

ITALY PRO BONO DAY

**CILD CLEARING HOUSE REPORT
2015-2018**



Who we are

Together we stand. For the rights of all.

Founded in 2014, the **Italian Coalition for Civil Liberties and Rights (CILD)** is a network of 37 civil society organizations that protect and expand the rights and liberties of all, through a combination of advocacy, public education and legal action.

Our main areas of work are asylum & international protection, immigration, equality & anti-discrimination, justice, civil liberties in the digital age and security.

37

NGOs members

6

Areas of work

Centre for Legal Action

The Centre for Legal Action is one of core activities of the advocacy work of CILD, in the awareness that advances in legislation on human rights also require judicial support action - never disconnected from the work of campaigning & of communication.

It works through **4 main activities.**



Strategic Litigation

When communication and lobbying are not enough, we support the judgment actions with strategic litigation.



Access to information

In 2016 a FOIA was finally approved in Italy & we have been monitoring its implementation ever since.



Legal Information

We offer legal information support - via direct assistance or through our Know Your Rights guides (KYR).

Pro Bono Legal Advice via our Clearing House

We offer free of charge legal advice to NGOs & other civil society actors thanks to a great pro bono network.

Since 2015, CILD has been functioning as clearing house for the pro bono network facilitated by PILnet and Pro Bono Italia.

The clearing house has successfully processed 65+ assistance requests.

4

Years as Clearing House
for the Italian Pro Bono
Network

65+

Requests successfully
processed

Pro Bono Clearing House in 2015: Requests

In 2015, 15 (out of 17) requests submitted through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Requests were either for legal research & memo (8 requests) or translations (7 requests).

Most requests focused on the substantive matter of torture & protection of detainee rights (10 requests). Topics of interest also included statutory issues (1 request), tax & contracts issues (1 requests), funding issues (1 request) and opportunity for litigation (1 request).

15
(out of 17)

Requests successfully
processed

Pro Bono Clearing House in 2015: NGOs & Law Firms

6 NGOs benefited from pro bono legal assistance:
Antigone, Arcigay, CILD, Diritto di Sapere, Parsec
and Transgender Network.

6

NGOs receiving pro bono
assistance

5 law firms provided pro legal assistance:
DLA Piper (7 requests), Legance (4 requests),
Orrick (2 requests), Freshfields Bruckhaus
Deriger and Macchi di Cellere Gangemi.

5

Law firms providing
pro bono assistance

Pro Bono Clearing House in 2016: Requests

In 2016, 15 (out of 19) requests submitted through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Requests were either for legal research & memo (8 requests) or translations (7 requests).

Topics of interests included statutory issues (3 requests) and tax & contracts issues (2 requests), substantive matters such as torture and protection of detainees rights (2 requests), assessment of campaign risk (1 request), religious rights (1 request), drugs legislation (1 request), anti-discrimination (1 request).

15
(out of 19)

Requests successfully
processed

Pro Bono Clearing House in 2016: NGOs & Law Firms

5 NGOs benefited from legal advice:
Antigone, Atletico Diritti, CILD,
Diritto di Sapere and Medea.

5

NGOs receiving
pro bono assistance

The network of law firms providing legal advice
grew to include more law firms: DLA Piper
(6 requests), Ashurst, Legance, McDermott Will
& Emery, Nebuloni, Orrick, Simmons &
Simmons, Shearman & Sterling (2 requests) and
White & Case.

9

Law firms providing pro
bono assistance

Pro Bono Clearing House in 2017: Requests

In 2017, 30 (out of 34) requests submitted through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Requests were either for legal research & memo (18 requests) or translations (12 requests).

Topics of interest included statutory issues (3 requests), tax & contracts issues (2 requests), opportunity for litigation (2 requests) and assessment of campaign risks (1 request) but also substantive issues on journalists rights & access to information (4 requests), privacy & data retention (2 requests). The Clearinghouse also processed 1 individual case (no fixed abode).

30
(out of 34)

Requests successfully
processed

Pro Bono Clearing House in 2017: NGOs & Law Firms

13 NGOs benefited from pro bono legal assistance: Antigone, Associazione 21 Luglio, Chayn Italia, Cild, Diritto di Sapere, Fondazione Casa della Carità, Hermes Center for Transparency and Digital Rights, Roma-Dakar, Renewable Freedom Foundation, Osservatorio Nazionale di Criminologia, Servizio Glaciologico Lombardo, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly, Sant'Egidio.

13

NGOs receiving
pro bono assistance

The network of legal advice providers further grew to include law firms of all dimensions. 15 law firms provided legal assistance: Albè e associati, Ashurst, Carotenuto (2 requests), De Berti Jacchia, DLA PIPER (2 requests), Legance (5 requests), McDermott Will & Emery (2 requests), Orrick (8 requests), Riva, Watson Farley & Williams, White & Case, Rizzo, Macchi di Cellere Gangemi, Clifford Chance, SZA (2 requests).

15

Law firms providing
pro bono assistance

Pro Bono Clearing House in 2018: Requests

To date, in 2018: 8 (out of 12) requests submitted through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Requests were either for legal research & memo (4 requests) or translations (8 requests).

Topics of interest included submitting applications to the European Court of Human Rights (1 request), privacy & data retention (1 request), issues on copyright (1 request), statutory issues (1 request), comparative legal researches (1 request).

12
(out of 19)

Requests successfully
processed

Pro Bono Clearing House in 2018: NGOs & Law Firms

5 NGOs benefited from pro bono legal assistance: Croce Rossa Italiana, ASGI, CILD, Antigone, Osservatorio Nazionale di Criminologia .

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NGOs receiving pro bono assistance

The network of legal advice providers further grew to include law firms of all dimensions: Lajolo (4 requests), Orrick (2 requests), White&Case, Dike Legal, Legance (3 requests), Tosato, Shearman, Paul Hastings, Ashurst .

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Law firms providing pro bono assistance

What Pro Bono Did

NGOs

- have been assisted with campaign risk assessment and management.
- have been helped out to obtain legal personality or recognition as Onlus.
- have received advice on litigation.
- have received support in translations

One **individual** received support for a case involving a violation of fundamental rights.

38

Legal research & memos on a variety of matters have been produced.

31

Research and reports have been professionally translated for international divulgation.

... And There's Room to Grow!

There is still much that can be improved.
To start with...

NGOs

We need to involve **more and more NGOs**.
This requires:

- training events
- networking opportunities

This helps NGOs to get to know how pro bono works in theory and in practice.

MORE NGOs

awareness of pro bono
potential



Law Firms

At the same time, though, we need to involve **more and more Law Firms**.

This objective can be achieved by:

- getting out the word about pro bono
- addressing directly law firms and lawyers that are willing to provide pro bono assistance

**MORE
PEOPLE**

direct impact on
individuals

Thank you for your attention.

Let's stay in touch!

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