

David Diris Election Program

AIJA First Vice-President Elections

Annual Congress Roma, 7th September 2019

Version 24.01.2019

AIJA YOUR NETWORK

... because the young lawyers of today, will be the senior partners of tomorrow!

"Every young international lawyer should make his or her network future-proof by 'AIJA'-ing his/her network. Let me make AIJA itself now future-proof for you!"



<p>1. Enforce gender-equality and the role of female law professionals in AIJA</p>

1.A Creation of a **ROUNDTABLE FOR FEMALE LAW PROFESSIONALS** ('RFLP'): the goal of the RFLP is to create a setting for dialogue and exchange between young female law professionals about issues they are facing, such as f.e. how to combine children with a career, how to avoid gender stereotypes when both partners want to pursue a career, sexual harassment in business, ...

1.B Establishing the **rule of minimum 1 female law professional rule as First-Vice President/President/Immediate Past President**: as AIJA we should always set ourselves the goal to push further and take a leading role on the international playing field. We should become the first legal association where of the 3 leading positions (First Vice-President / President / Immediate Past President) at least 1 has to be filled in by a female law professional (similar to the laws more and more countries are adopting on the level of Board of Directors).

2. A new managing committee in the Extended Bureau dedicated to **small and emerging countries**

For years the Extended Bureau has been discussing on how to attract more members in for AIJA challenging countries and regions (North- and South-America, Asia, Africa, ... but also the 'small' European countries), but making a classic mistake by discussing this over the heads of the (existing) members coming from these regions and countries and without their participation nor input.

The **EMERGING COUNTRIES AND REGIONS COMMITTEE** (ECRC) will combine the best of two worlds: it will not touch the democratic process where countries with most members have most votes, but on the other hand fills the gap where small or emerging countries could not participate in the decision-making.

3. A new strategy for the Membership Forum and the **National Representatives**: less rules, more budget

No 2 jurisdictions are the same, as well as regarding legal rules as standard practices. Instead of steering the national representatives from above, we should listen to them what they believe would be the best marketing in their jurisdiction. Especially in those smaller or emerging AIJA member states, where it is often difficult for national representatives to f.e. finance drinks or to find sponsors for such events, or where drinks are simply not the most effective marketing strategy, **we should make budget available to the national representatives for their initiatives.**

4. AIJA for the **Members**

- 4.A Less **costs**: work out a more attractive cost-structure for the events, with special attention to members from small/emerging countries, first-timers and members who attend regularly events;
- 4.B More **value**: by adding benefits from commercial partners to the AIJA-membership;
- 4.C More **power**: reshape the Executive Committee in a modern legislative body divided in 4 permanent Steering Groups: Finances, Events, Expansion, Membership;
- 4.D More **visibility**: by attracting keynote speakers outside the legal field;
- 4.E More **human rights**: get more members involved in human rights by communicating better about the organizations supported by AIJA and their specific projects;
- 4.F More **alumni**: stay in touch with over-aged members by creating a database and keeping them up-to-date about AIJA events, for themselves or for their younger colleagues.

5. My **AIJA** CV

Member: since 2008

First AIJA event: Bucharest 2007

First AIJA Annual Congress: Budapest 2009

National Reporter: Budapest 2009

Vice-President TRADE: 2012-2015

President TRADE: 2015-2016

Vice-President In-house Counsel: 2016-...

Co-Chair Forum o/t Commissions: 2016-...

Speaker/Moderator: Lisbon 2010, Amsterdam 2011, Turin 2011, Munich 2012, Frankfurt 2015, Antwerp 2015, Shanghai 2015, Tel Aviv 2016
Member Organizing Committee: NYC 2010, Antwerp 2015, Shanghai 2016, Bratislava 2017

* * *