# Stichting Advocaten voor Advocaten / Foundation Lawyers for Lawyers

# **JAARREKENING 2019**

Amsterdam, 1 mei 2020

# Geachte dames/heren,

Bijgaand zenden wij u de jaarstukken over 2019, gerangschikt in onderstaande volgorde:

0 Algemeen en bestuur

Balans per 31 december 2019

II Staat van Baten en Lasten 2019

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#### BEOORDELINGSVERKLARING VAN DE ONAFHANKELIJKE ACCOUNTANT

Aan: Het bestuur

Wij hebben de in dit rapport opgenomen jaarrekening 2019 van stichting Lawyers for Lawyers te Amsterdam beoordeeld. Deze jaarrekening bestaat uit de balans per 31 december 2019 en de staat van baten en lasten over 2019 met de toelichting, waarin zijn opgenomen een overzicht van de gehanteerde grondslagen voor financiële verslaggeving en andere toelichtingen.

#### Verantwoordelijkheid van het bestuur

Het bestuur is verantwoordelijk voor het opmaken van de jaarrekening die het vermogen en het resultaat getrouw dient weer te geven en voor het opstellen van het bestuursverslag, beide in overeenstemming met RJk C2. Het bestuur is tevens verantwoordelijk voor een zodanige interne beheersing als het bestuur noodzakelijk acht om het opmaken van de jaarrekening mogelijk te maken zonder afwijkingen van materieel belang als gevolg van fraude of fouten

#### Verantwoordelijkheid van de accountant

Onze verantwoordelijkheid is het geven van een conclusie over de jaarrekening op basis van onze beoordeling. Wij hebben onze beoordeling verricht in overeenstemming met Nederlands recht, waaronder de Nederlandse Standaard 2400 'Opdrachten tot het beoordelen van financiële overzichten'. Dit vereist dat wij voldoen aan de voor ons geldende ethische voorschriften en dat wij onze beoordeling zodanig plannen en uitvoeren dat wij in staat zijn te concluderen dat ons niet is gebleken dat de jaarrekening afwijkingen van materieel belang bevat.

Een beoordeling in overeenstemming met de Nederlandse Standaard 2400 resulteert in een beperkte mate van zekerheid. De in dit kader uitgevoerde werkzaamheden bestonden in hoofdzaak uit het inwinnen van inlichtingen bij het management en overige functionarissen van de entiteit, het uitvoeren van cijferanalyses met betrekking tot de financiële gegevens alsmede het evalueren van de verkregen informatie.

De werkzaamheden uitgevoerd in het kader van een beoordelingsopdracht zijn aanzienlijk beperkter dan die uitgevoerd in het kader van een controleopdracht verricht in overeenstemming met de Nederlandse controlestandaarden. Derhalve brengen wij geen controleoordeel tot uitdrukking.



#### Conclusie

Op grond van onze beoordeling is ons niets gebleken op basis waarvan wij zouden moeten concluderen dat de jaarrekening geen getrouw beeld geeft van de grootte en de samenstelling van het vermogen van stichting Lawyers for Lawyers per 31 december 2019 en van het resultaat over 2019 in overeenstemming met RJk C2.

Volendam, 1 mei 2020

NBC/Van Roemburg & Partners B.V.

W.J.T. Jonk RA

De Stichting Advocaten voor Advocaten is in 1986 opgericht met als doel de vrije en onafhankelijke beroepsuitoefening zoals vastgelegd in de Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, wereldwijd te bevorderen, onder meer door advocaten te ondersteunen die in hun beroepsuitoefening worden bedreigd of belemmerd.

De Stichting staat ingeschreven in de Kamer van Koophandel onder nummer 41181988 en is een bij de Belastingdienst bekende ANBI.

Op 31 december 2019 zijn de leden van het bestuur:

Mevrouw mr. I.H. van den Berg, voorzitter De heer mr. A.H. Vermeulen, penningmeester Mevrouw mr. M. Latuputty Mevrouw mr. J. Lichtenberg

BALANS (na voorstel resultaatbestemming)		<u>31-12-2019</u> €	<u>31-12-2018</u> €
ACTIVA			
Vorderingen en overlopende activa	Α	22.971	18.903
Liquide middelen	В	219.585	255.373
TOTAAL ACTIVA		242.556	274.276
PASSIVA			
Reserves: Algemene reserve Continuiteitsreserve Bestemmingsreserves Totaal reserves Kortlopende schulden	C D	164.345 50.000 17.634 <b>231.979</b>	178.529 29.727 57.700 <b>265.956</b> 8.320
TOTAAL PASSIVA		242.556	274.276

STAAT VAN BATEN EN LASTEN		Werkelijk <u>2019</u> €	Begroot <u>2019</u> €	Werkelijk <u>2018</u> €
BATEN		·		
Baten van particulieren Baten van bedrijven Baten van andere organisaties zonder winststreven SOM VAN DE GEWORVEN BATEN	E	34.857 88.663 32.932 <b>156.452</b>	57.000 65.000 40.000 <b>162.000</b>	57.526 65.609 79.022 <b>202.157</b>
Overige baten		1.359	10.000	1.159
SOM VAN DE BATEN		157.811	172.000	203.316
LASTEN				
Besteed aan doelstellingen: Supporting lawyers (Defend/Influence) Supporting lawyers (Empower) Creating awareness		8.184 39.166 50.757 <b>98.107</b>	20.830 57.530 93.745 <b>172.105</b>	28.128 2.765 13.310 <b>44.203</b>
Wervingskosten		28.437	29.346	3.777
Kosten beheer en Administratie	F	64.344	48.611	51.856
SOM DER LASTEN		190.888	250.062	99.836
SALDO VOOR FINANCIËLE BATEN EN LASTEN		-33.077	-78.062	103.480
Saldo financiële baten en lasten	G	-900	0	-580
SALDO VAN BATEN EN LASTEN		-33.977	-78.062	102.900
Bestemming saldo van baten en lasten Toevoeging/onttrekking aan: Continuïteitsreserve (toevoeging) Bestemmingsreserve Turkije (toevoeging) L4L Award (toevoeging) Cordaid (onttrekking) L4L Award (onttrekking) Bestemmingsreserve Iran (vrijval) Bestemmingsreserve Turkije (onttrekking) Cordaid (toevoeging) Algemene reserves (onttrekking)		20.273 10.000 5.000 -35.859 -10.000 -8.187 -1.020 0		0 0 5.000 0 0 0 39.513 58.387
		-33.977		102.900

Kasstroomoverzicht 2019	<u>31-12-2019</u> €	31-12-2018 €
Kasstroom uit operationele activiteiten	•	•
Resultaat Mutaties vorderingen en overlopende activa Bruto kasstroom uit operationele activiteiten	-33.977 -4.067 <b>-38.044</b>	102.900 -8.162 <b>94.738</b>
Mutaties kortlopende schulden Netto kasstroom uit operationele activiteiten	2.256 <b>2.256</b>	8.698 <b>8.698</b>
Totaal	-35.788	103.436
Totale kasstroom		
Liquide middelen einde boekjaar Liquide middelen begin boekjaar	219.585 255.373	255.373 181.751
Mutatie liquide middelen	-35.788	73.622

#### Algemeen

De jaarrekening is opgesteld volgens de verslaggevingseisen van RJk C2. De geformuleerde grondslagen hebben betrekking op de jaarrekening als geheel. De waardering van de activa en passiva en de bepaling van het resultaat vinden plaats op basis van historische kosten. Voor zover niets anders is vermeld zijn de activa en passiva opgenomen tegen nominale waarde.

# Vergelijkende cijfers

De vergelijkende cijfers van het voorgaande boekjaar zijn, waar nodig, slechts qua rubricering voor vergelijkingsdoeleinden aangepast.

#### Schattingen

Bij toepassing van de grondslagen en regels voor het opstellen van jaarrekeningen vormt het bestuur van de stichting verschillende oordelen en schattingen die essentieel kunnen zijn voor de in de jaarrekening opgenomen bedragen.

#### Grondslagen voor de waardering van activa en passiva

#### Vorderingen en overlopende passiva

Vorderingen worden bij eerste verwerking gewaardeerd tegen de reële waarde van de tegenprestatie, inclusief de transactiekosten indien materieel. Indien geen sprake van is van transactiekosten is de geamortiseerde kostprijs gelijk aan de nominale waarde van de vorderingen. Vorderingen worden na eerste verwerking gewaardeerd tegen geamortiseerde kostprijs. Voorzieningen wegens oninbaarheid worden in mindering gebracht op de boekwaarde van de vordering.

#### Reserves

#### Bestemmingsreserve

De beperkte bestedingsmogelijkheid van de bestemmingsreserve is door het bestuur bepaald en betreft geen verplichting. Het bestuur kan deze beperking zelf opheffen.

#### Continuiteitsreserve

De continuïteitsreserve wordt gevormd voor de dekking van risico's op korte termijn en om zeker te stellen dat de stichting ook in de toekomst aan haar verplichtingen kan blijven voldoen.

# Grondslagen voor de resultaatbepaling

# Baten uit eigen fondsenwerving

Donaties worden verantwoord in het jaar waarin deze zijn ontvangen dan wel (definitief) zijn toegezegd.

# Kostentoerekening

Kosten worden toegerekend aan de activiteiten (a) projecten, (b) werving baten en (c) beheer en administratie op basis van direct toerekenbare kosten en niet direct toerekenbare kosten.

De niet direct toerekenbare kosten zijn als volgt procentueel verdeeld:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Personeelskosten	36%	42%
Huisvestingskosten	14%	0%
Kantoor- en algemene kosten	51%	58%
Totaal	100%	100%

# Grondslagen voor het overzicht van kasstromen

Het kasstroomoverzicht wordt opgesteld volgens de indirecte methode. De geldmiddelen in het kasstroomoverzicht bestaan uit liquide middelen.

Toelichting op de balans	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
A. Vorderingen en overlopende activa	€	€
Nog te ontvangen donaties	20.392	18.780
Vooruitbetaalde kosten	2.579	0
Nog te ontvangen royalties	0	123
Totaal vorderingen en overlopende activa	22.971	18.903

De donaties die in 2019 zijn toegezegd maar nog niet waren ontvangen bestaan onder meer uit de volgende posten:

- 10.153 betreft een donatie van NautaDutilh.
- 4.025 betreft een de opbrengst uit een veiling van Jonge Balie Den Haag.
- 2.982 betreft een donatie van Stibbe.
- 1.750 betreft vacatiegelden van de Nederlandse Orde van Advocaten.
- 820 betreft een donatie van het Instituut voor Arbeidsrecht.
- 545 betreft een donatie van Wolters Kluwer.
- 117 betreft donaties van diverse donateurs.

# B. Liquide middelen

Triodos ABN AMRO Kas Totaal liquide middelen	201.136 17.597 852 <b>219.585</b>	199.915 55.458 0 <b>255.373</b>
C. Reserves		
Algemene reserve per 1 januari Resultaat 2019/2018 Algemene reserve per 31 december	178.529 -14.184 <b>164.345</b>	120.142 58.387 <b>178.529</b>
Continuiteitsreserve - Continuiteitsreserve per 1 januari - Toevoeging uit resultaatbestemming Continuiteitsreserve per 31 december	29.727 20.273 <b>50.000</b>	29.727 0 <b>29.727</b>
Bestemmingsreserve project Iran - Bestemmingsreserve per 1 januari - Besteed in boekjaar Bestemmingsreserve per 31 december	8.187 -8.187 <b>0</b>	8.187 0 <b>8.187</b>

Toelichting op de balans - vervolg	2019	2018
	€	€
Bestemmingsreserve project Turkije		
- Bestemmingsreserve per 1 januari	0	0
- Toevoeging uit resultaatbestemming	10.000	0
- Onttrekking uit resultaatbestemming	-1.020	0
Bestemmingsreserve per 31 december	8.980	0
Bestemmingsreserve project Cordaid		
- Bestemmingsreserve per 1 januari	39.513	0
- Toevoeging uit resultaatbestemming	0	39.513
- Onttrekking uit resultaatbestemming	-35.859	0
Bestemmingsreserve per 31 december	3.654	39.513
Bestemmingsreserve Lawyers for Lawyers Award		
- Bestemmingsreserve per 1 januari	10.000	5.000
- Toevoeging uit resultaatbestemming	5.000	5.000
- Besteed in boekjaar	-10.000	0
Bestemmingsreserve per 31 december	5.000	10.000
Totaal reserves	231.979	265.956

De Lawyers for Lawyers Award wordt uitgereikt aan een advocaat of groep advocaten die zich op uitzonderlijke wijze inspant om de rechtstaat en mensenrechten te bevorderen en vanwege dit werk is of wordt bedreigd.

De Lawyers for Lawyers Award geeft aan de advocaat bescherming en erkenning.

De prijs bestaat uit een aandenken en een schenking van € 10.000 en wordt iedere twee jaar uitgereikt.

# D. Kortlopende schulden

Af te dragen loonheffing	4.985	2.650
Reservering accountantskosten	3.000	3.000
Reservering vakantiegeld	1.696	1.176
Crediteuren	896	137
Nog te betalen nettolonen	0	1.357
Totaal kortlopende schulden	10.577	8.320

## Niet uit de balans blijkende verplichtingen

Huurverplichting

De stichting heeft een huurcontract afgesloten voor de huur van een bedrijfsruimte aan de Nieuwe Achtergracht 164 te Amsterdam.

De huurverplichting bedraagt op jaarbasis € 9.555. Hiervan wordt in geld € 5.145 voldaan. Het restant wordt voldaan door middel van onderwijsactiviteiten tegen een uurtarief van € 75 per uur. De huuroverkomst is ingegaan op 1 februari 2019 en loopt tot 31 december 2021.

#### Toelichting op de staat van baten en lasten

#### E. Baten

L4L is een onafhankelijke Nederlandse stichting. L4L is volledig afhankelijk van financiële giften of andere vormen van ondersteuning. Onze donateurs zijn voor het merendeel individuele advocaten, advocatenkantoren, Nederlandse en lokale Ordes van Advocaten en advocatenorganisaties. L4L heeft een webshop waarin zgn. pinguin-artikelen worden verkocht. Dit zijn bijvoorbeeld huishoudschorten, ovenwanten, ansichtkaarten en stropdassen met het pinguin-logo van L4L.

Een aantal organisaties draagt L4L een warm hart toe en organiseert activiteiten waarbij de opbrengst ten goede komt aan L4L.

Er worden jaarlijks veilingen georganiseerd door (Jonge) Balies, waarbij de opbrengst ten goede komt aan L4L.

Het College van Afgevaardigden (CvA) vergadert vier keer per jaar, de College-leden krijgen per vergadering €250 vacatiegeld van de Nederlandse Orde van Advocaten (NOvA). Een aantal leden heeft aan de NOvA gevraagd om de vacatiegelden door te storten naar L4L.

	Werkelijk <u>2019</u> €	Begroot <u>2019</u> €	Werkelijk <u>2018</u> €
F. Beheer en administratie			
Personeelskosten	22.888	22.500	21.782
Huisvestingskosten	8.863	0	0
Kantoorkosten	9.281	13.900	9.612
Algemene kosten	23.312	1.211	20.462
Totaal beheer en administratie	64.344	37.611	51.856
G. Financiële baten en lasten			
Creditrente	39	0	40
Debetrente	-939	0	-620
Saldo financiële baten en lasten	-900	0	-580

## Toelichting verschillen tussen begroting en werkelijke cijfers

Het is voor Lawyers for Lawyers doorgaans moeilijk een goede inschatting te maken van de kosten die zijn maakt in het kader van specifieke activiteiten (trial monitoring, Lawyers for Laywers award, etc.). Dat heeft met name te maken met het feit dat Lawyers for Lawyers met vrijwilligers werkt die soms zelf de kosten betalen voor hun activiteiten. Bij de verschillende activiteiten van Lawyers for Lawyers wordt soms rekening is gehouden met kosten (zoals reis- en verblijfkosten), terwijl deze vervolgens toch door een vrijwilliger zelf of door advocatenkantoren worden voldaan. Daarentegen moeten soms kosten worden gemaakt die eerder nog niet waren begroot of die eerder nog niet konden worden begroot. Hierdoor kan het voorkomen dat in een bepaald jaar meer of minder kosten voor rekening van Lawyers for Lawyers komen dan van te voren was ingeschat en begroot.

In 2019 werden er meerdere (grote) evenementen georganiseerd met derden, waarbij deze derden een groter aandeel van de kosten op zich namen dan van tevoren door Lawyers for Lawyers was begroot. Dit is terug te zien in de lagere bestedingen aan doelstellingen in 2019 dan aanvankelijk was begroot.

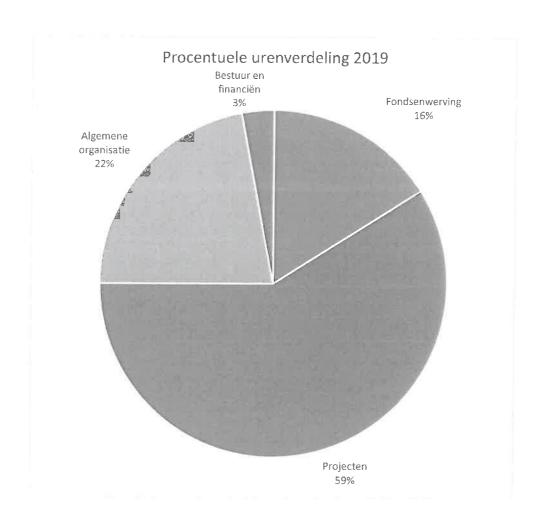
In 2019 heeft Lawyers for Lawyers intrek genomen in een kantoor op de Universiteit van Amsterdam. Het was lang onzeker of Lawyers for Lawyers huisvesting zou krijgen, zodat op de begroting van 2019 geen huur-/huisvestingskosten waren opgenomen.

In 2019 werd verder de organisatie van Lawyers for Lawyers verder geprofessionaliseerd door een interim-directeur en consultant, want tot hogere kosten onder 'Beheer en administratie' heeft geleid.

#### Personeelsbestand

Het gemiddeld aantal werknemers gedurende het boekjaar is 1,2 fte. De gewerkte uren door deze medewerkers zijn procentueel als volgt verdeeld:

	2019	2018
Fondsenwerving	16%	1%
Projecten	59%	84%
Algemene organisatie	22%	11%
Bestuur en financiën	3%	4%
	100%	100%



#### Bezoldiging directie

	2019	2018
Loomtiid country		
Looptijd contract	onbepa	aald
Aantal uren per week	32	24
Parttime percentage	80%	60%
Periode	1/9 - 31/12	1/1 - 31/1
Brutoloon	10.667	3.000
Vakantiegeld	853	2.180
Eindejaarsuitkering	2.720	250
Beëindigingsvergoeding	0	10.000
Totaal jaarinkomen	14.240	15.430
Sociale lasten werkgeversdeel	2.826	893
Pensioenpremie werkgeversdeel	989	350
Totaal bezoldiging directeur	18.055	16.673

Aan de directeur is geen enkel bedrag verstrekt aan leningen, voorschotten en garanties.

Voor de periode 1 februari 2018 tot en met 31 maart 2019 is directie gevoerd door een interim-directrice. De interim-directrice heeft haar werkzaamheden onbezoldigd verricht.

Vanaf 1 april 2019 tot en met 31 augusuts is directie gevoerd door een externe interim-directrice. De interim-directrice heeft op factuurbasis gewerkt. Haar vergoeding betrof: € 27.990.

Per 1 september 2019 is een nieuwe directrice aangesteld voor 32 uur per week.

#### Bezoldiging bestuur

Het bestuur verricht zijn werkzaamheden onbezoldigd.

# Overige gegevens

# Mededeling omtrent het ontbreken van de controleverklaring

Gezien de omvang is de stichting niet controleplichting om welke reden geen accountantscontrole heeft plaatsgevonden. De jaarrekening is voorzien van een beoordelingsverklaring.



# 2019 Annual Board Report Foundation Lawyers for Lawyers

#### General/Introduction

Lawyers play a vital role in the protection of the rule of law and human rights. It is the responsibility of lawyers to protect and establish the rights of citizens from whatever quarter they may be threatened. Their work is indispensable for ensuring effective access to justice for all.

To fulfil their professional duties effectively, lawyers should be able to practice law freely and independently, without any fear of reprisal. Around the world, however, lawyers are harassed, threatened, attacked or worse for simply doing their job.

Lawyers for Lawyers is an independent, non-profit, civil society organization, based in the Netherlands. We are lawyers who promote the common values of lawyers and their contribution to the justice system. Around the world, we stand up for colleague-lawyers under threat.

Established in 1986, Lawyers for Lawyers has more than 30 years of experience in providing emergency support and assistance to lawyers in danger and creating awareness of the importance of the independent functioning of the legal profession to the protection of citizens' rights.

# 1. About Lawyers for Lawyers

# 1.1 History

Lawyers for Lawyers is an independent, non-profit, civil society organization. We are lawyers who promote the common values of lawyers and their contribution to the justice system and the rule of law. We stand up for colleague-lawyers who are hindered or threatened because of their work.

The organization has its roots in a solidarity campaign for lawyers in Argentina who 'disappeared' or were detained without trial under the military juntas from 1976-1983. The campaign was initiated by a Dutch lawyer and cartoonist, Willem van Manen, in the context of an international congress of lawyers hosted in Buenos Aires.

It showed that international solidarity of the legal profession can play an important role in order to defend and protect colleague-lawyers from attacks, especially since lawyers are bound by universal core values underpinning their profession.

Inspired by the lack of an independent lawyers' organization dedicated to raising international awareness and recognition of the specific role of lawyers in the protection of the rule of law and



human rights and responding to immediate threats to their safety and ability to perform their professional duties effectively, Lawyers for Lawyers was established in 1986.

The creation of Lawyers for Lawyers was supported by the Dutch sections of Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists (NJCM), the Netherlands Bar Association and the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights at University Utrecht.

# 1.2 Lawyers for Lawyers penguin logo

The first chair of Lawyers for Lawyers was Willem van Manen. Van Manen was not only a lawyer, but also a cartoonist. He designed the Lawyers for Lawyers penguin-logo, based on his famous series of penguin lawyers' cartoons.

# 2. Mission, Vision, Core Values and Goals

#### 2.1 Mission

## Promote and protect the independence of lawyers

Our mission is to promote and protect the independence of the legal profession through the support and empowerment of lawyers who face reprisals, interferences and restrictions because of their work.

In doing so, we refer to internationally recognized human rights laws and standards, including the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers.

#### 2.2. Vision

# **Every lawyer can practice law independently**

We strive for a world where lawyers can practice law independently to effectively fulfil their role in upholding the rule of law and the protection of human rights.

Lawyers should be able to do their job without improper interference or any fear of reprisal. Always and everywhere. Also, when that does not suit the government, the bar association or the establishment.

#### 2.3 Core Values

#### Put lawyers under threat at the heart of our work

When we work to promote and protect the independence of lawyers, we are committed to:

Put lawyers under threat at the heart of our work.



- Provide support to meet expressed needs by lawyers whose rights are violated.
- Analyse why lawyers face reprisals, guided by local lawyers and other stakeholders.
- Identify the most effective ways to achieve tangible impact and lasting progress.
- Act independently, objectively, professionally, and with integrity.
- Act in coordination and solidarity with other actors working toward common goals.

# 3. Strategies, programs and activities

To achieve our mission, vision and goals, we **support lawyers** at risk across the world and **raise awareness** of the importance of the independent functioning of lawyers for the protection of the rule of law and human rights.

We provide individual and structural support to lawyers and lawyers' associations through three **programs**: Defend, Empower and Influence.

**1. DEFEND** We **defend** individual lawyers at risk globally to end, mitigate, or prevent reprisals against them for doing their jobs and ensure accountability where such reprisals occur.

In 2019 we contributed to this goal by:

- Providing tailor-made support to individual lawyers at risk, guided by the lawyers concerned or their representatives.
- Monitoring and highlighting violations of lawyers' rights.
- Conducting advocacy on targeted impunity cases.
- Building networks and alliances to act in coordination and solidarity.
- **2. EMPOWER** We **empower** lawyers and associations of lawyers to fulfil their role in upholding human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In 2019 we contributed to this goal by:

- Sharing best practices on core values and ethics underpinning the legal profession.
- Giving training sessions on the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers and the use of human rights mechanisms
- Facilitating access to and opportunities for exchange between international networks of lawyers, associations of lawyers and other stakeholders.
- 3. **INFLUENCE** We **advocate** for laws, policies and practices that provide or reinforce effective protections for the independent functioning and safety of lawyers in accordance with



internationally recognized laws and standards.

Furthermore, we **promote** the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers to **inform** lawyers, other stakeholders and the public about the important role of lawyers in the protection of the rule of law and human rights and fundamental freedoms and **enhance the understanding thereof**.

In 2019 we contributed to this goal by: :

- Engaging with international bodies and their mechanisms to advocate for standards, resolutions and recommendations that strengthen the independence and safety of lawyers.
- Lobbying governments to adopt, implement and enforce effective legal protections and change laws as necessary that encroach on the independence of lawyers.
- Organizing seminars, workshops, roundtable discussions and side-events.
- Publishing articles and speaking at public conferences.
- Engaging in professional ethical training of young lawyers.

# 4. Methodology & Impact 2019

Lawyers for Lawyers has a strong track record in acting quickly and effectively to support lawyers in danger. Our international network and the way we operate, enable us to be flexible and amendable to fast-changing situations and developments.

Lawyers for Lawyers are practicing lawyers and human rights experts. We are therefore particularly well placed to monitor and highlight violations of lawyers' rights and threats to their independence and to raise awareness of the harmful consequences thereof for upholding the rule of law and the protection of human rights.

Our board of directors, staff members and lawyer-volunteers have deep knowledge and expertise of the laws, standards and ethics underpinning the legal profession, the concept of the rule of law as well as international human rights laws and mechanisms. They also know how to apply these laws, concepts and mechanisms in practice.

# Who we support - Where we work

Lawyers for Lawyers supports lawyers at risk in all continents of the world, especially lawyers who work in challenging environments.

We stand with lawyers who have the formal status of lawyers in accordance with domestic laws and are bound by recognized standards and ethics of the legal profession. At the same time, we may include lawyers who exercise the functions of lawyers but are not or not any longer formally recognized as such, for example because access to the legal profession has been refused to them or they have been suspended or disbarred on improper grounds as a reprisal of their



work.

On the individual level we prioritize support to lawyers who are in imminent danger or acutely vulnerable. However, since our resources are limited, we are forced to make choices. These choices are based upon our capacity, expertise, and networks, as well as potential opportunities and impact. Also relevant is whether support is already or can be better provided by other organizations.

## What we do - How we collaborate

In addition to emergency support and rapid assistance to lawyers in immediate danger, we provide a range of tools and preventive support to defend and protect lawyers from attacks and improper interference and to strengthen their international recognition and legal protection. At the same time, we empower lawyers and associations of lawyers to support, safeguard, and advocate for the independence of the legal profession on a more lasting basis at the domestic level.

We promote respect for the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers. In doing so, we act in collaboration or coordination with international bar associations, lawyers' organizations and other civil society actors.

Lawyers for Lawyers is a member of the BMO (*Breed Mensenrechten Overleg*), a coalition of human rights and development organizations based in the Netherlands.

We also engage with governments and international and regional intergovernmental institutions and their mechanisms. In 2013, Lawyers for Lawyers was granted consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), providing us access to this Council and its many subsidiaries bodies, to the Human Rights Council, to the various human rights mechanisms of the UN, as well as to special events organized by the President of the General Assembly.

# How we make an impact

Lawyers for Lawyers acknowledges that it is often hard to tell whether our activities have contributed to or resulted in reducing or preventing attacks and restrictions against lawyers or improving legal protections, and if so, to what extent. When it comes to supporting lawyers, we define success in terms of making a positive difference for individual lawyers. We make a positive impact, when lawyers feel morally supported, when we offer a source of strength in times of need, or when their personal situation changes positively, e.g. they are released from prison, travel bans are lifted, disciplinary or criminal proceeding are withdrawn, etc. Our impact is also positive when lawyers feel empowered to support their colleague lawyers at home.

When it comes to structural support, we define success in terms of progress, e.g. is there an increased number of recommendations made by United Nations human rights mechanisms, strengthening the independence of lawyers and the legal profession that were originally issued by Lawyers for Lawyers or by organizations we are collaborating with or by governments we



have engaged with; is there an increase in the number of governments we have engaged with, accepting those recommendations; are those supported recommendations implemented effectively; and do they result in positive changes for lawyers discharging their professional duties.

When defining performance indications for specific projects, we make a distinction between what outcomes may be reasonably expected, given our circle of influence, and what outcomes would be best in terms of achieving our mission, vision and goals.

To understand our impact, we monitor and evaluate the results of our activities on an on-going basis.

Impact examples in 2019:

Support to individual lawyers: In 2019, the fifth Lawyers for Lawyers Award was awarded to Selcuk Kozagacli, a lawyer from Turkey who is currently serving a prison sentence of 11 years and three months. For the Award ceremony and the seminar prior to that on the same day, Lawyers for Lawyers, together with the Amsterdam Bar Association, invited three lawyers from Turkey, a lawyer from Thailand, a lawyer from Zimbabwe and a lawyer from Poland. All lawyers informed us that they felt very much supported by the attention that was given to their personal situation and the situation of lawyers in their countries, and indicated that the publicity that came with this could possibly provide more visibility and protection.

Furthermore, Lawyers for Lawyers continued to observe hearings in trials against lawyers from Turkey who are prosecuted in connection to their legitimate activities. In one of the cases, three lawyers were released after being held in pre-trial detention for more than a year. Lawyers for Lawyers was one of the few organizations that attended all the hearings in the case.

**Structural support:** In 2019, Lawyers for Lawyers engaged in different parts of the the Universal Periodic Review cycle by the United Nations Human Rights Council of Kazakhstan, Iran and Egypt. During the review cycle of these countries, there was an increased number of recommendations made by the Council on strengthening the independence of lawyers and the legal profession that were originally issued by Lawyers for Lawyers or by organizations we are collaborating with or by governments we have engaged with.

We also engaged in the review of Tajikistan by the United Nations Human Rights Committee. Our participations, amongst others, led to reference being made to the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers by the Committee, and a strong recommendation to the Tajikistan authorities to guarantee the full independence and safety of lawyers in Tajikistan and that they are able to carry out their legitimate duties without any harassment, undue interference or fear of arbitrary criminal prosecution and conviction or of other retaliatory measures.

Furthermore, Lawyers for Lawyers was invited by a local NGO from Moscow to give a training session on the rights of lawyers and United Nations human rights mechanisms to a group of approximately 25 Russian lawyers. In April 2019, volunteers and staff members travelled to Moscow to give this training.



# **5. 2020 and beyond**

#### Our focus in 2018 - 2021

The board of Lawyers for Lawyers established a Strategic Plan in 2018, which will be followed in 2020 and 2021. The purpose of this Strategic Plan is to inform our continued journey to be an internationally recognized expert in promoting and safeguarding the independence of individual lawyers and the legal profession across the world, serving as a catalyst for a safe and enabling environment for lawyers.

In the coming years, we will focus on strengthening our impact of supporting lawyers and expanding our financial and human resources. In doing so, we will also concentrate on enhancing our communication strategy.

We will continue to provide our tailor-made expert support to lawyers at risk, while deepening our impact on the ground in a sustainable way.

# **Challenges and Opportunities**

# **Challenges**

## How to support a growing group of lawyers with limited capacity

Around the world, lawyers are harassed, threatened or attacked for simply doing their job. One of our challenges is to be able to respond to all requests for support.

In June 2017, following a report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers in August 2016, the Human Rights Council of the United Nations, expressed its "deep concern about the significant number of attacks against lawyers and instances of arbitrary or unlawful interference with or restrictions to the free practice of their profession".

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly also expressed its concern in December 2017 'that harassment, threats and attacks against lawyers continue to occur in many Council of Europe member States and are even increasing in some of them'.

It depends on the political reality and the factual circumstances what instruments are used to silence lawyers or prevent them from representing certain clients. These include, amongst other things, killings, (death)threats, attacks on the physical integrity and reputation, intimidation, enforced disappearances, and harassment of lawyers (and sometimes also their family members).

Lawyers also increasingly face arbitrary arrest and prosecution as well as abuse of disciplinary proceedings and contempt of court. As a result, lawyers are subject to groundless detention or disbarment and to other sanctions or unreasonable restrictions, including travel bans or house



arrest.

Lawyers in custody very often face poor prison conditions. Their health may deteriorate rapidly, while adequate medical treatment is lacking. They also suffer ill-treatment, including torture and solitary confinement, to punish them, e.g. for issuing complaints or continuing legal proceedings.

In some countries, lawyers are increasingly summoned as witnesses in their own client's cases as a tactic to force lawyers to withdraw from these cases for compromising lawyer-client privilege.

The attacks on lawyers and instances of improper interference constitute clear violations of various international human rights instruments, most notably the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights and the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers.

Lawyers for Lawyers is a network of around 60 active volunteer lawyers and hundreds of lawyers who are sympathetic to our cause. Limited capacity to respond to all threads to lawyers around the world is a major challenge for Lawyers for Lawyers. In 2020 and 2021 the organization plans to further increase the staff, group of active volunteers and supporters.

#### Financial income

As for many NGO's raising adequate funds is always a challenge. In 2019 Lawyers for Lawyers developed a fundraising strategy for the coming three years. During these years, we will continue to expand and diversify our funding sources in order to safeguard our financial sustainability, be able to do long-term planning and reach our full potential. In 2019, we started executing the plan that was developed by interim-director Anna Timmerman, which lead to an increase of donations from law firms and companies. In 2020 we will continue executing this plan, this year also focussing on the donations of individuals.

# **Opportunities**

- Sustainability Development Goal 16 in which the Member States of the United Nations acknowledged the centrality of the right to access to justice, creates a new opportunity to act in collaboration and coordination with other actors to work towards promoting and protecting the vital role of lawyers in ensuring the right to access to justice and other fundamental human rights and freedoms.
- 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the United Nations Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers. This creates extra opportunities for the promotion of these Basic Principles among to inform lawyers, other stakeholders and the public about the important role of lawyers in the protection of the rule of law and human rights and fundamental freedoms and enhance the understanding thereof.



#### 5.1 Board

Lawyers for Lawyers' volunteers are essential to fulfil our mission. They also significantly outnumber paid staff. Lawyers for Lawyers has a Board of Directors comprised of practicing lawyers and human rights experts and a pool of more than 50 highly motivated and skilled volunteers, consisting mainly of practising lawyers, as well as a journalist and a management assistant.

Boardmembers in 2019:

Phon van den Biesen - President

Irma van den Berg - Secretary

Tony Vermeulen - Treasurer

Milena Latuputty - Member

Maarten 't Sas - Member

In 2019, former-president Phon van den Biesen left Lawyers for Lawyers after a Presidency period of 15 years. Board member Maarten 't Sas also left Lawyers for Lawyers. Former interim director Judith Lichtenberg was installed as board member in the second half of 2019.

#### **Executive Director**

Since 2008 Adrie van de Streek was the director of Lawyers for Lawyers. She combined her tasks with a role at the Amsterdam Bar Association. In the first quarter of 2018 Adrie left Lawyers for Lawyers. She is still a very committed volunteer and an important ally as Lawyers for Lawyers collaborates with the Bar Association on many projects. Board member Judith Lichtenberg took on the role of director. Her employer Global Network Initiative gave her the opportunity to work around 8 hours a week for Lawyers for Lawyers on a pro bono basis. One of the focus points of Judith in 2018 was the professionalization of Lawyers for Lawyers.

In April 2019, Judith left Lawyers for Lawyers as interim director. She was installed as a boardmember instead in September 2019. From 1 April – 31 August, Anna Timmerman joined Lawyers for Lawyers as director ad interim. Anna's main tasks were to develop a fundraising strategy that could be executed for the next three years, and to find a new permanent director for Lawyers for Lawyers. As a result of this, Sophie de Graaf started working as Executive Director of Lawyers for Lawyers on 1 September 2019.

#### **Objectives and Results**

In the coming four years we will further develop Lawyers for Lawyers as an effective and inspiring organization that continues to be able to attract and retain highly motivated and qualified volunteers with complementary competencies, expertise and skills whose efforts help us achieving our mission, vision and goals.



Additionally, we also seek to expand the number of FTEs.

We'll do so by:

- Enhancing our internal communications and engagement tools and methods.
- Strengthening our onboarding and training program, including necessary policies and procedures.
- Shaping volunteer and employee relations and meaningful volunteer opportunities for a range of activities.
- Quantify both the financial and nonfinancial impact that our volunteers have on our programs.

# 7.3 Funding and Financial resources

Lawyers for Lawyers is supported entirely by financial donations and in-kind support, mainly from individual lawyers, law firms, lawyers' associations and other organizations related to the legal profession. We raise funds by cultivating relationships and partnerships in the legal sector and through third- party events. We sometimes also receive royalties from an author or composer for each copy of a legal book that has been sold or fees for a service that has been provided, such as a legal training.

Lawyers for Lawyers has been recognized as a charity by the Central Bureau on Fundraising (CBF), i.e. "CBF-erkend goed doel".

Lawyers for Lawyers is also tax-exempted under Dutch law. It qualifies as a Public Benefit Organisation (ANBI status).

The reserves of Lawyer for Lawyers are at a level that is considered to be justified by the Herkströter Committee (Commission on Capital Standards for Charities), i.e. a continuity reserve of a maximum of one and a half times the annual turnover.

In the coming years, we will continue to expand and diversify our funding sources and in-kind support in order to safeguard our financial sustainability, be able to do long-term planning and reach our full potential. We also seek to expand and enhance our services to meet the increase in and complexity of the requests and demands on Lawyers for Lawyers from lawyers at risk.