

CONSTITUTION

Statement of Purpose

The Uniform Law Conference of Canada has been constituted by the federal government and the provinces and territories of Canada to provide independent analysis and recommendations for the harmonisation and reform of law in Canada. It does so by developing and recommending uniform and model acts, statements of legal principles and other documents to the jurisdictions and by recommending reforms to the criminal law of Canada.

The Uniform Law Conference of Canada is unique amongst legal organisations in Canada in that it:

- addresses both the civil law and the criminal law, and provides a joint forum for matters pertaining to both;
- is devoted both to the harmonisation and to the substantive modernisation and reform of law;
- is bijural and bilingual in its work; and
- brings together people from across the national legal community, including lawyers from the federal, provincial and territorial governments, law reform agencies, the private bar, the Canadian Bar Association, legal academia and the judiciary.

These distinctive characteristics give the Uniform Law Conference of Canada a breadth of expertise that is unique and allows it to provide independent expert research, analysis and advice that would be otherwise unavailable to individual jurisdictions.

Canada, the provinces and territories, and Canadians benefit from uniform and model acts and recommended reforms to the criminal law that are fair, clear, modern and effective.

The Canadian federation benefits from uniform laws that can address matters of multijurisdictional concern.

Canada is assisted in its international obligations by the preparation of uniform acts to implement international conventions and other international private law instruments on matters of provincial and territorial responsibility.

Canada, the provinces and territories have recognised the importance to all Canadians of the dedicated, non-partisan and principled harmonisation and improvement of the law carried out by the Uniform Law Conference of Canada since 1918.

Mandate

The mandate of the Uniform Law Conference of Canada is to develop uniform and model acts, statements of legal principles and other documents and to recommend them to the constituent jurisdictions for their consideration as well as to recommend changes to the Criminal Code of Canada and other related criminal law statutes and to provide a forum to study and consult on evolving criminal law issues.

Structure

The Conference consists of the Civil Section and the Criminal Section that shall serve the Mandate of the Conference in accordance with their respective areas of expertise.

Participation

Canada, the provinces and the territories, being constituent jurisdictions of the Conference, may appoint a jurisdictional representative for each Section to carry out the duties set out in the by-laws. Other persons may participate in accordance with the by-laws.

Governance

The activities of the Conference shall be administered by an Executive Committee to be established in accordance with the by-laws. The activities of a Section shall be administered by a Steering Committee to be established in accordance with the by-laws. All committees shall be vested by the by-laws with the powers and responsibilities that are appropriate to enable the Conference and Sections to carry out their mandates.

By-laws

The Conference may adopt by-laws, consistent with this Constitution, that it considers appropriate to enable it to carry out its mandate.

Policies

The Conference may adopt policies, consistent with this Constitution, that it considers appropriate to enable it to carry out its mandate.