

ANKARA BAR ASSOCIATION'S
8TH INTERNATIONAL
LAW CONGRESS

Ankara Bar Association warmly invites you to participate in its biannual International Law Congress; “*Democracy, Rule of Law and the Right of Defence*” which will take place between the dates 8th and 11th of January, 2014 at the Litai Guest-House of the Union of Turkish Bar Associations.

Our key Congress issues are as follows:

Our first issue is “*Turkey’s Quest for a New Constitution*”, under which in addition to the discussion on Constitution-making, we will have sessions on democracy in the contexts of political parties, electoral systems, local governments and civil disobedience.

Under the topic “*Attorneyship and the Bar Association*” we will not only take the opportunity of acquiring knowledge on attorneyship systems and bar associations from all around the world, but also elaborate on different practices of public-duty services for lawyers, such as legal aid.

For “*Fundamental Rights of the Vulnerable Groups and Mechanisms for Their Access to Justice Within the Framework of International Migration Law*” we envisaged a fruitful discussion of migration from standpoints of human rights, law, policy, labour exploitation and access to justice for migrants.

Our fourth topic; “*Between Liberalisation and Protection of Personal Data; Electronic Communications and Information Technology Law*” covers a wide array of contemporary debates on telecommunications sector ranging from competition problems to the EU perspectives on data protection.

Our special session on LGBT rights; “*Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*” will provide us with an insight into the history of LGBT rights struggles in addition to comprehensive case-law assessments from several different angles such as developments in the courts’ general approaches, LGBT’s freedom of expression and labour rights. “*From European Court of Human Rights to the Constitutional Court; an Evaluation of the Individual Right to file Constitutional Complaints*” will be a platform for a discussion of both the procedural and theoretical implications of the newly established constitutional complaint system in Turkey.

Alongside the above sessions, our programme will be further enriched with interviews as well as workshops on various fields of both public and private law.

We aimed to include of a wide-range of international legal issues, while striving to guarantee the plurality as well as depth of perspectives on each topic. To further this end, we will host distinguished lawyers, judges, scholars and policy-makers from all around the world and Turkey, in addition to our ongoing collaboration with various NGO’s, including International Organization for Migration, Kaos-GL and Unicef. Moreover, we expect high-level participation from the Constitutional Court of Turkey alongside the newly established Turkish Migration Administration as well as the Information and Communication Technologies Authority.

Additionally, the Congress reception which will provide us with the honour of hosting mission representatives in Ankara, a one-day Cappadocia trip for our foreign guests and the Congress gala dinner will delightfully complement our programme.

In such manner, we are certain that this Congress will be a contribution to legal theory and practice in Turkey and especially to our young colleagues who would like to further explore their fields of interest and find networking opportunities with specialists. We are working in all our capacity to build this fruitful platform for sharing knowledge, exchanging perspectives and getting together for all our participants. In that spirit, we wish to express our gratitude to our sponsors; the Union of Turkish Bar Associations, Telkoder and Turkcell as well as to all those who supported us in our organization efforts.