

## Table of Contents:

### **1. 4<sup>th</sup> Congress of the EAL – Warsaw, June 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2000**

### **2. Further Activities**

### **3. Members**

### **4. Publications**

#### **a) EAL**

#### **b) Other Publications**

### **5. Board Activities**

### **6. Varia**

#### 1. “Evaluation of Legislation“, Warsaw, June 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup>, 2000

The **Fourth Congress of the EAL** will be held on **June 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>** under the topic of **“Evaluation of Legislation“** in the premises of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland in Warsaw.

There will be four half day sessions with 14 reports on issues related to the main topic delivered by the speakers from the hosting country, European countries and Northern America.

The rising number of publications over the past years give proof of the importance of the issue of legislation and its evaluation.

**The four sessions will be followed by the statutory meeting (Friday, 16 June, 15.30).**

If you are interested in participating in the Congress please contact *Ms. Danuta Lukasz, Chancellery of the Sejm, Bureau of Research, ph. + 48 22 694 17 87; fax + 48 22 694 18 65; email: danuta.lukasz@sejm.gov.pl.*

#### 2. Further Activities

#### *a. Recent Activities*

Some members of the EAL have contributed to ongoing principle-papers and law drafts under the direction of ARTICLE XIX, e.g. in a conference in London in February / March 2000 under the topic of defamation legislation.

In a final discussion, a paper featuring 19 draft principles for defamation legislation was adopted.

For those interested the paper is available with Ulrich Karpen, University of Hamburg, Schlüterstr. 28, 20146 Hamburg.

#### *b. Future Activities*

The **Annual Conference of the European Group of Public Administration (EGPA)** under the main topic of *“Managing Parliaments in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century“* will be held at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, on 30 August – 2 September, 2000.

The aim of the conference is to explore the legislative branch of government from a public administration perspective, focusing on relations between executives and legislatures, and in particular on the organisation of parliaments, the management of their lawmaking functions and the ways in which parliaments act to exercise different forms of management over the executive branch. In this sense, the conference will examine both the internal workings and management of parliamentary institutions as well as their responsibility to exercise oversight of the executive branch. In order to achieve this objective, the conference is organised under three main headings, each covering an important aspect of parliamentary design and activity from a public administration perspective. These sub-themes are the following:

1. legislative oversight
2. The legislative process
3. Parliamentary organisation and structure: support organisation and staff.

EGPA, 1, rue Defacqz, bte 11, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium; ph + 32 02 536 08 80; fax + 32 2 537 97 02; email: [egpageap@ii-asiisa.be](mailto:egpageap@ii-asiisa.be); <http://www.iiasiisa.be>.

**“Die neue Finnische Verfassung (The new Finnish Constitution)”** – report by Prof. Dr. Antero Jyränki of the University of Turku, Finland, to be held on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2000 at the University of Salzburg hosted by the Austrian Association of Legislation (ÖGG) and its chairman, Prof. Dr. Heinz Schäffer.

*For further information please contact Prof. Dr. Heinz Schäffer (Kapitelgasse 5-7, A-5020 Salzburg; ph + 43 662 8044-3631).*

**The Council of the Bars and Law Societies of the European Community – CCBE** is running a training programme on legal and judicial co-operation within the framework of the Grotius Programme of the European Commission.

The CCBE is the officially recognised pan-European professional organisation in the European Community, which includes the national organisations representing the legal profession (bars and law societies) from the Member States of the European Union and the Member States of the European Economic Area as well as observer delegations from other European countries.

The Grotius programme is intended for the training of lawyers in the field of legal and judicial cooperation. The programme would be held in Brussels from 31<sup>st</sup> July 2000 to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2000. The first part of the programme (training of the lawyers) will be held from 28<sup>th</sup> August to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2000. The course will be taught in English.

*For information please contact Cristina Coteanu-Bompard, Manager „Comité PECO“, CCBE Rue de Trèves, 45 – B-1040 Brussels, ph + 32 02 234 65 10; fax + 32 02 234 65 11/12; email [peco@cbe.org](mailto:peco@cbe.org).*

**“Voice Commerce: Strategien zur rechtssicheren Zertifizierung sprachlicher Willensäußerungen (strategies for the legal certification of declarations of intention)”** – Symposium by the European Law Academy (Europäische Rechtsakademie), Trier on May 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>, 2000, Trier.

This symposium is promoted by the European Union and the Zukunftsalternative of Rheinland-Pfalz. Among the speakers will be Professor Dr. Rolf Weiber, Tim Fenoulhet, Alexander Huggins, Stefan Jaeger and Prof. Dr. Jens-Peter Köster.

*Please contact Luc Doeve ([ldoeve@era.int](mailto:ldoeve@era.int)) or the ERA: P.O. Box 1640, 54206 Trier, Germany for further information.*

An international conference organised by the Office of the Attorney general Michael McDowell, Dublin, will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2000 under the topic of **“Legislative Drafting: Emerging Trends”**.

The covered topics will be “The work of the Office of the Parliamentary Draftsman“, “Statutory Drafting and Legislation: Plain Language and the Law“, „Training Legislative Drafters“, „Methods of Interpreting Legislation“, „Drafting in the Congress of the United States“ and „Implementing E.U. Directives in Ireland and Gibraltar“.

Subscriptions have to be sent to

*Ms. Joanne Sweeny, Incentive Conference Ireland, 1 Pembroke Place, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 – phone: + 353 1 667 1711; fax: + 353 1 667 1713; email: [legis.draft@incentive-conf.ie](mailto:legis.draft@incentive-conf.ie).*

**Multilateral Meeting on the Theme of judicial Policies** – within the framework of its Activities for the Development and Consolidation of Democratic stability (ADACS), the Council of Europe is organising a multilateral meeting on judicial policies in Europe in cooperation with the French General Inspection of Judicial Services.

The meeting will take place on 18 and 19 May 2000 in Room 2 of the Palais de l’Europe in Strasbourg.

The aim of this meeting is to define the notion of judicial public service, to examine the practical aspects and to evaluate the different European judicial policies. Such an evaluation and the solutions which will be proposed to improve the different judicial policies constitute an important means to make justice more efficient and to promote its access.

At the final Round Table the work and discussions will be summed up and a Final Resolution containing detailed proposals on the means to improve the functioning of the judicial services will be adopted.

The main actors of the judicial services from all member states of the Council of Europe, as well as candidate countries, will attend this meeting and in particular representatives of Ministries of Justice, initiators of the judicial policies and judges who implement them.

The working languages will be French and English.

*For information please contact the Directorate General for Legal Affairs (DG1), Private Law Department, Judicial System Section, Ms. Lucy Ancelin (Assistant), ph. + 33 3 8841 2204; email: [lucy.ancelin@coe.int](mailto:lucy.ancelin@coe.int).*

### 3. Members

### 4. Publications

#### *a. EAL publications*

The EAL publications series now covers **five** publications:

**No. 1 – „Legislation in European Countries“.** Various European Countries are preparing for membership of the European Union and are therefore stepping up their activities in the field of comparative legal studies. A conference held in Germany in 1991 was devoted to this and other legislative problems and was attended by experts from 25 countries and they included members of parliament, government officials,

scholars and legal practitioners. This work is available with Nomos publication, Germany. DEM 168,--.

#### **No. 2 – „Contributions to the Methodology of the Creation of Written Law“:**

One of the most pressing problems faced by Europe's legislators today is the question of how to draft precise and yet intelligible law texts, thus reducing the proliferation of law and improving its quality. During the First Congress of the EAL in Liège in 1993 ten authors deal with the different steps of the legislative process: from defining the norm content, drafting the norm and enforcing it to the evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of the law. This publication is available with Nomos publication, Germany, DEM 49,--.

*No. 3 is the Liège (No. 2) publication in Russian language.*

**No. 4 – „National Legislation in the European Framework“** – featuring the results of the Rome Congress in 1995.

**No. 5 – „Role and Function of the Second Chamber“:** Report of the third conference of the EAL held in Munich 1997.

#### *b. Other Publications*

**Encyclopedia of European Community Law / Encyclopedia of European Union Law** – these two publications feature complete collections of consolidated EC legislation in force with annotations / coverage of all EU constitutional texts.

The EECL consists of 11 volumes, updated 4 times a year; the EEUL consists of 5 volumes which are updated 4 times each year.

It is possible to try both publication titles on 28 days' approval.

*Melissa Leete, Sweet & Maxwell, Freepost LON 12091, 100 Avenue Road, LONDON NW3 3YS, United Kingdom; ph 020 7449 1111.*

## 5. Board Activities

The chairman of the EAL, Prof. Ulrich Karpen, was appointed to the OSCE Advisory Group to the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina of the United Nations.

In monthly sessions, draft codes for Freedom of Information Legislation as well as Defamation Legislation are being created and discussed.

The Advisory Group consists of members from 5 countries including the U.S., Sweden and Germany.

Another appointment of Prof. Karpen concerns draft legislation in the Slovak Republic.

## 6. Varia