

# **CLEARING HOUSE REPORT 2015-2021**



## 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 43 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.

# 43

NGOs members

# 6

Areas of work

# Pro Bono Legal Advice via our Clearing House

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

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

The clearinghouse has successfully processed 151 + assistance requests.

# 6

Years as Clearing House  
for the Italian Pro Bono  
Network

# 151+

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 received 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 provided  
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 received  
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 provided 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.

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).

# 13

NGOs received  
pro bono assistance

# 15

Law firms provided  
pro bono assistance

## Pro Bono Clearing House in 2018: Requests

In 2018: 15 (out of 21) requests submitted through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Requests were either for legal research & memo (4 requests) or translations (10 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).

**15**  
**(out of 21)**

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 .

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, LCA, Ashurst .

# 5

NGOs received pro bono  
assistance

# 10

Law firms provided  
pro bono assistance

## Pro Bono Clearing House in 2019: Requests

In 2019: 36 (out of 41) requests submitted through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Requests were either for legal research & memo ( 14 requests) or translations (14 requests).

Topics of interest included Statuary issues (3 requests), GDPR Compliance (2 requests), human trafficking and labour exploitation (1 request), drugs legislation (1 request).

# 36

## (out of 41)

Requests successfully  
processed

## Pro Bono Clearing House in 2019: NGOs & Law Firms

13 NGOs benefited from pro bono legal assistance: ASGI, Antigone onlus, Save the Children, Associazione ADHD - AIFA Campania, Progetto Diritti, Associazione 21 luglio onlus, Associazione Donna Madre onlus, APS CREO MI Access info, ARCO, IRC, Cild, The Good Lobby.

The network of legal advice providers further grew to include law firms of all dimensions: Ashurst (5), Legance (4), Orrick (3), Alteregal (3), White&Case (2), Shearman & Sterling (3), Jacobacci (2), Albè&Associati, Lajolo, Lazzarini, STBLEX, Studio legale associato Quintavalle - Riva- Albano, Studio De Berti Jacchia Franchini Forlani, Clifford Chance, SZA, Zitiello Associati, Deja Lex.

# 13

NGOs received pro bono assistance

# 19

Law firms provided pro bono assistance

## Our Pro Bono Clearing House in 2020: NGOs and Individual Requests

As of December 2020: 18 (out of 23) requests submitted by NGOs through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Topics of interest included GDPR Compliance (5), COVID-19-related measures for NGOs (1), bylaws updates (1) and financial transparency (1).

The Clearing House also processed 12 (out of 22) individual requests. Topics of interest included Citizenship issues (1), passport issues (1), family legacy (2), legal separation (1), work allowance issue (1), eviction of property (1) and divorce (1). The balance of individual requests (10 out of 22) were outside of the Clearing House's scope of assistance.

# 18

## (out of 23)

NGOs received pro bono assistance

# 12

## (out of 22)

Individuals received pro bono assistance

## Our Pro Bono Clearing House in 2020: NGOs & Law Firms

10 NGOs & other civil society actors benefited from pro bono legal assistance:

Save The Children, ASGI, Cesvi Fondazione Onlus, Spazi Circolari, CILD, Antigone onlus, The Good Lobby, Risparmio, Sport Senza Frontiere onlus, AIFA Campania

The following practices/lawyers assisted us this year, including new providers who added to our network of legal providers (of all tiers):

Legance (5), Orrick (4), DLA Piper (2), Dike Legal (2), Hogan Lovells (2), Shearman & Sterling (2), Lazzarini (2), White & Case, Dentons, Dejalex, Macchi Gangemi, De Agostino, Balas (2), Ashurst, Tosato, Buiarelli, Freebly.

**10**

NGOs received pro bono assistance

**17**

Law firms provided pro bono assistance to NGOs and individuals

## Our Pro Bono Clearing House in 2021: NGOs and individual Requests

As of May 2021: **7 (out of 7) requests submitted by NGOs** through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Topics of interest included :

Access to legal aid for non-profit organisations, translation of publications on migration, translation of FOIA guidelines, translation of submissions to the *Corte dei Conti*, research on the risks faced by foreigners who benefit from the *Reddito di cittadinanza*, legal research on legislation against cyberbullying and legal assistance in setting up an association.

The Clearing House also processed **3 (out of 10) individual requests** concerning the compensation for the damage caused by the lack of custody of pets, amendment of a divorce decree and a case against a surveyor.

# 7

## (out of 7)

NGOs received pro bono assistance

# 3

## (out of 10)

Individuals received pro bono assistance. The balance were outside the Clearing House scope of assistance



## Our Pro Bono Clearing House in 2021: NGOs & Law Firms

5 NGOs & other civil society actors benefited from pro bono legal assistance:

ASGI, CILD, Italian Rescue Committee (IRC), Consultorio Familiare “Centro Assistenza alla Famiglia”, Progetto sociale XY+.

5

NGOs received pro bono assistance

The following practices/lawyers assisted us this year, including new providers who added to our network of legal providers (of all tiers):

Dentons, Orrick, Ashurst(2), Legance, Marchi, Spadaro, Gasparin, Gianni & Origoni, Quintavalle-Riva-Albano.

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Law firms provided pro bono assistance to NGOs and individuals

## ... And There's Room to Grow!

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

We need to involve **more and more NGOs**.

This requires, amongst other things, the provision of formative events and networking opportunities to help the NGOs to get to know how pro bono works in theory and in practice.

At the same time, though, another important step would be to reach **more and more people**.

This means getting the word out about pro bono but also increasing the amount of assistance provided directly to individuals.

### **MORE NGOs**

awareness of pro bono  
potential

### **MORE PEOPLE**

direct impact on  
individuals

# Thank you

Let's stay in touch!

Email: [probono@cild.eu](mailto:probono@cild.eu)

Twitter: [@Cild2014](https://twitter.com/Cild2014)

Facebook: Coalizione Italiana Libertà e Diritti Civili

Instagram: [Cilditalia](https://www.instagram.com/Cilditalia)