

## [Leading international human rights advocates appointed to ISHR Board](#)

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(Geneva - 30 May 2013) – Three of the world’s leading human rights advocates have been appointed to the Board of the International Service for Human Rights.

**Sir Nicolas Bratza**, former President of the European Court of Human Rights, **Hina Jilani**, former UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders, and **Egbert Myjer**, former judge of the European Court of Human Rights, each take up their three year appointments in June.

‘We are delighted that three such eminent human rights advocates have agreed to take up leadership roles with the International Service for Human Rights,’ said Mehr Khan Williams, Chair of the ISHR Board and former Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights.

‘Around the world we bear witness to unprecedented attacks and reprisals against human rights defenders and an expansion of laws restricting the work of NGOs. In this context, ISHR’s work to support human rights defenders and strengthen human rights systems has never been more important. Together with existing Board members, Hina Jilani, Sir Nicolas Bratza and Egbert Myjer will play a strategic leadership role and guide and support the work of ISHR’s exceptional staff,’ she said.



**Hina Jilani** (Pakistan) is a human rights lawyer and one of the world’s pre-eminent human rights defenders. She established Pakistan’s first all-women’s law firm in 1981, the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan in 1987 and served as the UN Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders from 2000 to 2008. In 2000, Ms Jilani was honoured with the Amnesty International Genetta Sagan Award for Women’s Rights. She also served as a member of the UN International Fact-Finding Commission on [Darfur](#), Sudan and the UN Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict.



**Egbert Myjer** (The Netherlands) was a judge of the European Court of Human Rights from 2004 to 2012 and previously the Chief-Advocate General in Amsterdam. Mr Meyjer is a Professor of Human Rights Law, a Commissioner with the International Commission of Jurists, and a Board member of Amnesty International in The Netherlands. In 2001 he received the Medal of Merit of the Council of Europe for his contribution to human rights education and, in 2012, Mr Myjer was made a Commander of the Order of Orange-Nassau.



**Sir Nicolas Bratza** (United Kingdom) is the former President of the European Court of Human Rights and served as a judge of that court from 1998 to 2012. From 1993 to 1998 he was the United Kingdom Member of the European Commission of Human Rights. He was appointed as Queen’s Counsel in 1988 and, with over 40 years’ experience in public and international law, is widely regarded as one of the world’s leading human rights lawyers and jurists. Sir Nicolas is also President of the British Institute of Human Rights.

The **International Service for Human Rights** is an independent, non-government organisation dedicated to promoting and protecting human rights. Since its establishment in 1984, ISHR has played a major role in developing and strengthening international and regional human rights systems and supporting human rights defenders who use those systems to achieve change. ISHR has offices in Geneva and New York.

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