The CEELI Institute is an independent, not-for-profit, international provider of post-graduate, professional legal education headquartered in Prague, Czech Republic.

The CEELI Institute advances the rule of law in the world by using its state-of-the-art residential facility in Prague as its base for innovative, proven approaches to building and sustaining law-based societies. Our professional, interactive training of lawyers, judges, and other supporters of the rule of law is dedicated to supporting governments that are committed to integrity, transparency, and accountability, judiciaries that are independent, fair, and incorruptible, and legal systems that protect and preserve fundamental human rights and individual liberty.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leadership Message</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Impact</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Villa Reborn</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STRENGTHENING JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE AND INTEGRITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Conference of Chief Justices of Central and Eastern Europe</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central &amp; Eastern European Judicial Exchange Network</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Judges Complete Manual on Judicial Independence</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia: Building an Independent Judiciary</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIGHTING CORRUPTION</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intensive Anti-Corruption Training Programs for Prosecutors, Investigators and Judges</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fighting Corruption in Tunisia</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUILDING LEGAL SKILLS AND CAPACITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEELI Continues Skills Training Programs for Burma’s Young Lawyers</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORTING CIVIL SOCIETY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights Lawyers’ Respite and Sabbatical Program</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 25th Anniversary Reunion</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEELI CONVENES</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Villa Grebovka</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEELI Institute Staff</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEELI Institute Contributors</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEELI Institute Boards &amp; Management</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What’s in a Name: We are often asked, “What does CEELI stand for?” Our acronym reflects our roots and our history: “CEELI” stands for the Central and Eastern European Law Initiative (CEELI) project, started by the American Bar Association (ABA) in 1990 shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall. The CEELI project intended to advance the rule of law by assisting the law reform process in the aspiring democracies of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. More than 5,000 American lawyers, judges, and legal scholars, as well as distinguished professionals from Canada and Europe, served without pay as CEELI volunteers in more than 30 countries and provided nearly $190 million in pro bono legal services and assistance. Today, the CEELI Institute proudly carries on that legacy, not just in Central and Eastern Europe, but throughout the world.

Participants at the CEELI organized judicial conference in Zadar, Croatia in September 2015
This was an extraordinary year for the CEELI Institute. We conducted a record number of events (over 50) both at the Villa Grebovka in Prague, and at off-site locations in Burma, Croatia, and Tunisia. We doubled our staff. We initiated a host of new programs and initiatives. We received a number of new grants and project funding from a variety of new sources, including the National Endowment for Democracy, the Oak Foundation, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

In Prague this summer, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the creation of original American Bar Association/Central and East European Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) project, and the 15th anniversary of the creation of the CEELI Institute. The anniversary events offered an excellent opportunity to reflect both on the many efforts undertaken by CEELI and the Institute to advance and strengthen the rule of law, in this region and around the world, but also to look forward to the work that still remains to be done, and to continue to strategize for the future.

We will continue to apply the many lessons learned from the CEELI experience, as we continue to strive to implement the rule of law around the globe.

Perhaps most significantly for the future of the Institute, we also made the final payments to Skanska a.s. for our construction debt for the renovations to the Villa Grebovka, and we similarly satisfied our remaining bank debt for those renovations. This ensures a sound financial footing for the CEELI Institute and guarantees our ability to vigorously conduct programs for decades to come here in Prague.

The multi-year renovation and restoration project to return the Villa Grebovka to its original condition and physical stature, as well as to modernize the Villa for use as a multipurpose conference and residential center, resulted in a beautifully restored, world-class facility. It provides the Institute with a unique and unparalleled ability to offer quality programs.

At the core of our mission, as always, lies our dedication to advancing the rule of law. Our goals remain clear, as we continue to strive to:

• protect and preserve fundamental human rights and liberties
• strengthen judiciaries that are independent, incorruptible, fair, and accessible
• support integrity, transparency, and accountability in governments and governmental authorities
• provide recourse and remedies should governments exceed or abuse their powers, fail to abide by their international obligations, or themselves choose to undermine the rule of law

We look forward to your continued support for our efforts, as we carry forward the CEELI legacy into our second quarter century of work.

Homer E. Moyer, Jr.
Founder and Chairman of the Board, The CEELI Institute

LEADERSHIP
MESSAGE

T

A YEAR OF
GROWTH AND OUTREACH

over 50 programs
The CEELI Institute conducted over 50 individual programs worldwide

more than 1100 participants
CEELI engaged more than 1,100 program participants from 40 different countries

over 160 faculty
CEELI enlisted the help of over 160 volunteer instructors from 20 different countries

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED IN
Burma, Croatia, Czech Republic, Tunisia

PARTICIPANTS/FACULTY
Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Georgia, Hungary, India, Israel, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the UAE, the UK, Ukraine, Singapore, USA
A Villa Reborn

2015 was a landmark year for the CEELI Institute, as we retired our debts to Skanska, the multinational construction firm which had undertaken the multi-year renovation of the Villa Grebovka, and to Ceska Sporitelna, the Czech bank that had helped finance that work.

The challenging renovation and restoration project undertaken by Skanska brought the Villa Grebovka back to life for use as a multipurpose conference and residential center. Skanska’s work necessarily combined painstaking attention to the preservation of the unique historical features of the 150 year old Italian Renaissance revival structure, while ensuring that the building could also meet the functional demands of a modern, state of the art conference facility. Today, the Villa beautifully fulfills its potential, as it annually plays host to hundreds of events, and thousands of guests. The CEELI Institute remains deeply grateful to Skanska for its work and for its support for our mission to advance the rule of law in this region and across the globe.
THE CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES OF CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

In 2007, the CEELI Institute helped launch the Conference of Chief Justices of Central & Eastern Europe, which brings together the senior judges from the region’s highest courts to share and develop strategies and best practices to promote judicial integrity and accountability, to improve court management and to combat corruption in the courts. The CEELI Institute’s efforts have supported the work of the Conference of Chief Justices of Central and Eastern Europe since its inception.

The Conference was launched at the CEELI Institute in Prague, with support from the U.S. Department of State, and with personal involvement and commitment of United States Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts and Associate Justice Sandra Day O’Connor. The Conference is now a self-sustaining body that meets annually in one of the countries represented. The Conference continues to flourish and since its inception has rotated between member states, each year hosted by a Chief Justice from a different country. Conferences over the past several years have been hosted by Chief Justices from Albania (2012), Montenegro (2013), the Republic of Georgia (2014), and, most recently, Croatia (2015).

The CEELI Institute continues to provide guidance and expertise to the Conference through CEELI Institute Board member, Judge John M. Walker, former Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Judge Walker also enlisted the support of Judge Clifford J. Wallace, former Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, whose extensive experience includes establishing a similar conference for the countries of Asia and the Pacific. Both judges, who are active in rule of law development, have an on-going role in supporting and advising the Conference on behalf of the Institute.

The 2015 Conference was hosted by the Supreme Court of Croatia, in October, at the seaside Croatian town of Brijuni. Notably, this year’s session saw the signing by the assembled judges from the Supreme Courts of 16 participating countries from the region of a landmark Statement of Principles of the Independence of the Judiciary (known now as the Brijuni Statement). The Brijuni Statement represents the culmination of three years of work by the Justices. It reaffirms the fundamental principles of judicial independence and integrity, and adds to the body of international instruments that recognize that true judicial independence, both institutional and individual, is indispensable to the successful functioning of the judiciary under the rule of law.

“The Brijuni Statement represents the unwavering commitment by the Judiciaries of Central and Eastern Europe to the rule of law, and to a shared belief in judicial independence.”
Branko Hvratin, President, Supreme Court of Croatia

“The implementation and protection of all rights depends on the existence of a competent, independent, and impartial judiciary.”

A copy of the Brijuni Statement is available on the CEELI Institute website at www.ceeliinstitute.org, and we will be printing hard copy versions for distribution to the participating courts. The original, signed copies of the Brijuni Statement will continue to be preserved and maintained by the Supreme Court of Croatia.
The judges are exceptionally committed to the ongoing efforts of the Network, and have largely directed the efforts and focus of the Network themselves. Among their signature projects is the development of a Manual on Independence, Impartiality and Integrity of Justice: A Thematic Compilation of International Standards, Policies and Best Practices. The idea for the Manual was first conceptualized by the Network Advisory Board judges in 2014, and represents a systematic effort to survey relevant international standards applicable to the judiciary. The judges first undertook a comprehensive review of 130 relevant international documents, and then organized relevant standards according to thematic areas. The Manual provides easily accessible, substantive legal support for issues related to the status, work, rights, and responsibilities of judges. For example, Section II.8 of the Manual assembles all relevant international standards which establish and clarify the principle of judicial independence in the administration of justice. Judges needing to justify their role in administration can quickly access the necessary underlying legal support.

The Manual constitutes an easy-to-use reference tool to facilitate day-to-day work of judges both in the region and worldwide. It is particularly useful in societies still undergoing transitions, and where the judiciaries are still struggling to assert and establish their full independence. The Manual represents an extraordinary commitment of time and effort by the Network judges who participated in this project. They undertook extensive independent research and editing, coming together periodically at the Institute to coordinate and collaborate on their work. We are deeply indebted to them for their commitment, skill, and insight both in the conceptualization and actualization of this project.

This project has been made possible through the support of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) at the U.S. Department of State.

The CEELI Institute is now in its fourth year of support for the Central and East European Judicial Exchange Network, comprised of some of the best and brightest young judges from eighteen countries in the region who have come together to share best practices on issues of judicial independence, integrity, accountability, and court management. In June, the CEELI Institute hosted the Network’s fourth annual Roundtable in Prague. This year’s roundtable looked at current challenges faced by the judiciary in Network member states and considered appropriate efforts to promote and strengthen judicial independence and accountability. Particular attention was given to the issues of independence and separation of powers, protection for judges from removal without cause, and public pressures on judges.
STRENGTHENING JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE AND INTEGRITY

TUNISIA
BUILDING AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY

Since 2012 our work has brought us to Tunisia where the CEELI Institute is part of an extraordinary effort to train and mentor over one thousand Tunisian judges on issues of judicial independence, judicial accountability, and the role of a judge in a democracy. Funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), and working in partnership with the International Legal Assistance Consortium (ILAC) and the International Bar Association (IBA), this program brings together judges from all ranks and courts in Tunisia to bimonthly trainings designed to improve professional skills, and to build the public’s confidence in the judiciary.

The bi-monthly programs run by the CEELI Institute and the IBA each consist of approximately 30 judges. The course stresses the leadership role courts play in society, the importance of judicial independence, and political issues of leadership. Consistent with these ideas, the course provides training in a variety of areas, including the role of a judge in a democratic society, tools required to make courts fair and efficient, judicial independence, ethics, relations with the public and with other branches of government, court administration, human rights principles, and transparency in procedure and decisions. Tunisian participants in the course report the immediate positive impact the training has had on their work on matters such as ethical principles and preparation of judicial decisions.

This course is led by the CEELI Institute’s Director of Special Projects, Joel Martin, together with other rotating faculty. Faculty members brought to Tunis have been both U.S. Federal District and Appeals Court judges, a former Chief Justice of Sweden’s Supreme Administrative Court, the President of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, justices from the High Court in Prague, and judges from a host of courts throughout Central & Eastern Europe.

In 2015, we concluded the first phase of the trainings and will continue with targeted follow-up sessions for selected judges in 2016.

CROATIA
CEELI INSTITUTE CO-SPONSORS NETWORK WORKSHOP WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF CROATIAN JUDGES

The CEELI Institute organized a regional program in cooperation with the Association of Croatian Judges, held in Zadar, Croatia, in September 2015. Participants included mid-career judges from throughout the region who have been actively participating in the ongoing INL-funded Judicial Network project being implemented by the CEELI Institute. The program focused on issues of continuing importance to judges in the region, particularly new mechanisms for the performance evaluation of judges, and issues related to the ethical conduct of judges. Ethical issues are presenting an increasing number of practical challenges for judges in the region, and include prohibitions on outside activities, clarifications of conflicts of interest, and new obligations to make declarations of assets, income, liabilities and personal interests.

The program also examined issues relating to the role of national first instance judges in interpreting and applying the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The discussion looked at the ECHR system from the perspective of a national judge, and examined issues such as whether national judges are sufficiently informed on the ECHR case-law developments; the complexity of questions related to the direct adjudication of human rights issues in national judicial practice, and the extent to which there is harmony of the “European constitutional order” in domestic contexts.

Judge Branko Hrvatin, President of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia, opened the conference. CEELI was able to organize extensive cost sharing for this program, with costs being underwritten by the CEELI Institute (through INL grant support), the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Association of Croatian Judges, and the Zadar Provincial Government.
Due to high demand, the CEELI Institute conducted two sessions this year of our highly acclaimed training program on "Investigating and Prosecuting Official Corruption." The program brings together an extraordinary faculty line-up consisting of some of the world’s most experienced anti-corruption prosecutors, forensic accountants, and practitioners.

The CEELI Institute anti-corruption program is designed as a highly interactive training which walks participants through the actual investigation of a case involving official corruption in the public procurement process. Participants work in small groups to develop their own investigation strategy, learning to use time-tested investigative tools along the way, and ultimately making a recommendation to the larger conference on whether this was a case they would pursue to prosecution or not. The course is designed to develop and improve practical skills as the participants pursue the investigation, augmented by expert guidance and instruction.

The CEELI Institute’s puts great emphasis on designing and conducting programs that use case-based, interactive curricula. Using practical case scenarios as a learning tool demands that participants take an active role in the workshop. With each session, participants are presented with additional facts and legal obstacles to
confront and overcome as the fact pattern becomes more complicated. Participants start with a few red flags, indicating a possible case involving corrupt activities. They work in small teams to pursue their investigation. The case studies are designed to expose participants to all aspects of an investigation - initial allegations or suspicions, preliminary inquiries, development of an investigation plan, collection and analysis of documentary materials, forensic accounting analysis, interviews of witnesses and targets, and preparation for trial or other disposition. The use of a case scenario as a teaching tool allows the participants to form close bonds as they are exposed to new approaches in the investigation and prosecution of complex high level corruption cases. The case scenario is supported by relevant faculty presentations on key topics. Our highly experienced faculty provide mentoring to the small groups, as well as one-on-one mentoring throughout the program.

This year’s program drew together investigators and prosecutors from a number of countries in the region, and beyond, including Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Liberia, Moldova, Slovakia, Serbia, Singapore, Tunisia, and Ukraine. Participants were funded by a number of donors interested in promoting anti-corruption efforts, especially as official corruption has emerged as one of the most prevalent and pernicious threats to the rule of law around the world. Sponsors included the US Department of Justice, UNDP, the State Department’s INL Bureau, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), USAID funded projects, and various US embassies in the region.

A third session of the course was also custom designed and delivered this year at the special request of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) for delegations from Moldova and Ukraine.

FIGHTING CORRUPTION

IN TUNISIA

In 2015, the CEELI Institute continued its multi-year program to provide support and training to work on investigating and enforcing anti-corruption activities. The INLUCC, under the capable leadership of internationally renowned Tunisian lawyer, Samir Annabi, is charged with leading Tunisia’s anti-corruption efforts, both as the agency with lead responsibility for pursuing the investigation and prosecution of public corruption cases, and for coordinating efforts of a broad cross section of other Tunisian government agencies with responsibilities for combating corruption. The CEELI Institute’s efforts are designed to support the INLUCC as it takes on its role as the lead body coordinating the Tunisian government’s response to public corruption, as well as to support INLUCC staff in identifying and investigating cases involving both official and commercial corruption. With funding from the Swedish International Development Agency and in partnership with the International Legal Assistance Consortium, the CEELI Institute’s program is designed to assist Tunisian stakeholders in their efforts to identify and investigate corruption, and to build cases for prosecution.

This year’s programs again brought together representatives from a wide range of Tunisian stakeholders agencies with anti-corruption responsibilities, including the Tunisian Anti-Corruption Agency, the Finance Ministry, and the High Commission for Administrative and Financial Control. Training addressed issues such as using forensic accounting tools to fight against corruption, and addressing corruption in the public procurement process. Participants were familiarized with strategies employed for the investigation and prosecution of international anti-corruption efforts, with emphasis on how to identify, acquire, and preserve relevant information for investigation; on the use of forensic accounting tools; and on new trends in computer forensics.

Working in close coordination with INLUCC, the CEELI Institute is currently preparing future trainings on various other topics, including corruption and fraud in the conduct of public procurements, government licensing, and customs operations.

BUILDING LEGAL SKILLS AND CAPACITY

CEELE CONTINUES SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR BURMA’S YOUNG LAWYERS

The CEELI Institute has undertaken an exciting but challenging effort to assist Burmese lawyers as their society begins its transition towards implementation of the rule of law. Since 2013, we have been working closely with the Myanmar Lawyer’s Network (MLN), a national grassroots association that was organized to provide pro bono legal services to indigent communities, as well as provide professional development and support services for its own members.

In 2015, a special effort was made to use this year’s training sessions (in May and December) to provide more direct support to grassroots lawyers in the regions outside of the main cities, resulting in trainings held in the regional cities of Pathein, Taunggyi, Loikaw, and Mawlamyine for the first time. The training curriculum is primarily designed to provide practical skills development on matters such as case development and organization, the use of relevant legal materials in support of legal arguments, and basic advocacy skills. The program also addresses the changing political and legislative environment in Burma, the parallels with similar experiences in Central and Eastern Europe, and what these changes mean for the legal profession. The CEELI Institute is also engaged in mentoring a small cadre of dedicated MLN trainers, helping to prepare talented young lawyers to act as trainers in their own communities. Special efforts are made to include participants from rural regions of Burma, where lawyers traditionally have little opportunity for training or peer development, despite having to bravely persevere under the most challenging conditions.

The MLN fills important gaps, both in helping otherwise disenfranchised parts of society access needed legal services, and in training and mentoring young lawyers in a country where there is little access to professional support. Cases that the MLN members take on include some of the most prominent recent human rights cases, such as the group of students jailed in spring 2015 for participating in peaceful protests, and the journalists jailed for their reporting in summer 2014. The MLN is also active in the representation of poor village communities trying to assert legal claims to the lands they have farmed for centuries—which also typically involves fighting off attempted “land grabbing” by officials and their cronies. Other cases involve human rights and human trafficking.

The need for trainings and education and the lawyers’ enthusiasm are vast. With support from the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and in close partnership with Burma Center Prague, the CEELI Institute is assisting the MLN through a series of training and program development efforts.
The CEELI Institute is organizing a wide range of workshops for lawyers and civil society representatives from Ukraine and other Eurasian countries, focusing on mechanisms for enhancing government accountability to civil society, strengthening the public’s capacity to demand transparent government, and supporting efforts of lawyers engaged in representing and defending NGOs and journalists. The program is designed to support civic-minded organizations in their efforts to access and obtain public information, to undertake public oversight activities, and to use such information to conduct advocacy campaigns, investigative efforts, and legal actions aimed at increasing government accountability. The program puts particular emphasis on developing capacity to successfully request and obtain public source records from government sources, and to use that information in creative public information campaigns designed to present public information in clear and accessible formats.

The program also aims to provide support for lawyers who are defending such NGO efforts, often against increasing public pressures, both on their clients and on the lawyers themselves. CEELI Institute work is also designed to bolster technical legal skills and assist in developing effective litigation strategies.

**SUPPORTING CIVIL SOCIETY**

**THIS YEAR:**

- Ongoing training and support on media law for lawyers active in defending Ukrainian journalists and bloggers who, despite recent reforms in the country, continue to suffer from a variety of legal and governmental restrictions on their activities. The programs gathered participants from across Ukrainian regions, as well as a diverse faculty from Russia, Ukraine, the US, and the Czech Republic. The workshops addressed challenges faced under current Ukrainian media legislation, with reference to comparative media legislation from other relevant countries, and enabled practitioners to share practical experiences from the courtroom. The support and protection provided by Ukrainian lawyers for journalists, bloggers, and media in Ukraine is critical to the larger anti-corruption efforts now underway in the country, and will ultimately contribute to the creation of more transparent and well-functioning public institutions in this critical phase for Ukraine.

- In partnership with the Kyiv-based Ukrainian Center for Civil Liberties (a grassroots organization which came to the forefront of Ukrainian civil society for their work during the Maidan uprisings of 2013-14) we are training a network of Ukrainian citizens engaged in monitoring the conduct of law enforcement agencies, courts, and local government throughout the country. The ongoing project, named “OZON” to signify its aim of promoting transparency, brings together regional leaders from across Ukraine to study best practices for projects promoting government accountability. This year’s effort focused particularly on communication strategies, including the development of useful and tangible reports as part of an accountability campaign, and effective communication of their efforts to the public and media. Participants examined other successful public monitoring campaigns, including a similar high profile court monitoring project in Georgia that has been run successfully for the past 7 years.

**Human Rights Lawyers’ Respite and Sabbatical Program**

This year, the CEELI Institute launched a new program designed to provide respite and sabbatical opportunities in residence at the Institute for human rights lawyers working under stressful and challenging conditions in their home countries. Our program is designed to help mitigate the damaging effect of the severe stress and untenable workloads carried by many among the community of human rights lawyers. Often working in hostile and authoritarian environments, these lawyers work tirelessly to defend their clients – often at great risk to themselves and their families. Participants in the program have included lawyers working on difficult cases of human rights abuse, and those defending NGOs and civil society activists, who came for short-to-medium term stays of up to three months. The specifics of each sabbatical are tailored to the individual needs of the participating lawyers.

Ambassador William R. Brownfield, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, speaks at the CEELI Institute in July 2015.
Throughout 2015, the CEELI Institute was pleased to work with a cross section of diverse implementing organizations to host a wide variety of events devoted to fighting corruption and to advancing the principles of the rule of law, human rights, and democracy. These included:

- An evening roundtable commemorating the Soviet Mass Deportations from the Baltic States, organized in cooperation with the Embassies of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.
- A two-day forum on Eliminating Corruption and Promoting Economic Development in Ukraine sponsored by the U.S. Department of State (INL Bureau), the Rule of Law Collaborative (Justice Sector Training, Research and Coordination-JustRAC) at the University of South Carolina, and the CEELI Institute. The program brought together policy makers, government officials, business leaders, civil society representatives, and academics to discuss challenges posed in Ukraine by endemic corruption, as well as to explore opportunities for greater coordination and collaboration.
- Non-Conviction Based Confiscation & Asset Management, a program for Lebanese Judges and Central Bank officials, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Participants from across the Czech Republic, and focused particularly on the process of signing and ratification of international human rights conventions by Central and Eastern European countries, including the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

- A roundtable with Burmese journalists and human rights defenders on the Future of Democracy for Burma, sponsored by Burma Center Prague and the CEELI Institute, Where’s Burma heading?
- Screening of the film Goodbye Tibet, as part of the Festival Pro Tibet.
- Journey: A Journalism Bootcamp for university students, sponsored by the Bakala Foundation, Prague.
- Screening of the documentary film Stopover, about the status of refugees in Europe, shown as part of the One World Film Festival for the Future of Democracy for Burma, a joint program with the International Foundation for Election Systems.
- Journalism: Social Innovation Camp sponsored by the Czech NGO People in Need.
- Screening of the film Where’s Burma, sponsored by Burma Center Prague.
- Women’s Initiative Fellows Program, George W. Bush Presidential Center.
- International Human Rights Obligations of Post-Communist Countries, organized by the CEELI Institute in partnership with the Law Faculty of Masaryk University in Brno and the Czech Institute for European and Comparative Law. The conference was attended by almost 100 professional

Throughout this summer, the CEELI Institute and the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) joined together for a very special meeting in Prague, at the Villa Grebovka, to mark the 25th anniversary of the creation of the original American Bar Association/Central and East European Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) project. ABA/CEELI, founded in 1990, was the forerunner for both of the current organizations. The meeting also marked the 15th anniversary of the creation of the CEELI Institute. The occasion brought together many CEELI and ROLI alumni, and others who have been prominent supporters of our efforts. The festivities were kicked off with a special video greeting from Homer E. Moyer, Jr., Sandy D’Alemberte, and Mark Ellis—who constituted the original team behind CEELI.

The Reunion was an inspirational event, as we reflected on a quarter century of efforts to advance and strengthen the Rule of Law, in this region and around the world. It was gratifying that we were able to gather so many of the CEELI founders and former liaisons, most of whom remain deeply involved in this work. Over 70 people attended the entire three day event as we grappled with substantive issues such as the regional rise of illiberalism, the challenges of judging in the 21st century, and the insidious ways in which corruption undermines the rule of law. The 25th anniversary event offered a special opportunity for reflection and stock taking on the progress in implementing the rule of law, both in this region and around the globe, as well as an opportunity to look at the many lessons learned from the CEELI experience.
The CEELI Institute is housed in the historic Villa Grebovka, nestled above a vineyard in the heart of Prague, Czech Republic. The spacious Villa is a Czech national historic building that dates back to 1871. In a unique partnership, the CEELI Institute has leased the Villa from the city of Prague 2 for 50 years. In return, the Institute has renovated the building back to its original splendor.

The CEELI Institute completed the Villa’s transformation into a state-of-the-art conference and residential center in June 2008. The renovations were made possible with a seed grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development and key financial support from individuals and corporations, including the construction firm SKANSKA (Czech Republic), which also served as general contractor. In 2014, the city of Prague 2 completed its own stunning renovation of the surrounding park which serves as the setting for the Villa.

In addition to its substantial classroom and function space, the Villa has a residential capacity for 44 guests, and an on-site dining facility. All Villa facilities are fully handicap accessible.

The CEELI Institute frequently opens its doors to the surrounding community and to Prague’s not-for-profit community for a wide range of programs and events. This year’s activities included jazz and classical concerts, documentary film screenings, architectural tours, and theatre productions, all of which brought the community into the Villa. Larger events included the City of Prague 2’s annual wine festival, educational programs, and several gourmet food festivals. The Villa and surrounding park are also becoming increasingly popular for use as film sets; 2015 saw a number of feature film productions and marquis stars at the Villa.
**CEELI INSTITUTE STAFF**

**Christopher Lehmann – Executive Director**

Christopher Lehmann is the Executive Director of the CEELI Institute in Prague. He previously served as the Deputy Special Director of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Criminal Division and supervised all criminal justice programs throughout the world. He also served as Special Advisor to the Deputy Attorney General for Europe and Eurasian Programs, where he managed EUPOL and PEP fronts and oversaw staff in the design, implementation and management of justice sector programs worldwide. He was also charged with leading the Special Regional Director for Europe & Eurasian Programs and led EUPOL programs in Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, and Moldova.

**Jennifer Gaspar – Director, Development and Public Outreach**

Ms. Gaspar has more than 15 years of experience in NGO management, including work in Russia, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. She was a trial attorney in the Section of International Law at the U.S. Embassy in the Republic of Lithuania, and as a legal advisor to the International Trade and Development Group at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. She received her J.D. from Columbia Law School and a B.A. degree from the University of Wisconsin.

**Iván Blázek – Finance and Administration Manager**

Mr. Blázek began working for CEELI in October 2015. He received his Master’s degree in International Public and Diplomatic Law at the University of Economics in Prague and has several years of experience working for an international NGO as financial manager.

**Jana Solová – Head Accountant**

Ms. Solová joined the CEELI Institute in September 2014. She previously worked as the head accountant for several global companies incorporated in international structures. Ms. Solová earned a Master’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Economics in Prague.

**Marta Weresnyk – Financial Consultant**

Ms. Weresnyk joined CEELI in 2015 and continues to consult with the Finance team, providing administration support for program development and implementation. She has worked in several NGOs as a financial manager and project coordinator. Ms. Weresnyk received her Master’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Economics in Prague.

**Jitka Babičková – Junior Accountant**

Ms. Babičková joined the CEELI Institute in October 2015. Previously, she worked as a financial assistant for a multinational accounting company. Ms. Babičková has a Master’s degree in Finance from the University of D. Seda in Zlín.

**PROGRAM DEPARTMENT**

**Marc Svoboda – Director of Programs**

Mr. Svoboda joined Programs at the CEELI Institute in December 2013. He previously worked as the Head of the Human Rights Program at the largest NGO in the Czech Republic, People in Need, in Prague. Mr. Svoboda managed a portfolio of programs focused on supporting politically persecuted individuals in repressive environments and on providing assistance to civil society groups in countries such as Burma, Cuba, and Russia. Mr. Svoboda worked at the U.S. Embassy in Prague on an NGO coordination. He holds a Master’s degree from the University of Economics in Prague.

**Joel Martin – Director for Special Projects**

As Director of Special Projects, Joel Martin manages the special projects carried out by CEELI. After a 25-year career as a trial lawyer and law professor, Joel joined CEELI as Executive Director of the CEELI Institute from 2006 and again from 2013 to 2016. Between his first and second terms at CEELI he worked on international legal education projects in Central Asia, South Africa, and the West Bank. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School and the University of Chicago Law School.

**Barbara Jungová – Program Officer**

Program Officer Barbara Jungová joined the CEELI Institute in February 2015. She previously worked on human rights and development cooperation issues within the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs where she was head of the Transition Promotions Programme. In that capacity, she worked on programs activities of the MFA with a focus on the exchanges of the Czech transitional experience. She previously worked for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) again with a focus on sharing the Czech experiences with democratisation and socio-economic transformation. She has a Master’s in Public Administration from Masaryk University in Brno and speaks English and French.

**Jiří Doležel – Program Officer**

Program Officer Jiří Doležel joined the CEELI Institute in November 2011. He has several years of experience in hospitality and event management. He graduated from the Academy of Commerce and Economics and the International College of Tourism and Hotel Management.

**Simona Trázníková – Residence Manager**

Ms. Trázníková began working for the CEELI Institute in May 2007. She is responsible for managing CEELI’s facilities and providing the best support for program development and implementation. Ms. Trázníková has experience in hotel management and degrees from the Academy of Commerce and Economics and the International College of Tourism and Hotel Management.

**Jindřich Moldava – Associate Assistant Residence Manager**

Mr. Moldava joined the CEELI Institute in November 2011. He has several years of experience in hospitality and event management. He previously worked as a Lieutenant and Event Manager in the hotel industry.

**Economics Members**

Ms. Jitka Bařinová joined the CEELI Institute from 2001 to 2004 and again from 2012 to 2017. Between his first and second terms at CEELI he worked on international legal education projects in Central Asia, South Africa, and the West Bank. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School and the University of Chicago Law School.

**Barbora Jungová – Program Officer**

Program Officer Barbora Jungová joined the CEELI Institute in February 2015. She previously worked on human rights and development cooperation issues within the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs where she was head of the Transition Promotions Programme. In that capacity, she worked on programs activities of the MFA with a focus on the exchanges of the Czech transitional experience. She previously worked for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) again with a focus on sharing the Czech experiences with democratisation and socio-economic transformation. She has a Master’s in Public Administration from Masaryk University in Brno and speaks English and French.

**Jiří Doležel – Program Officer**

Program Officer Jiří Doležel joined the CEELI Institute in November 2011. He has several years of experience in hospitality and event management. He graduated from the Academy of Commerce and Economics and the International College of Tourism and Hotel Management.

**Simona Trázníková – Residence Manager**

Ms. Trázníková began working for the CEELI Institute in May 2007. She is responsible for managing CEELI’s facilities and providing the best support for program development and implementation. Ms. Trázníková has experience in hotel management and degrees from the Academy of Commerce and Economics and the International College of Tourism and Hotel Management.

**Jindřich Moldava – Associate Assistant Residence Manager**

Mr. Moldava joined the CEELI Institute in November 2011. He has several years of experience in hospitality and event management. He previously worked as a Lieutenant and Event Manager in the hotel industry.

**CEELI INSTITUTE CONTRIBUTORS**

**Patrons - $250,000 and Above**

Mary and David Eizen, C. Brandon Gray, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Mascula Corporation, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Nichols, Pflueg, Inc., The Open Foundation

**Benefits - $50,000 to $249,999**


**Supporters - $10,000 to $49,999**


**Grants**

Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs

International Legal Assistance Consortium

U.S. Department of State

Natalie Endowment for Democracy

International Bar Association

Swedish International Development Agency

CONTRIBUTORS

David Cohen

Judith Chirlin

Kermit Bye

Orna Bresler

Brassler & Associates

Jagvinder Brar

Harold Bonacquist

Cindy A. Bodin

Harriet Babbitt

American-Czech Chamber of Commerce

Kathryn Ainsworth

Lawrence Mendelson, C. Boyden Gray, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Microsoft Corporation, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Nichols, Pflueg, Inc., The Open Foundation

In-Kind Contributors

Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs

International Legal Assistance Consortium

U.S. Department of State

Natalie Endowment for Democracy

International Bar Association

Swedish International Development Agency
CEELI INSTITUTE

MANAGEMENT BOARD
- Prof. Vladimíra Dvořáková, Professor of Political Science, University of Economics, Prague, President of the Accreditation Commission
- Judge Ivana Hrdličkova, President of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, The Hague
- Homer E. Moyer, Jr. [Chair], Miller & Chevalier, founder of the CEELI Institute
- John Mullen, Senior Advisor, McLarty Associates
- Quinn O’Keefe [Vice-Chair], Washington Representative, International Legal Assistance Consortium
- Joel Martin, Former Executive Director, the CEELI Institute

FRIENDS OF THE CEELI INSTITUTE
- Homer E. Moyer, Jr. [Chair], Miller & Chevalier, founder of the CEELI Institute
- Quinn O’Keefe [Vice-Chair], Washington Representative, International Legal Assistance Consortium
- Mary McInnis Boies, Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP
- Mark S. Ellis, Executive Director, International Bar Association
- Judge Thomas B. Griffith, U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit
- Gerald Haddock, Director, Meritage Homes Corporation
- Dr. Roger Hull, former President, Union College
- J. Larry Nichols, Executive Chairman, Devon Energy Corporation
- Anne Ramberg, Secretary General of the Swedish Bar Association
- Susan Ringler, Vice President, Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer at Alcoa
- Judge John M. Walker, Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, Honorary Member, Retired Justice, U.S. Supreme Court

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Christopher Lehmann

LEGAL ADVISOR
Martin Solc, Partner, Kocián Solc Balážik, Co-Chair of the Human Rights Institute of the International Bar Association; past President of the Czech Bar Association

SUPERVISORY BOARD
- Robert A. Stein, Everett Fraser Professor of Law, University of Minnesota Law School
- RNDr. Jiřina Marie Nováková, former Vice-Mayor, Prague 9

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD
- William D. Meyer, Hutchinson, Black and Cook, Boulder, Colorado, (Chair)
- Nancy J. Anderson, Deputy General Counsel, Microsoft
- Giuseppe Bisconti, former President of the International Bar Association
- Milton Cerny, Director Emeritus, American Friends of the Czech Republic
- Lado Chanturia, former Chairman, Supreme Court of the Republic of Georgia
- Judith Chirlin, Executive Director, Western Justice Center
- Bruno Cova, partner, Paul Hastings LLP [Milan], former General Counsel of Fiat
- Talbot “Sandy” D’Alemberte, President Emeritus, Professor of Law at Florida State University
- Tom Dine, Senior Policy Adviser, Israel Policy Forum
- A.J.A.J. [Jan] Eijsbouts, Professor of Corporate Social Responsibility, Maastricht University; Former General Counsel for AzkoNobel
- Jonathan Fried, Canadian Ambassador to the World Trade Organization
- Nancy Gertner, Professor, Harvard Law School; former Judge, U.S. District Court of Massachusetts
- Peter Goldsmith, Baron Goldsmith, Chair of European Litigation Practice, Debevoise & Plimpton, former Attorney General for England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Richard Graber, former U.S. Ambassador to the Czech Republic
- Beat Hess, Member, Board of Directors of Nestle; former General Counsel of Royal Dutch Shell
- Barbara Hillas Dillon, Hillas & Dillon LLC
- David Jones, National Public Affairs Manager, MBF, Australia
- Daniel Lipsc, former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice, Slovakia
- Ernst Markel, former Presiding Justice, Supreme Court of Austria; Honorary Lifetime President, International Association of Judges
- Beverly McClachlin, Chief Justice of Canada
- Emma Harriet Nicholson, Baroness Nicholson of Winerbourne, Member of the House of Lords, UK
- Daniel Navy, Contractual Relations Specialist, CEZ
- Theodore Olson, Partner, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher; former Solicitor General for the United States
- Vance Opperman, President and CEO, Key Investments, Inc., Minneapolis
- Elizabeth Rindskopf Parker, Mitre Corporation, former Dean, McGeorge School of Law
- Mary Noel Papsy, former Justice Advisor for U.S. Department of State in Afghanistan
- Petar Stoyanov, former President of Bulgaria
- Steve Wolther, Chair, Federal Election Commission (US)
The CEELI Institute is a public benefit corporation in the Czech Republic. Its partner not-for-profit organization, the Friends of the CEELI Institute, is a 501(c)(3) based in the United States.

For information on how you can donate to support the rule of law around the world, visit www.ceeliinstitute.org/give