



Program of the Presidency

Principles of European legal culture.

The community of European lawyers and the FBE affirm and support the culture of peace, freedom, equality, firm respect for human rights, democracy, mutual respect and diversity and peculiarities; the progress of civilization, the rule of law.

European legal culture is both a legacy and a perspective for the intellectual community, of which the lawyers gathered here are part.

Mission and synergy FBE - CCBE.

The European Bars Federations is open to all Bars (local, regional, national) from States member of the Council of Europe (47).

There is a steadily growing appreciation for the work of the FBE and the lawyers represented are over a million.

The FBE is therefore a federation with an origin by Bars and shares this nature with the CCBE, which gathers the National Councils and has, as a demographic base, the European Union and the European economic area.

The view of FBE and CCBE (based on Bars) makes them general and non-sectoral institutions of the European legal community.

This premise is valid for enhancing the commitment to reinforce the synergy between the European legal institutions (FBE - CCBE).

This was an established principle at the time of my candidacy for the second vice-presidency and today the commitment is reaffirmed, acknowledging the progress made by the Presidencies of both the aforementioned institutions.

In January 2017 and January 2018 the Presidencies of FBE and CCBE met freely and voluntarily to strengthen mutual coordination.

In 2019 the FBE and CCBE congresses (or rather the FBE and CCBE congress) will be held together in Lisbon, Portugal and the issue on "self-regulation" will be unique and joint. The synergy will become more tangible.

Lawyers' autonomy. Independence of judges.

Recently the FBE has been called to defend the autonomy of the lawyer and the independence of the judiciary also in the European sphere. The FBE has committed itself to reaffirming and persuading that these principles are indispensable foundations for any political force in order to preserve the democratic order and the closeness of peoples to their respective states.

We support the work of the CCBE for a European Convention on the profession of lawyer. and to support the affirmation of the aforementioned principles in constitutional status.

Work and organisation of commissions.

The FBE expresses itself concretely through the work of its commissions, which obtain appreciated and shared results.

The meeting of the Presidents of the Commissions with the Presidency of the FBE and the report of the Presidents of the Commissions to the General Assembly represent the moments of coordination and mutual exchange.

The good work of the commissions is conditioned by the continuity and effectiveness of the presence of the Bars and of the individual lawyers involved in the commissions themselves.

Continuous "maintenance work" by respective presidents is essential.

It will be the task of this Presidency to solicit the adjustment of the commissions with this specific purpose.

International legal education.

Today's legal culture can only be international, and we must tend to make it available to a greater number of colleagues.

The importance of sharing the contents examined and debated during the Congresses at local level is emphasised, in order to further spread this culture.

The FBE has recently participated in several training events organised locally by member bars to study and disseminate knowledge of the law of other states, with reference to the topics of study.

This commitment will be strengthened and all the orders will be supported in order to organise symposia in which the topics are examined also at international level.

The Presidency of the FBE will be an assistance to facilitate the participation of foreign speakers.

As a further aspect of this commitment, FBE keep on spreading European legal culture in the regions that have less enthusiasm to the internationalisation of legal knowledge.

As part of the training, we will have to start learning about, studying and improving the technologies of the “Artificial Intelligence” that should not be demonised but aimed at establishing a concrete aid for the judge and lawyers.

In **conclusion**, I would like to recite a list of the points to which the FBE abides and aspires.

- Sharing the founding principles of European legal culture.
- Effective involvement of the largest number of nations.
- Synergy with CCBE.

- Sharing the commitments of the FBE Presidency with the Presidents of the Commissions.
- Support for the Bars that have joined most recently, so that they can immediately express the maximum contribution.
- Support for international training at individual Bars.

European legal thought must be valued according to the founding principles and respect for the peculiarities, as the concept of federation imposes.

I thank you and I thank the previous FBE Presidents because they have given us a vital, well-organised Federation with a strong sense of belonging.

Good job everyone.

The FBE President
Michele Lucherini

