

Guidance for prospective new Branches

Under the Constitution, “*Regional Branches consisting of at least ten members of the Association may be formed with the consent of the Executive Council*”¹.

Statutes must be provided for approval by the Executive Council. (Draft statutes are available from ILA HQ).

A contribution of £30 per Individual Member shall be contributed to HQ each year. (Student members £15; Corporate Members £150).

Those wishing to establish new ILA Branches are well advised to ensure that a number of their members are from the categories listed below which sometimes overlap with each other. Experience shows that it is branches with membership of this kind that are successful and effective.

1. **Judiciary and Senior Government lawyers.** In some cases these might include the Chief Justice or an Appellate Judge or The Chief Legal Adviser to the Government department dealing with foreign relations at Governmental level or another senior civil servant dealing with international legal matters.
2. **Professors of international law** at leading Universities or law schools. Others included in this category might be the authors of leading and recognised textbooks and writings on international law.
3. **Practitioners of international law.** This generally means people who are recognised senior advocates with a track record of representing their government or other parties either in the courts of their country or at the Hague or other relevant international tribunals. Also included in this category are lawyers acting as attorneys or advocates advising on international legal matters including conflict of laws.
4. The membership of less senior academics and practitioners and also of students in addition to the above is encouraged. Such persons may have more time available to devote to the arrangement of branch activities and administration.

Branches should supply HQ with a full list of their members each year and notify any changes to the information supplied.

Branches are expected to submit details of the election of Branch Officers and representatives to Executive Council to HQ annually. Branches should also report annually on the activities which have taken place.

Branches are entitled to nominate a limited number of² representatives to the International Committees of the ILA. Branches should ensure that any members nominated, actively participate in the work of these Committees.

¹ “*The Executive Council may dissolve any Branch whose membership has become less than ten or if contributions are more than three years in arrears*” ILA Constitution 8.2

² The number depends on the size of the Branch. 1 person (per committee) up to 100 members; 2 persons up to 250 members and 3 persons over 250.