

## International Labor Justice Working Group Resolution

Whereas, the National Lawyers Guild (NLG) has historically placed great value on developing relationships with associations of progressive lawyers in other countries, even more imperative with the escalation of corporate globalization;

Whereas, from its founding, the National Lawyers Guild has emphasized the importance of freedom of association and a core part of our membership has been internationalist lawyers and legal workers who work to advance labor rights;

Whereas, the International Committee (IC) and Labor and Employment Committee (LEC) formed the International Labor Justice Working Group (ILJWG) in 2005 in order to collaborate more effectively and to maintain productive relationships with the Asociación Latinoamericana de Abogados Laborales (ALAL) and the Canadian Association of Labor Lawyers/Association canadienne des avocats du mouvement syndical (CALL/ACAMS);

Whereas, these relationships have included work on common lawsuits, projects, conferences, articles and other joint efforts and have promoted solidarity and understanding and contributed to the success of labor struggles in our countries;

Whereas, every year since 2005 representatives from CALL/ACAMS and ALAL and the NLG have exchanged representatives for our three conventions, sharing and working out content of presentations and costs of the exchanges, and the presence of Canadian and Latin American perspectives has greatly enriched the quality and experience of the workshops and panels at the NLG convention;

Whereas, the decision-making process of the NLG regarding workshops and panels at conventions leaves decisions regarding workshops to the chapter setting the agenda while the NEC decides panels;

Whereas, the ILJWG has always proposed at least one workshop in coordination with the IC and LEC, in order to ensure that our international guests receive the courtesy of having a meaningful opportunity to present their views, and requiring early coordination in order to ensure that the topic coincides with the expertise of the representatives selected by CALL and ALAL to represent their organizations;

Whereas, two years ago the NLG decision-making structure resulted in an extremely awkward problem for the IC and LEC (solved at the last minute through the approval of a hot topic slot) of having to explain to our international allies that our proposal had not been approved and that there would be no opportunity for them to address the NLG or present their views;

Whereas, non-approval for the ILJWG workshop proposal for the Chicago 2014 convention resulted again in a similar extremely awkward and embarrassing situation for the IC and LEC;

Whereas, there is already well-established precedent of guaranteeing slots for speakers, such as the Immigration Committee's allocation of guaranteed workshop slots;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that

The NLG Convention hereby agrees that

ILJWG shall be allocated one slot for each convention, either a workshop or a panel, which shall provide an opportunity for a presentation that includes representatives of ILJWG's international labor lawyer organizational affiliates (such as CALL/ACAMS, ALAL).

Submitted by:

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Implementation:

The National Office will forward a copy of this resolution to each agenda planning committee so that all committees are aware of this resolution passed by the Convention. ILJWG, and its committee sponsors, International Committee and Labor & Employment Committee will work with the National Office to ensure effective implementation.

Consent:

National Office, International Committee, Labor & Employment Committee, International Labor Justice Working Group (ILJWG) consent to the tasks the resolution assigns to them