Mission of the CEELI Institute

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

Our mission is to develop and train an international network of legal professionals committed to a rule of law. Through innovative training programs and other activities, we work with judges, lawyers, officials and other professionals in countries building laws-based societies to support fair, transparent, and effective judicial systems, strengthen democratic institutions, build respect for human rights, and promote the continuing development of market economies.
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The last 18 months at the CEELI Institute have been among the most productive in the organization’s history. The pace of training programs has accelerated. The diversity of participants continues to grow. And the issues of greatest interest, and the training programs that the Institute provides in response, have continued to evolve.

The CEELI Institute continues to remain true to its founding principles. The Institute is non-profit; its faculty members provide their services on a pro bono basis; its curriculum is responsive to the needs and priorities of participating countries; and Institute training is provided neutrally, without prescriptive or hidden agendas of how participating countries should order their own affairs.

Over the period of this report, the CEELI Institute has welcomed an enthusiastic and accomplished new Executive Director in Quinn O’Keefe. Quinn brings experience with several international non-governmental organizations and with funding agencies. Much of the credit for the Institute’s growth, along with our appreciation, goes to Quinn. In addition, we had the benefit of Ambassador Rudolf Perina’s willingness to serve an important transitional role as president of the Institute, as summarized later in this report.

The geographical reach of the CEELI Institute and its program continues to expand. Together with the International Bar Association, the Institute has undertaken a long-term program to train 450 members of the Tunisian judiciary, a program organized by the International Legal Assistance Consortium and funded by the Swedish International Development Agency. This program, implemented in Tunis, has been masterfully managed by Joel Martin, a former Executive Director of the Institute and CEELI volunteer who has organized and coordinated talented faculties of distinguished European and American judges.

The CEELI Institute’s most recent training program – Anti-Corruption Training for Prosecutors, Investigators, and Judges – drew participants from seven different countries, stretching from north Africa, to the Balkans, to central Asia, to as far as Bhutan. This unique, well-received program will become a regular offering of the Institute.

In addition to Tunisia, other programs that will be a part of the curriculum in the coming year involve the Kurdistan region of Iraq and Burma, as well as many countries closer to the Institute’s home in Prague. Judicial exchanges for high court justices in Central and Eastern
Europe - launched following three Chief Justices’ Conferences that the Institute has hosted, and which Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Sandra Day O’Connor of the United States helped launch - continue on an annual basis.

As always, the Institute is grateful to its distinguished and loyal Czech and American Boards of Directors and its International Advisory Board. Essential financial support continues to come from many sources, with special thanks for recent financial support provided by the Swedish International Development Agency, Larry and Polly Nichols, and the Mott Foundation, as well as previous and continuing individual and corporate supporters of the Institute.

We conclude this year with great anticipation for the CEELI Institute’s future and the additional opportunities that continue to present themselves to the CEELI Institute for helping to strengthen the rule of law in a rapidly changing global landscape.

*Homer E. Moyer, Jr.*
*Founder and Chairman*

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**The CEELI Institute By the Numbers:** Since our founding in 1999, we have trained over 1,500 lawyers and judges from over 36 countries in subjects like the following: Judging in a Democratic Society; Intellectual Property; Anti-corruption Laws; Human Rights Protections; Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Human Trafficking Victims; Conference of Chief Justices of Central and Eastern Europe; and The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: A Foundation for Administering Criminal Justice.
The CEELI Institute offers a range of training and exchange programs that promote human rights, support democratic institutions, and help build free market economies. Since our founding in 1999 we have provided post-graduate legal education and exchange to more than 1,500 legal professionals from 36 countries, including 140 Iraqi judges and most of the Afghan Supreme Court. CEELI instructors volunteer their time and expertise as a pro bono public service. Our programs are intensive, practical, and skills-based.

The CEELI Institute has had a remarkable 2012 launching a massive judicial training program in Tunisia and building court efficiency and judicial accountability in Central & Eastern Europe. Highlights include: Building Judicial Integrity in Tunisia, Promoting the Conference of Chief Justices of Central & Eastern Europe, Building the Central & Eastern European Judicial Exchange Network, Training Prosecutors, Investigators & Judges on Anti-Corruption, Working with Burmese Legal Associations on Building a Practical Advocacy Skills Program, and Developing a Continuing Legal Education Program with the Kurdistan Iraq Bar and Jurists Associations.

In 2012 our work brought us to Tunisia where the CEELI Institute is part of an extraordinary effort to train nearly one thousand judges on judicial accountability and judging in a democracy. Funded by the Swedish government and in partnership with the International Legal Assistance Consortium and the International Bar Association, this program brings together judges from all ranks and courts in Tunisia to twice monthly trainings on how to build the public’s confidence in the judiciary. The course stresses the leadership role that courts play in society and the importance of judicial independence. We would like to expand the trainings through 2015 to reach all Tunisian judges and offer tailored programming such as an intensive workshop on drafting a judicial code of ethics.

A Lasting Impact:
- CEELI Institute alumni on the Supreme Court of Ukraine surprisingly vacated the results of the presidential election in 2004 because of reports of voter intimidation and fraud.
- Following training at the CEELI Institute, the then president of the Kosovo bar association led the development of a professional code of ethics.
- A CEELI Institute-trained judge presiding at the trial of Saddam Hussein publicly resigned in protest over political pressure being executed on the Tribunal.
In May of 2011 three of us went to Tunisia to discuss a program for training judges. Christian Åhlund, the Executive Director of the International Legal Assistance Consortium, had asked the International Bar Association and the CEELI Institute to present the courses. Marie-Pierre Olivier of the International Bar Association and I, on behalf of the Institute, joined Christian to present the proposal to the Ministry of Justice, the Tunisian Judges’ Association, and other interested parties.

Most of the funding was, or soon would be, in place. The Swedish International Development Agency had committed serious money to support rule of law projects in Egypt and Tunisia and had engaged ILAC to run the Tunisian program. Part of our job in Tunis was to find out what the Tunisian government would contribute. The other part was to show that we had experience with similar programs and could deliver.

“I took with me the Arabic version of the textbook for the Institute’s course “Judging in a Democratic Society.” When we met with the Tunisians I explained that the course had been given at the CEELI Institute since 1999 to scores of judges from dozens of countries. It focuses not on substantive law but rather on the skills that judges need when their society changes from autocratic to democratic: good communication with the public and with other branches of government, transparency in procedure, efficient court administration, sound and self-regulating ethical codes, and vigilant protection of the independence of judges and of the judiciary. I told the Tunisians that we teach by interactive discussion – hypothetical cases that change when they become

“Joel Martin’s provocative questions brought the best out of the judges who quickly came forward with their problems and concerns in a spontaneous way. It was a very smart methodology which made participants feel very comfortable and willing to participate in discussions more freely.”
- Tunisian Judge Training Participant

“I will incorporate the training into practice starting with my professional surrounding, among the panel of judges within which I work, hoping to later on to disseminate it to the entire court.”
- Tunisian Judge Training Participant
too easy, challenging questions that demand thoughtful answers – and that we would require the judges to participate fully in the course.

By early 2012, all of the elements were in place. We gave the first session of the course in March of that year to a group of 30 Tunisian judges, men and women varied in their ages, the location of their courts, and their time on the bench.

Since then we have held ten sessions, and the International Bar Association has done the same. So in those twenty meetings we have reached 550 – 600 judges, about a third of Tunisia’s 1800. Under the present agreement with the Swedish government we and the International Bar Association will present another ten sessions. The Ministry has asked that the program be renewed so that the rest of the country’s judges can participate in it. Each of the Institute’s sessions is taught by a small group – always three, sometimes four. The judges whom we have asked to participate come from the United States and from several other countries. I have taught at each session thus far and can testify to their energy, skill, and good humor, both in the classroom and at the meals we have enjoyed together. They are good teachers and good company.

We ask the Tunisian judges to evaluate the course and its teachers at the end of each session. The evaluations have been overwhelmingly positive. Some have noted that the course is unlike any other they have taken: discussions instead of lectures, real-world experience instead of legal history, practical solutions rather than theory.

“I’ve long been devoted to international judicial cooperation and the mutual efforts of judges around the world to teach each other and share with each other their individual experiences. This week here in Tunis has been one of the best I have ever participated in. The concept of the program – bringing the ideals of democracy to the judges of Tunis – has been well received. I found the participants to be especially engaged, thoughtful, and willing to share. The CEELI Institute has done just a magnificent job of marshaling resources and bringing people, judges, to Tunis to assist the judges here in their efforts to move democracy forward.”

-Judge Andre Davis
The very fact that the course sessions mix ages and sexes and locations means that the judges find resources beyond those of their usual circle of colleagues. And as the number of judges who have taken the course grows to be a majority of those on the bench, the lessons learned and the experience the judges have brought to each other will strengthen their work and, we hope, their country.

- Joel Martin
  Director of Special Projects

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**Building Judicial Integrity in Tunisia (con’t)**

We have had an extraordinary group of judges who have served *pro bono* with the CEELI Institute in Tunisia:

- Judge David M. Cohen, U.S. Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, District of Maine
- Justice Howard H. Dana, Jr., Verrill Dana, LLP; Former Associate Justice, Maine Supreme Judicial Court
- Judge Andre M. Davis, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- Judge Mary McGowan Davis, Former Acting Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York
- Judge Ladislav Derka, High Court, Prague
- Judge Lubos Dorfl, Mgr., High Court, Prague
- Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg, Senior Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit; former Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- Judge Davor Dubravica, Misdemeanor Court of Zadar, Croatia
- Sten Heckscher, Former Chief Justice of the Supreme Administrative Court of Sweden
- Judge D. Brock Hornby, U.S. District Court, District of Maine
- Judge Ivana Hrdličková, Ph.D., Appeals Chamber, Special Tribunal for Lebanon
- Judge Ellen Segal Huvelle, U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
- Judge Octavia Spineanu-Matei, Ph.D., National Institute of Magistracy, Romania; High Court of Cassation and Justice
- Judge M. Margaret McKeown, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- Judge Anthony Trenga, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia
- Judge Christina Reiss, U.S. District Court, District of Vermont
In 2007, the CEELI Institute invited Eastern European Chief Justices to the first of a series of Roundtables in Prague that helped launch the Conference of Chief Justices of Central and Eastern Europe. Over the course of three separate roundtables hosted by the CEELI Institute and sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, the Chief Justices and high court participants developed strategies and best practices for promoting judicial integrity and accountability through open discussion of their own experiences and input from international experts, including Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

The subsequent Conference of Chief Justices of Central and Eastern Europe is now a stand-alone, self-sustaining network that holds annual meetings in the region to address the many common challenges faced by the Chief Justices in improving their countries’ judiciaries, including fighting corruption, promoting judicial independence and building public support for the courts. Each year, the Conference is hosted by a member Chief Justice, with the continuing guidance and expertise of Friends of the CEELI Institute Board Member, Judge John Walker. The President of the Supreme Court of Albania, Shpresa Becaj, hosted the May 2012 meeting and the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Montenegro, Vesna Medenica, will host the upcoming meeting in June 2013.

Chief Justice John Roberts addresses the Conference of Chief Justices in 2011 at the CEELI Institute

In 2012 the Conference of Chief Justices met in Albania
This year the CEELI Institute launched the Central & Eastern European Judicial Exchange Network to bring together judges and court administrators from across the region. With financial support from the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, we brought together 32 non-high court judges and court administrators from 15 countries across the region. Drawing upon our experience with the Conference of Chief Justices of Central & Eastern Europe, we designed a series of events to build a sustainable peer support network around the issues of judicial integrity and court efficiency.

Through candid exchange and instruction on best practices, the exchange participants have developed a sense of professional solidarity and gained some tools to better address issues of integrity and inefficiency at home. In December, twenty-eight participants traveled to the CEELI Institute’s headquarters in Prague for a 2-day Roundtable Conference to inaugurate the exchange. At the Roundtable, legal experts from the Czech Republic and the United States shared their own experiences and insights.

“The judicial systems in the formerly Communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe share a history in which the courts were seen as instruments in the exercise of authoritarian power, human rights were undermined and the rule of law was largely absent. Although constitutional democracies have replaced the old order, the cultural implications of that debilitating legacy persist. The establishment of judicial independence, elimination of corruption and building public support for the courts are still enormous challenges in these countries.

The Conference of Chief Justices of Central and Eastern Europe, developed under the guidance of the CEELI Institute, meets annually throughout the region to permit the Chief Justices to share problems, exchange ideas, and propose solutions to these and the many other difficult problems they face. The Chief Justices have been highly supportive of the Conference.”

– Judge John M. Walker
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit,
and Friends of the CEELI Institute Board Member
experiences with the challenges of judicial integrity and court efficiency and suggested some best practices in discussions like: Judicial Independence - Freedom from Outside Influence and Access to Justice - Streamlining Procedures. Equipped with a newfound sense of solidarity and best practices, participants returned home with the tools to enhance judicial integrity and build public support for the judiciary’s work.

“Due to my experience in the exchange, I have proposed to the president of my court and to the Judicial Council to employ a spokesperson to raise the awareness of the judiciary’s work and to improve public perception of our work.”

- Florent Latifaj

Kosovo Judge and Central & Eastern European Judicial Exchange Participant
“The new contacts are the greatest benefit of the exchange and I see a possible future collaboration in projects. One of main functions of Court Administration of Latvia is to develop and implement projects aimed at developing the court system in Latvia. Usually we look at related activities to learn best practice from other countries. Of course if we are experienced and strong in some field, we like to share our expertise with other countries, as well. Overall, the conference was a great opportunity to get contacts from countries with whom we haven’t worked yet together.”

Agnes Mukstina  
Court Administrator, Latvia and Central & Eastern Judicial Exchange Participant

Exchange Participants Take Action Back Home:

- A Hungarian judge and exchange participant has already presented his proposal to develop bench books in criminal law, civil law, and for court executives, to the President of the National Office for the Judiciary.

- Another judge from Hungary published a summary of what he took away from the CEELI Institute roundtable for his colleagues at home and proposes to create a court management office separate from the judge’s scope of work.

- A Lithuanian court administrator and exchange participant has begun work to create a special room for interviewing children who attend court as witnesses and victims.
In addition to continuing our work promoting judicial integrity and exchange in Central and Eastern Europe and Tunisia, in 2013 the CEELI Institute has launched our first tuition based course and is poised to expand our work to other countries in transition such as Burma and Iraqi Kurdistan to promote a rule of law through education and professional exchange.

Anti-Corruption Training for Prosecutors, Investigators, & Judges

With a generous grant from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the CEELI Institute brought together some of the world’s most experienced anti-corruption prosecutors, forensic accountants and practitioners to design and teach our newest program - “Anti-Corruption Training for Prosecutors, Investigators and Judges” - that launched in March 2013. The weeklong program included participants from Albania, Armenia, Bhutan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Moldova, Tajikistan and Tunisia and provided a comprehensive framework for investigating and prosecuting official corruption. It is the CEELI Institute’s first tuition-based course and one that we hope to offer on a regular basis especially as official corruption has emerged as one of the most prevalent and pernicious threats to the rule of law around the world.

Like all CEELI Institute programs, this one relied heavily on participant participation and interactive teaching techniques. Throughout the program, participants, who included judges, prosecutors, investigators and anti-corruption agency officials, worked through a hypothetical to develop a case theory and investigative and prosecutorial plans. Faculty drew upon past and present cases to illustrate corruption schemes and successful preventative and investigative techniques. Course materials included a flashdrive with a comprehensive electronic library of anti-corruption reference and resource materials, and faculty used participant polling throughout the course.

U.S. Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Norman L. Eisen, led a very well-received session on how to prevent official corruption from the top down drawing upon his experiences as lead architect of the Obama administration’s ethics and government reform policy.

One participant commented that he had been to several anti-corruption training programs, but this one was “far and away the best.”

Program endorsers also included the International Anti-Corruption Resource Center and the International Bar Association.

Great Thanks to TRACE International, which not only endorsed the “Anti-Corruption Training for Prosecutors, Investigators & Judges” program, but also provided a generous grant for participant scholarships and sponsored the introductory conference workshop.
Inaugural Anti-Corruption Training Syllabus

- **Pre-Conference Workshop**
  - International Anti-Corruption Legal Structure
  - International Conventions and National Laws
  - Definitions of Official Corruption
  - Anti-Corruption Initiatives by International Financial Institutions

- **Identifying Official Corruption: Types, Patterns & Indicators**
  - Direct and Indirect Bribe Payments
  - Common Schemes for Bribing Public Officials
  - Techniques for Disguising Bribery of Officials
  - Red Flags for Corrupt Activity

- **Investigating Official Corruption**
  - Sources of Information, Leads And Evidence
  - Gathering Documents and Electronic Evidence
  - Interview Techniques
  - How To “Follow the Money” – Audits & Forensic Accounting
  - Multijurisdictional Cooperation, Use of Joint Investigation Teams
  - Investigation Challenges
  - Illustrative Case Studies

- **Prosecuting Official Corruption**
  - Charging Considerations
  - Pre-Trial Dispositions
  - Presenting a Case
  - Evidentiary Issues
  - Anticipating Defense Strategies

- **Overcoming Obstacles & Mobilizing Allies and Resources**

**Comments from Participants:**
- *The faculty were “knowledgeable experts who have not only rich theory but incredible experience.”*
- *“This is a top level course.”*
- *“More than excellent, just outstanding!”*
**Anti-Corruption Training Faculty**

**Helen Garlick**

With the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) at its inception in 1988; first head of the SFO’s Overseas Corruption unit; led SFO’s Mutual Legal Assistance Unit; currently serving as Special Prosecutor to the Government of the Turks and Caicos. Partner, Fulcrum Chambers, London.

**Goran Klemenčič**


**Susan Ringler**

Former federal prosecutor; World Bank corruption investigator. Former Deputy Director of CEELI Criminal Law Program managing criminal justice programs in Russia and the former Soviet Republics. Deputy General Counsel for Xylem, Inc.

**Fred Miller**

Global Co-Leader of PwC’s anti-bribery and anti-corruption practice; 32 years public accounting experience with emphasis on global anti-bribery and anti-corruption investigations; Senior Partner, PwC.

**William Jacobson**

Former Assistant Chief for FCPA Enforcement, Fraud Section, U.S. Department of Justice; former State Prosecutor, New York City; Co-General Counsel, Weatherford International Ltd., Houston, Texas.

**Jean-Michel Ferat**

An expert in forensic accounting, mining and analysis of complex data sets, and forensic investigations; former investigator for UN Oil-for-Food Programme; Managing Director at the Claro Group.
Anti-Corruption Training Faculty (con’t)

Homer E. Moyer
Recognized as a leader of America’s FCPA bar, counsel in dozens of investigations; chair of more than 35 international anti-corruption conferences; editor, Anti-Corruption Regulation; partner, Miller & Chevalier.

Thomas C. Green
Former U.S. federal prosecutor; founder of International Anti-Corruption resource Center, developer of fraud detection software designed to spot fraud and corruption. Partner, Sidley & Austin, Washington, DC.
In Spring 2013, the CEELI Institute will launch a pilot training in Prague for the leaders of the Kurdistan Iraq Bar Association and Kurdistan Iraq Jurists Union on anti-money laundering, international arbitration, and law office management. We anticipate that this program will become a recurring training series in Prague for the associations’ members. This program is at the request of the Bar and Jurist associations based off of our past work training Iraqi judges on “judging in a democracy” in coordination with the International Legal Assistance Consortium.

**New Partnership with the Burma Center Prague**

The CEELI Institute is proud to be working with the Burma Center Prague, a Czech not-for profit that has been promoting Burmese refugee rights in Europe and Asia since 2006 through services and advocacy. In addition working with legal networks in Burma, our program and partnership will also include public events in Prague to highlight human rights and rule of law development in Burma today starting with a documentary film event in Summer 2013.

**Developing a Targeted Training Program with the Bar and Jurists Associations in Iraqi Kurdistan**

In Spring 2013, the CEELI Institute will launch a pilot training in Prague for the leaders of the Kurdistan Iraq Bar Association and Kurdistan Iraq Jurists Union on anti-money laundering, international arbitration, and law office management. We anticipate that this program will become a recurring training series in Prague for the associations’ members. This program is at the request of the Bar and Jurist associations based off of our past work training Iraqi judges on “judging in a democracy” in coordination with the International Legal Assistance Consortium.
The CEELI Institute is housed in the historic Villa Gröbovka, in the heart of Prague, Czech Republic. The 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 CEELI Institute agreed to renovate 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 SKANSKA, Czech Republic, which also served as general contractor. The architectural husband and wife team, Michal Hron and Hedvika Hronova, skillfully implemented the renovations.
The CEELI Institute Online and in Prague

This year we have renewed the organization’s website (www.ceeliinstitute.org) and created social media accounts that will keep our content current and interactive. We have also been working with Bison & Rose, a leading public relations firm in the Czech Republic that has offered its services _pro bono_, to help the CEELI Institute build its profile in Prague among would-be partners, donors and renters through open house events and public outreach. We have entered into partnerships with two Czech civil society organizations for joint program development with the European Commission and Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs which led to our Spring 2013 program in Burma.

_Friends and Neighbors:_ The CEELI Institute regularly opens the Villa’s doors to fellow not-for profit organizations and public events.
2013 Not-For-Profit and Public Events

February
- Film Hunters s.r.o.

March
- 7.03: Concert Prague 2

April
- Centers Publishing s.r.o. Conference
- Concert Prague 2

May
- Concert Prague 2
- NIX.CZ, z.s.p.o.- conference
- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung e.V. Conference

June
- Heretic Public Relations, s.r.o. Conference
- OPDAT/US Embassy Training
- Callida s.r.o. Conference
- Concert Prague 2
- ČNOPK Summer Fete
- Agency Veronika - Children’s Puppet Theater
- Transparency International Seminar

September
- Wine Harvest Festival Prague 2
- CZECHINVEST Agency for Investment & Business Development Conference
- Open Society Fund Prague – 20th Anniversary Celebration

November
- Concert Prague 2
- Agency Veronika – Children’s Puppet Theater
- Institute of Psychotherapy and Social Therapy
- Restpoint s.r.o.
- Charles University - Active Healthy Aging Workshop

December
- ELOS Technologies s.r.o. Conference
- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung - Conference on Whistleblowing
- Holiday Concert Prague 2
Introducing the CEELI Institute’s New Executive Director

This year the CEELI Institute gained a depth of international and rule of law development expertise with the addition of Quinn O’Keefe to its leadership ranks as executive director. Over the course of 2012, Quinn led a resurgence of CEELI Institute programming and public relations. In 2013 she will continue to build the organization as it expands its programming and reach into Asia and the Middle East and North Africa. Quinn came to the CEELI Institute from Human Rights First, where she worked with human rights activists from the Middle East and South Asia to tailor their advocacy campaigns on issues of strategic interest to U.S. policy makers. Prior to her work with Human Rights First, Quinn developed and managed grant-funded projects focused on protection of human rights and promotion of the rule of law with the American Bar Association and Freedom House. Quinn’s regional expertise is in Central Asia and she regularly meets with the U.S. and foreign governments to brief them on rule of law development and the need for targeted international support. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School and the University of Iowa.

Thanks to Ambassador Rudolf Vilem Perina

We are grateful to Ambassador Rudolf Vilem Perina who joined the CEELI Institute this year as President to help manage the organization’s transition into its second decade of operations. Throughout his career, he has been deeply involved with issues of human rights, rule of law and conflict resolution in Europe, Eurasia and beyond. He brought that experience and contacts to the CEELI Institute and in addition to recruiting our new executive director, Ambassador Perina provided invaluable strategic guidance over the year and helped develop key partnerships that will carry the organization far.

As a retired member of the U.S. Senior Foreign Service and specialist in Russian, East European, German and NATO affairs, Ambassador Perina brought unique qualifications to the job. Over his three-decade career with the U.S. Department of State, he served at the U.S. diplomatic missions in Ottawa, Moscow, Berlin, and to NATO in Brussels. Throughout the 1990s, Ambassador Perina held key posts as the Senior Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs, Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade, and Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova.
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