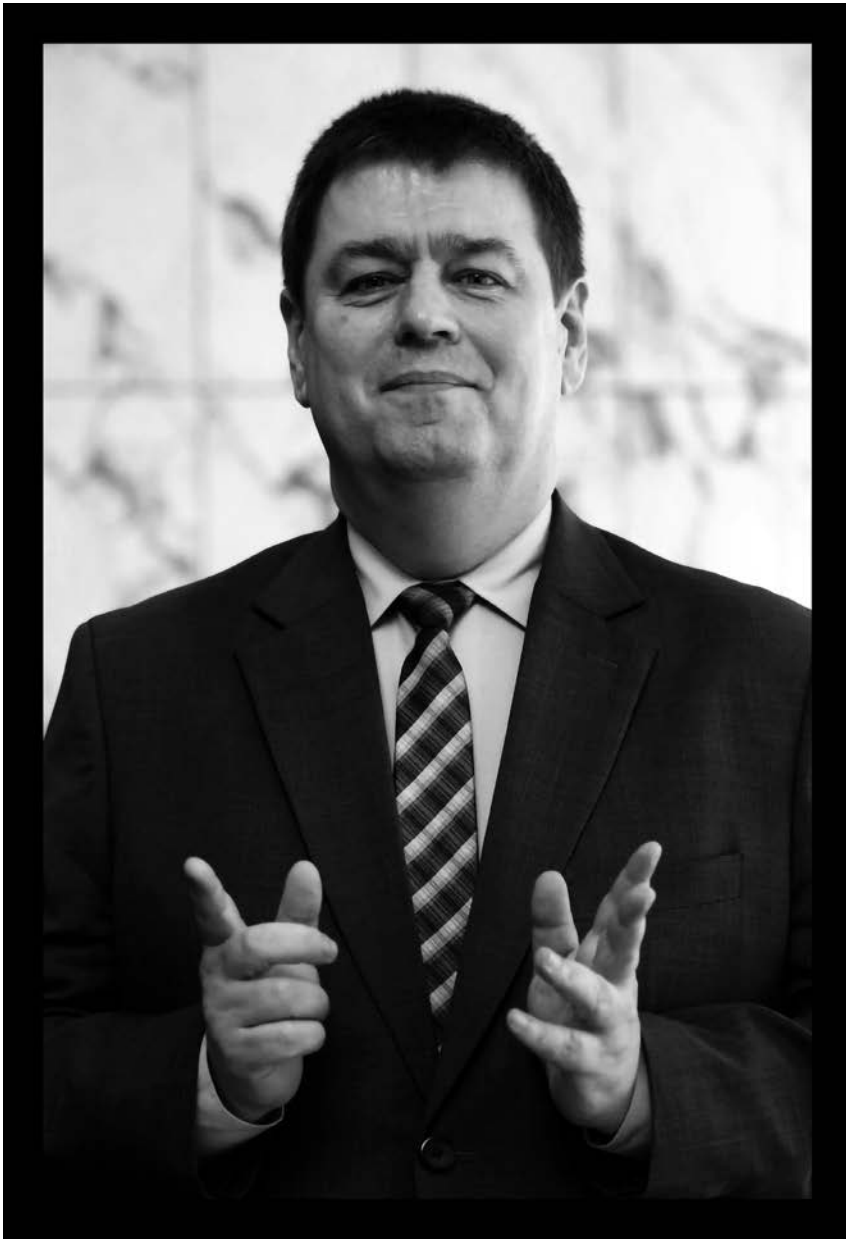


# Newsletter

Spring  
2020



## *Andrzej Kaliński*

*1962 - 2020*

With a huge grief we have to inform you that Andrzej Kaliński, Member of the AEA-EAL Board of Directors died suddenly. Andrzej was a lawyer, Dean of the Białystok Bar Association of Attorneys at Law. In 1986 - 1990 he worked for State Treasury Authorities, in 1990 - 1996 for the Ministry of Justice, between 1996 - 2002 for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and served as a Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago. Andrzej Kaliński represented the Polish Government before the

European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. After completing his diplomatic mission, Andrzej performed the profession in his own law office; at the same time, he - as the author of many professional publications in the field of public procurement - was also an arbitrator of the Public Procurement Office. Apart of the professional work, Andrzej was very much engaged in activities of the Białystok Bar of Attorneys-at-Law, where he served from 2013 as the Dean. He was also a member of the Polish National Council of the Attorneys-at-Law and member of its Human Rights Commission. Andrzej supported lawyers and Bars from Eastern Europe. Together with the AEA-EAL he initiated contacts with republican and regional bars in Eastern Partnership countries, in Belarus particularly. In 2015, he co-organized with our Association a very successful international conference. We have been working together on our Annual Meeting in Białystok in June of this year. He always conducted talks with vigour and humour. Andrzej was a wonderful colleague and friend, we could count on his initiatives, cleverness and good heartedness. We join in feelings of pain and grief with his Wife Zofia and his Family.

**Honour His Memory!**  
AEA-EAL Board of Directors

# Covid 19 crisis affects lawyers

Dear Colleagues,  
Dear Friends,

All of us have been facing an unprecedented situation happening nowadays all over the world. Covid -19 pandemic affects our professional and private life; our thoughts and doings are directed to take care of our families and loved ones. A number of Bars and Law Societies respond these extraordinary circumstances by guidance and information provided for lawyers and law firms. We particularly draw your attention to the letter sent to us by **the Law Society of Hong Kong** with information on steps undertaken in connection with the pandemic. The Law Society has given advice to law firms on management issues that may arise during the outbreak of COVID-19:

- 1/ law firms are referred to the Centre for Health Control for useful guidance on infection control measures.
- 2/ Firms are reminded that practitioners who wish to work from home, should still fulfil the supervision requirements under the relevant provisions in the Solicitors' Practice Rules.
- 3/ the Law Society provides a facility via the members' zone of its website to inform all members of any special arrangement regarding the opening hours and dates of law firms.
- 4/ Practitioners have also been urged to be sympathetic to re-



quests for reasonable extensions of time, subject to clients' instructions.

- 5/ Law firms have been reminded to prepare themselves for the possibility of infection within their own staff and for a quarantine.
- 6/ Law firms have reminded to enquire what steps will be taken to disinfect an office, how long that will take and how rapidly it can be completed after notification, to set up a relationship with another firm to provide timely support to each other in the event that either firm is suddenly prevented from practising for some days. The Law Society has distributed an aide memoire to assist members to formulate a Disaster Recovery Plan to meet individual needs. Continuing professional development ("CPD") courses have been suspended in February and March. Also, there has been a general adjournment of court proceedings in Hong Kong since 29 January 2020 for the protection of the health of all court users.

**The Kaliningrad Bar** (Russia) has informed us that judicial proceedings have been suspended and similar steps to those introduced in Hong Kong has been taken. **The French National Bar Council** has issued a vade-mecum for lawyers and law firms on possible actions and measures that should be taken during the pandemic. Our members from other countries also sent information on developments in their jurisdictions. You may find all gathered information from various countries on our website. **Please note that due to Covid 19 pandemic the conference in Białystok planned for June 25 - 27 has been cancelled.**

## Meeting of the AEA-EAL Board in Brussels, January 18, 2020



AEA-EAL Board met in Brussels at the beginning of this year to confirm activities of the Association planned for 2020 as well as to discuss enhancing of cooperation with the Brussels Bar. Directors welcomed Isabelle Andoulsi, Member of the Board of the French Speaking Brussels Bar and exchanged their views on future common actions. Our President Maria Ślżak passed her words of gratitude to Directors for their work in 2019 resulting with successful events and increased number of members. The Board supported President's strategy and planned actions.

# AEA-EAL President invited by the Council of Europe

On January 30, 2020, AEA-EAL President Maria Ślężak participated as an invited expert in a hearing organized by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Council of Europe (CoC) on the principles and guarantees of advocates. The hearing was organized in the framework of works on the European Convention on the Profession of a Lawyer. Maria pointed out that existing soft law such as Recommendation, is not sufficient instrument to motivate authorities of Member States to respect lawyers' rights which are absolutely necessary for proper delivery of legal assistance. Hard law is needed to assure citizens that legal support will be delivered in conditions giving full respect of authorities for rule of law in their countries.



# Monique Stengel awarded with Golden Order of Merit of Republic of Austria



*Alma Zadic and Monique Stengel* source: [www.e-p-k.at](http://www.e-p-k.at)

deliberations. Due to its significance for the people and for lawyers, organizers invited special guests and speakers, among others, Mirosław Wyrzykowski, Professor, Comparative and Economic Law Division, Institute of Legal Administrative Studies on Warsaw University, who delivered an extraordinary speech (for download on our website) met with standing ovation of the audience. After the conference Monique Stengel was awarded with Golden Order of Merit of Republic of Austria (goldene Ehrenzeichnung der Republik Österreich) for her professional activities linked to Austria and in the European Association of Lawyers.

Presidents and High Representatives of almost all European Bars as well as international organizations of lawyers gathered in Vienna on February 20 – 22, 2020 to discuss important issues touching civil society and legal profession. The AEA-EAL was represented by its President Maria Ślężak. Also our Past Presidents - Konrad Meingast and Monique Stengel participated in the forum. **“Democracy and Rule of Law – Keeping up the Pressure”** was the main topic of Vienna's



*Maria Ślężak,  
Monique  
Stengel,  
Konrad Meingast*

# Membership fees online payments for our members

To create safe, user friendly and consistent with GDPR rules way of payment, we introduced in co-operation with bank ING Belgium the new payment site. This solution assures that your money and personal data are handled in accordance with the highest standards and European regulations. Please use the link [www.aea-eal.eu/pay](http://www.aea-eal.eu/pay) for any future financial transfers. You will find it also on our yearly calls for payments. In case of any questions, please contact the AEA-EAL Treasurer.



# Moments and memories of Andrzej Kaliński



Andrzej Kaliński (left at the roll-up) with AEA-EAL Directors and guests of the Białystok Conference in July 2015



Andrzej Kaliński (third on the right) during trip after AEA-EAL conference in Almaty, June 2018



Andrzej Kaliński (fourth on the right) during AEA-EAL conference in Almaty, June 2018

## AEA-EAL events in 2020

- **Legal language in practice of lawyers and courts**

25 – 27 June 2020 in Białystok, Poland - **cancelled**

- **Twinning of Lawyers**

10 – 13 September 2020 in Odessa, Ukraine

- **Seminar Market Access and EEA – Free Trade – and alternatives**

29 October 2020 in Bern, Switzerland

### AEA-EAL INFO

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