

# PLEASE JOIN US in ISTANBUL!

## APRL ISTANBUL CONFERENCE

Common Ground - Values and Ethics Across Legal Systems

May 2-4, 2012

### The President Hotel

Tiyatro Cad 25 Beyazit  
Istanbul, TR 34126

Join APRL members at our 2012 international conference in Istanbul, Turkey. Turkey, often called the cradle of civilization, has an extraordinary religious, historical, and cultural history. Istanbul served as the capital of the Byzantine, Roman and Ottoman Empires, and has a legal history that dates back to the Code of Hammurabi in 1700 B.C.E. The modern legal system represents an effort to fuse Islamic sharia law with democratic and secular principles. Come to this crossroads to explore common ground between east and west, past and present, on lawyering in the 21st century.

The APRL Istanbul program will address both the pressing issues of interest to APRL members in their daily practice and insights into Turkish and Islamic sharia law. Topics include:

- Keynote address by Chas Freeman, former Ambassador to Saudi Arabia
- Current issues in privilege and confidentiality, conflicts and choice of law
- Changing law firm structures: US and international trends
- Introduction to sharia law and the lawyer's role within it
- Introduction to Turkish law and the complex challenges to creating a pluralistic legal system
- Transnational practice: What every lawyer should know (with a special emphasis on practice in the Middle East)
- Lawyering in flawed systems: International insights into corruption and systemic failures (in US and abroad)
- Europe and Asia and places in between: The parallels between a free and independent press and a free and independent bar

We will be joined by experts in international practice and sharia law.

The conference will include opportunities to—

Tour Istanbul and experience the energy and innovation of this historic city, including the Old Bazaar, Hagia Sofia and Taksim Square

Savor a Bosphorus boat trip with cultural, artistic, historical commentary on the region

Visit a local court (subject to access)

The conference hotel, The Presidential Best Western, is conveniently located in the heart of Istanbul's historic city center and within walking distance to nearby attractions.

More information will be posted on the APRL website: [www.aprl.net](http://www.aprl.net)



# A LETTER FROM APRL

DEAR MEMBERS,

Please allow us a moment to describe the Istanbul experience. Our hotel, superbly and centrally located, sits less than 300 yards from the Grand Bazaar, exotic predecessor of modern American mega-malls. A short walk from the Bazaar brings you to the Mosque of Suleyman the Magnificent, 16th Century, who commissioned it while in Europe the Renaissance was giving way to the Reformation. After admiring the grandest of Istanbul's four imperial mosques, stroll another third of a mile to the famed Spice Market, close to the southern foot of the Galata Bridge that spans the conjunction of the Bosphorus and its curved extension, the Golden Horn.

Another day, head east out of the hotel, and in ten minutes you are at the edge of the Sultanahmet, one of the world's greatest concentrations of major attractions packed into a half a square kilometer: the Hippodrome, center of Byzantium's life for 1000 years and Ottoman life for another 400; Hagia Sophia, with its incredible dome and magnificent mosaics, commissioned by Emperor Justinian in the 6th Century; the Basilica Cistern, also a Justinian commission; the Blue Mosque of Sultan Ahmet; and of course, the opulent Topkapi Palace, begun shortly after the fall of Byzantium with the capture of Constantinople in 1453 by Mahmet II. The palace, and its coveted emerald encrusted dagger made famous in Jule Dassin's 1963 film Topkapi, served as home to the Ottoman Sultans and Emperors for almost half a millennium.

Can you imagine—all this within easy walking distance of our hotel. But wait! There's more. Our planned activities will include a cruise up to the Black Sea through the Bosphorus, the celebrated waterway separating Europe and Asia, and side trips to sights as charming as The Princes' Isles, a tiny, carless archipelago off the Asian coast in the Sea of Marmara.

Istanbul awaits to provoke and satisfy all of your sensory faculties with its exotic aromas, delectable cuisine, eye pleasing architecture, art, and natural wonders, lively street and bazaar noises and music, and a complex composite texture of humanity and history that you can almost feel. All this awaits you, packaged with a first class legal program that will broaden your knowledge and deepen your insights.