

ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES AVOCATS EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF LAWYERS

**AEA-EAL PRESIDENT** 

Brussels, November 7, 2017

Deon Colleages,

With a great pleasure, I would like to inform you that on September 18, 2017, the AEA-EAL Extraordinary Assembly, in a presence of a Belgian Notary, passed unanimously amendments to our Statutes.

It was possible only because of your very efficient cooperation in organizing proxies for Jean-Pierre Van Cutsem to fulfil requirements of Belgian law. This action proved that AEA-EAL is a successful entity acting with and for its members! Only together we can achieve goals, for which our Association was created 31 years ago. I am convinced that we are a big group of European lawyers united by common values, spirit of cooperation and good will to further development of our statutory purposes.

Amendments introduced to the Statutes aim to increase full membership for lawyers from countries belonging to Council of Europe and associate membership for all other lawyers sharing the same professional values. Their goal is also to facilitate decision-making process to deepen engagement of our members in development of the Association. We will do our best to engage in works as many members as possible.

Such changes are only first step in several actions leading to implementation of our ideas and proposals. Second step is a division of responsibilities for AEA-EAL's areas of activity between members of the Board of Directors.

The main goal we see is to strengthen the networking character of the AEA-EAL. We wish our members can find an easy access to members from another jurisdiction. Therefore, we are currently working on tools making such contacts simple and easy. A member lawyer/law firm should be in every European state, and beyond, to achieve wide coverage of our network. For this purpose, we already initiated contacts with lawyers outside the UE, both from the West and East not only to expand our presence, but also to share values of the European legal profession, and in particular independence, professional secrecy and other highest ethical standards as wide as possible.

We are ready to help our members to organize common seminars as well as their own events by providing contacts and experts as well as knowledge on how to conduct a conference or other forms of training. This is our skill developed during over 30-year activity.

We are aware of the fact, that competition in the field of legal services is growing, which raises difficulties to initiate legal practice. Therefore, we are thinking about a special package for young lawyers, helping them to initiate and to enhance their presence on the market, including dedicated practical workshops and tutorials with experienced senior lawyers, members of the AEA-EAL.

To know better your needs, we kindly ask you to feel the short questionnaire attached to this letter. The questionnaire is also available on our website (<u>www.aea-eal.eu</u>) and on Facebook (<u>www.fb.com/europeanassociationoflawyers</u>)

Please note that as members of the AEA-EAL, you may use our logo on your websites and letterheads. If you wish to receive the logo, please contact us at <u>office@aea-eal.eu</u>.

Your engagement and full cooperation in introducing amendments to our Statutes proves without doubt, that European Association of Lawyers will further develop its activity for benefit of all members. Only being together, engaged with enthusiasm and passion, we can make our Association stronger, more active and more useful for all members!

Maria Ślazak President

Questionnaire for AEA-EAL

1. What are your expectations of the Association? (please describe up to 100 words)

2. Do you wish to engage in one or more areas of AEA-EAL activity? Please mark desired ones

- a. marketing and promotion (including development of social media)
- b. Networking, communication and contact with members
- c. Young lawyers
- d. European law
- e. Human rights, democracy and rule of law
- f. Other (please specify).....

3. If the answer for the above question is yes, please specify desired form of your activity

.....

.....

.....

.....

- 4. Which membership benefits from the below list are most valuable for you?
- a. Networking platform easy contact with lawyers from other countries ;
- b. Attending AEA-EAL conferences on EU law to increase knowledge and receiving of the certificate for credits within continuos legal education;
- c. Use of AEA-EAL logo in professional letterhead and website;;
- d. Information about your firm and you as a member on AEA-EAL website and in Newsletter;
- e. Possibility to be a speaker on international conferences;
- f. Meeting colleagues from other jurisdictions at Association's social events;
- g. Get involved in AEA-EAL governance serve as a Board or Committee member;
- h. Discounts on registration fees for AEA-EAL events and reasonable membership fees.
- i. Other (please specify) .....

- 5. Do you wish to publish a short profile of you as a lawyer or your law firm on AEA-EAL website/newsletter?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

## **Respondent's particulars**

Age:

0		
Sex:	F	M
Country of residence		
Form of practice:		
	- 50	lo practitioner

- Solo practitioner
- In-house lawyer (private, company, public body)
- Partner/Associate in a law firm (small up to 10 lawyers, medium 10 50 lawyers, big over 50 lawyers)
- Other (please describe)
- Your areas of practice: please mark up to 5 areas from the below list

Administrative law Alternative dispute resolution Competition law Commercial and company law Civil and family law **Constitutional law** Contract law Criminal law Insurance law Intellectual property law Human rights law Labour and social security law Litigation Real estate law Tax law Other.....