Dear colleagues

News from our Society

1. VIII Regional Americas Congress of ISL&SSL, Cartagena de Indias

I am very pleased to convey my deep thanks and warmest congratulations to our Colombian colleagues of the Colegio de Abogados del Trabajo for the impeccable work they have done in organizing this highly successful Congress.

The Congress was held at the Convention Center of the City of Cartagena de Indias from 25 to 28 May 2010. It took place together with the XXVIII National Congress of Labour and Social Security Law of Colombia and was attended by more than 550 participants, of whom some 100 participants came from countries other than the host country. English and Spanish, with interpretation were the working languages of the Congress.

The Congress agenda included the following themes:

Theme 1: Current situation and the future of public and private pension systems in the light of the worldwide crisis.

Theme 2: Public and private systems of settlement of individual and collective labour disputes.

Theme 3: The protection of worker's privacy at the workplace.

The Congress also held two Round Tables, respectively on the impact of the so-called "news forms of employment" on individual and collective employment relations, and on the use of International Law in domestic courts.
The general reports to this Congress have been gathered in a printed publication. All the national reports and many other submissions have been put on CD support. All this documentation was edited and processed on time and was made available to all the registered participants during the Congress.

An unofficial meeting of the Executive Committee was held in the morning of May, 25. Subject to the official approval of our Executive Committee, next year in Seville, it was agreed upon to hold the following American Congress, in 2013, in the city of Guayaquil, Ecuador, pursuant to an invitation from Professor Sabino Hernández on behalf of our Equatorian Chapter.

2. X European Regional Congress, Seville, 2011

Our colleagues of the Asociación Española de Derecho del Trabajo y de la Seguridad Social, AEDTySS have already started working in the organization of this Congress. The Government of the Region Andalucía, the State Ministry of Labour and the National Economic and Social Council have committed their support to the Congress.

The Congress will be held from 21st to 23 September 2011. Below is the provisional agenda:

**Wednesday, September 21**

- 10 am  ISL&SSL Executive Committee meeting
- 5 pm  **Opening Ceremony**
  - Jesús Cruz Villalón, Vice-president of the Spanish Association for Labour and Social Security Law, AEDTySS
  - Michal Seweryński, President, International Society for Labour and Social Security Law, ISL&SSL
- 5.30 pm  Theme I : Labour Law and Industrial Relations in the Light of the Economic and Social Changes
  - General Reporter: Miguel Rodríguez-Piñero y Bravo-Ferrer (Spain)
  - Chair: Jean-Michel Servais (Belgium)
- 8 pm  Welcome cocktail

**Thursday, September 22**

- 9.30 am  Theme II
  - Collective Bargaining Rights in a Globalized Economy
  - General Reporter: Fausta Guarriello (Italy)
  - Chair: Antoine Lyon-Caen (France)
- 10.30 am  Individual submissions on Theme II
- 11.15 pm  Wrap-up by the Chair
- 12 pm  Coffee Break
- 12.30 pm  Round Table: Public and private employment services as intermediaries in the hiring of workers
  - Moderator: Remedios Roqueta Buj (Spain)
  - Panelists:
    - Philippe Auvergnon (France)
    - Catherine Barnard (United Kingdom)
    - Jens Kristiansen (Denmark)
    - Arkadiusz Sobczyk (Poland)
- 5 pm.  Round Table: Groups of people who risk labour and social protection

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Friday, September 23

9.30 am Theme III: Social Protection of the Unemployed
- General Reporter: Joszef Hajdu (Hungary)
- Chair: Ludwik Florek (Poland)

10.30 am Individual submissions on Theme III

11.15 pm Wrap-up by the Chair

12 pm Coffee Break

12.30 pm Workshop 1: The role of the judiciary vis a vis the changes in labour law
- Chair: Jean-Marc Béraud (France)
Workshop 2: Interruptions and suspensions of the employment relationship
- Chair: Ronnie Eklund (Sweden)

2 pm Wrap-up of the Congress by Arturo Bronstein, Secretary General of ISL&SSL

2.45 pm Closing ceremony
Fernando Valdés dal Ré, President of AEDTySS

Registration fees will be 315 euros for ISL&SSL members and 450 € for non ISL&SSL members. A rebate of 20 per cent from the above will apply to registrations confirmed and paid until May 31st, 2011. Students will pay only 60 euros. A separate ticket for the congress dinner will be sold at 50 euros.

English, French and Spanish, with interpretation, will be the congress working languages. German may be added if the number of German-speaking participants is sufficient to finance the cost of German interpretation.

More information and updates will regularly be put on the AEDTySS webpage: http://www.aedtss.com/

3. **XX World Congress of ISL&SSL, Santiago de Chile, 2012**

The Congress will be held in the week beginning September, 24, 2012.

The following agenda has been agreed upon between the Organizing Committee and the officers of ISL&SSL

**Theme I:** The effectiveness of Labour Law and the role of the Labour Inspection.

**Theme II:** Mobbying and sexual harassment at the workplace.

**Theme III:** Strike as a fundamental right and its possible collision with other fundamental rights of the citizens.

In addition, there will be two Round Tables or workshops, the themes of which would be fixed at a later stage (ie. at the forthcoming Executive Committee meeting in Seville, 2011).

Consultations are underway relating the selection of the general reporters.
A webpage will be opened beginning 2011.
4. **Task force Servais**

Our Honorary President Jean-Michel Servais is undertaking consultations on the format of our congresses and our Society endeavours to attract new members. He has prepared a paper and a questionnaire, which was sent to our Honorary Presidents, Vice-Presidents and a number of other members. He has already received many replies and is expected to submit a report and proposals to our Executive Committee while at its next year meeting in Seville.

5. **Questionnaire on National Members of ISL&SSL**

You may remember that at its General Assembly in Sydney, September 2009, a number of amendments were made to our by-laws, which included criteria to define which national association would be eligible to become "national members“ of our Society, with full voting rights. The relevant rules were drafted as following:

*Quote*

**Article 3**

The Society membership shall consist of:

1. National associations or other entities which have decided to affiliate themselves as members of the Society and whose affiliation is accepted by the Executive Committee. This category of membership shall be referred to as the Society’s National Members. To be eligible, a National Member shall submit its by-laws or a brief on its purpose and activities and shall demonstrate that it has no less than 15 dues paying individual members. The Executive Committee may, however, accept a smaller number of members of an association in order for it to qualify as a National Member if that smaller membership is justified because of the applicant’s individual situation. There shall be no more than one National Member per country. ...

*Unquote*

The new by-laws also provided that the Officers in consultation with the Vice-presidents would propose a list of the associations that met the criteria for being recognized as National Members pursuant to article 3.1 above, which list would be submitted to the approval of the Executive Committee at its next meeting, in 2011, Seville.

In keeping with these rules I have sent a questionnaire to all of our Executive Committee Members, to ask them to provide information on their respective associations, including the number of their individual members, their steering boards, their publications and other activities.

I have so far received replies from our member associations in the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Sweden, Turkey and US.

I urge our members that have not yet replied to send me their replies at their earliest convenience.

6. **International Seminar on Comparative Labour Law, Industrial Relations and Social Security**

As you know, this Seminar, which is co-sponsored by our Society was held between 2000 and 2009 in Bordeaux, France. We have now received several expressions of interest to organize a similar Seminar in 2011 and thereafter the Universities of Krakov (Poland), Leuven (Belgium) and Lyons (France). The Universitas Foundation (Venezuela) is also exploring the possibility of convening a high level seminar in Venezuela. I will keep you informed of any further development.
7. News from our members

Argentina

The Asociación Argentina de Derecho del Trabajo y de la Seguridad Social informs that the XVIII National Congress of Labour and Social Security Law will be held in the city of San Miguel de Tucumán from 7 to 9 October 2010. More information can be obtained from the AADTySS website: http://www.asociacion.org.ar/

Dominican Republic

Carlos Hernández informs his new e-mail address: carloshernandez@hernandezcontreras.com or carlosrafaelhernandez@hotmail.com. His former e-address < info@institutoestudiosdeltabajo.org.do > is discontinued.

Mexico

Professor Patricia Kurczyn informs that the Revista Latinoamericana de Derecho Social can be accessed online at the following address: www.juridicas.unam.mx/publica/rev/cont.htm?r=revlads

Turkey

Ms. Kadeja Bakirci has published "International And European Documents On Child And Young Workers And Modern Forms Of Child Slavery" on http://www.unibook.com. An excerpt of this book can be read from the site: http://www.unibook.com/unibook/site/bookdetail/?bookid=13424. Ms. Bakirci is Associate Professor of Employment and Social Security Law, Istanbul Technical University, Management Faculty, Law Division

International Industrial Relations Association

The Ninth European Congress of the International Industrial Relations Association (IIRA) is to be held at the University of Copenhagen, from June 28 to July 1, 2010. The general theme of this Congress is: European Employment Relations - Crises and Visions. More information and on-line registration is available at: http://www.iiraeurope2010.com/

Kind regards

Arturo Bronstein
Secretary General