



CCBE HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD 2022

Ukrainian Lawyer Nadia Volkova and the Ukrainian National Bar Association (UNBA) receive the CCBE Human Rights Award 2022

The CCBE decided to grant the CCBE Human Rights Award 2022 to both Ukrainian lawyer Nadia Volkova and the UNBA for their courage, determination and commitment to defending human rights and the rule of law in Ukraine. The CCBE President, James MacGuill SC, will present their awards during the **CCBE Plenary Session on Friday 25 November 2022** in Brussels. With this award, the CCBE wishes to highlight the important role that the legal profession plays for Ukrainian citizens in defending their fundamental rights. It will also demonstrate the need to preserve the integrity of the administration of justice and the rule of law, especially in times of war.

The purpose of the CCBE Human Rights Award is:

Highlighting the work of one or more lawyers or lawyers' organisations which have demonstrated outstanding commitment and sacrifice in upholding fundamental values. The award is granted to one or more lawyers or to a lawyers' organisation which have brought honour to the legal profession by upholding the highest values of professional and personal conduct in the field of human rights.



Journalists wishing to attend the CCBE Human Rights Award Ceremony, on Friday 25 November 2022, are invited to contact the Head of Communications.

Press Release



The CCBE President,
James MacGuill SC,
declared:

With this award, the CCBE wishes to highlight Nadia Volkova's continued outstanding commitment to the protection of human rights, both prior to and during the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, and to show its continuous support to the UNBA and the profession of lawyer in Ukraine for their continuous efforts to uphold the fundamental values of the profession, peace and the rule of law in times of war. We applaud our colleagues for everything they are doing for their community underscoring the responsibility we are honoured to have as lawyers.



The award winners

Nadia Volkova

- Nadia Volkova is a Ukrainian lawyer who has consistently combated human rights violations;
- She is the founder and director of the Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group (ULAG) in Kyiv;
- The ULAG joined an alliance of Ukrainian human rights organisations called the 5AM coalition devoted to documenting war crimes in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian National Bar Association

- The Ukrainian National Bar Association (UNBA) is the representative body that unites and represent all lawyers in Ukraine;
- Despite the fact that martial law has been imposed internally, the justice system in Ukraine still works, providing access to justice and to human rights, thanks to the work of the UNBA, the brave Ukrainian lawyers and judicial professionals.



Nadia Volkova has demonstrated a consistent pursuit of justice for survivors of crimes committed during armed conflict and has evidenced her commitment to upholding the rule of law, particularly during times of uncertainty and upheaval.



НАЦІОНАЛЬНА АСОЦІАЦІЯ
АДВОКАТІВ УКРАЇНИ

The UNBA showed significant solidarity for the suffering Ukrainian people during the current devastating situation. The UNBA continued to fulfil its missions by providing legal assistance to the citizens of Ukraine, in order to safeguard their fundamental rights as well as to strengthen the foundations of the rule of law in Ukraine in times of war.

More about the laureates

Nadia Volkova

Nadia Volkova is a Ukrainian lawyer who has consistently engaged in victim centred initiatives, from working with Amnesty International to combat human rights abuses in Ukraine, Russia, Moldova, Central Asia and South Caucasus, preparing court applications and representing victims of human rights violations before national courts and to the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR).

In addition, Nadia Volkova worked with the the Council of Europe on a number of occasions, including on the promotion, signing and ratifying of Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combatting violence against women and domestic violence, more widely known as the Istanbul Convention.

As the founder and director of the Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group (ULAG) in Kyiv which joined an alliance of Ukrainian human rights organisations called the 5AM coalition devoted to documenting war crimes in Ukraine, she has played a key role in assisting national courts and the International Criminal Court in their investigation of potential war crimes.

Nadia Volkova has demonstrated a consistent pursuit of justice for survivors of crimes committed during armed conflict and has evidenced her commitment to upholding the rule of law, particularly during times of uncertainty and upheaval.

The Ukrainian National Bar Association

The Ukrainian National Bar Association (UNBA) is the representative body that unites and represents all lawyers in Ukraine. The UNBA is also an observer member of the CCBE. With Ukraine receiving the status of a candidate for membership to the European Union, the UNBA received the opportunity to raise its status in the CCBE from an observer member to associate member status.

In this regard, the UNBA showed significant solidarity for the suffering Ukrainian people during the current devastating situation. The UNBA continued to fulfil its missions by providing legal assistance to the citizens of Ukraine, in order to safeguard their fundamental rights as well as to strengthen the foundations of the rule of law in Ukraine in times of war.

Despite the fact that martial law has been imposed internally, the justice system in Ukraine still works, providing access to justice and to human rights. This is an achievement that can be attributed mainly to the brave Ukrainian lawyers and judicial professionals who fight to maintain the rule of law under these extremely difficult circumstances.



More information about the UNBA's work available here.



More information about the initiatives taken by the CCBE and its members in reaction to the situation in Ukraine available here