



JusticeMatters

Building Better Justice for Growth and Stability

8 May 2025

At a time when the rule of law is weakening and justice gaps are widening, HiiL is bringing together leaders, policymakers and funders who believe in a better path forward — one where justice systems put people first and help build the foundation for peace, stability, and economic growth.

The Justice Matters Conference will be hosted on 8th May 2025 at the historic Peace Palace in The Hague and livestreamed globally.

What to Expect

A full-day programme dedicated to scaling people-centred justice, including practical examples of what's working, meaningful dialogues on the economic, social and political impact of access to justice and an exploration of efforts to mobilise the investment and leadership needed to scale justice solutions.

[Learn more about the conference on our website](#)

Sign up to receive the Livestream link: [Here](#)

In The Hague and able to attend the event in person?
Contact us: justicematters@hiil.org

Justice Matters conference programme

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| 08:30 – 09:30 | Registration |
| 09:30 – 10:30 | Opening <i>Udo Ilo (CEO HiIL)</i> <i>Prof Yemi Osinbajo (Former Vice President Federal Republic of Nigeria)</i> <i>MFA representative</i> <i>[VIDEO] Jan van Zanen</i> |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Session 1: Defining the Justice Problem The opening plenary sets the stage by laying out the fundamental barrier to stability, security, well-being and economic growth: the justice gap. Through an engaging discussion, panelists will take participants through data, evidence and qualitative insights to define the dimensions of the challenge. How are justice systems failing to meet legal needs? What pathways are people using to resolve problems? How do these experiences affect well-being, community resilience, and geo-political trends? <i>Alejandro Ponce (Executive Director World Justice Project)</i> <i>Martin Gramatikov (Knowledge and Research Director HiIL)</i> |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee break |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | Session 2: Why Justice Matters This 90-minute session explores justice as a foundation for wellbeing, security, stability and inclusive growth. Speakers from civil society, the private sector and the security field will discuss how access to justice contributes to trust and social cohesion. The session invites reflection on justice as a vital thread running through all aspects of sustainable development. <i>Iyinoluwa Aboyeji (Founding partner Future Africa / Flutterwave)</i> <i>Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa (CEO LASPNET)</i> <i>Kees Matthijssen (Lieutenant General Royal Dutch Army)</i> <i>Megan Price (Head Conflict Research Unit at Clingendael)</i> <i>Session moderator: TBA</i> |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch break |
| 14:00 – 15:00 | Session 3: We Know What Works This session will lay a concrete roadmap for justice interventions that lead to stability, prosperity, and well-being. The panel will trace progress from the 2019 Hague Declaration to the 2023 OECD Recommendation, showing what has worked to make justice systems more responsive to people's needs. Panelists will share national-level insights on implementing people-centred justice approaches, examining regulatory environments that enable or hinder progress. A key focus is scaling what has worked—identifying enablers, institutional frameworks and financial models needed to expand successful interventions. <i>Allyson Maynard Gibson (Former Attorney-General and Minister of Legal Affairs of The Bahamas)</i> <i>Afam Osigwe (President Nigerian Bar Association)</i> <i>Zainab Malik (Senior Policy and Advocacy Advisor HiIL)</i> <i>Tatyana Teplova (Director - SDG Policy Coherence at OECD)</i> <i>Session moderator: Swati Mehta</i> |

15:00 – 16:00

Session 4: Justice in Action

This session features four ‘TED Talk’-style presentations on successful, scalable justice models that have made a real impact in their communities. Speakers who have driven change across different levels of justice governance and delivery will share how people-centred justice promotes well-being, stronger communities, and societal stability. Offering a hopeful outlook on the future of access to justice, the session brings to life practical examples of initiatives that can scale and drive lasting, systemic change.

Tallal Hallak (Managing Partner Boston Management)

Martha Koome (Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya)
(video)

Michael Stych (Co-Founder & CEO of Contend Legal)

Michael Kwizera (Director of Strategy and Partnerships at BarefootLaw)

16:00 – 16:15

Coffee break

16:15 – 17:15

Session 5: Why aren't we scaling?

This session will tackle one of the biggest challenges in the justice field today: how to scale solutions that we know are effective. Over the years, practitioners, governments, activists and academics have worked hard to identify justice problems and propose viable solutions—with many concrete examples of success. But bringing these solutions to scale remains difficult despite the fact it is essential to enable justice's potential and promise for economic growth and societal stability.

Speakers will explore the key barriers to scaling: how to secure early political and institutional buy-in, ensure capacity for long-term change and mobilise sustainable funding. This high-level panel of government leaders and funders—including development banks, bilateral donors, and private philanthropy—will identify actionable strategies to expand access to justice at a broader scale

Alpha Sesay (Attorney General & Minister of Justice Sierra Leone)

Andrew Solomon (Justice Innovator)

Holly Burduja (Senior Public Sector Specialist at the World Bank)

Session moderator: Sam Muller

17:15 – 17:30

Recap of the day and key takeaways

17:30 – 18:30

Networking drinks
