IALANA International Association Of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms



IALANA stands for: dedicated opposition to nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction; the strengthening of international law as well as against the abuse of power and legal arbitrariness; nonmilitary resolutions of international conflicts and disarmament instead of preparations for war.

The international and German section were founded by lawyers in 1988 and 1989, respectively as a peace initiative and registered charity. Apart from regular tasks, the steering committee and regular members also hold meetings four to five times per year, where they discuss developing crises, search for their solutions and prepare events and publications.

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IALANA started its activities in Germany with an international conference on and critical analysis of NATO's nuclear strategy. In cooperation with other NGOs, IALANA contributed to bringing the nuclear question to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague which resulted in an advisory opinion by the ICJ in 1996, stating that both the threat and use of nuclear weapons constitute a violation of international humanitarian law. Furthermore, the ICJ reiterated that nuclear weapons states have an obligation to general and complete disarmament of atomic weapons.

IALANA has taken part in coordinated actions against the first Gulf war that was in violation of international law, waged by the United States — we have denounced both French nuclear testing in the South Pacific and the transformation of the German Bundeswehr into an interventionist force. Repeated violations of international and German law caused by out of area deployments of the Bundeswehr and Germany's involvement in wars led by NATO and the USA have been brought back into the focus of the public eye.

IALANA strongly believes in the rule of law as opposed to the rule of power, and is a vocal proponent of civil nonmilitary conflict resolution. Consistent to its underlying principles and objectives, IALANA monitors government policies and informs and educates the public about the impending destruction of international law caused by disregard of essential legal principles and the peace framework contained therein.

IALANA offers counsel pertaining to questions of international law and peace, both to other NGOs and political committees. In a comprehensive effort with other peace organizations, aiming at the effective implementation of international law, IALANA has authored a draft convention to abolish all nuclear weapons and has presented it to the United Nations. The request for another adivsory opinion by the ICJ concerning the obligation of nuclear weapons states to general and complete disarmament is currently in preparation. IALANA also awards the biennial Whistleblower Prize, thus encouraging sousveillance and societal verification.

Every lawyer sharing IALANA's beliefs is invited to join and collaborate for the benefit of our common cause. We finance our numerous projects and pro bono work with donations and member fees exclusively. All donations are tax-deductible.

For further information, please visit: http://www.ialana.net – info@ ialana.net

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