**Call for submissions: Strategic litigation in national, regional and international courts**

The Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association (FoAA), Annalisa Ciampi, considers that **litigating in cases that raise issues of FoAA before national, regional and international courts not only fully complements the advocacy and policy work associated with her mandate, but also will be key to building State practice**, alongside and in addition to thematic reports, country visits, communications and awareness-raising.

Therefore, and as part of her working methods, the Special Rapporteur sees it as part of her duty to take part in strategic litigation through **amicus curiae, third party intervention, expert opinion etc.**, **with a view to** **contributing to the promotion of the implementation of FoAA rights, the emergence and definition of international standards and the assessment of compliance therewith**.

In order to raise awareness among relevant stakeholders and the public at large that litigation engagement is sought by the FoAA mandate, the Special Rapporteur asks the cooperation of NGOs and their networks, professional associations as well as other relevant stakeholders who have knowledge of cases involving assembly and association issues. **Judicial cases involving issues related to freedom of assembly and of association, including the question of protests, can be brought to her attention by sending an e-mail to** [**freeassembly@ohchr.org**](mailto:freeassembly@ohchr.org) **(indicating in the object “strategic litigation”)**.

The purpose of this call is to bring to the attention of the FoAA mandate ongoing cases where a third party intervention by the Special Rapporteur would be allowed and strategic. There is no deadline, as submissions are received on an ongoing basis.

The first consideration and central criteria for the Special Rapporteur to join as “friend of the court” is whether it can help the case in any sort of constructive way. Any decision in this regard, will be taken in coordination with the NGO submitting the case and/or its local partner (and, if applicable, in conjunction with the affected party).

There is no specific format or requirement. A submission should include however the following information: Judicial authority before which the case is (or will be) pending; Brief summary of the facts and points of law; Relevance to FoAA rights; Expected contribution of an amicus curiae by the SR to the outcome of the case; Timeline and applicable requirements for third party intervention; Contact person(s), to be included in future correspondence.

Information on activities carried out in this context will be made available on the Special Rapporteur’s website.