



The Inns of
Court College
of Advocacy

The ICCA Global Outreach Programme

International Advocacy Training



Delivering training globally

For many years the ICCA has been invited by local Bar associations, law societies and other professional organisations to deliver a range of advocacy training in jurisdictions overseas.

Some training focuses on specific examples of advocacy, such as the treatment of vulnerable witnesses, the cross-examination of expert witnesses and most recently, the training of advocates, whose first language is not English, by using interpreters.

We are committed to improving standards of advocacy training internationally, particularly in the developing world, in order to help maintain the rule of law.

Our trainers generously give their time to develop and deliver training to those who, in some instances, may not otherwise have access to advocacy training. We aim to encourage more advocacy trainers to become involved in our work so that we can continue to provide an outstanding level of training.

The ICCA's International Committee would like to thank the Inns of Court and our dedicated trainers for their continued support.

District Judge Stephen Murch

Chair of the ICCA International Committee

What our training involves

Working with a host organisation, a lead trainer will prepare a training programme to meet the needs of local advocates; this ensures that the training is directly relevant in the jurisdiction in which delegates will be practising.

The programme will include lectures on the skills required for different aspects of advocacy; these may include sessions on opening speeches, examination and cross-examination of witnesses and closing speeches. Typically, a mock trial will be created with a number of witnesses.

By employing the 'Hampel' method of feedback, delegates benefit from the opportunity to practise their skills and obtain one-to-one feedback on their performance. Experience shows that they benefit from witnessing demonstrations by their peers and hearing their feedback.

Programmes are usually between 2-3 days in length with delegates being taught in groups of six, with a maximum of eight.

'Advocacy training is an opportunity to not only give something back, but to receive value back. The inspirational impact from training lawyers at the Special Court for Sierra Leone was the spark that ignited my commitment to international advocacy training.'

Gelaga King



▲ ICCA Advocacy trainers at The International Criminal Court in the Hague, left to right: Gelaga King, Minka Braun, Faisal Sadiq, Sarah Whitehouse QC, Michelle Heeley QC, Robin Sellers, Ali Bajwa QC, Saul Herman

'We provide training to advocates in developing jurisdictions who may not otherwise have any access to advocacy training or mentoring.'

Sarah Clarke QC

'Returning to a country it is hugely rewarding to see those you have trained developing the skills and confidence to provide the training themselves.'

Sibby Salter

Where have we been?

We have delivered or participated in international advocacy training programmes all over the world. Below is a map of our outreach and a list of countries we have visited.

1. Antigua
2. Australia
3. Austria
4. Belgium
5. Belize
6. Bermuda
7. Cyprus
8. Dubai
9. Ghana
10. Guyana
11. Guernsey & Jersey
12. Hong Kong
13. India
14. Ireland
15. Kenya
16. Kosovo
17. Malaysia
18. Mauritius
19. Montserrat
20. Nigeria
21. Pakistan
22. Poland
23. Sierra Leone
24. Singapore
25. South Africa
26. St Lucia
27. The Netherlands
28. Trinidad
29. Ukraine
30. United Nations
31. Zimbabwe





Nairobi, Kenya

Case study

Our trainers: Peter Clark (Lead), Saul Herman, Louise McCullough, Jennie Osborne, Christopher Russell and John Ryder QC visited Nairobi, Kenya to work with aspiring trainers from the Kenyan Bar and Kenya School of Law students.



▲ Jennifer Osborne with the Kenyan Bar's trainee trainers

'Overall the trainees and students performed with huge courage and enthusiasm. The programme could only be a small start in respect of this type of advocacy training in Kenya: years of effort required by volunteers from the Bar and Bench (as we have had in the UK) cannot emerge overnight. However, some trainees made a strong start given the challenges and, if local action and further support materialise, there is great potential to support Kenya's ambitions as a legal centre for East Africa.'

Saul Herman, ICCA Advocacy Trainer

'The advocates felt that they had gained such tremendous skills that have given them confidence in undertaking trials and the litigation process. They expressed that the learning experience and the individualised attention was one of the best learning experiences they have had. It is effective, and learning by doing is a great learning experience'

The Kenyan Law Society

Warsaw, Poland

Case study

International trainers, Jo Sidhu QC (Lead) and James E. Petts visited Warsaw on behalf of the ICCA to provide advocacy training to 12 participants from a number of law firms across Europe. The plenary sessions dealt with case analysis, preparation and ethical issues. Training took the form of a mix of plenary and breakout sessions.

For the trainers, the visit was a useful opportunity to learn more about legal practice and the practicalities of advocacy in another jurisdiction.

The participants also benefited from exposure to, and learning about, a different system to theirs, as well as the techniques commonly employed in that system which they might be able to be used in their domestic legal system.

The training allowed us to demonstrate, to members of a legal profession, techniques for the robust challenge of evidence in a jurisdiction where the rules of procedure and legal traditions do not facilitate and encourage, such challenges to the same extent as in England and Wales. It also allowed them to understand the extent to which a legal system can allow for intensive scrutiny of evidence presented.



▲ Jo Sidhu QC with trainee trainers in Warsaw, Poland

How to get involved

The ICCA is committed to assisting developing countries to improve standards of advocacy training to help maintain the rule of law. To ensure our projects are of solid and lasting benefit to the overseas Bar, we take a 'seed corn' approach, ensuring the host nation works alongside local members of the legal profession to develop and implement their own advocacy training provision and methods.

To this end, the trainers we ask to help us with this work are experienced senior trainers from the Inns and Circuits. Often, a particular area of expertise is also required, such as vulnerable witness handling.

The ICCA asks the Inns and Circuits to circulate a request to suitably experienced trainers. The Inns and Circuits reach out to their trainers as widely as possible to enable us to send a cross-section of trainers out onto the world stage.

For the majority of our training programmes, the ICCA requires that all costs of the trainers' attendance are met by the host country; this includes the cost of travel, accommodation, vaccinations, visas and any necessary expenses.

The ICCA has a limited budget to assist in jurisdictions where self-funding is more difficult. Should such funding be sought, the extent of this will be agreed with the host before any training begins. Funding is provided where the programme has a realistic prospect of promoting or improving the rule of law.

In most circumstances, the ICCA will pay for premium economy flights for any trip over 6/7 hours in length. Some host nations will fund business class flights. The ICCA holds extensive insurance cover for all such trips and attending trainers.

If you would like to be considered for an international training trip and believe you have the requisite level of advocacy training experience, please contact your Inn or Circuit by following the links on our webpage at icca.ac.uk/links

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