



International Judicial Relations



The Federal Judicial Center is the education and research agency for the U.S. federal courts. It was created by Congress in 1967 and operates under the guidance of a board chaired by the Chief Justice of the United States. The Center provides judicial branch education and conducts empirical studies and exploratory research into different aspects of judicial administration.

The International Judicial Relations (IJR) Office coordinates the Center's work with the judiciaries of other nations. Funding for the Center's international programs comes from U.S. government agencies or international organizations, or is self-funded by partner countries.

International Programs

The Center provides informational briefings and hosts thematic workshops for delegations of judges, attorneys, court personnel, and executive branch officials from different countries at its Washington, D.C. office. These sessions often include an introduction to the United States judicial system and information about the Center's educational and research activities. They also may address specific topics, such as alternative dispute resolution, case management, court administration, judicial ethics, and areas of substantive law and procedure.

At the invitation of foreign judiciaries and development organizations, Center staff travels abroad to undertake needs assessments, provide technical assistance, or participate in conferences. Over the years, the Center has collaborated with many countries, including Bulgaria, India, Jordan, Malaysia, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Singapore, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

The Center also delivers programs and consults with foreign partners virtually, using a range of technology platforms.

Each year, the IJR Office hosts a small number of independently funded judges, attorneys, and scholars who spend two weeks to three months at the Center as Visiting Fellows. Fellows conduct research on topics related to judicial and legal reforms under way in their home countries. Information about this program can be found at <https://www.fjc.gov/ijr/vf>.

The IJR Office assists other public agencies and private organizations with identifying federal judges and judiciary staff who have expertise appropriate to a specific international rule of law project. In responding to these requests, IJR often collaborates with the United States Judicial Conference Committee on International Judicial Relations and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

More Information

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