



The ILA is very pleased to share the good news that ILA member Dr. Alice Cruz has been appointed as the Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Human Rights Council on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members.

Dr. Cruz is a anthropologist with a PhD by the Universidade Nova of Lisbon, Portugal focused on the biomedical promise for leprosy in Portugal and Brazil. She presently is external professor at the Law School of University Andina Simon Bolívar – Ecuador. She has worked with the Brazilian non-profit organization Movement for the Reintegration of Persons Affected by Hansen disease (MORHAN), where she was involved in the organization of the First International Symposium on Leprosy and Human Rights (Rio de Janeiro, 2012). Ms. Cruz has also participated in the elaboration of WHO Guidelines for Strengthening Participation of Persons Affected by Leprosy in Leprosy Services.

Dr. Cruz served actively as a member of the Council of the International Leprosy Association from 2014-2016. The ILA is proud for this recognition and wish her plenty of success in her new position.