



International Society for Labour
and Social Security Law
Société internationale de droit du travail
et de la sécurité sociale
Sociedad Internacional de Derecho del
Trabajo y de la Seguridad Social

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BULLETIN N^o 105

September 2004

Dear colleagues

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

VI American Regional Congress of Labour and Social Security Law

I convey all my sincere thanks and congratulations to our friends Jorge García de Presno Larrañaga and Néstor de Buen, for the warm welcome they gave us and the nice and challenging Congress they organized in Santiago de Querétaro. Apart from a lovely city registered in UNESCO World Heritage, Querétaro is the cradle of the Mexican Constitution of 1917, which for the first time ever provided for social and labour guarantees to be included in a Constitutional provision.

The Congress was held in the premises of the Teatro de la Republica, which is precisely the place where the Constitution was discussed and adopted. Also, it took place during the celebration of Mexican Independence Day. For those who came from abroad it was doubtless a memorable experience. It was within such an impressive framework that the Congress could not help but being a great scientific event.

http://www.asociacion.org.ar/ISLLSS/Ingl%E9s/index_ing.htm

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I would like to put on record the well balanced distribution of reporters and panelists, coming from most of the countries which were represented at the Congress, as well as the gender balance between male and female reporters and panelists, better than that of previous ISLSSL congresses.

Particular thanks should be addressed to José Dávalos, Cristina Mangarelli, Jorge Rodríguez Mancini, Jorge García de Presno Larrañaga and Joan Broadshug Merton, who moderated and chaired our various working sittings, and last but not least to Wagner Giglio and Néstor de Buen, who delivered highly thought-provoking keynote speeches, respectively on the Future of Labour Law and the Right to Strike in Mexico.

VIII Asian Regional Congress: Call for papers

The Organizing Committee of this Congress (Taipei, 31 October – 3 November 2005) is making a call for individual papers which may or may not relate to the topics on the Agenda, and will arrange for special meetings to be held during the Congress for the presentation and discussion of these papers. Those interested in submitting papers are requested to submit an abstract (one page A 4) no later than the end of the year. If accepted, full papers are to reach the Organizing Committee no later than 31 st. July 2005.

Finances of our Society

It is time for all of you who have not yet paid your dues for 2004 to start sending your bank transfer orders to our Treasurer, Professor Irene Asscher-Vonk. Collection of dues is indispensable for the survival of our Society, and to permit it continuing to offer scholarships to young scholars from weak currency countries so that they can attend our international events.

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News of the ISLSSL

1. VI th American Regional Congress

We have just held our VI th American Congress, in Santiago de Querétaro, Mexico, from 14 to 17 September. The themes of the Congress were the following:

Theme I	Special labour relations.
Theme II	The internationalization of labour and employment relations within the framework of the Free Trade Agreement for the Americas.
Theme III	Social accountability of multinational enterprises: voluntary codes of labour practices and their private monitoring.
Round Table	Evolution and recent trends of the Labour Law in Europe, North America and Latin America.
Round Table	Social Security Law: public service or privatization?
Keynote Speech	The future of Labour Law
Keynote Speech	The right to strike

Some of the papers submitted to the Congress are already available on CD ROM. The Organizing Committee has announced that all the papers and the proceedings will be shortly edited and printed.

The Executive Committee held an informal meeting shortly before the Congress.

The VII Regional Congress is likely to be held in Santo Domingo, in 2007, pursuant to an invitation made by our colleague and friend Rafael Albuquerque, currently Vice-President of the Dominican Republic, with Argentina as an alternate venue in case it cannot be held in Santo Domingo. The Executive Committee will be requested to take a decision thereupon during its next meeting in Bologna, September 2005.

2. International Seminar on Comparative Labour Law, Industrial Relations and Social Security, 5-16 July 2004, Bordeaux, France.

I congratulate Professor Philippe Auvergnon for the success of this Seminar, which was held from 5 to 16 July 2004. The general topic of the Seminar was: Social accountability of enterprises. The Seminar, which was conducted in French and English, was attended by 74 participants and discussants from 24 countries of all the regions of the world.

Our Society had allocated five scholarships to attend the Seminar, of which only 2 (participants from Argentina and Hungary) were actually used, as some of the bursaries finally did not attend.

We all expect that Professor Auvergnon will be able to organize next year a new edition of this Seminar.

3. Forthcoming congresses

VIII th European Regional Congress, Bologna, 20-23 September 2005

The Organizing Committee, under the Chairmanship of our Vice-President Professor Franco Carinci is very actively preparing this Congress. A first announcement is already out and a webpage has been opened at the following address:
<http://www.labourlawbologna.com/>

The following themes have been included in the Agenda of this Congress:

Theme I	Family Allowances
Theme II	Processes of Social Law Making and Implementation within the European Union
Theme III	Transfer of Undertakings: a delicate compromise between Individual Protection, Labour Market and Economic Development (a) Transfer of enterprises and the contract of employment; (b) Transfer of enterprises and collective rights.
Round Table	The new boundaries of employees' information and consultation rights
Round Table	Challenges in Labour Law and Collective Bargaining in Central European countries which arise out of their integration into the European Union.
Workshop 1	The respective roles of the trade unions, the workers' representatives, the public authorities and other stakeholders in transfers, takeovers or other transformations in the structure or the size of the enterprises.
Workshop 2	Alternative Dispute Resolution in Labour Law

Bulletin No. 103 (March 2004) includes a detailed programme of the Congress.

VIII ° Asian Regional Congress, Taipei, 2005, 31 st October - 3 November 2005

I have received the following information on this Congress:

Provisional programme

31 October (Monday)

Registration

1 November (Tuesday)

09:00 - 10:30	Executive Committee meeting
11:00 - 12:30	Opening Ceremony
14:00 - 15:30	Theme I Plenary Session
16:00 - 17:30	Theme I Workshops 1 and 2

19:00 - Reception

2 November (Wednesday)

09:00 - 10:30 Theme II Plenary Session
11:00 - 12:30 Theme II Workshop 3 and 4
14:00 - 15:30 Theme III Plenary Session
16:00 - 17:30 Theme III Workshops 5 and 6

3 November (Thursday)

09:00 - 10:30 Special Session 1 and 2
11:00 - 12:30 Special Session 3 and 4
14:00 - 16:00 Round Table
16:30 - 17:00 Closing Ceremony
19:00 - Congress Dinner

The Organizing Committee has prepared questionnaires on the three items, which are being circulated to our Asian Members.

Special Sessions have been arranged for the presentation and discussion of invited papers. Please, refer to the announcement by the Secretary General, hereabove. More information can be obtained from:

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Secretary General
Association of Industrial Relations ROC
11F-1, No. 7, Tun-Hwa S. Rd., Sec. 1
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Taiwan, China
Tel: +886-2-2578-2881
Fax: +886-2-2577-5345
E-mail: airroc@ms3.hinet.net

General Reporters

Cing-Kae Chiao, Taiwan: Theme 1: The participation of Women in the Labour Market -- Toward the Goal of Gender Equality in Employment in the 21st Century

Sean Cooney, Australia: Theme II: The Impetus for Economic Restructuring and the Protection of Workers' Rights)

Hideyuki Morito, Japan: Theme III: The Asian Experiences on the Old-Age Security or Pension System)

The congress venue is the Holiday Inn Asiaworld Hotel, Taipei.

Registration fees will be of u\$s 250. Online registration will be made available by the end of this year.

XVIII th World Congress, Paris 2006

Consultations with a view to appointing reporters and panelists for this Congress are well underway. I look forward to receiving very soon a finalized proposal from the Organizing Committee. In keeping with our practice, reporters and panelists for our world congresses are to be agreed upon between the Organizing Committee and the Executive

Committee. I expect coming back to you with more detailed information in my next Bulletin, No. 106, December 2004.

4. Financial Questions

Our Treasurer informs that our Members from Argentina, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway and Slovenia have already paid their contributions for 2004, and I convey my thanks to them.

Those who have not yet paid their dues for 2004 (and of course, also those who are still in arrears of their contribution for 2003) are kindly requested to rapidly forward their payment to our Treasurer, Professor Irene Asscher-Vonk.

The amount of the contribution to our Society is u\$s 7 for each year per individual member of a National Member or an Institutional Member. Individual Members also pay u\$s 7 per year.

Contributions are due, for the full year, on 1 st January. Their payment shall be made to the Treasurer, preferably by bank transfer to:

ABN/AMRO
Swift/BIC: ABNA NL2A
Postbus 97701
2509 GC Den Haag, the Netherlands
IBAN: NL48ABNA0586047409
Account No. 58.60.47.409
ISLLSS Treasurer Prof. Asscher-Vonk

Each Member paying his/her contribution shall notify our Treasurer, Professor Asscher-Vonk, and provide her with the following information:

- (a) The name of the member;
- (b) The year for which the contribution is paid;
- (c) The number of individuals for whom the contribution is paid.

Members who have difficulties in paying may submit their problem to the Treasurer, who may propose a solution, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Under art. 14.2 of our by-laws the Executive Committee has the power to decide upon such reductions of the ordinary contributions which may be justified because of the situation in each case.

5. News from our members

Argentina and Uruguay

Our Argentinean and Uruguayan members have jointly convened the XV National Congress and XIII River Plate Meeting of Labour and Social Security Law, in the city of Paraná, Province of Entre Ríos, Argentina, from 26 to 28 August 2004. The meeting was organized by the recently created branch of Entre Ríos of the Argentinean Association for Labour and Social Security Law (AADTySS). It was attended by no less than 175 colleagues and was highly successful. A CD is available with the papers submitted to this event. More information on this meeting is available from the AADTySS: <http://www.asociacion.org.ar>

Brazil

Our Brazilian Chapter organizes on 11 and 12 November 2004, in Salvador, Bahia, a seminar on Labour Law and Procedures in labour litigation. For more information, please contact Professor LUIZ DE PINHO PEDREIRA DA SILVA : Av. Sete de Setembro, 1714, ap. 1001, 40080-001 Salvador- BA, Brasil, E-mail : lppedreira@terra.com.br

South Africa

New e-mail address of Professor Darcy du Toit: darcydutoit@telkomsa.net

All his other contacts remain unchanged.

United States

I have received the following letter from Professor Alvin Goldman:

On July 2nd, Professor Tim Heinsz, a member of the National Executive Board of the U.S. Branch, died at age 56 from a massive heart attack while taking his morning jog. Professor Heinsz, a much loved teacher and respected scholar, was Dean of the University of Missouri Law School from 1988-2001. His unusually long tenure as an American law school dean was widely recognized as a tribute to his exceptional ability to lead through warmth, compassion and personal example. Among his accomplishments as Dean, he helped establish the school's Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution which is a leader in that field. Tim Heinsz additionally was a highly regarded labor arbitrator and mediator, an active member and leader of the National Academy of Arbitrators, a former visiting scholar at the ILO, and a visiting professor at the University of Auckland and Clare Hall, Cambridge University. As a member of the American Law Institute and the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, Tim Heinsz played an important role in refining American arbitration law.

I convey all my condolences to the family and colleagues of Professor Heinsz.

Germany-Lithuania

An Information Week was jointly organized from 13 to 20 June 2004 by the German and Lithuanian national associations of ISLLSS. The aim of the event was to present the institutional framework of the German social and labour law to labour and social law practitioners from Lithuania, which has recently joined the European Union, and to initiate closer bilateral co-operation between specialists from both countries. The Lithuanian delegation included judges from Lithuanian Supreme Court and from the Court of Appeal, representatives from central trade unions and employers' organizations, specialists from Ministry of Social Security and Labour and academics. During the information week the Lithuanian delegation paid visits to a number of institutions across Germany, such as the German Federal Labour Court in Erfurt, the District Labour Court in Freiburg, central workers' and employers' organizations, the Institute for Labour Law and Industrial Relations in the European Community. Lithuanian guests participated in the hearings at the courts, established contacts with their German colleagues, discussed with them current problems and legislative tendencies both at European Communities and the national level and enjoyed German hospitality throughout the week. The Information-week was initiated and guided by the President of the German Association of ISLLSS Prof. dr. Manfred Loewisch (Freiburg i.Br.).

ILO Section of ISLSSL

The ILO Section of ISLSSL organized on 6 July a conference-debate on Globalization and the Role of International Labour Standards. The theme was introduced by Janelle Diller

(ILO). The discussant was Jean-Pierre Lavié (International Institute of Labour Studies). A second meeting was held on 28 September, during which Georges Minet (ILO) lectured about the draft African Labour Code, now under preparation within the framework of OHADA (Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa).

6. News from the ILO

The International Observatory of Labour Law has now the following Labour Law Profiles online: Argentina, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Guyana, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, India, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela. The URL of the Observatory is:

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/ifpdial/II/observatory/profiles/index.htm>

I will welcome any feedback which may come from you, and would be very grateful for any information to update the profiles.

7. Books received

Jean-Michel Servais, Normes Internationales du Travail, Paris, L.G.D.J., 2004. This comprehensive albeit relatively concise publication by our Honorary President and former Secretary General is made up of four titles, dealing respectively with the History and current challenges of the ILO, the Sources of International Labour Law, the contents of ILO standards and the effectiveness of ILO standards. Rather than a Treatise this book attempts at giving some clues for a reflection on the role of International Labour Standards, and more specifically the need to rely on International Standards to cope with labour and social problems in an increasingly globalizing economy. As it is of very easy and agreeable reading there is very little wonder that it will meet with great success and will rapidly become an unavoidable reference book for students, scholars and practitioners in the field of ILO standards. I address my warmest congratulations to President Servais and eagerly expect the coming out of the English and Spanish versions.

* * * *

Kind regards
Arturo Bronstein
Secretary General