



PROBONO
ITALIA

Minutes of the

32nd  **Italian**
PROBONO
Roundtable Agenda

Held in Milan on Wednesday, 6th November 2019,

In the offices of Ashurst

Dear All,

Please find here below a summary of the RT in heading (see attached agenda):

1. Attendees: 75 (see attached LoPs).

2. Introduction

G. Carotenuto, Co-founder and President of Pro Bono Italia (“PBI”), welcomed the 75 attendees to the RT, highlighting that it is held during the second annual Italy Pro Bono Day (“IPBD”), within the first European Pro Bono Week with events in ten European cities. He pointed out that this was a very hectic year for the pro bono movement in Italy, which is growing in numbers and enthusiasm. He also informed about the content of the forthcoming panel on pro bono practices for individuals, as well as, of the closing event with the participation of the President of Milan Bar Council.

M. Lisanti, Ashurst’ partner, joined Giovanni in welcoming the participants and briefly described his firm’s history focusing on pro bono activities, both abroad and Italy projects. M. Lisanti concluded saying that in his firm, pro bono is a pleasure, profitable from the human point of view.

3. NGOs’ presentations

UNICEF Italia (“UNICEF”). D. Fiorentino, corporate partnership & CSR Specialist, introduced the NGO. UNICEF works in over 190 countries and territories to protect the rights of every child, works with the United Nations and its agencies to make sure that children are on the global agenda and it has spent 70 years working to improve the lives of children and their families. The NGO works day-in day-out in the world’s toughest places to reach the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children with the commitment that children remains as strong as ever despite the complexities of our world (see attached presentation).

Cesvi. S. Ciancarella, Legal & Compliance, presented the NGO. Cesvi was established in Bergamo on 18 January 1985. It is a member of Alliance2015, a network of eight European organizations working in the field of development cooperation and humanitarian aid. Cesvi works in more than 20 countries throughout the world, towards the reduction of suffering and the elimination of poverty in the world’s poorest countries through the mobilization and active participation of aid recipients. Cesvi ethical principles are based on legality, correctness,

independence-neutrality and social responsibility for any activity carried on (see attached presentation).

Portofranco. A. Bonfanti, President, introduced the NGO with a brief video. Portofranco is a study aid centre for high school students. More than 1,500 students enrolled in the last school year, 300 of whom are foreigners. Thanks to the presence of about 300 volunteers, including active and retired teachers, professionals and university students, the NGO offers free help in the daily performance of tasks, in the recovery of educational debts and disciplinary knowledge. In total, around 15,000 class hours are taught per year. Present in Milan since 2000, Portofranco is today a reference point for the prevention of early school leaving and youth problems and for the integration between Italians and first and second / third generation immigrants (see attached video).

SOS Bambini. R. Ricci, volunteer, presented the NGO. SOS Bambini was founded in 2004 by a group of friends, with the aim of improving the living conditions of children and adolescents in difficulty. The NGO carries out activities both abroad and in Italy. It intervenes both to remedy emergency situations and to set up long-term projects, helping in particular orphanages, family houses, centres for abandoned children and single mothers, assistance centres for street children. Sos Bambini has a virtual office, managed by volunteers who work for free, joined by passion, commitment and perseverance in achieving the set goals (see attached presentation).

4. Organisation/Programme' presentations

Fundación Pro Bono España ("FPBE"). L. Larracochea, Co-founder and Executive Director, in presented FPBE that it is a non-profit organisation that i) coordinates, promotes and disseminates pro bono work and culture with the aim of facilitating access to justice for non-profit organisations, in full compliance with the framework of action of the free legal aid system and ii) aims to provide intermediation between non-profit organisation and lawyers, universities and the main international pro bono players. Established 1 year ago, it is composed by law firms and more than 500 lawyers and 8 legal clinics, committed to foster a pro bono practice in Spain and contribute to organisations in the non-profit sector. Its mission is to facilitate access to legal services for any non-profit entity that, for economic or other reasons, cannot access them. FPBE works in all the Regions of Spain (see the attached presentation).

TrustLaw. A. Mancinelli, UK and Norther Europe Programme Manager, presented the programme. TrustLaw is the Thomson Reuters Foundation's global pro bono legal programme. They connect high-impact NGOs and social enterprises working to create social and environmental change with the best law firms and corporate legal teams to provide them with free legal assistance and produce groundbreaking legal research and offer innovative training courses worldwide. TrustLaw was created to spread excellence in the practice of pro bono and drive social change worldwide, in fact is the largest global pro bono network with over 4,000 members across more than 175 countries. They work with hundreds of legal teams representing over 120,000 lawyers who generously provide free legal support to thousands of NGOs and social enterprises (see attached presentation).

5. Annual reports clearinghouses' presentations

Coalizione Italiana per le Libertà e i Diritti Civili ("CILD"). L.L. Liboni, Co – Coordinator and Advocacy Officer, presented the clearinghouse and in particular the annual report. Founded in 2014, CILD is a network of 39 civil society organizations that protect and expand the rights and liberties of all, through a combination of advocacy, public education and legal action. CILD

mains area of work are asylum & international protection, immigration, equality & anti-discrimination, justice, civil liberties in the digital age and security. The Centre for Legal Action is one of core activities of the advocacy work of CILD, in the awareness that advances in legislation on human rights also require judicial support action. It works through 4 main activities and one of them is Pro Bono Legal Advice via its Clearinghouse (here and after, "CILD CH"). In 2019, 35 requests have been submitted through CILD CH and 19 were successfully resolved while 11 requests have been successfully processed and are in progress. Topics of interest included accessibility to funding from NGOs, statutory revisions, case law of the European Court of Human Rights and data protection. Overall 12 NGOs receiving and 16 Law firms providing pro bono assistance (see attached presentation).

Associazione dei Centri di servizio per il volontariato ("CSVnet"). R. Museo, Director, presented the clearinghouse and the annual report. CSVnet is the Italian national association of service centres for volunteering (CSV, Centri di Servizio per il Volontariato) founded in January 2003, it includes 62 of the 63 CSVs established in accordance with the framework law on volunteering and represents them both at national and European level. CSVnet taking inspiration from the principles of the Volunteering Charter of Values and the Charter of Representation, it aims at increasing the collaboration and the exchange of experiences and expertise between CSVs to help them achieve their objectives, while respecting their autonomy. To set its mission, CSVnet provides counselling, training and support, working to make the CSVs network more effective as a system of "agencies for the local development of responsible citizenship". In 2016, CSVnet started the activities as clearinghouse (here and after "CSVnet CH"). In 2019, 15 requests have been submitted through CSVnet CH. Topics of interest included NGOs articles of association adjustment *ex* Third Sector Reform, Internal documents review to be compliance on GDPR and contracts (see attached presentation).

6. Update on on-going projects

Know Your Rights ("KYR"). E. Riva, DLA Piper's Personal Assistant and Project's Co – Coordinator, reported about the Milan' second edition of the 7-week legal empowerment and education program for refugees and asylum seekers in Italy, co-organised by DLA Piper, CILD and PBI that kicked-off on Wednesday, 30th October. The participants receive weekly courses on various legal topics as well as Immigration Law in Italy, Health Law, Employment Law, Education, Police, Italian judicial system and how to access law, Writing, advocacy and negotiation skills.

Lesvos Program ("LESVOS"). F. Ravallese and S. Beggiano, JONES DAY's Associates, talked about the program. Dire conditions and escalating conflicts in the Middle East and Africa have driven significant migration to Europe and Greece is one of the main entry points. Jones Day broadened its commitment to assist refugees for three weeks at a time to Lesvos, Greece. There, JONES DAY's lawyers help ensure that the laws governing humanitarian relief are available and properly applied to refugees, particularly women and children. They work with HIAS, a U.S.-based NGO that has been assisting refugees around the world since 1881 and its lawyers have helped collect and prepare basic documents to ensure that asylum seekers and refugees can access the rights given to them under national, European, and international law.

7. Next Italian Pro Bono Roundtable

The 33th Italian Pro Bono Roundtable will be held on Wednesday, 19th February 2020 (from 1 to 3 pm), hosted by Studio Legale De Berti Jacchia Franchini Forlani, Via S. Paolo, 7 - Milan.