



Minutes of the 25th Italian Pro Bono Roundtable

Held in Milan on Wednesday, 18th July 2018

in the offices of Dentons

Dear All,

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

1. Attendees: 33 (see attached LoPs).

2. Introduction

G. Carotenuto, Chairman of Pro Bono Italia (“PBI”), opened the RT by introducing the association to new attendees and explaining them PBI’s major operative areas. He briefly presented the main points of today’s agenda, the ongoing projects, as well as the next events scheduled for the fall (see paragraph 5 below). Giovanni also announced the official launch today of PBI’s website (www.probonoitalia.org).

A. Dubini welcomed the participants to the RT, as partner of the hosting firm. He briefly presented the firm and its pro bono activities, which are carried out across several continents where Dentons’ offices are located. He also mentioned a comparative legal research performed by his colleagues in respect of acid attacks, and the way the offender is punished in different jurisdictions. Such research has shown that the crime at issue is comparable to attempted murder (“*tentato omicidio*”).

3. NGOs’ presentations

Progetto Itaca (www.progettoitaca.org). E. Rusconi presented the association by means of a short video, pointing out its main purposes (heal mental illness, fight against prejudices and support families) and the different tools used to reach their goals (information, workshops and school programs, diagnosis and treatment, and patient’s reintegration). To date, they have already helped 15,000 people in Italy, also thanks to their hotline (that is the result of one of their projects). F. Baglioni explained, in more details, the mental issues faced by the people they help and the type of legal assistance they would need (e.g. labour law, laws of contract, privacy, tax and Third Sector Reform related matters).

UNIAMO F.I.M.R. Onlus (www.uniampo.org). L. Gentile, in charge of SAIO – Servizio di Ascolto, Informazione e Orientamento, presented their alliance of associations, founded in 1999, which supports people with rare diseases and their families. As of today there are between 6,000 and 8,000 rare diseases related cases in Italy, which affect between 6-8% of the population. UNIAMO aims to improve the quality of life of its patients and their families. They are currently running four main projects (SAIO, RINGS, VOCIFERARE and SOCIAL RARE). A recent survey shows that 65% of the requests received by them is about the law (on matters relating to recognition of the disability by the National Health System, assignment of a wrong degree of invalidity and, in general, difficulties to get social assistance).

Operation Smile Italia Onlus (www.operationssmile.it). Alessandra Corrias introduced their association, established in 2000, whose mission is to heal children’s facial defects at birth. So far, they

have already helped 270,000 children all over the world (through the aid of about 5,000 volunteers). In Italy, more than 100 volunteers work on international projects that have helped more than 21,000 children. At present, the association needs legal assistance mainly in the following areas: labour law, international law and the Reform of the Third Sector. Moreover, V. Martini introduced one of their main issues: sometimes, children and their families are left alone after the operation. Indeed, there are only a few hospitals in Italy, which accept children and provide them with a proper post-operative care. To this end, they have recently launched the so-called “Smiling Houses” and would like to export this model in other countries, especially where children with this kind of diseases are abandoned by their families.

4. On-going PBI’s projects

“Know your rights” (“KYR”). G. Carotenuto introduced this legal empowerment project co-organised by DLA Piper, PBI and CILD. He pointed out that it was firstly launched in Rome in the spring of this year, and then revoked due to a lack of candidate participants. It was then decided to relaunch it in the Milan area, which seems to be more logistically fit for the presence of several local NGOs dedicated to the migration phenomenon. In light of the above, L. Liboni (CILD) presented the project in detail (see attachments), pointing out that it is targeted to refugees and asylum seekers who are willing to start a small business in Italy. She highlighted that KYR is divided into several sessions, scheduled to be run between 19th September and 21st November, which include *inter alia* laws of contract, immigration law, employment law and intellectual property law. G. Carotenuto mentioned the mentorship opportunity for lawyers and legal advisors, and recommended the attendees to circulate KYR flyers (also attached hereto) to their potentially interested contacts, so as to attract suitable candidates for the internship, as well as for the position of participants and mentors.

5. PBI needs and staffing

G. Carotenuto pointed out the following PBI’s urgent needs: privacy and data protection law, tax law and Reform of The Third Sector related matters. He added the importance to have one or more part-time dedicated resources to help PBI in its daily activities (including, but not limited to, the presence thereof on social networks).

6. PBI’s pro bono seminars and next events

- 12th September 2018 (from 10 am to 12 pm), Rome – PBI Seminar on privacy, data protection and cyber security, hosted by Hogan Lovells (and co-lectured with Albè e Associati);
- 19th September 2018 (from 5 pm onwards), Milan – Launch of Know Your Rights at DLA Piper;
- 3rd October 2018 (from 10 am to 12 pm), Milan – PBI Seminar on the Reform of The Third Sector, hosted by Macchi di Cellere Gangemi (and co-lectured with White&Case and CSVnet);
- 3rd October 2018 (from 1:30 to 3:30 pm), Milan – 26th Italian Pro Bono Roundtable, hosted by Linklaters;
- 8th October 2018 (11:15 – 12:30), Rome – G. Carotenuto will attend the International Bar Association’s Annual Global Conference, by representing PBI to a panel co-organised by the IBA Pro Bono Committee on “Global migration: from 'crisis mode' to the 'new normal'”;
- 17th October 2018 (from 10:30 am to 1 pm), Milan (tbc) – PBI Seminar on privacy, data protection and cybersecurity, co-lectured by White&Case and Ashurst;
- 12th-14th November 2018, Berlin – 2018 PILnet Global Forum;
- 28th November 2018 (from 9 am to 6 pm), Rome – First Italy Pro Bono Day, co-organised by Orrick, TrustLaw and PBI, and hosted by Orrick. During the day, the 27th Italian Pro Bono Roundtable and a PBI Seminar on the relationship between clearinghouses, NGOs and law firms will take place on premises. **Save the dates!**