

PRO BONO LEGAL RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

As a result of COVID 19 many organisations face unexpected and complex legal questions around employment and restructuring, contractual rights and force majeure, and implications on human rights in general. As part of our ‘Protect, Adapt and Rally’ package, please find below an overview of leading pro bono service providers and clearing houses that are offering their services to LGBTI organisations in finding solutions to the consequences of COVID 19 at the organisational level and other areas of LGBTI rights affected by the pandemic. Please consult the list below on Pro bono legal resources for guidance and support with changed organisational matters and associated impact of COVID 19 to find best catering for your needs.

Please contact these organisations directly would you want to explore their services.

PILNet

PILnet is a global public interest law organization that creates opportunities for social change by building strategic partnerships between private sector lawyers and civil society to activate the resources and expertise of the hundreds of corporate lawyers in its global network for a wide range of public interest problems.

<p>If you need legal support in one of the areas below please submit your request through relevant clearing house here (N.B. submissions in Russian are possible through Eurasian clearing house)</p>	<p>Legal Resources: COVID-19</p> <p>This section contains information for NGOs and social enterprises related to COVID-19 response and good governance, including pre-recorded webinars on the following:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment law (Examples: paid and unpaid leave/ sick leave for employees (including for those with dependents who are not in school, working from home, workplace safety regulations, etc.) • Contracts and Force Majeure (Examples: cancelled events and travel plans liability issues, etc.) • Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Finance (Examples: suspending activities, re-negotiation of loans, etc.) <p>Government and EU Support (funds, plans, grants including EU funds)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour and employment • Grant opportunities • Operation solutions • Organization management • United States resources • Remote working • Cybersecurity and COVID-19 • Human Rights and COVID-19

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Something Else (none of the above, please describe your legal issue to tackle today) 	
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TrustLaw

TrustLaw is the Thomson Reuters Foundation's global pro bono service. TrustLaw connects non-profits and social enterprises with law firms that can provide free legal assistance. TrustLaw is the biggest pro bono network in the world: since 2009, they have helped more than 5,000 organisations ranging from small local charities, to community-based social enterprises, to large non-profit organisations, saving the sector more than \$172million in legal fees.

<p>Non-profits and social enterprises can apply to join TrustLaw here. TrustLaw reviews applications on an ongoing basis and will get in touch within two weeks to welcome you to the pro bono network. If you need legal assistance on matters related to covid-19, please specify and TrustLaw will endeavor to prioritise the request.</p>	<p>TrustLaw has created a covid-19 response website, which includes the recordings of all the webinars addressing legal implications of covid-19 globally and a list of resources for NGOs compiled internally or by member law firms to navigate these challenging times.</p>
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The Good Lobby

The Good Lobby (TGL) is a civic start-up operating across Europe and beyond. TGL is committed to give voice to underrepresented public interests by bringing more citizens in the public policy process. TGL promotes skill-sharing and cooperation among citizens with different backgrounds, professions and attitudes to foster assertive citizenship, with the idea that citizens, regardless of background or geographical location, should be able to start lobbying for the public good.

To navigate these challenging times TGL offers **access to their networks of over 50 law firms and almost 1.000 pro bono volunteers** to support any Covid-related problem you are facing. TGL takes care of organization’s needs by finding **pro bono legal, communication and advocacy advice**. Some examples include employment law, human rights issues arising from COVID measures and issues related to possible bankruptcy.

Feel free to request pro bono assistance through the quick form below:

<https://thegoodlobby.eu/form-matchmaking/>

American Bar Association

Center for Human Rights

The ABA Center for Human Rights Justice Defenders Program coordinates pro bono legal support and engages in advocacy on behalf of human rights defenders around the world. Its staff attorneys have regional portfolios and extensive regional and legal expertise.

Examples of its services include:

- **Pro bono legal support to local lawyers defending HRDs facing frivolous charges**, including through additional research, support drafting pleadings, mentorship and strategic consultation, and the filing of expert declarations in local court.
 - **Pro bono legal support to local advocates and NGOs** to enable them to file amicus curiae briefs, release reports with strong technical legal analysis, and to file regional and international petitions as appropriate, including to secure protective measures.
 - **Monitoring trials** for procedural irregularities both to ensure fair trials for HRDs and to hold governments accountable for the proper investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of violence against HRDs.
 - **Independent factfinding and advocacy** on threats to HRDs and violations of their rights, including through direct engagements with State and non-State actors as appropriate.
- Contact: ginna.anderson@americanbar.org