



David Frend

Short Biography

Since April 2021, David Frend has been the Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and Financing of Terrorism (GPML), Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Mentor and Advisor for the Mekong Region based in the UNODC Programme Office, Lao PDR.

Previously, David was the GPML AML/CFT Adviser and Mentor in Afghanistan, working out of the UNODC Country Office for Afghanistan. He is an English barrister by professional training, and worked at the independent English and Welsh Bar, the British Army and the Crown Prosecution Service before joining UNODC in September 2018. He is a graduate of both Keele and Bristol Universities with a bachelor's degree in Law and Politics and a master's degree in International law.

Biography

David Frend was called to the Bar of England and Wales, United Kingdom, in 1994 and practiced predominately as a criminal defence barrister before commissioning into the British Army Legal Services in 1997. During his military career he undertook a multitude of roles within the three core Army Legal Services' areas of work: prosecution advocacy before the Court Martial and the Court Martial Appeal Court; legal advice to the chain of command on internal discipline, administrative and employment matters; and, legal advice on the lawfulness and conduct of military operations, both domestic and international, including counter terrorism. He was also the first

permanent military legal advisor to the United Kingdom Special Forces.

Following 18 years' military service, David took up a position as a Specialist Prosecutor with the Crown Prosecution Service, Proceeds of Crime Unit, before returning to the independent Bar in March 2016 as a self-employed barrister. Between 2016 and 2018, David acted as a consultant with Proelium Law and undertook several positions including: as a short-term expert to the European Rule of Law Project in Montenegro providing advice and guidance in respect to prosecuting offences of bribery, corruption and money laundering as part of Montenegro's MONEYEVAL mutual evaluation; and in February 2017, as the international prosecutorial mentor and advisor to the newly formed Afghan Anti-Corruption Justice Centre.

In September 2018, David joined the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism (GPML), and was appointed as an AML/CFT Mentor and Adviser based in Afghanistan where he worked closely with the Afghan Attorney General's Office and the Central Bank's Financial Intelligence Unit. In April 2021, David was reassigned to Lao PDR as the AML/CFT Advisor – Mekong Region. He is a graduate of both Keele and Bristol Universities with a bachelor's degree in Law and Politics and a master's degree in International law.