



Roundtable Discussion

Transforming our World: Civil Society and Government Collaboration Toward Equal Access to Justice for All

**November 14, 2024, | Time: 9:00am-10:30 am
Konrad Adenauer Foundation New York Office
220 E. 42nd Street, Suite 3300 (33rd Floor)**

The Konrad Adenauer Foundation, New York together with the International Legal Foundation (ILF) have the pleasure to invite you to a roundtable discussion on the [Equal Access to Justice for All](#) resolution (A/RES/78/227) adopted in 2023 by the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and subsequently by the UN General Assembly.

The resolution notes with concern that challenges to access justice in criminal justice systems undermine the rule of law, the achievement of safe and secure societies, and the right to equal treatment before the law, and encourage Member States to ensure equal access to justice and reduce inequities in criminal justice systems.

This resolution notably calls for a meeting of experts to share information on challenges, lessons learned, best practices and enabling factors needed to enhance the functioning of criminal justice systems to ensure equal access to justice for all. The expert meeting is scheduled to take place in Brasilia, Brazil in December 2024.

Thus, the purpose of this meeting is to discuss with UN Member States and civil society organizations and individual experts how the United Nations permanent missions can ensure meaningful civil society participation in the planned expert group, as well as meaningful outcomes that help advance equal access to justice for all.

Key issues for discussion:

- Preparations for the equal access to justice for all expert meeting being hosted in Brazil.
- Civil society inclusion in this meeting of experts and how we can support.



- Discrimination in criminal justice systems as a key barrier to equal access to justice and topic of the expert meeting.
- An overview of the meeting of independent experts being convened by the ILF and its partners in November in Brazil and how it can feed into the equal access to justice for all expert meeting.

Please note that the event will be held under the Chatham House rule. Breakfast will be served.

To confirm your attendance, please RSVP to monica.castillejos@kas.de by COB on Tuesday, November 12, 2024.



Agenda

- 09:00 – 09:15** **Registration and Networking**
- 09:15 – 09:20** **Welcome remarks**
Mr. Thomas Tödting
Konrad Adenauer Foundation
Executive Director, New York Office and
Representative to the United Nations
- 09:20 – 09:35** **Speaker I**
Ms. Jennifer Smith
International Legal Foundation
Executive Director
- 09:35 – 09:45** **Speaker II**
TBC
- 09:45 – 10:30** **Discussion**
Moderation: Dr. Mónica Castillejos-Aragón
- Closing Remarks**
Ms. Leah Corkin
International Legal Foundation
Advocacy Director