

## CANDIDACY FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE FBE

Bilbao, 7 April 2025

**TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN BARS FEDERATION (FBE) ATTN: Secretary General**

Dear Colleagues,

In accordance with Article IX.B.a of the Statutes of the European Bars Federation (FBE), I am writing to formally submit my candidacy for the Presidency of the FBE for the elections to be held during the next General Assembly in Berna in May 2025.

### CANDIDATE INFORMATION

**Full name:** Aitzol Asla Uribe **Bar Association:** Ilustre Colegio de la Abogacía de Bizkaia (Bilbao Bar Association) **Current position in the FBE:** President of the Ethics Commission **Current position in his Bar:** Vice-President and Head of the International Relations Commission **Previous positions in his Bar:** Member of the Governing Board for 10 years and Director of the School of Legal Practice

### CURRICULUM VITAE

*Aitzol Asla Uribe Attorney at Law. Professor of Procedural Law. Expert in institutional advocacy, legal training, and international relations.*

Aitzol Asla Uribe has been a practicing lawyer and Professor of Procedural Law at the University of Deusto since 2006. His professional career combines legal practice with a deep institutional vocation, a firm commitment to legal training, and active participation in the international arena.

He was Director of the School of Legal Practice of the Bilbao Bar Association, where he promoted the training of new generations of professionals. He subsequently served on its Governing Board for ten years. Currently, he is the **Head of International Relations of the Bar Association**, where he leads the dialogue with European entities and organizations.

He is a partner at the law firm *New Law Partners*, where he practices in the areas of **Commercial Law and Economic Criminal Law**, with a focus on legal innovation, strategic advice, and contemporary challenges of professional practice.

In the institutional sphere, he has been a member of the Training and International Relations Commissions of the Spanish General Council of the Bar. He is currently a **member of the Training Commission of the**

**Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)** and is part of the **Spanish Delegation to the CCBE**, along with other prominent representatives of the Spanish legal profession.

He also chairs the **Ethics Commission of the European Bars Federation (FBE)**, where he promotes deontological principles and ethical commitment as fundamental pillars of the profession.

Author of multiple articles in legal journals and contributor to collective works focused on the challenges facing the legal profession in a global society, his career is marked by his support for young lawyers, training excellence, and the European projection of the profession.

## **SUITABILITY FOR THE POSITION**

My candidacy for the Presidency of the FBE is based on the following pillars:

1. **Extensive experience in the FBE:** Over the years, I have had the honor of serving the Federation in various positions and responsibilities, including the Presidency of the Training Commission and, currently, the Presidency of the Ethics Commission. This extensive experience within the organization has provided me with a deep understanding of its functioning, challenges, and potential, as well as a consolidated network of relationships with the various member Bars.
2. **Commitment to the fundamental values of European advocacy:** As President of the FBE Ethics Commission, I have worked intensively on the promotion and defense of the deontological principles that govern our profession, contributing to strengthening the independence and integrity of European advocacy. Previously, from the Presidency of the Training Commission, I promoted initiatives for the continuous improvement of the professional competences of European lawyers.
3. **Experience in bar association management:** My 10-year career as a member of the Governing Board of the Bilbao Bar Association, where I also served as Director of the School of Legal Practice, and my current responsibility as Vice-President and Head of the International Relations Commission of the Bar, have allowed me to acquire valuable experience in managing bar affairs, legal training, and institutional representation of the legal profession both nationally and internationally.
4. **European and integrative vision:** I consider it fundamental to strengthen the ties between the different European Bar Associations and their young lawyers' associations, promoting the exchange of experiences and good practices, and working together in defense of the interests of our profession before European institutions, always with an intergenerational perspective that guarantees the future of the FBE.
5. **Defense of human rights and the rule of law:** In line with the fundamental principles of the FBE, my commitment to the defense of human rights and the rule of law has been a constant in my professional and institutional career.

## WORK PROGRAM

If elected, my work program for the one-year term will focus on the following lines of action:

1. **Strengthening the representativeness of the FBE:** I will work to incorporate new Bar Associations from different regions of Europe, thus reinforcing the plurality and representativeness of our Federation.
2. **Integration of young lawyers' associations:** I will decisively promote the active participation of young lawyers' associations from the various member Bars, creating specific structures within the FBE that guarantee their representation and participation in decision-making, thus ensuring the future and generational renewal of the Federation.
3. **Promotion of training and professional exchange:** I will promote continuous training and professional exchange programs between lawyers from different countries, with special attention to young lawyers and their specific needs.
4. **Active defense of the independence of the legal profession:** In the face of growing challenges to the independence of our profession, I will strengthen the FBE's actions for the defense of the independence of lawyers and Bar Associations.
5. **Promotion of professional ethics:** I will continue to drive the work of the Ethics Commission, promoting the harmonization of ethical standards in Europe and their adaptation to the new challenges of the profession.
6. **Strengthening communication and visibility:** I will improve the FBE's internal and external communication channels, enhancing its visibility and influence before European institutions and society.

## DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT

I hereby declare my commitment to dedicate the time and resources necessary for the proper performance of the position of President of the FBE, if elected, as well as my adherence to the principles and objectives established in the Statutes of the Federation.

I attach to this letter the declaration of support from the Bilbao Bar Association, signed by its Dean, expressing the institutional backing for my candidacy and the Bar's commitment to the Federation.

I remain at your disposal for any clarification or additional information you may require.

Sincerely,

**Aitzol Asla Uribe**