



THE DALAI LAMA

## MESSAGE

I was happy to participate in a meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016, at the Paris Bar Association discussing '*Universal Responsibility, Law and the Environment*'.

On that occasion I appealed to members of the Association to consciously reappraise their motivation to ensure that, in whatever ways they engage in efforts to achieve peace in world and a fairer, happier life for all, they would be guided by a code of ethics and universal responsibility.

I am therefore happy to learn that founding members of the Peace and Universal Responsibility Association are launching a new forum in Paris focusing on Law and Consciousness. I understand lawyers, barristers, thinkers, and humanists will participate in discussing the major challenges we face today.

I understand that a series of seminars on the theme Law and Consciousness will begin on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017 and that it has been decided that each session will include a period of reflection on peace and compassion. Since peace in the world depends on inner peace within individuals, such a reminder of the value of peace of mind will be helpful. What's more, it may be useful to think about the links between the cultivation of compassion, a concern for the welfare of other beings and the environment in which we all live, and the achievement of peace.

In a world where many of the problems we face are of our own making, we need to tackle the destructive emotions that give rise to them. This entails becoming familiar with the way the mind and emotions function, which it would be worthwhile learning more about.

With my prayers and good wishes for the success of your deliberations.

February 18, 2017