



SUPREME COURT
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

SUPREME ARBITRATION COURT
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Federal State Budget-Funded Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education
R U S S I A N A C A D E M Y O F J U S T I C E

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The Norwegian Nobel Committee,
HanrikIbsens Gate 51,
0255 Oslo, Norway.

21 January 2013

Subject: Nomination of the International Association of Judicial Independence and World Peace as the candidacy for the Nobel Peace Prize 2013

Dear Members of the Nobel committee,

Hereby I support the nomination of the International Association of Judicial Independence and World Peace for the Nobel Peace Prize 2013 for drafting the International Project on Judicial Independence that is fundamental for maintaining and retaining in the contemporary society such values as democracy, freedom, peace and human rights.

Judicial independence is one of the most important principles of judiciary establishment of any law-governed state. The activity of independent judiciary enables to provide not only the effective protection of citizens' and human rights and freedoms, but also the rule of law in a society. Therefore it is possible to consider the principle of judicial independence as the foundation of democracy and peace.

Independent judiciary also facilitates political and social stability, thus it is especially important to ensure it in those states where political confrontation or political instability occur.

For the reason stated above, strengthening and maintenance of judicial independence are essential to promote further development of high ideals of peace, democracy and freedom.

It should be noted that the principle of judicial independence is fixed in numerous international law regulations. As the assignment of this principle is often declarative, there are a number of its values that in fact impedes effective interpretation and application of the principle.

For a long time, of over 30 years International Association of Judicial Independence and World Peace has actively developed approaches to the interpretation and application of the principle of judicial independence facilitating promotion of the idea of independent judiciary as implication for assuring peace in the world.

Joining professors of law of the world leading universities, the Association has contributed to the international cooperation and information exchange of the best practices of dispute resolutions. However, the Association has played a key role in creating a common understanding and practical application of common standards for the execution of judiciary in different countries and continents.

Therefore, the members of the Association have participated in drafting a number of important instruments for developing and strengthening the principle of judiciary independence as the essential principle of judiciary that shall guarantee fair and effective proceedings in different countries. These documents include, in particular, the Code of Minimum Standard of Judicial Independence (1999) and

Universal Declaration of the Independence of Justice (1983), International Standards of Judicial Independence (2007) that now are widely applied around the world.

Organizing conferences and conducting studies and research on judicial independence held by the Association allow to find out challenges in assuring of judicial independence and to develop approaches for its effective resolution. Steady work on the new trends and directions in developing judicial independence makes the conclusions of the Association always be in demand all over the world and be highly appreciated by the professional community.

Results of the Association's activity serve as a guide for various states in development of judicial independence within national legal systems, and to ensure uniform interpretation and application of the principle of judicial independence at the international level.

Kind regards,

V.V. Ershov
Rector of
the Russian Academy of Justice
Doctor of Law, Professor

