



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUDGES
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES MAGISTRATS
UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE MAGISTRADOS
INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG DER RICHTER
UNIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI MAGISTRATI**

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUDGES

PRESIDENCY COMMITTEE

S T A T E M E N T

The Presidency Committee of the International Association of Judges (IAJ)—the world’s largest judicial organization, representing 92 national associations—expresses serious concern over ongoing violations of fundamental principles of the rule of law, including judicial independence and respect for the separate and co-equal branches of government recognized in the Constitution. These concerns echo recent statements by the Federal Judges Association (FJA), a member of the IAJ representing over 1,100 U.S. federal judges appointed under Article III of the U.S. Constitution.

Through its public statements, the FJA seeks to inform the public about the judiciary’s constitutional role: to interpret laws passed by Congress and enforced by the Executive Branch with impartiality. Increasingly, however, judges in the U.S. are being subjected to harsh criticism, threats, and even violence—trends noted by many, including Chief Justice John Roberts. Irresponsible rhetoric and disinformation are undermining public confidence in the judiciary and threatening the rule of law.

The American Bar Association has also raised alarm over recent calls by senior officials to impeach judges whose rulings conflict with government positions—often without any evidence of wrongdoing. Such attacks are especially disturbing given the United States’ longstanding leadership in promoting the rule of law. This behaviour risks emboldening authoritarian leaders worldwide and eroding legal protections globally.

The IAJ stresses that pressuring or intimidating judges over their decisions is unacceptable. Judges do not seek political power; their constitutional duty is to resolve disputes fairly and independently. Their role is essential to ensuring justice and protecting citizens’ rights.

It is vital that the judiciary receives the full support of the other branches of government, including protections for judges’ physical and psychological well-being. When judicial independence is compromised, so too is the effectiveness and credibility of the justice system.

The IAJ calls on U.S. officials to stop issuing inflammatory statements against judges. Disagreement with court decisions should be pursued through legal channels, not through public attacks. The IAJ stands firmly against efforts to weaken the judiciary or turn it into a political instrument. Such intimidation must end.

The IAJ expresses its full support for the FJA and all U.S. judges who continue to carry out their duties with professionalism and integrity. A strong, independent judiciary is essential to democracy, justice, and the rule of law.

Rome, April 2025

The Presidency Committee of the International Association of Judges