

# The Lex:lead Group

Lawyers for Economic Advancement and Development

December 2016

## Happy New Year from Lex:lead!

As we write we are underway with our **seventh annual essay competition** open to the world's least developed countries and have started placing students in **internship opportunities** as well.

### Patron

Dame Linda Dobbs DBE (UK)

### Upcoming Judges

(Sitting January 2017)

Judge Sir David Baragwanath KNZM  
(New Zealand) (Reappointment)

Rt Hon Sir Charles Dennis Byron PC  
(St Kitts and Nevis) (New Appointment)

Judge Aminatta LR N'gum  
(Gambia) (Reappointment)

Judge Joaquine De Mello  
(Tanzania) (Reappointment)

Judge Lucy Asuagbor  
(Cameroon) (New Appointment)

Justice Iain Morley QC  
(UK) (Reappointment)

Justice Francis M Ssekandi  
(Uganda) (New Appointment)

Ambassador Peter Maddens  
(Belgium) (Reappointment)

Professor Uma Tripathi  
(India) (Reappointment)

Professor John Mukum Mbaku  
(Cameroon) (New Appointment)

Dr Phillip Tahmindjis AM  
(Australia) (New Appointment)

Ms Paige Berges (USA) (New)

Ms Imrana Jalal  
(Fiji) (New Appointment)

Ms Samantha Jallah  
(Liberia) (New Appointment)

Ms Dianna Kempe QC JP  
(Bermuda) (Reappointment)

Ms Simon Scott-Sawyer  
(Sierra Leone) (Reappointment)

Mr Fasil Amdetsion  
(Ethiopia) (Reappointment)

Mr Günter Fischer  
(Germany) (Reappointment)

Mr Christian Loubeau  
(USA) (New Appointment)

Ms Rakhshinda Nazir  
(UK/Pakistan) (Reappointment)

Mr Takeh Sendze  
(Cameroon) (New Appointment)

*Given the volume of registrations this year, Lex:lead welcomes further judges to its panel – volunteer today!*

**Latest Winners!** Lex:lead started 2016 making another 10 awards (now at **35** total). Answering: **How does poor economic development contribute to health-related concerns? How can law control these concerns and improve lives?**, we congratulate: (*Meet the winners, over.*)

1 **Ms Sara Kiflemariam Abraham**, Eritrea; Sponsor: *Allen & Overy*

2 **Mr Moses Baguma**, Uganda; Sponsor: *Addleshaw Goddard*

3 **Mr Tsidkenu Paul Moono**, Zambia; Sponsor: *Claude Moore Char. Fdn.*

4 **Mr Ivan Allan Ojakol**, Uganda; Sponsor: *Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr*

5 **Ms Nsofwa Puta**, Zambia; Sponsor: *Cozen O'Connor*

6 **Mr Fitsum Sibhatu Tewelde**, Eritrea; Sponsor: *DLA Piper*

7 **Mr Negese Tujuba Erba**, Ethiopia; Sponsor: *Hogan Lovells*

8 **Ms Binita Pandey**, Nepal; Sponsor: *Law Council of Australia*

9 **Ms Tsebaot Getahun Kiflu**, Ethiopia; Sponsor: *Linklaters*

10 **Mr Marga Fekdu Angerasa**, Ethiopia; Sponsor: *Travers Smith*

The **US\$500 awards** pay up to half the student's share of their degree (e.g. under Ethiopia's cost-sharing program); half a year or semester elsewhere. **All 10 were invited to be Lex:lead Ambassadors.**

**Certificates of Honourable Mention.** We also issue **Certificates of Honourable Mention** for other high-placing essays and congratulate:

1 **Mr Weldegebriel Kidanu Teklemariam**, Ethiopia

2 **Ms Bethelihem Gidey Abrha**, Ethiopia

3 **Ms Mawunya Etsa Amanda Kudu**, Ghana

4 **Mr Aklilu Samuel Watiro**, Ethiopia

**Lex:lead Internship Program Develops.** With funding from 2015 we offered **three more World Bank-related internships** this year—and got a bonus placement. **1** First, in January we placed 2011 Scholarship Winner **Ms Sousena Kebede Tefera** (Ethiopia) with World Bank partners in Washington DC, her US\$500 stipend funded by **DLA Piper**.



2011 Scholarship Winner Sousena Kebede Tefera (Ethiopia) at the World Bank in Washington DC.



2014 Winner Mary Musoni (Rwanda) and Jean Claude Mahoro (Rwanda) working with Forzley & Associates, Kigali, Rwanda

**2** In August, two Lex:lead students from Rwanda were selected by Washington DC-based Forzley & Associates for six-month part-time assignments. Working out of Kigali, **Ms Mary Musoni** received US\$500 funded by London lawyer **Oliver Yaros**; **Mr Jean Claude Mahoro's** US\$500 stipend was funded by international firm **Linklaters**.

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### **Donations to Lex:lead**

Donations of any size – whether US\$20 or US\$200 – are always welcome and may be US Section 501(c)(3) tax deductible. Scholarship sponsorships (US\$500) are awarded in the donor's name.  
[www.lex-lead.org](http://www.lex-lead.org)

**Internships, continued. 3 Bonus Internship:** Adding to the placements above, in August Lex:lead was able to place 2012 Scholarship Winner **Ms Hilina Berhanu Degefa** (Ethiopia) with the **International Bar Association Human Rights Institute**, London.



Thank-you-to-our-judges reception, London, January 2016 with judges Dr Mark McQuinn, Iain Morley, Simone Scott-Sawyer.



2012 Scholarship Winner Ms Hilina Berhanu Degefa (Ethiopia) at the International Bar Association, London UK

**First Asian Winner; Expanding Reach. 1** Hopefully reflecting our ever-growing reach, this year saw our **first Asian winner, Ms Binita Pandey** (Nepal)—the first of many awards to this region no doubt. **2 Registrations** this year numbered over 225 across 24 countries in **Africa, Asia** and the **Americas**, which is a good sign—we made it easier to register this year with a simple online form.

**More Good News: IBA Foundation Grant; Publications. 1** Sponsoring **10** further awards, Lex:lead has been pledged another US\$5,000 from the **International Bar Association Foundation** (our biggest grant to date); the grant will fund two scholarships annually for the next five years. **2** Lex:lead was **one of four programs featured** when the **IBA Foundation** issued a commemorative publication on its work this year (see our website). **3** The **American Bar Association Africa Committee** has agreed to publish **up to all** of our 2014/2015 essays in its *Africa Law Today*, and the **IBA Foundation** may include our essays on its webpage too—as exciting for our students as winning.

**Competition Underway: New Winners in February 2017.** We happily raised another **14 sponsorships** this year for our 2016 competition now underway (to be awarded 2017). **Thank you to:**

- 1 **Allen & Overy**, London UK
- 2 **Addleshaw Goddard**, London UK
- 3 **Claude Moore Charitable Foundation**, USA (*two awards*)
- 4 **Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr**, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 5 **Law Council of Australia**, Canberra, Australia
- 6 **DLA Piper**, London UK (*two awards*)
- 7 **Linklaters**, London UK (*two awards*)
- 8 **Travers Smith**, London UK
- 9 **Mr Philipp Fischer**, Geneva, Switzerland
- 10 **International Bar Association Foundation**, USA (*10 awards*).

**Internships:** **Linklaters, Travers Smith**, and the **Claude Moore Charitable Foundation** have each agreed for US\$500 of their sponsorships to support our **internship program** in 2017—funding Lex:lead students in further World Bank-related internship assignments in country.

**Current Competition:** Answering: **How does refugee and migration law affect poverty and economic development?**, in September we opened the 2016 competition to students across the world's least developed countries—**Africa, Asia** and the **Americas**. Essays are due **31 December 2016; next winners announced in February 2017.**

**Good luck to all applicants, and Happy New Year!**

**Lex:lead Ambassadors**

- 2010  
Lemlem Fiseha Minale (Ethiopia)
- 2011  
Edwin Webiro (Tanzania)  
Sousena Kebede Tefera (Ethiopia)
- 2012  
Rediet Zegeye Yigezu (Ethiopia)  
Samrawit Getaneh Damtew (Ethiopia)  
Redeat Kassahun Seifu (Ethiopia)  
Hilina Berhanu Degefa (Ethiopia)  
Masalu Elias Luhula (Tanzania)
- 2013  
Galindo Ruhiyah Aliyo (Uganda)  
Christopher Sengoga (Rwanda)  
Anthony Peter Njau (Tanzania)  
Milan Depakkumar Desai (Zambia)  
Soreti Berhanu Workneh (Ethiopia)  
Muchinda Muma (Zambia)  
Gloria Ludigo (Uganda)
- 2014  
Lulbahri Afeworki Araya (Eritrea)  
Baye Tsegaw Asamro (Ethiopia)  
Bereket Alemayehu Hagos (Ethiopia)  
Nahom Abraham Weldeabzgi (Eritrea)  
Pius Ntazinda (Rwanda)  
Haftu Amare Girmay (Ethiopia)  
Lumela Lumela (Zambia)  
Walter Mandela (Uganda)  
Mary Musoni (Rwanda)  
Dieudonné Nzafashwanayo (Rwanda)
- 2015  
Sara Kiflemariam Abraham (Eritrea)  
Moses Baguma (Uganda)  
Tsidkenu (Paul) Moono (Zambia)  
Ivan Allan Ojakol (Uganda)  
Nsofwa Puta (Zambia)  
Ftsun Sbhata Tewolde (Eritrea)  
Negese Tujuba Erba (Ethiopia)  
Binita Pandey (Nepal)  
Tsebaot Getahun Kiflu (Ethiopia)  
Marga Fekdu Angerasa (Ethiopia)

-  
Lex:lead invites its winners to join the group as Ambassadors representing the program on-the-ground for other applicants.  
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**Meet the Winners!** The highest-ranked essays from 2015 came from:



**Sara Kiflemariam Abraham** – *Adi Keih College, Eritrea*  
Law student at Adi Keih College of Arts and Social Sciences, Sara competed in the **14<sup>th</sup> International Humanitarian Law Essay Competition for East African Students**.



**Moses Baguma** – *Makerere University, Uganda*  
Deputy Speaker of the **Makerere Law Society**, a Member of the Makerere International Law Student’s Association, and an intern at the **Foundation for Human Rights Initiative**.



**Tsidkenu (Paul) Moono** – *University of Zambia, Zambia*  
Law student at the University of Zambia, Paul competed in the **24<sup>th</sup> African Moot Court Competition** and in a legal writing and analysis unit from **DLA Piper**.



**Ivan Allan Ojakol** – *East African School of Taxation, Uganda*  
A candidate in both legal practice (**Law Development Centre**, Uganda) and in tax, Ivan is a past president of **Uganda Christian University’s Law Society**.



**Nsofwa Puta** – *University of Zambia, Zambia*  
A fourth year law student at the **University of Zambia**, Nsofwa has volunteered with the legal department of **Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA)**.



**Fitsum Sibhatu Tewolde** – *Adi Keih College, Eritrea*  
Fifth year law student at Adi Keih’s College of Arts and Social Sciences in Asmara, Eritrea with **ambitions to study for his LLM in law and development**.



**Nagasa Tujuba Erba** – *Addis Ababa Univ., Ethiopia*  
Nagasa won the **free legal aid competition** on access to justice and worked at the **International Law and Policy Studies Institute** before joining Tadesse Kiros Law Office.



**Binita Pandey** – *Purbanchal University, Nepal*  
Binita has worked with **TRIAL International** on using international law in domestic human rights violation cases, is a **teaching assistant** and a researcher at the law school’s **Policy and Legal Research Centre**.



**Tsebaot Getahun Kiflu** – *Mekelle University, Ethiopia*  
Studying **law and management**, Tsebaot has volunteered in **environmental awareness** and competed in the **25<sup>th</sup> African Human Rights Moot Court** (South Africa).



**Marga Fekdu Angerasa** – *Addis Ababa Univ, Ethiopia*  
Graduating law student at Addis Ababa University with work experience at both **AAU’s human rights center** and at the **Oromia International Bank**, Ethiopia.