



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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Season's Greetings
and
Best Wishes for 2009

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Letter of our President-Elect Michal Sewerynski

Dear Members of the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law

During the last European Congress in Freiburg the Executive Committee has elected me as the President Elect of the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law. In keeping with our by-laws I will take up as President at the closing ceremony of our XIX World Congress in Sydney, September 2009, for a three year mandate that will end at the closing ceremony of our XX World Congress in Santiago de Chile, 2012.

I feel very honored and privileged by my election as our Society is a well-known international organization, serving during more than 50 years the community of professors, researchers, judges, civil servants, trade unionists, employers, politicians, labour law practitioners, as well as all other people and institutions involved in the field of labour and social security law. The Society has a lot of achievements on all of the above fields due to persevering activity of its outstanding leaders and devoted members. I promise to preserve this accomplishment and to maintain all forms of our activity which turned out so fruitful and gained to the Society broad recognition.

It's obvious that members of the Society expect from the President-elect new ideas and methods of activity, serving to achieve our goals as defined in the by-laws. That's why I'm presenting to you some of my proposals, hoping to receive your opinions and suggestions in response to it.

It seems that, first of all, it's necessary to make more efforts in favor of our young members because they will assure the continuity of our Society. Thus, we should help them to develop their knowledge and engagement in the Society's activity. To achieve these goals the Society should more and more help young members to get scholarships, allowing them to participate larger in our congresses and also in international seminars of labour law and social security, as for example that organized by Montesquieu University in Bordeaux or by Modena University. It seems that similar international seminars for young researchers should be organized also on other continents, with the support of the Society.

Although our Society is broadly known, it could have a stronger impact on the Governments' and relevant international bodies' policy in the field of labour and social security law. That's why it's worth to think about expertises and opinions elaborated by the Society on the demand of above institutions. We could also put at their disposal some conclusions of our congresses. The Society should also continue efforts to increase the number of its national members, particularly from the countries to whom the Society could help in developing their labour and social security law, as well as the education in these fields.

As far as the internal affairs of the Society are concerned, it could be useful to strengthen the Board's activity and its contacts with national Sections. Our Bulletins are very useful as a tool of contact but it could be more appreciated by members of the Society giving more information not only on

national Sections' activity but also about the development of labour law and social security in our countries. On this way the Bulletin could evolve towards more ambitious tool of information, although it can not be achieved without stronger support of national Sections (correspondents).

All of these proposals and more could be the subject of our discussions during the forthcoming World Congress in Sydney and also in other places and forms of our cooperation. I would like to be close to you and to feel your support.

Dear Friends,

In a couple of weeks many of us will live Christmas or New Year. Let me wish all of you on that occasion happiness and satisfaction in your family life as well as in your professional and public activity.

*Prof. Michał Seweryński (University of Lodz, Poland)
President-elect of the ISLSSL*

1. News from ISL&SSL

XIX World Congress, Sydney, 1-4 September 2009

In my last bulletin I have told you that I was urging the Organizing Committee to lower the registration rates. Things have, however, changed since then because of the sharp fall of the Australian currency vis a vis the US dollar. Early bird registration until May, 31 st, is still fixed at AUD 795, but at the current rate this amount is now slightly above USD 500, and only EUR 384, i.e. lower than early bird rates in Paris 2006. Fall of the Australian currency also means that hotel accommodation and other local expenditure will be cheaper for those who will be coming from the US\$ and Euro areas. In short, this is the right time to register in the Congress and plan your travel to Australia.

You can register to the congress through the webpage <http://www.labourlawsydney.com/>

Below are the Congress main themes:

Theme 1: Regulatory frameworks and law enforcement in new forms of employment. General Reporter: Professor Rosemary Owens (Australia)

Theme 2: Workers' Representation and social dialogue at the workplace level. General Reporter: Professor Antoine Jeammaud (France)

Theme 3: Emerging patterns of social protection in light of structural changes (ageing population, changing family structures, immigration, budgetary constraints, political and ideological realignments). General Reporter: Professor Carlos Hernández Contreras (Dominican Republic)

I have so far received the national reports from our member associations in the following countries:

Theme I: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Colombia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, New Zealand, South Africa, Taiwan (China), Uruguay and Sweden.

Theme II: Austria, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, France, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, Taiwan (China), Turkey, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Theme III: Australia, Austria, Chile, Colombia, Germany, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Slovenia and Sweden.

A detailed program can be accessed through the following hyperlink:
<http://www.labourlawsydney.com/desc-program.html>

VIII European Congress, Freiburg, 2008

Please, note that the link to the homepage of this Congress is
www.labourlawfreiburg2008.com, (not www.labourlawfreiburg2008.de)

XX World Congress, Santiago de Chile, 2012

I have scheduled a meeting with the organizing committee of this Congress in April 2009. Proposals for date, themes and reporters will be submitted to the Executive Committee at its meeting in Sydney, September 2009.

VIII American Congress of ISL&SSL

This Congress will be held in the superb and nostalgic setting of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in 2010. The Organizing Committee is circulating a questionnaire to our members in the Americas region, to exchange views on the most suitable dates, agenda items and reporters. More information will be available in a forthcoming bulletin.

2. Reform of our by-laws

I have reworded several provisions in the draft new by-laws, so as to take account of the various comments and observations that were formulated during the Executive Committee meeting in Freiburg. A revised text will be circulated in due time; it will be submitted to the consideration of the Executive Committee while at its meeting in Sydney, September 2009. Once approved by the Executive Committee the revised by-laws will be submitted to our General Assembly for final ratification.

3. News from our Members

Argentina

New Executive Board of the Asociación Argentina de Derecho del Trabajo y de la Seguridad Social, AADTySS

Chairperson:	Alberto RIMOLDI
Vice-Chairperson:	José RODRIGUEZ PONTE
Treasurer:	Sonia BUACAR
Secretary:	Héctor David RODRÍGUEZ
Members:	Marta PUJADAS
	Mario FERA
	Laura RUA
	Ana M. SANCHEZ
	César G. FERRANTE
	Ana BARILARO

Substitute Members: Marta MASSENIO
Carlos MARIN RODRIGUEZ
Auditors: Marcelo AQUINO
Liliana RODRIGUEZ FERNANDEZ
Héctor GARCÍA

I warmly congratulate the Asociación Argentina for the very successful National Congress it held in beautiful Salta, Argentina, in October 2008.

The Philippines

I have received the following letter from Professor Macharaya

Dear Mr. Bronstein,

We wish to inform you that in view of the resignation of our President Mr. Luis M. Ermitano, we have reconstituted the International Society for Labor and Social Security – Philippine Chapter with the election of the following:

Officers

Mr. Bach M. Macaraya	-	President
Ms. Delia Uy	-	Vice President
Mr. Jonathan Sale	-	Secretary
Ms. Mary Leian Marasigan	-	Treasurer
Mr. Nicolas Barriatos	-	Auditor

Panel of Advisers

Dean Froilan Bacungan	Mr. Luis Ermitano
Dean Rene Ofreneo	Dean Jorge Sibal
Usec. Carmelo C. Noriel	Sec. Ruben D. Torres
Sec. Nieves Confesor	Sec. Cresenciano Trajano
Sec. Bienvenido Laguesma	Sec. Patricia Sto. Tomas

May we also inform you that the Society has decided to incorporate under Philippine laws in the name Philippine Society for Labor and Social Security, Inc. (PhiLSI) and that it will be hosting a National Congress on Labor and Social Security sometime in April 2009. Details will be sent to you later.

Thank you and we hope to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

BACH M. MACARAYA
President

Russian Federation

I regret to announce the death of Professor Semyon Alekandrovich Ivanov at 84 years of age. He was one of the most acknowledged experts in Soviet Union Labour Law. Born on 31 August 1924 in Kharkov, Mr Ivanov graduated from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations in 1949. He completed postgraduate studies at the Institute of State and Law of the Academy of Sciences (IGPAN) of the Soviet Union in 1952, the year in which he completed his thesis. His international teaching career took him to the Universities of Paris, Lyon, Strasbourg, Geneva, Trieste and Louvain, and he became Professor of the International Faculty of Comparative Law in Strasbourg, France. Many of his works were published abroad, in the United Kingdom, France, Germany and the

United States. In the Soviet Union, he taught for many years in the Faculty of Law of the Lomonosov Moscow State University, and subsequently in the Law Academy of IGPRAN, of which he became principal scientific director 1992. He has been a member of the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations from 1981 to 1993, and for many years he was also a member of our Executive Committee, and Vice-President of our Society.

South Africa

Professor du Toit has sent me a report on the activities of our National Member, the South African Society for Labour Law, SASLAW, which held its Annual General Meeting in Durban, 11 October 2008. I will like to share with you the following information:

- a) Membership of SASLAW increased to 660 (610 in 2007, 642 in 2006) in September 2008.
- b) Members of the SASLAW national committee met with the Judge President again during the year. The Acting Deputy Judge President, Judge Khampepe, also attended. Members were again encouraged to raise concerns they might have concerning the Court with their committees so that, where appropriate, these can be discussed with the Judge President.
- c) SASLAW remains affiliated to the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law with Darcy du Toit being on the international executive committee.
- d) 146 delegates attended the tenth annual SASLAW conference in Cape Town in October 2007.
- e) SASLAW prizes continue to be awarded at selected universities in close proximity to regional chapters.
- f) Pam O'Connor was thanked for her invaluable work for the Society and assistance given to Richard Haslop during his time as President.
- g) The new board of SASLAW is as following:

President: Bradley Conradie
Vice-President: Marylyn Christianson.

National Committee

Richard Haslop (KZN)
Carl Mischke (G)
Darcy du Toit (WC)
Tanya Venter (G)
Marion Fouché (EC)

I warmly congratulate SASLAW for its successful work in our field.

United States

1. Our US Branch is conducting a one-day comparative labor and employment law conference in Chicago, IL, on Wednesday, May 20, 2009, at the Northwestern University School of Law.

Theodore St. Antoine, Prof, Emeritus, U. Michigan will preside over the first half of the program which will include presentations by Ronald C. Brown, Prof. of Law, U-Hawaii (Overview—China's New Legal Environment Affecting ADR); Hilary K. Josephs, Professor of Law, Syracuse U. (China's New Employment Contract Law); Arnold Zack, Arbitrator, NAA, & Lecturer, Harvard U. (Mediation and Arbitration in China--Law and Practice); and Earl Brown, Solidarity Center, AFL-CIO (China's Labor Landscape - The Union Role).

The second half of the program, "Industrial Action in Confederal Systems", will look at judicial responses to union efforts to curb outsourcing in cross border transactions. Prof. Frank Hendrickx (Catholic University, Leuven, Belgium) will explain discussed European developments respecting this issue (Viking and Laval cases) and Profs. Bernard Adell (Queens U., Kingston, Ont.) and Steven Willborn (Nebraska) will respectively offer Canadian and U.S. perspectives.

The third session features Ana Gomes (Prof. of Intl. Labor Law at Catholic University, Santos, Brazil and Mackenzie University, São Paulo, Brazil), Benjamin Davis (Director, AFL-CIO Solidarity office, Mexico City) and Thomas Wilson (Vinson & Elkins law firm). Prof. Gomes and Mr. Davis will explain and assess the labor and employment dispute resolution systems respectively in Brazil and Mexico, and Mr. Wilson will offer a U.S. practitioner's perspective on the topic.

Inquiries can be sent to professors Steve Willborn < swillborn1@unlnotes.unl.edu > or Alvin Goldman < algold00@email.uky.edu >

2. I regret to announce that Professor Leroy S. Merrifield, who was chair of the U.S. Branch of the ISLSSL from 1982 to 1988, died on September, 19, 2008, at his Alexandria, VA, home at age 90. Professor Merrifield, a World War II veteran who had law degrees from Minnesota and Harvard, was a federal government lawyer before joining the George Washington University faculty in 1947. He was Lobingier Professor of Jurisprudence and Comparative Law at the time of his retirement from teaching in 1988.

International Industrial Relations Association

The 15th World Congress of the International Industrial Relations Association (IIRA) will be held in Sydney from 24 to 27 August 2009. The theme of the Congress is the New World of Work, Organisations and Employment. The theme of the Congress will be explored in five tracks: Management, Work and Organizations; Voice and Representation; Work, Family and Community; Institutions, Processes and Outcomes; and New Forms of Work.

Registrations are now open and conference delegates can take advantage for a super early bird registration rate until January 9th 2009. Further discounts on the early bird rate are available to members of the IIRA as well as state and territory branch members of the Industrial Relations Society of Australia

For further details on registration go to <http://www.iceaustralia.com/IIRA200>

Kind regards

Arturo Bronstein
Secretary General