



# ELFA NEWSLETTER

European Law Faculties Association  
Issue October 2010

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On October 15th the members of the Board gathered in Florence to discuss the programme of the 2011 Annual Conference. **New Challenges for Law Faculties: Governance, Autonomy, Finance** is the main topic of the coming Conference.

The Conference will take place in the **University Warsaw** from the 24th till 26th of February 2011.



We would like to draw your attention to the **Call for Papers** and encourage you to submit papers in order to foster the debate. All papers accepted will be published in the European Journal of Legal Education.



The Board of ELFA.

Manuel Bermejo, Haluk Kabaalioglu, Jacek Petzel, Reiner Schulze, Anne Klebes-Pelissier, Helena Ferro de Gouveia.  
Missing Hans van Houtte.

Given that there are about five hundred law faculties in Europe and is fully aligned with the organisation priorities the Board met in Florence the Dean of the Law Faculty, Prof. Dr. Paolo Cappellini and the Vice-Dean Prof. Dr. Vittoria Barsotti, and welcomed on site this new ELFA member.

For more information about the Board's work please read the Letter from Prof. Dr. Jacek Petzel.

## President Letter

Dear ELFA Members,

Dear Colleagues,

As you know I was elected the President of the ELFA Board at the last AGM meeting in Ljubljana (25–27th of February 2010). With the present newsletter I would like to brief you on our recent past activities and the plans for the future.]

First and foremost, let me express our common thanks to the outgoing President Janez Kranjc (University of Ljubljana) for having organized the last meeting in such a splendid manner. We happily experienced outstanding and generous hospitality of the Mayor of the City of Ljubljana, the Rector of the University, the Dean of the Faculty of Law as well as all the staff. In the first time of the history of ELFA we had honour to welcome the President of the hosting–country – His Excellency the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Prof. Dr. Danilo Turk at the General Assembly.

The topic of the conference, Teaching Law in the 21st century, brought together presentations and debates chiefly dedicated to the impact of the Bologna reform on teaching of law a decade after Bologna Declaration. Much time was devoted to the problem of growing students' numbers –

which could be summed–up by the heading 'law faculty vs. law factory'. The conclusions of these discussions were gathered in two resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.

The Assembly elected a new Board of ELFA for the period 2010–2011. It is composed by members representing law faculties from six European countries : Jacek Petzel (University of Warsaw – President ), Manuel Bermejo Castrillo (University Carlos III Madrid – First Vice–President ), Hans van Houtte (Catholic University of Leuven – Treasurer), Anne Klebes–Pelissier (University of Strasbourg – Vice–President) , Reiner Schulze (University of Munster – Vice–President) and Haluk Kabaalioglu (Yeditepe University – Vice President). Ms Helena Ferro de Gouveia is the ELFA secretary.

Since the last annual conference the Board has met twice. Both meetings were organized in Germany (in Berlin, 23rd–24th of April, and in Bonn, 30th of June – 1st of July). Let me briefly outline the main items of their agenda.

### 1. Membership.

Given that there is about five hundred law faculties in Europe and only hundred–eighty of them are members of ELFA we resolved to broaden and popularise membership of Organization. Over two

hundred fifty letters in various languages (including Russian) have been sent to invite new members to join us. It is still too early to estimate the results of this recruitment action (up today we have received six new declarations). The Board has decided to repeat it at time the information of the next General Assembly is sent. We have also decided to propagate the ELFA activities among the non-members.

## 2. The Web-site.

The web-page has been evaluated. We have noticed with great satisfaction a great progress since Ms. Helena Ferro de Gouveia took up its maintenance. The web-page still has to be regularly updated.

## 3. The Newsletter.

The Board has called for the reorganization of the Newsletter. It shall consist of three parts: notices from the Board including Presidential letters, news from the members (e.g. on conferences and other activities, work proposals), facts about the next AGM .

## 4. ECTS Experts.

There are still law faculties in Europe that have not adopted ECTS system yet. As

Bologna system is going to be implemented in the Russian Federation and Ukraine, the Board has resolved to create a list of ECTS experts to aid the law faculties with this issue. In order to do so we are calling experts willing to perform this task to put forward their candidatures. The final list shall be created in October.

## 5. RG (Research Group).

Since our participation in Tuning Project I ended and the Association decided not to directly involve Tuning II, ELFA has not been active in the field of research. In the opinion of the Board this should be amended – notwithstanding unsatisfactory experience in the past. Therefore the research group (RG) should be created. This group should work on the problems of ‘minimal standards’. The decision to establish such a group was taken during the first Board meeting in Berlin and Janez Kranjc was asked to chair this team. The meeting in Florence shall be devoted, in al., to discuss personal and financial matters which the RG creation involves.

## 6. Financial Situation.

In 2009 ELFA had to reimburse to the European Commission the sum of several thousands Euro (roughly forty-five thousand) received within the framework

of the Grant Agreement 1999–1023 (Thematic Network Project). This presented quite a burden to our finances. At the moment the financial situation is more stable and allows us to provide for the necessary expenses, connected mostly to functioning of the secretary unit.

7. EJLE (European Journal of Legal Education).

After Routledge, which had been the publisher of printed edition of ELJE, had decided to terminate the publication of the Journal, the former Board of ELFA decided in 2009 to keep it in an electronic version. It is worth noticing that ELFA used to ca. 8,000 € for printed version. In the opinion of the present Board, we should carry on publishing ELJE only in an electronic form, at least until the financial situation allows us to discuss problem once more.

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Warsaw 24 –26 February 2011**

**New Challenges for Law Faculties:  
Governance, Autonomy, Finance**

**Language: English**

**Location: Warsaw, Poland**

**Date: 24 –26 February 2011**

The General Topic of the Annual Conference will be **New Challenges for Law Faculties: Governance, Autonomy, and Finance**. In relation with the main speeches, papers should be given presenting various points of view concerning the most important problems connected with this subject.

This call for papers is open to both academic researchers and professionals who work in this field. Those interested in participating in this conference as a speaker should submit a short abstract (in Word). Successful applicants will have a 15-minute slot to give an oral presentation of their paper.

Those interested in seeking publication are encouraged to submit, in due course, a full paper for consideration as an article or note in the European Journal of Legal Education.



ELFA also invites academics to present papers at the Panel Sessions. Panel Sessions will be devoted to scientific presentations in four thematic sections: civil law, commercial law, public law, criminal law. The topics for the **Panel Sessions** are:

**I Civil Law: Towards a European Contract Law?**

**II Commercial Law: E-Commercial Law**

**III Public Law: E.U. Fundamental Rights after Lisboa Treaty**

**IV Criminal Law: International Arrest Warrant**

Submission of Abstracts:

Authors should submit a short abstract (in Word) before submitting a full paper. All abstracts must be accompanied with a cover page with the following information:

- The author's name and affiliation
- A brief (max 200 word) biography
- Contact details for corresponding author, i.e., address, phone and email.

Deadline for submission 10 January 2011

Further information:

Please contact:

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### From Members to Members



### CALL FOR PAPERS

**Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence – University of Rome “Tor Vergata”**

### INTEGRATION THROUGH LEGAL EDUCATION?

### THE ROLE OF EU LEGAL STUDIES IN SHAPING THE EU

EU integration has been certainly fostered by EU law, thanks to a process of legal unification/harmonisation of national jurisdictions: in this perspective, not only EU law has been decisive for the establishment of the single market, but it has also contributed to the creation of a common political dimension in Europe.

Anyway, although EU legal order is deep-rooted in the mind of European lawyers and legal scholars, very little study has been dedicated to the role of legal

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education in the process of creating the EU polity.

In other words, how much the development of academic writing on EU law and EU legal education in general have been relevant in the process of political integration, besides to the role played by national governments, European institutions and the European Court of Justice? In other words, next to the substantial legal integration determined by the signing of the Treaties and the ECJ's case-law ("first level unification"), major attention should be also put on EU legal education as an indirect factor of legal convergence ("second level unification").

This call for papers is specifically aimed at collecting valuable academic writings on the development of EU legal studies in the EU Member States and its role in shaping the EU as a polity.

Combining an interdisciplinary approach to law and education, the call is addressed to researchers in EU law with a particular interest in legal education, focusing on one of the following EU Member States:

- Italy
- France
- Germany
- UK
- Scandinavian countries

and covering, for the chosen country, the following aspects:

- how have EU legal studies developed in the particular country?
- most studied issues
- main academic schools and institutions
- most influential journals and books published in the particular country
- impact / influence of EU legal studies in the strengthening of the EU polity.

The abstract (500 words) is due by 30th October 2010, while the final version of the contribution will be presented in Rome in January 2011, within an international conference on the matter organised by the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, University of Rome Tor Vergata.

The final version of the paper (6000-8000 words) will be submitted by 20th December 2010.

The papers will be collected in a volume to be published by the end of 2011. All the transport and accommodation costs will be covered by the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence of the University of Rome Tor Vergata.

For further information please write to [ufficio.europeo@uniroma2.it](mailto:ufficio.europeo@uniroma2.it)

## From Members to Members



Dear colleagues,

The Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Madrid) intends to submit an application in order to create and coordinate an Erasmus Academic Network about Childhood law and children rights.

We are writing to you because we would like to count on your commitment to be members of this Network. At the moment we try to apply with our proposal for the next appeal of candidatures expected around February 2011. For the future the first step will be to send to the European Commission the list of universities and other institutions that wish to take part in this project, in which at least 31 countries must be represented. In case you are interested in that project we would be very thankful if you would be so kind to send us a brief summary explaining the big lines of your activities (10 lines would be more than enough) as well as all other informations or proposals you want. After that we will present a complete candidature

with all of activities proposes and the particular participation on those activities of each of you. For that reason we also would like to know in a better way you, your skills and expertise areas and former experiences related to the subject of the Network and we would be very thankful if you would be so kind to send us a sort report of you, your activities and main interest areas.

We would appreciate if you can circulate this information to persons who are interested in participating in the Network.

We are very enthusiastic with the project as long as two of the priority areas of study are Law and Children and both are not sufficiently covered by other Networks in the Lifelong Learning Programme.

We would be very pleased to work with all of you in the future and to enhance cooperation on children rights in the European context. A brief summary taken from the application conditions and other EC documents on Erasmus Academic Networks of the last call is given below.

Kind regards,

Isabel Lázaro González

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