

Mrs. (Dear) President of the European Bars Federation
Mrs. Sara Chandler period (2017-2018)
And through her to all former Presidents of the FBE and Presidents of European Bar Associations

My name is Carlos Alberto Andreucci, Argentinian lawyer and current President of the Ibero-American Union of Colleges and Bar Associations –UIBA-.-

On behalf of UIBA and on my own behalf, I am very grateful for the opportunity to participate of this 25th Anniversary Congress of the FBE. I would thank Sara Chandler for her courtesies and facilitation to be here with all of you.
Congratulations for the first twenty-five years!!!

The European Bars Federation started with this arduous and vocational leadership task towards nineteen ninety-two (1992). The European Union was in progress after such a great effort from post-war times having the Treaty of Maastricht milestone to consolidate its growth but with all challenges that would arise. A short time had elapsed since the fall of the Berlín Wall, everything was hope and uncertainty. Time later, when opening the European scene and look more towards the East greater difficulties appeared but also many illusions.

The difficulties and setbacks to obtain the approval of the European Constitution and its national referéndum put the tensions between integration and nationality back on the agenda. Today, we live intensely and especially in this place and momento!!!

But Advocacy, especially from Europe, advance!! Consolidated twinning and integration. I see with satisfaction the Commissions with representatives of all European Bars who joined and much from that foundation 25 (twenty five) years ago.

Are there problems in our profession? Are there problems that our institutions must attend? Yes and many, but citizens, lawyers and States are waiting for us, the lawyers, our values: courage, temperance, discretion, equity and a permanent search for Justice. All of it will form a civil legal wisdom that society expects from us.

Freedom, Independence and professional ability of our lawyers rely on the defence that our Bars achieve against all over advance of the public or private power. The sacred state mission of Justice needs independent, worthy, honest and committed judges with the society in which they live and judge. We must guard it.

Democracies must consolidate and improve. We must guard it too. All this has been done and the FBE does it, for which I also congratulations and especially to all those who during these years have given their time, strength, wisdom and example to follow.

We are here, from Iberoamérica, to testify about it and to tell you that we born in 1976 (nineteen seventy-six) , forty one years ago and since then we have faced deep problems and currently similar challenges. Our work commissions are very similar although specifically we have problems of human trafficking, slave labour, gender defence, woman rights and conflicts with drug trafficking, money laundering and corruption...we fight against these scourges and misfortunes!!!

We are willing to work together...the realities and the social and professional interests of the legal profession from both continents bring us together... Together we will be more efficient, more powerful and more protected among us and facing the society and the people that suffer and ask that we defend them about their rights and worries.

Happy Anniversary (or Happy Birthday)

and forever.-

With affection and respect.

Carlos Aberto Andreucci, President of UIBA

London 10 November 2017