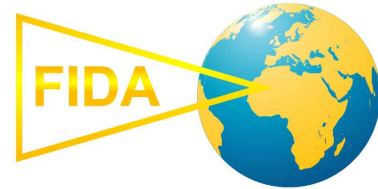




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## First Regional Congress of the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)

The right of access to justice:  
International litigation strategies in cases of violence against women.

### Presentation

The Law, as a cultural tool to achieve a harmonious society, has produced important changes in the fabric of societies, aware of their freedoms and rights, and for that reason different social groups demand enforcement of the law.

A body of political thought, both legal and sociological, has developed over the last five centuries amongst different women's groups that has made it possible for women to have the same legal rights as men, but with a recognition of gender differences, and that these do not justify the existence of hierarchies.

Law from the perspective of the feminist critical theory, is still questioned by academics of both sexes, who despite many national and international norms based on the principal of nondiscrimination by gender, persist in supporting conservative legal ideas that are based on anachronistic legal customs and impede the application of new norms and the full recognition of the human rights of women.

At national and international level we have made progress through meetings at which we have been able to share our experiences, campaigns and achievements, but the meeting that we are proposing on this occasion aims to define concrete judicial actions as part of an ideological agenda to establish our rights.



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With this in mind, the purpose of this Congress is to communicate and share the different legal strategies that are used by lawyers, both men and women, to protect and achieve justice for women in cases of gender-based violence.

### **Specific objectives:**

- Inform and share legal strategies used before national and international tribunals, so as to identify successes and errors.
- Analyze the national legal frameworks so as to identify possible legal paths so as to improve the norms of national protection.
- Presentation of studies on cases involving violence against women.
- Selection of three cases to be followed and supported either national or international (*amicus curiae*).

### **To whom is this congress directed:**

Professionals in Social Sciences, Lawyers, Students, Activists, Human Rights Defenders.

### **Subjects and Themes:**

- Access to Justice:
- - Legal and/or procedural obstacles that impede the protection and the enforcing of human rights for women in your country.



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- Identification of the legal paths to follow so as to exhaust internal legal options in each country.
- Presentation of litigation strategies for the defense and protection of the human rights of women.
- Case studies of litigation involving violence against women.

## Methodology:

Participation in the congress can be of two types: the first is as a presenter of a proposition in which one of the themes proposed by the congress is developed. This should be in letter format, maximum 50,000 characters, APA norms, 1.5 line spacing. The second is as an “assistant” (*participant*).

Conditions for a proposition:

A written document containing: a title, a summary, an *abstract*, *key words*, introduction, methodology, discussion, and conclusions and bibliography.

Propositions should be sent to [congresoregionalfida.usbcali@gmail.com](mailto:congresoregionalfida.usbcali@gmail.com)

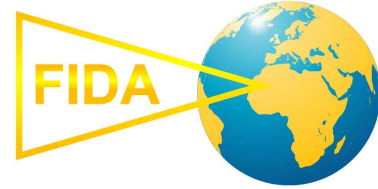
Propositions will be printed and distributed at the closing session of the congress.

Closing date for propositions Monday February 11th 2013.

**Congress Location:** Universidad de San Buenaventura, Cali



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- Dates.
- February 26 Tuesday: arrival of participants and presenters of propositions.
- February 27 Wednesday: Opening and Workshop.
- February 28 Thursday: Propositions.
- March 1 Friday: Propositions and distribution of Proceedings of the Congress.
- March 2 Saturday: closing activities
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**Costs:**

- Inscription International Participants: 190 USD  
Includes: Full participation in Talks and Workshops, city tour, a full day visit to the women's Eco village, Nashira un Canto de Amor, one of the 20 projects chosen by Colciencias as the best sustainable projects in Colombia. Visit to Malagana, a precolombian gravesite. Gala Dinner.