

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

NGO members

6

Areas of work

Pro Bono Legal Advice via our Clearing House

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

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

The Clearing House has successfully processed 155+ assistance requests.

6

Years as Clearing House
for the Italian Pro Bono
Network

155+

Requests successfully
processed

Our 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 & memos (8 requests) or translation (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

Our 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.

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

6

NGOs received pro bono
assistance

5

Law firms provided
pro bono assistance

Our 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 & memos (8 requests) or translation (7 requests).

Topics of interests included statutory issues (3 requests), 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), and anti-discrimination (1 request).

15
(out of 19)

Requests successfully
processed

Our 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 additional 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

Our Pro Bono Clearing House in 2017: Requests

In 2017 total requests grew steadily and 30 (out of 34) requests submitted through our Clearing House were successfully resolved.

Requests were either for legal research & memos (18 requests) or translation (12 requests).

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

30
(out of 34)

Requests successfully
processed

Our Pro Bono Clearing House in 2017: NGOs & Law Firms

A total of 13 NGOs benefited from pro bono legal assistance – more than ever before: 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 received
pro bono assistance

The network of legal advice providers similarly 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 provided
pro bono assistance

Our 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 & memos (4 requests) or translation (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) and comparative legal researches (1 request).

15
(out of 21)

Requests successfully
processed

Our 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, and Ashurst .

5

NGOs received pro bono
assistance

10

Law firms provided
pro bono assistance

Our 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 & memos (14 requests) or translation (14 requests).

Topics of interest included statutory 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

Our 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 and 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 Requests

As of November 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.

7
(out of 7)

NGOs received pro bono
assistance

Our Pro Bono Clearing House in 2021: Individual Requests

The Clearing House also processed **7 (out of 22) individual requests** concerning compensation for damage caused by the loss of custody of pets, the amendment of a divorce decree, a case against a surveyor, support with an asylum request, assistance for copyright infringement, legal assistance regarding a car-accident and a legal mediation.

7
(out of 22)

Individuals received pro
bono 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+.

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(2), Gianni & Origoni, Quintavalle-Riva-Albano, Folino, Dike.

5

NGOs received pro bono assistance

11

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

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

Facebook: Coalizione Italiana Libertà e Diritti Civili

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