

FBE - Fédération des Barreaux d'Europe - European Bars Federation

COMMISSION DES COORDINATION DES ACTIONS DES BARREAUX BARS ACTIONS COORDINATION COMMISSION

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ACTIVITY REPORT

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II. MEETINGS

In Palermo, at the meeting of the Commission on November 17, 2022, we received and approved the application for membership of our colleague Stefan Naubauer from the Bucharest Bar. The Commission met every two months, either in Cluj-Napoca or online.

III. WORK IN RECENT MONTHS

We focused on the possible rethinking of the purpose, objectives and priorities of the Commission, given the deadlock caused by the response of President Bas Martens on the rejection of the possibility of creating the online platform, which would have created a bridge among the member bars of the Federation and among lawyers across Europe.

In Palermo, I attached to the report a letter addressed to all the deans of the FBE member bars with a view to their active participation in the work of our Commission, with the intention of sending it to all the FBE member bars. After receiving the President's categorical reply, we initially gave up, wondering about the lack of support from the Federation, but then we realized that this would be a mistake and sent the letter.

IV. WORK IN PROGRESS

1. ONLINE PLATFORM

The development of the platform has stopped due to the position of President Bas Martens. We would have liked to take the first concrete steps by Amsterdam.

We are now waiting for the opinion of the FBE GENERAL ASSEMBLY to see if and how we will proceed.

The aim is:

- To provide resident citizens and, more recently, refugees living in a country other than their country of origin with lawyers who know the law of both countries
- To create a link between lawyers from EU member countries and beyond, so that they would be able to:
 - Seek advice
 - Exchange views
 - Refer a client to a colleague who specializes in a particular field

taking into account the legislation of the country/countries concerned and the language spoken by the client and the lawyer.

The Commission presented a model for such a platform at the General Congress in Sofia in June 2022, and it should have been put to a vote of the member bars at the Intermediate Congress in Palermo. The Commission continued to work with the IT company RODEAPPS, which had the technical solution to create the platform and whose representatives were present in Palermo, without being given the opportunity to present the steps taken.

2. ATTRACTING MEMBERS

We have gained two new members ,Anca-Daniela Baciu and Stefan Naubauer.

The Commission drafted a letter, which I sent to all the member bars.

Some of the email addresses turned out to be incorrect. The data on the website should be updated.

I received a reply from l'Ordine degli Avvocati di Messina, which delegated Antonio Cappuccio (avvantoniocappuccio@gmail.com).

3. PROJECTS

1. Online platform.

We do not want to give up on the idea of the platform.

It is certain that the very realization of the platform is precisely in the spirit of the Federation's objectives and that that sticking to the few annual meetings is no longer in line with the digital age of the 21st century.

"Its purpose is to represent the interests of the bars in the field of human rights, deontology and information sharing."

12. To exchange information between Member Bars concerning practice, problems and changes in regulation of the profession in their country and to give mutual assistance when required. (FBE Statutes)

The platform would be the modern, future means of bringing together the member bars – the bars being the lawyers who make them up, rather than an abstract entity - and it is the concrete

way of exchanging information on the legal practice and on issues relating to the evolution of the regulations of the profession.

A way must be found that costs the Federation nothing, or as little as possible. **Now we have lost two options, one for EUR 2,000 plus VAT, the other for free**. To create such a platform, funding has to come from somewhere, and our proposal, together with SC RODEAPSSS, was that it should come from the lawyers who became associates or paid a subscription.

Considering that Cluj-Napoca is a European "Silicon Valley", we can find other ways to create the platform but only if the Federation agrees.

2. Carrying out joint activities of several bars on various topics of interest, both professional and art, culinary, sports, tourism, etc., with the aim of mutual knowledge of the specifics of each country.

The aim of the TASTE OF LAW program is to promote professional cooperation between law firms and lawyers through art and cuisine, two universal ways of getting to know each other and getting to know each other better.

The objectives of the program are as follows:

- To promote cooperation between bars and between lawyers through the knowledge of the art and cuisine of the lawyers of the FBE bars, in accordance with the motto of the European Union "Unity in Diversity".
- To encourage lawyers' involvement in art and cuisine by responding to topical legal scientific themes in the field of culture and by organising an exhibition featuring the works of participating lawyers
- The organisation of legal workshops in areas of law of interest to the participants
- Organizing social networking for the participants

The first edition of the program will be held in Cluj-Napoca on May 16-18, 2024. The first FBE bar to announce its participation in the program is the Westminster & Holborn Law Society.

Each bar association wishing to participate in the program will be able to send a maximum of 10 lawyers.

The intention to participate in the program should be sent to the Bar Action Cooperation Commission email address FBE_commission_coordination_des_actions_des_barreaux@baroul-cluj.ro no later than

February 28, 2024. The following should be mentioned:

- The agreement to organize one of the following editions of the program in the future
- The number of participating lawyers and areas of law concerned
- Whether any of the participating lawyers are artists who wish to exhibit their work and what it consists of (painting, sculpture, books, music, etc.).

The final structure of the program for May 16-18, 2024 and the invitation to participate in the program will be communicated to each FBE member bar in June 2023.

Any bar that wants to discover and discover itself through art and cuisine is welcome to join the Commission's program.

- **3. Exchange of young lawyers** for a fixed period.
- **4.** Thematic competitions for young lawyers in collaboration with other commissions.
- 5. Collaboration between lawyers of countries with large number of refugees.

- **6. Online publication on the FBE page** of guides in refugee languages summarizing the rights of refugees in all EU Member States and EU legislation.
- **7. Publication on the FBE page** of all links through which unions and/or bars provide PRO BONO legal assistance to refugees through their lawyers.
- 8. Establishment of common issues of member bars

VI. DIFFICULTIES

The work of the Commission is currently affected by:

- The recent establishment of the Commission;
- The uncertainty of accepting the implementation of the proposed platform.

President of the Commission Attorney-at-Law Stanca GIDRO PhD

> Secretary Attorney-at-Law Călin Viorel IUGA