



FBE Human Rights Commission (HRC) Meeting 30.01.2020 BARCELONA

Participants:

- Artur WIERZBICKI (president)
- Izaskun AZPITARTE (vice-president)
- Monique STENGEL
- Fatima ORAIBI
- Emma MITCHAM
- Pawel KOHLER
- Massimiliano BURIASSI
- Agata WINKEL-SKORA

Minutes done by: Fatima ORAIBI

Introduction:

The president expresses his wish that the information on the website of the FBE concerning our projects in Turkey and Colombia would be consulted more. Possibly this could be done via a link on the website of our supporting Bars with a mention of the activities and a mention of the members of the HRC. This person is also a member of the local Bar and it is suggested to mention every member on the website of the FBE with necessary references. That way, people and lawyers can contact someone of their own Bar for more information or questions.

We also need to make a new list of the members with the correct coordinates that will also be published on the website of the FBE. At this moment in time, the list shown on the website is not up to date.

The CCBE is more politically oriented because they are presented by the State Bars while we are more local and we can reach out more because of what is mentioned above (cfr. local contact person). The lower levels are more active and we wish to keep this.



The Subjects discussed at the meeting:

1. New member: Enrico Lattanzi

(Lucca Bar, Italy) who will join us during the next meeting.

2. Request to the FBE Presidency

We need to encourage people to act in favor of human rights. We can be involved with the European Council. We wish to request the Presidency of the FBE how we can start to work with other organizations such as the European institutions. We would like to have proper and constant relations with them. We want our commission (HRC) to act actively and have direct contact with the council e.g. That way we can work ASAP and not through the presidency.

Kind additional request: to be allowed to get the sources of the presidency of local Bars and contact them so we can act directly and not via the presidency of the FBE. We would like to achieve common projects as well.

We need to connect and transfer the problems that we have. Through mails we can decide what we need to do. We are obliged to know to whom we dedicate the resolution. The point is that we can directly sent it out. We take up a resolution about a certain country. We want to encourage other bars. In order to do so a direct contact is very important.

Therefore, we should emphasize the importance of communication. Communication needs to be smooth and it has to go fast. Our questions must be directed immediately to the right person. That way we will get more answers. We need more response to make projects because the answers are not sufficient nor representative.

3. Colombian Caravana: FBE support – August 22-30.2020 / Sara, Artur

Before the 30th of March we need to know who will go to Colombia. It is recommended that the people who take part in the project speak Spanish.

The project will take place from 22-30 August 2020. It would be great if we have presence from all countries in Europe. The majority will come from Spain due to the language. There are different destinations in Colombia.

During the meetings they will talk to prosecutors and local people like chiefs.

Last time it was about narco-trafficking. This was 2-3 days in Bogota.

In Cartagena they were looking into people who were displaced. The projects aim to talk to authorities and local people to look into the practical situation.

We need to send it to our colleagues! There is a kind request that in the delegation we would like members from each country! 2 teams and each team will be 30 to 40 people.

4. Turkey Trail Observation Project/ Dominique, Peter:

HRC talked to the Turkish member of Istanbul - Bedia Ayşegül Tansen. We asked about Turkey. After we demanded more information there was no new response.

HRC will try to accommodate an observation in Turkey but we do not know what to do. There is not much happening according to the e-mail of Peter. The Turkish authorities want to slow down the trials tremendously. We have Dominique, Peter and Nadi to go to Turkey for observations but the results are quite negative. We need to go on but we need to take it slow. Turkish Bar wants to cooperate but we don't know their real deal.

If we get more information about Turkey, we need to share our information with the HRC.

Dominique has good relations with Turkey.

Monique reports about the Presidency meeting: the Presidency meeting just took place. They also decided to be very careful in the contact towards Turkey. If the Bar is a member

than the Bar will contact us and we can see if we support them or not. We do not need to support individual people or problems. If the Bars contact us, we can support the Bars. The Rule of Law is important for us.

We also had a request from Ukraine and finally the HRC did not go because it was a very strange situation. There were five different contact persons. Isaskun wrote the same e-mail each of them and each one has answered differently. The same problem occurs in Turkey. Some lawyers need help and others don't which is strange to the HRC.

Monique informs the HRC that the Presidency position is as following: they are waiting for us. The big questions during this meeting remains *what HRC needs to do about the cited problem?*

The general answer is that the HRC needs to be cautious.

As to the situation in Turkey, the HRC has a strong impression that lawyers are indeed in need of help and are frightened to face retaliation. This could be the reason why there is not a lot of information coming from Turkey. The HRC can observe but we did not receive any demand for help.

5. Day of endangered lawyer – Pakistan – January 24 2020:

Artur informs the HRC: Generally we had Pakistan. It was decided to put it on the website of the Bars. Berlin Bar made again Turkish Lawyers at risk. There was a great discussion.

If the FBE decides to do something than the local Bars also need to interact. They need to take actions but not all Bars are aiming to do so.

It is at great concern that we need to inform local Bars of these special days. This can be done via e-mail. However, the HRC has noticed that we do not have the correct e-mails of the people who are in charge of human rights within their Bar.

6. III FBE International Oratory Human Rights Competition for Young lawyers and law students (Bilbao) / Artur, Izaskun:

The HRC is planning out the new edition of the competition mentioned above. The main award is to attend the congress in Sofia. As a result, the competition needs to take place in advance.

The jury will consist of five people who still need to be appointed.

7. End notes:

The main message that HRC wants to highlight is that every member can always inform Artur about interesting topics or events. Kindly send your information to Artur and it will be posted on the website.

Fatima ORAIBI gives more information about the situation in Amsterdam where a criminal lawyer was shot in front of his door. She will write a report on this tragic event and this report will also appear on the website of the FBE.

Thank you! See you all at the next meeting 😊