

## FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

The International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers' Association (ICoCA) is a multi-stakeholder initiative formed in 2013. ICoCA promotes the provision of responsible private security and strives to promote respect for human rights and humanitarian law by its Member & Affiliate companies. ICoCA serves as the oversight and implementation mechanism of the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers (the "Code"). ICoCA's mission is to raise private security industry standards and practices and to engage with key stakeholders to achieve widespread adherence to its Code globally. ICoCA's ultimate objective is to positively impact communities affected by private security.



## THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS (CSOs)

- CSOs help to promote and protect human rights, international humanitarian law (IHL), and support the rule of law by advocating for improving effective regulation, oversight, and accountability of the private security sector operating complex environments, including areas recovering from unrest or instability, whether due to natural disaster or armed conflicts.
- CSOs contribute to the monitoring the private security industry generally and Member and Affiliate companies in particular, helping to promote accountability if violations occur.
- CSOs work with the Association to help raise industry standards by providing expertise on drafting guidance, disseminating best practices, engagement with relevant local, national, and international stakeholders (including governments, local civil society, syndicates and others), and other tools and materials.
- CSOs Mobilise communities for broader security reform agenda in national and international arena.

## WHO ARE OUR CSO MEMBERS

- Our Civil Society Organisation Members are a diverse network of human rights defenders and protection of civilians' advocates, from local, grassroots, community driven bodies to high profile international advocacy organisations campaigning on a wide range of issues, informing advocacy at all levels, engaging with security actors towards the adoption and implementation of higher standards and best practices.



## THE BENEFITS OF JOINING ICoCA

By joining ICoCA, CSOs work collaboratively with other CSOs governments and private security contractors at the forefront of security and human rights. Participation provides:

- Opportunities to influence the policies and practices of governments and corporations by providing critical insights including those of affected communities.
- Shared learning through multi-stakeholder collaboration.
- Valuable opportunities to engage on cutting edge issues surrounding the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals and obtain and share insights that inform advocacy approaches.

## RANGE OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF CSO MEMBERS

CSOs can play multiple roles when joining ICoCA, leveraging their own unique platform to contribute to the work of the Association. The range of roles and responsibilities include:

- Representing interested communities, including those employed by the private security sector and the communities in which private security companies operate and reporting complaints.
- Advocating for effective regulation and accountability of the private security sector.
- Monitoring private security companies with reference to the requirements of the International Code of Conduct as well as national law.
- Contributing to a better understanding of the private security industry in-country by identifying areas where private security services may encounter higher risks and raising awareness of the International Code of Conduct and ICoCA with key stakeholders.
- Building the capacity of civil society to promote responsible security that respects human rights and international humanitarian law and complies with the International Code of Conduct.
- Contributing to the development of tools, guidance and other supporting materials.
- Documenting and sharing stories of human rights violations in the private security industry.



### ICoCA

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