Dear colleagues and friends,

It is a pleasure to share with you the latest news on the activities of the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law.

**Letter from the President**

This bulletin presents the various initiatives of our Society which have been organized since the World Congress of Cape Town.

Most national associations have accepted to participate actively with their members to the seven research groups approved in Cape Town. Two colleagues in each group have been appointed, after consultation with the national associations, as coordinators of the research activities. A considerable number of scholars more than 150 of different countries and disciplines are being involved in these groups. The names of the coordinators are indicated at the end of this bulletin. All the coordinators have been asked and are about to circulate an outline and a position paper with a view to facilitating the discussion among the groups’ members.

The several meetings and seminars organized by the International Society during the past months have included in their programs some of the research themes, as it was agreed in Cape Town. For example, at the Seminar held in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) the problems concerning migrations have been debated. Fundamental labour rights have been analysed in the Seminar of Margarita Island (Venezuela) and the International Seminar held in Venice from 19 to 25 of June 2016 was concerned with the various aspects of sustainable development, global trade and social rights.

The forthcoming American Regional Congress in Panama (26-30 September 2016) will discuss among other items the critical issue of social and economic sustainability of social security. The next European Regional Congress to be held in Prague (Czech Republic) in September
2017 has programmed to present contributions on the role of the state in industrial relations as well as on the regulation of migrant workers.

The seminars and the research activities presented there so far, have been useful in promoting a systematic exchange of views and of materials on important issues of common interest.

The participation of young legal scholars to the initiatives of the International Society has been greatly encouraged during the last few years and has proved to be quite extensive and productive.

Dear friends and colleagues let me thank you again for the contribution to the organization and the success of our national and international activities.

Many thanks to all of you.

Prof. Tiziano Treu

**Seminar on International and Comparative Labour Law (Venice)**

In the magnificent setting of Ca' Foscari University, directly exposed on Canal Grande, the 3rd ISLSSL Seminar on International and Comparative Labour Law entitled 'Sustainable Development, Global Trade and Social Rights' was held in Venice from 19 to 25 June 2016, under the supervision of Prof. Adalberto Perulli.

The Seminar was opened by the welcoming remarks of Cà Foscari University of Venice Rector Prof. M. Bugliesi, ISLSSL Secretary-General Prof. Giuseppe Casale, Honorary President Prof. Adrian Goldin and Prof. Adalberto Perulli, Cà Foscari University of Venice.

The meeting brought together 22 young legal scholars, PhD candidates and researchers, from Netherlands, Belgium, Czech Republic, Spain, Germany, South Africa, Argentina, Italy, Lithuania, Japan, South Korea. All the participants have spent the whole week in deepening the topic by showing a great interest and involvement, actively participating in the sessions and group discussions with the professors.

Around the main topic, the lecturers, from all over the world, have examined more specific issues such as 'Sustainable Development and International Trade' (Prof. Giupponi of Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Prof. Lyon-Caen of Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, Prof. J. Kenner of University of Nottingham); 'International Trade Agreement: the linkage between trade and social rights’ (Prof. Goldin of University of Buenos Aires, Prof. J. Bellace of the University of Pennsylvania and ISLSSL Treasurer, Prof. T. Araki of the University of Tokyo and Emeritus Prof. Treu, President of the ISLSSL); 'The European Union internal and external action in the international trade relationships context’ (Prof. A. Perulli, Prof. S. Giubbioni of the University of Perugia, Emeritus Prof. M. Weiss of the University of Frankfurt); 'Investments, IMF, ISDS Clauses and the Arbitral Procedures to resolve a conflict’ (Prof. S. Leader of the University of Essex, Prof. G. Casale ISLSSL Secretary-General, Prof. G. Corò of Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Prof. M. Faioli of the University Tor Vergata, Rome).
The morning sessions were dedicated to the lectures and discussions, while in the afternoons the Seminar’s participants gathered together in working groups. At the end of the afternoons, every group presented a brief report on their discussions.

One day of the Seminar was dedicated to the Young Scholars Section. A number of papers were selected through a call for papers and presented in the plenary. Prof. S. Bellomo of the University of Perugia chaired the Young Scholars Session.

On the last day, the Seminar’s participants presented their final reports.

During the last day of the Seminar, the book 'Laws against strikes. The South African Experience in an International and Comparative Perspective' (edited by Bob Hepple, Rochelle le Roux and Silvana Sciarra) was presented in memory of Prof. Bob Hepple. Interventions were made by Prof. S. Sciarra, judge of the Italian Constitutional Court, Prof. M. Weiss, Prof. G. Casale, Prof. T. Araki and Prof. T. Treu.

Graduate Seminar on International and Comparative Law (Margarita Island, Venezuela)

A new edition of the Graduate Seminar on International and Comparative Law was held between 16-25 May 2016 at Margarita Island, Venezuela on the topic of “Fundamental labour rights and its various forms of manifestation”. The seminar involved the participation of several professors and academics from Latin America. The seminar involves an academic workload of no less than 80 hours, a feature that was stipulated by the ISLSSL since it was considered to be fundamental to ensuring the impact of the training offered by the seminar itself. The International Society also awarded grants to facilitate the participation of young legal scholars.

News from the Young Legal Scholars Section

During the first half of 2016 four initiatives of the Young Scholars have been organized and/or sponsored by the ISLSSL. They were: the 1st Iberian Meeting on Collective Bargaining: new and old challenges in Portugal and Spain, (Lisbon, 28-29 April, 2016) promoted jointly by the Associação de Jovens Juslabouralistas within the Associação Portuguesa de Direito do Trabalho and by the Asociación Española de Derecho del Trabajo y de la Seguridad Social; the VI seminario de postgrado internacional y comparado de Derecho del Trabajo (Isla Margarita, 16-25 May 2016); the second Edition of the Meeting of the European Labour Law Young Scholars (ELLYS) on Foreign workers in the European and national labour markets (Santiago de Compostela, 9-10 June 2016); the 3rd International Seminar on International and Comparative Labour Law on Sustainable Development, Global Trade and Social Rights (Venice, Cà Foscari University) (19-25 June 2016). As mentioned above, during the Venice Seminar ten Young Scholars presented their papers on the theme: Sustainable Development, Global Trade and Social Rights.

All these meetings and seminars have registered a large and active participation of Young Scholars together with the invited Senior Professors and met a high degree of interest. It is also
important to stress that these recurring opportunities to meet are favouring the creation of young scholars’ communities.

Moreover, the activities promoted at international level are also encouraging the creation of Young Scholars Sections within the National Associations. The South African Association SASLAW promoted the creation of a very active Young Scholars Section and more recently also the Young Scholars of the Dominican Republic. Panama announced the creation of a National Young Scholars Section soon.

Papers and essays submitted and presented to these meetings and seminars are collected in volumes. Some of them, concerning the First European Meeting held in Dublin in 2014 (and containing also many contributions of Latin American Young Scholars) and the first Meeting held in Santiago de Compostela in 2015, will be published shortly. The Latin American Subsection of the ISLSSL Young Scholars Section already published a volume on the issue *La efectividad de los derechos y libertades contenidas en las normas internacionales del derecho del trabajo y de la seguridad social. una visión comparada latinoamericana*, inspired by the results of the first “Academic exchange between European and Latin-American Subsections”, in 2015. The current perspective is more oriented to the promotion of initiatives which could contribute to the deepening of the issues of the seven international research groups promoted by the ISLSSL (*Informal Workers; Migrant Workers; Global Trade and Labour; Organization, Productivity and Well-being at Work; Trans National Collective Agreements; New Forms of Social Security; The role of the State and Industrial Relations*).

In the forthcoming months, the initiatives already scheduled and the ones under preparation are the following ones. During the next ISLSSL American Regional Congress to be held in Panama from 26th to 30th September 2016 a Young Scholars Meeting will take place on 26th of September. In view of this meeting, a Call for papers within the national associations of the ISLSSL has been launched. The issues of the meeting will be the ones of the *Implementation of ILO Conventions and others International Labour Law Sources on Workers’ Freedom of Association in American Countries and The Role of the State in Industrial Relations*. You can find the extended version of the Call for Paper under the Panama Congress.

Regarding the 2017 programmed initiatives, presently it is possible to anticipate that during the next European Regional Congress which will take place in Prague from 20th until 22nd September 2017, on 20th of September a Young Scholars Session will take place. During the assembly held in Santiago de Compostela on 10th of June, the group of the Young Scholars European Subsection (ELLYS) decided to dedicate the 2017 activities to the issue of *Organization, Productivity and Well-being at Work*. It will be dealt with in the Session Congress. The same topic will also be discussed by the European Young Scholars Meeting which will be organized in Gdańsk by the end of May/beginning of June 2017. Regarding both the events (the Prague Young Scholars Session and the Gdańsk Meeting), the ELLYS coordinators are preparing the communications and the calls for papers/participation which will be circulated soon.

As already announced in the Young Scholars Session held during the Cape Town World Congress, the Japanese Association will organize an Asian Seminar in Tokyo in March 29017.
It is desirable that this seminar could be the occasion for the starting of an Asian subsection of the ISLSSL Young Scholars Section.

**Upcoming ISLSSL Congresses**

*a. X American Regional Congress of Labour and Social Security Law (Panama, 2016)*

The next American Regional Congress is taking place in Panama City on 26-30 September 2016. We really hope that most of you can attend such an important event. Our colleagues in Panama have provided us with the academic contents as well as with useful information on its organization, including a discount on flights by COPA Airlines. More information can be found at [http://islssl.org/10th-labor-and-social-security-law-american-regional-congress-2016/](http://islssl.org/10th-labor-and-social-security-law-american-regional-congress-2016/)

During the Congress there will be an **informal Executive Committee meeting**. It will take place on **Monday, 26 September 2016 between 14:00 and 16:00**. You are all invited to participate. The Agenda will be: a) briefing on the American Regional Congress by the colleagues of the Panama Association; b) presentation of the Agenda of the XII European Regional Congress (Prague, September 2017) by the colleagues of the Czech Republic; c) presentation of the next Asian Regional Seminar (Tokyo March 2017) by the colleagues of the Japanese Association; d) briefing on the preparation of the XXII World Congress to held in Turin in September 2018; e) Young Scholars Section; f) any other business.

*b. XII European Regional Congress (Prague 2017)*

The XII European regional Congress will take place in Prague (Czech Republic) on 20-22 September 2017. The organisers are working on the programme of the regional event and we will soon share the information with you.

*c. XXII World Congress of Labour and Social Security Law (Torino, Italy, 2018)*

The XXII World Congress of Labour and Social Security Law will take place in Italy on 4-7 September 2018 in the City of Turin.

In light of the preparation of the above mentioned events, and more specifically for the World Congress, President Prof. Tiziano Treu, Secretary-General Prof. Giuseppe Casale and a group of academics in strict collaboration with the national associations of the Society have created seven international research groups open to everyone who would like to take part in them. These international research groups are coordinated by a group of selected scholars. There has been a very good response from the national associations which we warmly thank for their active participation. In addition, the Young Legal Scholars Section has also been very active. Let me remind you that anyone interested can join one of these groups and contribute with their papers/inputs. Herewith the names and email addresses of the coordinators of the various groups:
1. **Informal workers**
   Jonathan P. Sale (jona_sale@yahoo.com)
   María Loreto Fierro Felix (marialoretofierrofelix@gmail.com)

2. **Migrant workers**
   Kübra Doğan Yenisey (kubra.dogan@bilgi.edu.tr)
   Rochelle le Roux (rochelle.leroux@uct.ac.za)

3. **Global trade and labour**
   Adalberto Perulli (adaper@unive.it)
   Janice Bellace (bellace@wharton.upenn.edu)

4. **Organization, productivity and well-being at work**
   Takashi Araki (araki@j.u-tokyo.ac.jp)
   Sylvaine Laulom (sylvaine.laulom@univ-lyon2.fr)

5. **Transnational collective agreements**
   Fausta Guarriello (fausta.guarriello@libero.it)
   Ericson Crivelli (ericsoncrivelli@icloud.com)

6. **New forms of social security**
   Franz Marhold (franz.marhold@wu.ac.at)
   Mukul Asher (sppasher@nus.edu.sg)

7. **The role of the State and industrial relations**
   Jesús Cruz Villalón (jesuscruz@us.es)
   María Katia García Landaburu (landaburu7@gmail.com)

Kind regards,

Giuseppe Casale                  Tiziano Treu
Secretary General                President