



Professor Hoong Phun (HP) Lee
Sir John Latham Professor of Law
Faculty of Law

The Norwegian Nobel Committee
Hanrik Ibsens Gate 51
0255 Oslo Norway.
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Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

Re: Nobel Peace Prize Nomination

I wish to nominate the International Association of Judicial Independence and World Peace (hereafter "the Association") for the award of the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of its magnificent contribution to the promotion of the ideal of judicial independence on a global basis.

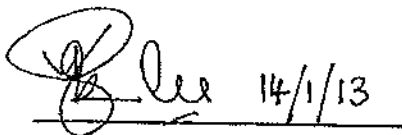
I have held the Sir John Latham Chair of Law at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia since 1996 with specialisation in the field of Public Law. I am therefore fully aware of the fundamental importance of an independent judiciary to the promotion and maintenance of the Rule of Law – the cornerstone of world peace. The ideal of a truly independent judiciary is a universal ideal much prized in established democracies and much sought after by the peoples in emerging democracies and in countries where the peoples are subjugated to iron-fisted dictatorship. The bottom-line is that if confidence of the people in the independence of the judicial institution is undermined, disputants will seek recourse through violence in the streets and that would be detrimental to world peace.

The Association and its members in the last 30 years have been helping to advance world peace through its promotion of an independent judiciary. Although I was a participant only since 2007 in a number of the prestigious international conferences organised by the Association or in connection, I speak with a high degree of familiarity with the work of the Association and its members. I am appreciative of the splendid work which has been done and continues to be done by the Association and its members and the immense contribution to world peace.

The Association has devoted itself to the promotion of judicial independence and world peace by organizing conferences and conducting studies and research, by publishing volumes on judicial independence (see: S Shetreet and J Deschenes (eds), *Judicial Independence: The Contemporary Debate* (Martinus Nijhoff, 1985); S Shetreet and C Forsyth (eds), *Culture of Judicial Independence: Conceptual Foundations and Practical Challenge* (Martinus Nijhoff, 2011)), by drafting and revising international standards of judicial independence (the *Mount Scopus International Standards of Judicial Independence*), by popularizing the concept of judicial independence, and by increasing society's understanding of the links between judicial independence and democracy, liberty, freedom and peace. The Association has fostered and enhanced the credibility accorded to the ideal of judicial independence by increasing understanding and awareness of the direct connections between an independent and impartial judiciary and notions of democracy, liberty, freedom and peace among the public, in political circles and within the legal profession. Through the Association's work, the concepts of institutional judicial independence, internal judicial independence, judicial diversity and the fair reflection of society in the judiciary have become widely-understood and valued concepts. It emphasises the importance of building and maintaining a culture of judicial independence.

I wish to reiterate that an outstanding part of the work of the Association and which is of critical importance to the promotion of world peace are its efforts to secure consensus on innovative notions of judicial independence and develop and draft universal standards in the form of the *Mount Scopus International Standards of Judicial Independence* to give meaningful substance to these notions, the ongoing refinement of these standards and the wide-spread publicising of these standards. Those standards continue to attract attention from courts, commentators and legislators around the world. The International Association of Judicial Independence and World Peace fully deserves recognition for conducting the International Project of Judicial Independence for over 30 years. This Project by the Association has advanced world democracy, liberty, freedom and peace through its promotion of an independent judiciary. Therefore, without any hesitation or reservation, I nominate the International Association of Judicial Independence and World Peace for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Yours sincerely

 14/1/13

Professor Hoong Phun Lee, PhD