

Lawrence Cenk Laws, Esq.

Admitted to the Virginia (VA) Bar Association (Bar No. 94350)

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Education

Koç University, İstanbul, Turkey

L.L.M. (Master of Laws) in Public International Law, Scholarship Recipient (25%) GPA 3.19, February 2018

- (Thesis) Linguistic Minority Rights under International Law: Hard vs. Soft Law Protections and an Analysis on the Linguistic Rights of Kurds in Turkey

The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law (CUA), Washington, DC

Juris Doctor (Law), May 2015, Comparative and International Law Certificate

- Exchange Student at Pontifical Lateran University, Rome, Italy
- President, Black Law Students Association Chapter (BLSA)
- Recipient of Extra Mile Award 2012-13, Recognition of work in the CUA Innocence Project and BLSA.
- Recipient of Marathon Award 2014-15, Recognition of work in BLSA, ILSA, and the law school.
- Secretary, International Law Students Association Chapter (ILSA)

Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service, Washington, DC

Bachelor of Science, May 2011, Major: International Politics, Concentration: Foreign Policy and Policy Processes

Work Experience

For The People, Boston, MA (Remote)

October 2020 - December 2020

Politics and Civic Engagement Advisor,

- Writing articles on current events
- Advising Editor-in-Chief on policy goals and initiatives on increasing civic engagement
- Tracking relevant developments in the news cycle with respect to the organization's messaging and political objectives

Vote Blue/The Outreach Team, Bethlehem, PA

October 2020 - November 2020

Deputy Field Director,

- Represented For Our Future Pennsylvania in their Lehigh Valley regional operations
- Directed and led canvass launches
- Door-to-door campaigned and disseminated information to constituents
- Participated in grassroots efforts on a local and regional level

Turkish Coalition of America (TCA), Washington, DC

September 2019 – September 2020

Program Director,

- Leading outreach to Turkish American youth.
- Coordinating the Turkish American Women Leadership Initiative.
- Managing programs, research grants and scholarships offered by the organization.

Oxford University Press, İstanbul, Turkey

December 2015 – December 2019

Senior Case Reporter,

- Briefed current cases from CCPR, CERD, CAT, and CEDAW to be published in the Oxford Human Rights Law Review.
- Worked closely with Koç University's Center for Global Public Law
- Analyzed current and past jurisprudence from related international legal regulatory bodies and committees

King & Nordlinger L.L.P., Arlington, VA and **Oliveri & Tammadge LLC**, McLean, VA

July 2012 – July 2018

Paralegal and Law Clerk,

- Filed cases with the Superior Court of District of Columbia, Montgomery County Circuit Court (MD) and Prince William County General District Court (VA)
- Attended and participated in initial hearings with tenants alongside the attorney
- Researched and drafted motions and notices to tenants for lease violations
- Researched and drafted trial briefs for attorneys
- Drafted and edited estate planning documents such as wills, trusts, and memoranda
- Conducted legal research on estate planning issues

- Accounting Assistant,* August 2009 – June 2011
- Answered billing inquiries from clients
 - Produced invoices for lawyers
 - Organized and consolidated estate files
- Yasmine Taeb VA State Senate Campaign,** Falls Church, VA March 2019 – June 2019
Field Organizer,
- Door-to-door campaigned and disseminated information to constituents
 - Participated in grassroots efforts on a local and regional level
- Akol Özok Namlı Attorney Partnership (Akol),** Istanbul, Turkey March 2016 – January 2017
Legal Proofreader,
- Proofread legal documents for Corporate/M&A, Banking/Finance, and Litigation Departments
 - Review engagement letters and business proposals
 - Handle billing and invoicing process for firm clients
- Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC),** Washington, DC October 2011 – July 2012
Governmental Relations Assistant,
- Researched and present domestic BPA legislation
 - Kept track of economic sanctions specifically regarding Iran and Syria
 - Coordinated planners and schedule meetings, flights, and reservations for attorneys
- Internships & Volunteering**
- The National Coalition of Turkish American Lawyers PAC,** Washington, DC January 2020 - Present
Executive Committee Member
- Assist PAC Manager, Treasurer and Director with administrative matters
 - Coordinate and attend fundraising events with local and state-level Turkish American candidates
 - Coordinate and attend fundraising events with Members of Congress supportive and beneficial to the Turkish American legal community
- Ten Thousand Turks Campaign,** Washington, DC September 2019 – September 2020
PAC Assistant
- Assist PAC Manager, Treasurer and Director on all 5 Turkish American PACs
 - Coordinate and attend fundraising events with local and state-level Turkish American candidates
 - Represent TC-USA PAC in meetings with Members of Congress
- Representative Don Beyer (VA-8th Congressional District),** Washington, DC June 2019 – August 2019
Hill Intern
- Drafted constituent letters and managing constituent correspondence
 - Filed bills and amendments through the House Committees
 - Transcribed and attended Congressional hearings
- The National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) Program,** Washington, DC February 2019 – December 2019
Application Evaluator,
- Reviewed applications for final-round high school candidates
- Poverty and Race Research Action Council,** Washington, DC January 2014 – May 2014
Policy and Legal Intern,
- Drafted U.N. alternative report for housing and education imbalances
 - Researched and track international equal access to housing legislation
 - Researched articles related to racial inequalities in U.S. housing and education policies

Acknowledgements

- **Academic Contributor**, Turkish Heritage Organization (THO), September 2020
- **Election Officer**, Fairfax County Board of Elections, September 2020
- **2020 State Delegate**, DNC VA-8th Congressional District Convention
- **2020 State Delegate**, DNC Virginia State Convention
- **Congressional Intern**, TCA, Summer 2019
- **Delegate**, Turkish American Youth Leadership Congress, TCA, October 2018
- **Researcher on Syrian Refugees and Asylum-Seekers**, THO, Summer 2018
- **2015 CUA Jessup Cup International Moot Court Team Member**, Qualifying Rounds, Washington, DC
- **State Department Critical Language Scholarship Turkish Program**, Summer 2011 Recipient, Turkey

Technical & Language Skills

- Native English Speaker
- Advanced/Near-Native Proficiency in Turkish Speaking, Writing, and Reading
- Intermediate Proficiency in Spanish Speaking, Writing, and Reading
- MS Office: Excel, PowerPoint, Word
- Juris Accounting Program
- Quorum Public Affairs Software
- Constant Contact
- MailChimp
- LexisNexis
- Voter Activation Network (VAN)

Activities

- Member, CUA Law Alumni Council
- Member, American Society of International Law (ASIL)
- Member, European Society of International Law (ESIL)
- Member, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- Member, American Turkish Association of Washington, DC (ATA-DC)
- Member, Gay Professional Men of Color (GPMC)

Publications

- Recent Articles with For The People can be accessed through here:
<https://www.ftpeopleusa.org/news?author=5f8876bd86d0393a2b5f499e>
- “The Precarious State of Temporary Protections”, THO, July 2019 (accessible also through <https://lawrencecenklaws.com/f/the-precarious-state-of-temporary-protections>)
- “Temporary Solutions for Long-Term Problems”, THO,
<https://medium.com/meddah-a-u-s-turkey-storytelling-project/lawrence-cenk-laws-living-in-limbo-temporary-protections-for-a-permanent-dilemma-ff596e95789e>, July 2018.
- “Czechoslovakian Restitution Cases: Article 26 v. Ratione Temporis” (Koc University’s Center for Global Public Law), <https://kuremer.ku.edu.tr/en/czechoslovakian-restitution-cases-article-26-iccpr-v-ratione-temporis>, December 2017.
- Case Reports for Oxford Reports on International Law (accessed through <http://opil.ouplaw.com/home/ORIL>)
 - *Pavel Kozlov et al. v. Belarus*, UN Doc CCPR C/113/D/1949/2010; IHRL [] (UNHRC 2015); 25 March 2015
 - *B and C v. Czech Republic*, UN Doc CCPR/C/113/D/1967/2010; IHRL [] (UNHRC 2015); 2 April 2015
 - *M.G. v. Poland*, UN Doc CCPR/C/114/D/2183/2012; IHRL [] (UNHRC 2015); 23 July 2015
 - *Franck Kitenge Baruani v. Democratic Republic of Congo*, UN Doc CCPR/C/110/D/1890/2009; IHRL [] (UNHRC 2015); 27 March 2014
 - *N.D.M. v. Democratic Republic of Congo*, UN Doc CCPR C/113/D/1971/2010; IHRL [] (UNHRC 2015); 30 March 2015
 - *M.M. v Russian Federation*, UN Doc CERD/C/87/D/55/2014; CERD [] (UNCERD 2015); 7 August 2015