



FBE Human Rights Commission Meeting 14.09.2019 BERLIN

Participants:

Artur, Sara, Monique, Izaskun, Marc (HRC Members)

Minutes done by : Monique

The subjects discussed at the meeting:

1. Trial observation Turkey

Artur has received a report from Nardi about the visit in July of a team of lawyers as trial observers in Turkey, Istanbul.

Nardi reports that they got no good impression: there are still many lawyers in jail, the regime is getting always stronger; they are afraid that there is a sort of “infection” of the Bar (“spying” lawyers in the Bars), the opposition is becoming weaker.

Artur got similar information from other sources about the actual situation in Turkey.

The Commission considers that it is a subject for FBE-Presidency (there was a similar situation in Warsaw, some person appeared and disappeared, the Turkish representatives did not come to the general assembly although it was on the agenda that they should make a report, they sent a report after the congress, meaning that “everything in right in Turkey); Artur also reminded about the meeting in Ankara this year with Charles, Michele, Philippe and Artur (they wanted to create a bilateral commission and waited to receive names of the Turkish member: there was no news, so that the commission is actually not working; by chance Charles came to join for the dinner in Berlin; he and Artur spoke to the Turkish lawyers as one was present for the meeting in Ankara; the Turkish colleagues promised to report.

The HR-Commission decides to send a recommendation to the Presidency to think about official position related to this main subject.

Artur will send the HRC members the report about the visit of the the trial observation team in Juli in Istanbul.

He will also look for information from the Dutch lawyers and Dominique about important trials in order to organize a FBE team for trial observation in Turkey.

2. Christian Di Nardo

Artur reports about the message of Christian: he is in Hong Kong als Street Observer together with Japanese Journalists.

He confirms to the Commission that he is very interested in 2 topics and ready to participate: Trial Observation and Colombian Caravana.

Artur will ask him to send a report his action in Hong Kong.

3. Colombian Caravana

Sara reports: the Peace process is unfortunately going down: the New government (right wing) is not in favour of the peace process; till 30th August 2019 2 lawyers have been killed (in Barcelona FBE published a Resolution after the Death of the first Lawyer).

The problem is that the conflict is now financed by drugs traffic and the narcotic organization.

Sara reports that the next Colombian Caravana is planned for September 2020: she insists that there should be a strong FBE delegation as part of the international organisation.

The HRC will prepare a note for the FBE Presidency for its meeting in Lisbon.

Apparently, CCBE does not send any delegation. Sara suggests to ask AEA-EAL if they could send a delegation?

4. Philippines

Monique informs the HRC about the message of UIA about the situation in Philippines and the suggestion of Presidency to prepare a resolution.

Artur will contact the person (UIA) who sent this message to get more information and maybe to organize a meeting. He will inform the HRC as soon as possible;

It will be decided if the HRC sends a resolution and/or invite the representative of UIA to meet the HRC in Lisbon.

5. 24. January 2020: Day of the Endangered Lawyers: PAKISTAN

Dominique and Monique participated as representatives of FBE to the meeting in Brussels with other organizations to prepare the 24. January 2020.

It was decided in Brussels that the Country for 2020 will be Pakistan.

Artur will ask HRC members to communicate before the next meeting in Lisbon what their Bar is organizing, they will also be asked to make suggestions about possible actions.

The HRC should then prepare a resolution during the next meeting in Lisbon.

6. Future action

Artur is worried as it seems that many Bars are not interested in HR: they don't react, they are not ready to finance the actions of the HRC.

On the other side, the oral competitions for young lawyers are very positive: always more young lawyers participate and they are all enthusiastic and very competent;

The HRC will think to create a "Junior section" of the HRC to invite young people to participate.

Izas reports that she participated for the Bilbao Bar to the meeting (AEA-EAL) in Gdansk about new technologies: she reports that there were a lot of lawyers of eastern countries, a lot of young people who are interested in contact with European western countries.

Monique reports that as she was President of AEA-EAL, they tried to have more contacts with Eastern Countries. There is surely interest on both side but the main problem remains the financial aspect: it is difficult for young lawyers from Eastern countries to participate to meeting because of the costs (fees, hotel, flight).

The issue to involve young people in the different commissions remain the question of getting Bars ready to finance costs of travel for young people. Unfortunately Bars thinks at short term: they want to see the "fruits" of the "travels".

Small Bars can really not afford to participate to the costs.

For the moment, HRC decides to send information about HRC to the participants of competition and invite them to participate, even if only per email.

7. MARC

Marc has announced at the Meeting in Berlin his decision not to remain Vice-President of the HRC.

Artur and Sara in the name of HRC thanks Marc for his work and action since the creation of the Commission.

Artur will ask the HRC members if there is any candidature for the new vice-president.

The end

SEE YOU IN LISBON ☺