the objects and work of LAWASIA



Life Membership

Individual members who pay a one-off fee for lifetime member status



Law Firm Membership

Available to small (1-6 partners), medium (6-12 partners) and large (over 12 partners) law practices



Corporate Membership

Organisations that are not law firms or legal professional bodies, e.g. policy groups and private companies

Our Sections and Committees

The greatest benefits of membership are derived from participation in LAWASIA's wide-ranging activities.

Our membership packages are designed to encourage members to become actively involved in LAWASIA's regional and national sections and committees, seminars, conferences and events.

Sections and committees are run by the membership of LAWASIA. Activities including niche conferences and seminars in the specific area of interest are conducted regularly. Our section and committee members provide valuable input into the LAWASIA annual conference programs and are encouraged to contribute to LAWASIA publications.

Sections:

- Business Law
- Family Law & Family Rights
- Human Rights
- Judicial
- Law Management
- Environmental Law
- Franchising
- Insolvency Law
- Intellectual Property
- One Belt, One Road
- Real Estate & Transactions
- Taxation

Business Law Subcommittees

- ADR
- Anti - Trust and Competition Law
- Asia-Europe
- Banking & Finance
- Communication, Technology & Data Protection
- Corporate Securities & Investment
- Energy & Resources

Stand-Alone Committees

- Constitutional and Rule of Law
- Criminal Law
- Employment Law
- Legal Professional Indemnity Insurance
- Moot Competition
- South Pacific
- Young Lawyers



“LAWASIA aims to
advance the course of justice,
rule of law and respect for human
rights in the region.”

Christopher Leong,
President, LAWASIA



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LAWASIA

