



## **FBE – Intermediate Meeting Luxembourg Legal Education Commission Meeting – 13/10/2016**

### **Members present:**

- President of the Commission: Sonia Gumpert Melgosa - Madrid Bar Association
- Aitzol Alsua - Vizcaya Bar Association (Bilbao)
- Michal Gajewski - Warsaw Bar Association
- Constance Lubet - from the Madrid Bar Association

### **Agenda**

1. The report on the International Contract Competition of the FBE in Warsaw
2. The presentation of the details of the Seminar on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and its consequences on the Member States of the European Union which will be organized in Madrid and which was approved during the last meeting of the Commission.
3. Discussion on new projects possibilities.

### **1. International Contract Competition in Warsaw.**

Since all the members present at the meeting either assisted to the competition or had already been informed, it was decided there was no need to report on the competition.

It was agreed that the competition was a great success and therefore decided that the Commission should organize the competition on a yearly basis (subject to the approval of the FBE).

It was decided that the content of the competition should be different every year, for instance it could be an eloquence competition, an arbitration or mediation competition, or a moot court, for example before a European court in order for the procedure to be known by all the participants regardless of their country of origin.

The competition would always be prepared by the Legal Education Commission but would take place in the headquarters of one of the Bar Associations of the FBE.

It was mentioned the possibility that the Bar of the winner or of the winning team would have priority to welcome in its headquarters the next competition.

The number of teams has been temporarily set to 12, but this number is flexible and should vary depending on the type of competition.

The next competition was set for the month of May, since the FBE congress will take place in June this year. As a consequence, the Bar should start to publish the call for candidates at the beginning of February and the deadline to submit the application of their team should be by the end of March.

It was first discussed that this edition of the competition could be an eloquence contest which would be organized the following way:

- On the first day, the participants would have 20 minutes each to do their presentation on a subject that would have been given to them before the competition (possibly one month before). The subject would be the same for all the participants. It should be quite broad so the participants would have a certain liberty with their speech. The judges would choose a winner and designate the three other best participants to participate to a second round.
- On the second day, the winner and the three other best participants would be given a subject. Two of them would have to defend the positive side and the two other the negative side. They will have approximately two/three hours to prepare a speech of 5 minutes. They would present their speech by pairs (for and against), each participant being given 2 minutes to challenge to the arguments of the other member of the pair. The best pair would be designated by the jury.

The winners of the precedent competition could be invited to participate as members of the jury.

The Warsaw Bar offered to host once again the competition but suggested that for this 2017 edition, the content of the competition were once again a contract negotiation. They want to improve the organization and the rules that were established for the first competition in order to have a solid base for further editions.

The other members accepted the proposal.

## **2. The Seminar in Madrid on the TTIP**

The draft programme had been prepared by the Madrid Bar. However, it was pointed out during the joint meeting of the Presidents of the Commissions and the Presidency of the FBE, which took place the same day before the meeting of the Commission, that according to the latest information on the Partnership, the TTIP might finally not be adopted.

As a consequence and given the uncertainty, it was decided that the seminar should address another subject.

It was agreed that the new topic would be “*Brexit and its consequences for the legal profession*”, which would include the analysis of the consequences on the lawyers but also on their clients, both individuals and legal entities.

The seminar is planned for the first trimester of 2017.

### **3. Discussion on new projects possibilities.**

Since it was decided to organize a second edition of the competition and the Seminar in Madrid before the next FBE Congress, it was agreed that other possible new projects will be discussed on at the Congress during the next meeting of the Commission.