



AMSTERDAMSE ORDE
VAN ADVOCATEN

Amsterdam, 26 March 2025

Amsterdam Bar Association in solidarity with American lawyers

The presidents and council of the Amsterdam Bar Association have noted with concern recent developments in the United States in which (groups of) lawyers are being obstructed in the practice of their profession. The United States has a long tradition of respect for the rule of law and has been an example for many other countries since its founding. Many Amsterdam lawyers regularly work with American lawyers on cross-border issues.

Lawyers play a crucial role in any country respecting the rule of law. In such country, every citizen and company has the right to legal assistance. Lawyers are not identified with their clients and must be able to provide the best possible assistance. A situation in which lawyers have to fear that they will be confronted with government measures if they assist certain clients, or if they assist their clients in a certain way, within the law, is a serious violation of the principles of the rule of law.

The Amsterdam Bar Association has taken note of the statement by the American Bar Association¹ and the statement signed by a large number of bar associations and alliances of lawyers in Europe and beyond². The Amsterdam Bar Association declares its solidarity with American lawyers and wholeheartedly supports the appeal of these organizations.

¹ <https://www.americanbar.org/news/abanews/aba-news-archives/2025/03/aba-rejects-efforts-to-undermine-courts-and-legal-profession/>

² <https://www.lawyersforlawyers.org/coalition-of-lawyers-rights-organisations-expresses-dismay-at-recent-targeting-of-legal-professionals-by-the-us-government/>