

ALLIANCE FOR LAWYERS AT RISK CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1205449

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2023-10-27

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Alliance For Lawyers At Risk CIO
124 City Road
London
EC1V 2NX

Phone 07900167168

Email admin@lawyersatrisk.org

Website <http://www.lawyersatrisk.org/>

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS (AS SET OUT IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND SUBSEQUENT UNITED NATIONS CONVENTIONS AND DECLARATIONS) AND TO SEEK TO PROTECT THE RULE OF LAW FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THROUGHOUT THE WORLD BY ALL OR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MEANS:- SECURING THE ENFORCEMENT AND PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS LAW, IN PARTICULAR BUT WITHOUT LIMITATION, BY SUPPORTING LAWYERS AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS WHO ARE AT RISK BY REASON OF THEIR WORK;- PROMOTING THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF LAWYERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN ALL MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS LAW;- INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS AND OTHERS;- RESEARCH INTO HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES;- PROVIDING TECHNICAL ADVICE TO GOVERNMENTS AND OTHERS ON HUMAN RIGHTS LAW;- COMMENTING ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION WITH POTENTIAL HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS; AND- RAISING AWARENESS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AND PROMOTING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RULE OF LAW.

Activities: The charity promotes human rights by (a) securing the enforcement and proper administration of human rights law; (b) promoting the education and training of lawyers and human rights defenders; (c) making representations to governments and others and (d) raising awareness of human rights issues and promoting the importance of the rule of law.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£18,817	£11,504	-	-
2024-06-30	£1,170	£1	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
SIR PETER MARCEL ROTH	Chair	2023-10-27
Andrew Hood		2024-03-11
Ben Silverstone		2025-10-14
Damodaran Deepak Nambisan		2023-10-27
Deborah Finkler		2026-01-15
Dominic Charles Roberts Grieve		2023-10-27
Geoffrey Nicholas		2023-10-27
Kelwin Dale Nicholls		2023-10-27
Kristina Nordlander		2024-03-11
Maria-Jesus Bascon-Santalo		2023-10-27
Mark James Cunningham KC		2023-10-27
Maya Lester		2024-03-11
Professor Christine Mary Chinkin CMG		2023-10-27
Silvia Borelli		2023-10-27

ALLIANCE FOR LAWYERS AT RISK CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1205449

Accounts



ALLIANCE FOR LAWYERS AT RISK CIO
Registered charity no. 1205449
President: Rt Hon Dominic Grieve KC
Vice-Presidents: Guy Beringer CBE, KC (Hon), Prof Christine Chinkin CMG

Trustees' Annual Report 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

1. Trustee and Charity Information

Charity name:	Alliance for Lawyers at Risk CIO
Registered Charity Number:	1205449
Registered Address:	124 City Road, London, EC1V 2NX
Trustees (July '24 to date):	Dominic Grieve KC, PC (President) Sir Peter Roth (Chairman) Professor Christine Chinkin CMG (Vice President) Guy Beringer CBE, KC (Hon) (Vice President) ¹ Deborah Finkler (Vice President) ² Susi Bascon ³ Dr Silvia Borelli Mark Cunningham KC Deepak Nambisan Kelwin Nicholls Geoff Nicholas Kristina Nordlander Maya Lester KC Andrew Hood Ben Silverstone ⁴ Zoe MacCallum ⁵

There is no chief executive officer and there are no paid staff working for the charity.

¹ Resigned October 2025

² Joined January 2026

³ Resigned April 2026

⁴ Joined October 2025

⁵ Resigned March 2026

2. Description of the charity's governance

The charity is incorporated as a CIO.

The governing document of the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk CIO (the "**Alliance**") is its Constitution adopted on 27 October 2023, which is available on its website (lawyersatrisk.org).

The Trustees manage the affairs of the Alliance. Trustees are appointed and may be removed by the existing Trustees. Trustees give of their time and expertise voluntarily. Trustees receive no remuneration or benefits from acting as Trustees.

3. Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are set out in its Constitution.

The object of the Alliance is to promote human rights (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent United Nations conventions and declarations) and to seek to protect the rule of law for the benefit of the public throughout the world by all or any of the following means:

- securing the enforcement and proper administration of human rights law, in particular but without limitation, by supporting lawyers and other human rights defenders who are at risk by reason of their work;
- promoting the education and training of lawyers and human rights defenders in all matters relating to the proper administration of human rights law;
- international advocacy of human rights by making representations to governments and others;
- research into human rights issues;
- providing technical advice to governments and others on human rights law;
- commenting on proposed legislation with potential human rights implications; and
- raising awareness of human rights issues and promoting the importance of the rule of law.

4. Activities in the period covered by this report

This is the second annual report of the Alliance. In the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, the Alliance carried out the following activities.

(a) Operational matters

The Alliance continued to be supported in its general operations by volunteers from the law firm Slaughter and May, including in relation to day-to-day administrative, governance, and coordination functions.

The Trustees met periodically throughout the reporting period to oversee the Alliance's activities and consider matters of governance and strategy. As such, the Trustees remained actively engaged in setting priorities for the Alliance's work and ensuring that its activities were aligned with its objectives.

During the reporting period, the Alliance maintained and strengthened its relationships with partner organisations, legal professionals, and members of the wider human rights community. These relationships play an important role in informing the Alliance's work, identifying emerging areas of concern, and facilitating effective collaboration where appropriate.

The Alliance also continued to review and refine its internal processes to ensure that its operations remain effective and compliant with applicable regulatory requirements.

(b) Sir Henry Brooke Award

In February 2025, the Alliance again presented its annual Sir Henry Brooke Award. The Award is named after, and honours the life and legacy of, the late founder of the Alliance, Sir Henry Brooke. It recognises a legal practitioner or human rights defender who, through personal endeavour in the course of his or her practice in a challenging environment, has made an outstanding contribution to the promotion, protection, and advancement of human rights and the rule of law.

Nominations for the 2025 Sir Henry Brooke Award were assessed by an independent selection panel comprising Professor Christine Chinkin, Lord Carnwath, Sir Patrick Elias, Maya Lester KC, and Lizzette Robleto de Howarth.

The recipient of the 2025 Sir Henry Brooke Award was the Guatemalan human rights lawyer Ms Virginia Laparra, a former senior prosecutor and head of the Special District Prosecutor's Office against Impunity (FECI) in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala.

Ms Laparra was arrested on 23 February 2022 in the context of arbitrary persecution against former FECI prosecutors and members of the International Commission against Impunity (CICIG). The Award recognised her long-standing work combating corruption and organised crime in Guatemala, her dedicated commitment to upholding the rule of law, and the enormous

personal sacrifice she endured during and after her prosecution and imprisonment in Guatemala.

The award ceremony was held in February 2025 and was hosted by the President of the Alliance, Mr Dominic Grieve KC, who welcomed the Rt Hon Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury, former President of the UK Supreme Court, as the keynote speaker. The event was attended by more than 100 guests, including senior members of the UK judiciary and distinguished representatives from the British and international legal communities, who came together in London to recognise the extraordinary work of Ms Laparra.

The Alliance also arranged and facilitated meetings between Ms Laparra and representatives of relevant NGOs during her time in London.

(c) Meetings with other NGOs

In October 2025, the Alliance organised a roundtable meeting with a number of other charities and NGOs from the UK and abroad that share similar objectives, to explore ways in which the organisations could best support one another and strengthen collaboration.

Over the course of the year, the Alliance also participated in several bilateral meetings with other NGOs to discuss concerns relating to specific lawyers and jurisdictions, and to consider potential actions in that regard.

(d) Correspondence with the government officials and the media

Following the presentation of the Sir Henry Brooke Award, the Alliance wrote to government officials and media contacts in the UK and internationally to raise awareness of Ms Laparra's situation.

In 2025, the Alliance also wrote to the Chairman of the Supreme Court, the Prosecutor General and the Minister of Internal Affairs in support of Belarusian lawyer Maksim Znak. Mr Znak has represented and provided legal assistance to a number of political figures, including Viktor Babaryko and Svetlana Tikhanovskaya. He was arrested in September 2020 and subsequently sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment, following a closed-door trial, the precise basis for which remains unclear. Mr. Znak has reportedly been detained incommunicado since February 2023, without access to his family members, legal counsel, or independent medical professionals, and with no clarity as to when he will be released. His sentencing and detention illustrate the serious challenges faced by lawyers practicing in Belarus.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

5. Financial Review


The Alliance's income in this period was under £25,000.

The Alliance received donations in this period. Its expenditure in this period comprised one personal grant paid to a human rights defender from a donation made for that specific purpose,

costs of the Henry Brooke Award (travel) and bank charges for the operation of its current account. Other operating costs in this period (i.e., software) were paid by a trustee.

The Alliance holds sufficient funds to cover its operational expenses (such as its website, bank charges, corporate office provider and payment processing services). It does not have any funds in deficit.

6. Charity Accounts

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES		The Alliance for Lawyers at Risk CIO		1205449						
		Receipts and payments accounts								
For the period from		1-Jul-24		To		30-Jun-25		CC16a		
Section A Receipts and payments										
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £					
A1 Receipts										
Donations	8,817	10,000	-	18,817	1,170					
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
<i>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</i>	8,817	10,000	-	18,817	1,170					
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).										
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-					
Total receipts	8,817	10,000	-	18,817	1,170					
A3 Payments										
Grant to beneficiary from restricted funds donated for that purpose	-	10,000	-	10,000	-					
Bank charges	41	-	-	41	-					
Costs of Henry Brooke Award (travel)	1,463	-	-	1,463	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
<i>Sub total</i>	1,504	10,000	-	11,504	-					
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)										
	-	-	-	-	-					
	-	-	-	-	-					
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-					
Total payments	1,504	10,000	-	11,504	-					
<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	7,313	-	-	7,313	1,170					
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-					
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-					
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	7,313	-	-	7,313	1,170					

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		8,481	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	8,481	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		Agreement Error	OK	OK

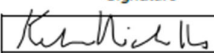
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Kelwin Nicholls	22/4/26

7. Trustee Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report.

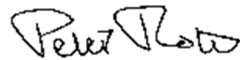
Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Full name: Sir Peter Roth

Position: Chair

Date: 27 April 2026

Signature:

Handwritten signature of Peter Roth in black ink.

Full name: Dominic Grieve KC, PC

Position: President

Date: 27 April 2026

Signature:

Handwritten signature of Dominic Grieve in black ink.

ALLIANCE FOR LAWYERS AT RISK CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1205449

Accounts



ALLIANCE FOR LAWYERS AT RISK CIO
Registered charity no. 1205449
President: Rt Hon Dominic Grieve KC
Vice-Presidents: Guy Beringer CBE, KC (Hon), Prof Christine Chinkin CMG

Trustees' Annual Report
(October 2023 to June 2024)

1. Trustee and Charity Information

Charity name: Alliance for Lawyers at Risk CIO

Registered Charity Number: 1205449

Registered Address: 124 City Road, London, EC1V 2NX

Trustees: Dominic Grieve KC, PC (President)
Sir Peter Roth (Chairman)
Professor Christine Chinkin CMG (Vice President)
Guy Beringer CBE, KC (Hon) (Vice President)
Susi Bascon
Dr Silvia Borelli
Mark Cunningham KC
Deepak Nambisan
Kelwin Nicholls
Geoff Nicholas
Kristina Nordlander (joined 11 March 2024)
Maya Lester KC (joined 11 March 2024)
Andrew Hood (joined 11 March 2024)
Zoe MacCallum (joined 9 January 2025)

There is no chief executive officer and there are no paid staff working for the charity.

2. Description of the charity's governance

The charity is incorporated as a CIO.

The governing document of the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk CIO (the "**Alliance**") is its Constitution adopted on 27 October 2023, which is available on its website (lawyersatrisk.org).

The Trustees manage the affairs of the Alliance. Trustees are appointed and may be removed by the existing Trustees. Trustees give of their time and expertise voluntarily. Trustees receive no remuneration or benefits from acting as Trustees.

3. Objects of the charity

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The object of the Alliance is to promote human rights (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent United Nations conventions and declarations) and to seek to protect the rule of law for the benefit of the public throughout the world by all or any of the following means:

- securing the enforcement and proper administration of human rights law, in particular but without limitation, by supporting lawyers and other human rights defenders who are at risk by reason of their work;
- promoting the education and training of lawyers and human rights defenders in all matters relating to the proper administration of human rights law;
- international advocacy of human rights by making representations to governments and others;
- research into human rights issues;
- providing technical advice to governments and others on human rights law;
- commenting on proposed legislation with potential human rights implications; and
- raising awareness of human rights issues and promoting the importance of the rule of law.

4. Activities in the period covered by this report

This is the first annual report of the Alliance. In the period from its incorporation in October 2023 to June 2024, the Alliance carried out the following activities.

(a) Operational matters

In its first nine months of operating as a CIO, the Alliance put in place a series of measures to enable it to operate effectively, including opening a bank account, establishing a registered office, registration with the Charities Commission and HMRC and securing volunteers from the law firm Slaughter and May to assist with the Alliance's month-to-month operations. More intensive work accordingly got underway in the final months of the first reporting year.

(b) Sir Henry Brooke Award

The Alliance has, for several years, awarded the Sir Henry Brooke Award. The Award is named after, and honours the life and legacy of the late founder of the Alliance. It is an annual award that aims to honour a legal practitioner or human rights defender who, through personal endeavour in the course of his or her practice in a challenging environment, made an outstanding contribution to the promotion, protection and advancement of human rights and the rule of law.

Nominations for the 2024 Award were assessed by an independent Selection Committee comprising Professor Christine Chinkin (Chair), Lord Carnwath, Sir Patrick Elias, Richard Hermer KC and Joshua Rosenberg KC (Hon).

The winner of the 2024 Sir Henry Brooke Award was the Colombian environmental and human rights lawyer, Mr Adil José Meléndez Marquez. The Award recognised Mr Meléndez's extraordinary contribution to the protection and promotion of environmental human rights and the rule of law in Colombia.

The award ceremony was held in January 2024. The event was attended by over 100 guests including some of the country's most senior judges as well as representatives from the British and international legal community including NGOs. The Alliance also arranged and facilitated Mr Melendez meeting representatives of relevant NGOs over the following days during his time in London.

(c) Meetings with other NGOs

The Alliance met with a number of charities and NGOs from the UK and abroad with similar objectives to discuss how we can support one another.

(d) Correspondence with the government officials and the media

The Alliance wrote to government officials in this country and abroad after a lawyer who had previously been subjected to a number of personal threats had his government-assigned

security protection removed without warning. These letters were followed up with letters to the media in the UK.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

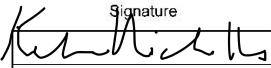
5. Financial Review

The Alliance's income in this period was under £10,000.

The Alliance received donations in this period. Its expenditure in this period comprised bank charges for the operation of its current account. Its operating costs in this period were paid by a trustee.

The Alliance holds sufficient funds to cover its operational expenses (such as its website, bank charges, corporate office provider and payment processing services). It does not have any funds in deficit.

6. Charity Accounts

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES		Alliance for Lawyers at Risk CIO		1205449	
Receipts and payments accounts					CC16a
For the period from		27-Oct-23	To	30-Jun-24	
Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	1,170	-	-	1,170	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,170	-	-	1,170	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,170	-	-	1,170	-
A3 Payments					
Bank charges	1	-	-	1	-
Sub total	1	-	-	1	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1	-	-	1	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,169	-	-	1,169	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	1,169	-	-	1,169	-
Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period					
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	
B1 Cash funds		1,169	-	-	
	Total cash funds	1,169	-	-	
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK	
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-	
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	
B3 Investment assets			-	-	
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-	
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)	
B5 Liabilities			-	-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
			Kelwin Nicholls	28/04/25	
CC16X R1 accounts (SS)		1		04/04/2025	

7. Trustee Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report.

Signs on behalf of the Trustees:

Full name: Sir Peter Roth

Position: Chair

Date: 28/04/2025

Signature: 

Full name: Dominic Grieve KC, PC

Position: President

Date: 28/04/2025

Signature: 