



ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES AVOCATS
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF LAWYERS



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Advocates 2018

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LEGAL SERVICES

JUNE 15 - 16, 2018 - ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN

POST-CONFERENCE INFORMATION



Introduction

In December 2017 the Republican Collegium of Advocates in Kazakhstan (RCAK) was seeking further development in improvement the quality of legal services in accordance with international good practices. It has been agreed that the AEA-EAL and Bar Issue Commission of the IBA will organize a conference with the aim to elaborate recommendations on standards set by the United Nations, Council of Europe, IBA and other professional organizations. Our goal was to promote the concept of the self-regulated profession, independence, necessity of permanent education, full respect for principles of deontology as well as disciplinary consequences in case of violation of professional duties. In addition we aimed to boost networking between advocates from Central Asia and Europe and to promote mutual professional co-operation between legal practitioners from different regions and jurisdictions. In January and February 2018 other countries of the Region expressed interest in active participation in the conference: Bar Associations from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. To facilitate the participation of lawyers from these countries, AEA-EAL initiated talks with the Council of Europe (CoC), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and with the International Bar Association (IBA) to secure funds and cooperation to prepare this event for lawyers from the Region. Those talks have been successfully finalized; under leadership of the AEA-EAL, IBA Bar Issues Commission and RCAK, the conference was organized in June 15 - 16, 2018 in Almaty, Kazakhstan.



First day of the conference is about to begin



Jędrzej Klatka (Poland), Alisher Bekturov (Kyrgyzstan) and Aleksey Sozvaryev (Russia)



Speakers' discussion (representative of the Minister of Justice of Kazakhstan is speaking)



Shuhrat Sadikov, Acting Chairman of the Chamber of Advocates of Uzbekistan

Date, place and structure

It was decided, that the conference would take place on June 15 – 16, 2018 in Almaty, the biggest city of Kazakhstan and former capital of this country. In agreement with the RCAK, we organized five sessions:

- **INDEPENDENCE** of Bars and lawyers, chaired by Maria Ślęzak, AEA-EAL President,
- **CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION** chaired by Sergiey Sizintzev, Executive Director of the Republican Collegium of Advocates of Kazakhstan,
- **RULES OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS** chaired by Jędrzej Klatka, representing the AEA-EAL, chair of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Polish National Bar of Attorneys-at-law,
- **LEGAL AID**, chaired by Jonathan Goldsmith, former Secretary General of the CCBE, representing the IBA,
- **DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS** chaired by Norville Connolly, former President of The Law Society of Northern Ireland, representing the IBA.

Each session was divided into three parts: introductory remarks of its chair, interventions of speakers from Europe, Central Asia and other jurisdictions as well as a discussion of speakers with participants.



Maria Ślęzak, AEA-EAL President
and Anuar Tugel, RCAK Chairman



Christoph von Wilcken, AEA-EAL Vice-President
(in the middle)



View on the conference room



Kürşat Karacabey
Vice-President of the TÜRK-AV

The conference

On Thursday, June 14 the European lawyers took part in the meeting with the President of the Supreme Court of Republic of Kazakhstan in Astana - Mr. Asanov Zhakip Kazhmanovich. The host presented structure and works of the Supreme Court as well as underlined the commitment of the judiciary to improve the rule of law and its functioning according to international standards. On Friday, June 15, the first day of the event started with opening remarks by Gulmira Kuanzhanova, Representative of the OSCE, Anuar Tugel, Chairman of the RCAK and Maria Ślązak, President of the AEA-EAL, which were followed by three sessions: on independence, on continuing legal education and on rules of professional ethics. Long lasting and very vivid discussions were held after each panel; the representative of the Minister of Justice, who was present during the whole event, engaged herself in a lively exchange of views with speakers and lawyers participating in the conference. The interest of attendees was so intensive that the time of the conference was increased by 2,5 additional hours and there was a demand to continue it; in consequence further talks were continued during the dinner. The same dynamic discussion was on the second day of the conference – Saturday, June 16, when sessions on legal aid and disciplinary proceedings were organized. Again, on this day the organizers had to prolong the conference. At the very end, draft recommendations prepared by moderators of each session on the basis of speakers interventions and opinions expressed by participants, were presented to the audience. **A post-conference report, including all presentations, interventions and results of the survey will be published.**



Zaza Khatiaşvili
past President of the Georgian Bar



Questions from conference
participants



Arcadio Diaz Tejera
Council of Europe



Representative of the Minister of Justice



Norville Conolly, IBA



Siergiey Sizintzev
Executive Director of the RCAK



Zaza Khatiashvili, Xu Wenli (China), C.M. Chan,
Vicepresident of the Law Society of Hong Kong



Simon Tonelli, Head of Division
for Legal Cooperation, Council of Europe



Assel Tokayeva
RCA Kazakhstan, member of the AEA-EAL



Navruzsoh Nazarov
Union of Advocates of
the Republic of Tajikistan



Svetlana Vitkovskaya
RCA Kazakhstan



Elena Dvoretzkaya
RCA Kazakhstan

Numbers

To document both the success of the event but also huge effort to organize it, some numbers have to be shown:

- **120 participants** from **14 countries** including not only European (France, Poland, Russia, Spain, The Netherlands, United Kingdom) and Central Asiatic jurisdictions (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) but also Azerbaijan, China (continent and Hong Kong), Georgia, and Turkey.
- **5 moderators** representing the AEA-EAL, IBA and RCAK
- **33 speakers** including such prominent persons as Marie Aimee Peyron, the Dean of the Paris Bar, Wiebe de Vries, President of the AIJA, Shuhrat Sadikov, Acting Chairman of the Uzbekistan Bar Association, Alexey Sozvaryev, President of the Kaliningrad Bar Association, Christoph von Wilcken, Vice-President of the AEA-EAL, Chak Ming Chan, Vice-President of the Hong Kong Law Society, Professor Kürşat Karacabey, Vice-President of the Association of the Turkish-Speaking Bars TÜRK-AV, Saidalisho Odinayev, Vice-President of the Tajikistan Bar Association, Iain Mitchell QC, Chair of the CCBE Surveillance Working Party, Wenli Xu – partner in Grandall one of the biggest Chinese Law Firm, Zaza Khatiaashvili, former President of the Georgian Bar Association, winner of the CCBE Human Rights Award in 2017 and Jonathan Goldsmith, former Secretary General of the CCBE.
- **5 organizations** involved in preparation of the event: AEA-EAL, IBA Bar Issues Commission, Republican Collegium of Advocates of Kazakhstan (RCAK), Council of Europe and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).



Wiebe de Vries, AIJA President is speaking, Anuar Tugel, RCAK President and Jędrzej Klauka, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Polish Bar of Attorneys-at-law are listening



Marie Aimee Peyron, Dean of the Paris Bar greeted participants in Russian and delivered speech on disciplinary proceedings in France



Daniyar Kanafin, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the RCA Kazakhstan



Mukhtar Mustafayev, Member of the Presidium of the Azerbaijan Bar Association



Saidalisho Odinayev, Acting Chairman of the Union of Advocates of the Republic of Tajikistan



Aleksandr Giterman
RCA Kazakhstan



Jonathan Goldsmith
International Bar Association



Aleksey Sozvaryev
President of the Kaliningrad Bar



Iain Mitchell QC
member of the AEA-EAL

Thanks

Conference was a huge success of all organizers, who have been working hard for over 7 months. In this place special thank you words should go to all people who contributed to realization of our goals:

To the **Republican Collegium of Advocates** from Kazakhstan, and in particular to **Anuar Tugel**, its Chairman and **Sergey Sizintsev**, Executive Director of the RCAK;

To **Claudio Visco** and **Peter Köves**, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Bar Issues Commission of the **International Bar Association**;

To **Gulmira Kuanzhanova**, National Legal Officer, Human Dimension, **OSCE Programme Office in Astana**;

To **Leila Zhdanova**, Project Co-ordinator in Justice and Legal Co-operation Department, DGI - Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, **Council of Europe**;

To **Aleksandra Siewicka - Marszałek**, Chair of the Conference Scientific Committee and Secretary General of the **AEA-EAL**;

To **Moderators** of conference sessions: **Sergey Sizintsev**, **Jędrzej Klatka**, **Jonathan Goldsmith** and **Norville Conolly**;

To **Speakers** who delivered speeches and presentations: **C.M. Chan**, **Elena Dvoretzkaya**, **Elisabeth Hoffmann**, **Dariusz Gibasiewicz**, **Alexandr Giterman**, **Jonathan Goldsmith**, **Daniyar Kanafin**, **Kürşat Karacabey**, **Zaza Khatiashvili**, **Leonid Khvan**, **Gulniza Kozhomova**, **Iain Mitchell QC**, **Mukhtar Mustafayev**, **Navruzsoh Nazarov**, **Saidalisho Odinayev**, **Denis Perevertaylo**, **Marie-Aymée Peyro**, **Shuhrat Sadikov**, **Gulnara Sheishekeeva**, **Erzan Siyubayev**, **Alexey Sozvaryev**, **Arcadio Diaz Tejera**, **Assel Tokayeva**, **Svetlana Vitkovskaya**, **Wiebe de Vries**, **Christoph von Wilcken**, **Wenli Xu** and **Murat Zhanbayev**;

To **Aliya Syzdykova** from the IBA (and international legal consultant in Hungarian attorney at law firm LKT), **Rafal Ciesielski** from AEA-EAL (and co-ordinator of international conferences in Gdańsk Bar of Attorneys-at-law) as well as to **Zhanar Dusebayeva** from RCAK;

To all other people involved in preparation of the conference including hotel staff, interpreters and technicians.

Maria Ślęzak
AEA-EAL President

Peter Köves
Vice-Chair of the IBA - BIC