

#### IN THIS ISSUE

Featured Story Symposium on courtbased mediation

#### Regional News

Kosovo: LPRI published Kyrgyzstan: Maintaining stable street law centers Lebanon: Legal training and public service program launched Moldova: Human rights

roundtable

**Moldova:** Judicial trainers' training

Philippines: Speedy trial

training

Russia: Conference on challenges for advocates





View past newsletters

#### FEATURED STORY

Mediation Symposium Brings Together Key Chinese Players, International Counterparts



From November 5–6, the ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI), the University of Massachusetts' John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies and the Massachusetts Judges Conference, in cooperation with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Langfang Intermediate Court, conducted a symposium exploring the use of court-based mediation. Read more »»

#### EUROPE AND EURASIA

# Human Rights Roundtable in Moldova

n November 24, Moldovan human rights association Promo-LEX, an ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) partner, hosted a roundtable on the state of human rights in the country. While the roundtable discussed the 2007–2009 human rights situation, Promo-LEX also presented a report of the 2007–2008 human rights condition, which was published with ABA

#### MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

# Center in Northern Lebanon to Offer Legal Aid. Mediation Services

n November 30, the ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) held an event to launch a new legal training and public service program in northern Lebanon. Many



ROLI's support. Read more »»

residents in northern Lebanon lack access to legal services, which are centered primarily in Beirut. To address this need, the program will create a legal aid and mediation services center in northern Lebanon. Read more »»

#### EUROPE AND EURASIA

# Report Unveils Progress of Legal Profession Reform in Kosovo

n December 3, the ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) published the 2009 Kosovo Legal Profession Reform Index (LPRI). More than 100 journalists, government officials, lawyers, law students and international donors attended the roll-out event in Pristina, Kosovo. Read more »»

#### ASIA

# ABA ROLI Trains Philippine Judges on Speedy Trial Laws



n the Philippines, with so many backlogged cases, litigation takes years, and sometimes decades, to be resolved. In criminal cases, defendants often languish in jails awaiting trial longer than the maximum stated punishment for the crime of which they are accused. Read more »»

#### EUROPE AND EURASIA

## Moscow Conference Addresses Challenges for Advocates

he ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) hosted a conference in Moscow under its Rule of Law Partnership Project (RLPP) in the Russian Federation. The November 27 event focused on obstacles faced by Russian advocates who seek to develop a practice oriented toward commercial law. The conference. the first of its kind since 2006. covered a particularly contentious topic within the Russian legal community, as it highlighted the need to amend an otherwise progressive legal framework governing the defense bar and to discuss problems surrounding the lack of regulation of jurists. Read more

### EUROPE AND EURASIA

## ABA ROLI Trains Moldovan Judicial Trainers



rom December 2–4,
Judge Judith Chirlin,
recently retired Los
Angeles County Superior

#### MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

# ABA ROLI Hosts Environmental Law Expert in Jordan

n December, the ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) office in Jordan hosted



professor Robert Percival, director of the University of Maryland School of Law's environmental law program, for a week-long visit to launch environmental law course development for Jordanian law faculties. Read more »»

EUROPE AND EURASIA

Court judge and member of the ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) board, conducted a three-day workshop on identifying and adapting new teaching techniques and designing an effective judicial course. The training was held at the Moldovan National Institute of Justice (NIJ) in Chisinau. More than 20 judicial trainers, including Constitutional Court Judge Valeria Sterbet, NIJ Director Eugenia Fistican and Moldovan State University law professors, participated. Read more »»

# ABA ROLI Hosts Sustainability Workshop for Kyrgyz Street Law Centers

rom November 15–16, the
ABA Rule of Law Initiative
(ABA ROLI) conducted a
workshop on financial
sustainability of street law centers
in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The event
was attended by representatives of
five street law centers and other
non-governmental organizations
(NGOs). Read more »»



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