



GILA

GENEVA
INTERNATIONAL
LEGAL ASSOCIATION

Press release

Launch of the Geneva International Legal Association (GILA): *Geneva strengthens its status as an international legal capital*

Geneva, 27 June 2024 – The **Geneva International Legal Association (GILA)** announces its launch. An initiative bringing together various players from Geneva's legal and business communities, the Geneva International Legal Association (GILA) aims to promote Geneva as one of the international capitals of law and legal services. The creation of the GILA will result in the hosting of the Geneva International Legal Week (GILW), a conference designed to enhance Geneva's attractiveness and promote Swiss law locally and internationally. The first edition will be held in Geneva from 10-12 March 2025.

The Geneva International Legal Association is an initiative driven by the Geneva Bar Association. It brings together various players from the world of law and the Geneva economy. The aim is to raise the profile of Geneva as one of the international capitals of law and legal services. The association is seeking to promote the recognition of legal services as a factor in social development and economic competitiveness, to contribute to the promotion of Swiss law abroad, and to encourage exchanges and collaboration between the various players involved in resolving disputes in Geneva, particularly in the judicial, economic, political, academic, or technological spheres. It is also working to promote the use of English in the resolution of disputes. The initiative is inspired by similar projects in London, Paris, Dublin, Dubai, Riyadh, and Singapore.

Initiated by the Geneva Bar Association, GILA was formally founded by a circle of law firms as founding members, including: **Altenburger AG legal + tax, Bär & Karrer SA, BMG Avocats, Borel & Barbey, CMS von Erlach Partners SA, FBT Avocats SA, Gabellon Legal Sàrl, Jacquemoud Stanislas, Junod Halpérin, LALIVE SA, Lenz & Staehelin, Mangeat Avocats Sàrl, Monfrini Bitton Klein, Niederer Kraft Frey SA, OBERSON ABELS SA, Pestalozzi Avocats SA, Rhône Avocat.e.s SA, Siassi McCunn Bussard Avocats & Solicitors, Schellenberg Wittmer SA and Walder Wyss SA.**

GILA also enjoys the support of the following partners: the cantonal and municipal authorities of Geneva, the Fédération des Entreprises Romandes (FER), the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Services (CCIG) and the Fondation pour l'attractivité du canton de Genève (FLAG).



GILA

GENEVA
INTERNATIONAL
LEGAL ASSOCIATION

Geneva International Legal Week

The creation of the Geneva International Legal Association will result in the annual organisation of the Geneva International Legal Week (GILW), aimed at enhancing Geneva's attractiveness and promoting Swiss law both locally and internationally. The first GILW will be held in Geneva from 10 to 12 March 2025. The programme will include conferences on a variety of topics such as commercial litigation, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, new legal technologies (*legal tech*), and a forum dedicated to in-house lawyers.

The GILW will provide a unique platform for sharing experiences and recent developments in legal services. The event aims to promote Geneva's legal economy and Swiss law, while facilitating exchanges between key players in the legal and business worlds.

According to Sandrine Giroud, President of the Geneva Bar Association and President of the Association, "*Geneva has a long tradition as a legal capital and is recognised for its expertise and dynamism in the legal field. The Geneva International Legal Association aims to strengthen this position and encourage exchanges between local and international players*".

A Constitutive Assembly at the Salle de l'Alabama

The Constitutive Assembly of the Geneva International Legal Association was held on 26 June 2024 in the Salle de l'Alabama at Geneva City Hall. This historic hall, a symbol of Geneva's international influence, has played host to many historical figures and the arbitration tribunal that ruled on the United States' claims against the British government after the American Civil War. The meeting was attended by the founding members, State Councillor Delphine Bachmann and Alfonso Gomez, Administrative Councillor for the City of Geneva.

For questions or if you want to know more contact:



- **Sandrine Giroud**, présidente, sgiroud@lalive.law; +41 79 851 70 79
- **Adrien Gabellon**, Secrétaire général, a.gabellon@gabellon-legal.com, +41 22 700 33 32