



Held in Rome on Wednesday, 28 September 2022, from 1 to 3:30 pm,
at the offices of Hogan Lovells and in streaming

1. Agenda:

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS
Pro Bono Italia – <i>Giovanni Carotenuto</i>
Hogan Lovells – <i>Carlo Massini</i>
PRESENTATIONS FROM NGOs NEW TO OUR NETWORK <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calciosociale• Gruppo cooperativo GOEL• NEVER GIVE UP Onlus• INTERSOS
UPDATES ON CURRENT PROJECTS
PILnet
PRESENTATION OF ITALY PRO BONO DAY - 23rd NOVEMBER 2022
SEMINAR: CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGES FOR THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR
Q&A
FINAL REMARKS

2. Attendees: 75

3. Introduction

Giovanni Carotenuto, Co-founder and President of **Pro Bono Italia** (“PBI”), welcomed the attendees to the 43rd Pro Bono Italia Roundtable, and briefly mentioned Italy Pro Bono Day which will be held on 23, November.

Carlo Massini, partner at **Hogan Lovells**, welcomed the attendees on behalf of Hogan Lovells and spoke about the commitment of the law firm towards supporting pro bono practice. He then left the floor to Eva Campione, associate at Hogan Lovells, who described the Hogan Lovells initiatives in pro bono and mentioned their latest collaborations with the following NGOs.

4. Presentations from NGOs new to our network

Massimo Vallati, founder of **Calcio Sociale** referred to the crucial role played by professionals, like Hogan Lovells, in assisting third sector organizations.

He illustrated the mission of Calcio Sociale, that is changing the rules of football to change the rules of the world. A very ambitious mission that acts upon the media attention received by football, for good or for bad, and makes available to people, living in difficult areas, places in which they can play, study and become great players in football and life. The organization has recently opened, under the auspices of the president Sergio Mattarella, a football field in Rome, Corviale, where criminal organizations were very active 12 years ago. The organization would like to trigger a culture of change.

Simona Sinesi, she is the founder **Never Give up**, which is an Onlus that deals with food disorders, such as bulimia and anorexia. She comes from a corporate background, and she decided to build up the organization in 2014 because she realized that food disorders are one of the main causes of death in Italy amongst youngsters and the victims take approximately 10 years to speak out and seek assistance. She sought assistance in order to change the status of the organization from ONLUS to social enterprise and it was extremely beneficial to better understand pros/benefits and other relevant matters. She was eventually able to obtain the right to use a space in Trastevere as the first Never Give Up house. She invites third sector to connect the dots with others, such as institutions, professionals, and other actors in order to enhance their social impact.

Vincenzo Linarello, co-founder of **GOEL Gruppo Cooperativo**. A group that was born in 2003 in Calabria to bring about change! It is composed by several social and agricultural cooperatives, and foundations organized in different entrepreneurial communities. The group works in social services, with minors at risk, migrants, mental health, and people that rejected to lean towards criminal organisations. The group would like to show that there is the opportunity to make the right choice even in territories that are plagued by criminal organisations. Just to give an example, the group has started a responsible tour operator, I Viaggi del GOEL, that is able to propose cultural and responsible packages within the territory and all products are sourced from people that decide to say no to criminal organisations. The same has been replicated within agriculture. The group supports circular economy, ethical sourcing within the supply chain, and ethical protocols. They have also an incubator for innovative and ethical ideas. They promote ethics that is not only fair but also effective.

Cristina Ialongo is a psychologist and case manager at **INTEROSOS**, that is an organization mainly devoted to humanitarian assistance and international cooperation and is active in 23 countries. The organization is also running a number of projects in Italy, particularly with migrants and/or seasonal workers, one of those is the INTEROSOS Lab. She referred to the importance of advocacy work at institutions to encourage them to be careful actors. INTEROSOS Lab is located in a neighborhood of Rome, Ottavia, that is rough not only in terms of social life and support but also in terms of answers to vulnerable people. It is characterized by people at the margins, often migrants. The Lab runs several projects, so called second level reception, concerning guidance and counselling on social services, schools, employment and provides some services, so called 'sentinel services', which are accessible to everyone. Those services help to spot family in difficult situation and provide them with appropriate assistance for their real needs.

5. Updates on Current Projects

Kristen Allison, junior legal officer at **PILnet**. She spoke about legal community answers to mass displacement of Ukrainians. She referred to several initiatives: namely a project to produce legal resources together with DLA Piper, another one focused on assisting non-Ukrainian asylum seekers in Poland, Blue Dots, and the latest Working Group on Cross-Border Legal Aid. She invited any participants who is interested in joining the WG to get in contact with PILnet. She pointed to the importance of PILnet's work and its partners to continuously mobilize legal community, considering that situations, like the Ukrainian and Afghanistan crisis, might not be temporary as initially thought by many.

She then mentioned the PILnet GLOBAL FORUM, to be held on 17-19 October 2022 in Dublin, Ireland, where PBI will be speaking about the importance of technology in Pro Bono, particularly referring to the Piattaforma Pro Bono Italia that dramatically changed the figures in terms of requests received and processed.

6. Fifth Italy Pro Bono Day

Giovanni Carotenuto, PBI, shared the date of the upcoming Fifth Italy Pro Bono Day to be held on 23 November at DLA Piper offices in Milan. It will be a one-day long event, with media partner Sole 24 Ore and many institutional guests.

7. Seminar

Giovanni Carotenuto, PBI, introduced the co-organisers of the event and the environmental topic.

Federico Anghel , The Good Lobby, welcomed everyone. He referred to an article he read on NY Times, by Paul Krugman, and supported that similarly to the acid rain many matters can find solutions thanks to political battles, and pressure coming from below. The ability to get access to power and particularly within decisional processes it is crucial for environmental matters. It is essential to connect the dots. The Good Lobby supported an incubator for third sector small organisations.

Roberto Gagliardini, I-Com, referred to the importance of public debate on third sector, which has become an essential pillar. The third sector will have a fundamental role to play in roundtables with public institutions, corporate bodies as it widens the angle of the observers.

Padre Enzo Fortunato, as **keynote speaker**, referred to a video mapping on St. Peter Basilica where several issues from the Fratelli Tutti will be addressed. The main topic will be third sector because it is the soul of Fratelli Tutti. He briefly mentions two documents of the current Pope, Fratelli Tutti and Laudato Si, which are relevant for the seminar.

He pointed out that the third sector is extremely important and must be able to maintain sufficient resources to act. He held that it is time to build a capitalism that can share rather than amass resources. He suggested that it is not sufficient to paint the wall, the infrastructure requires new foundations because the system is unequal.

He referred to 1700 where the word sustainability was first used. He then made a practical example, citing Damietta site, on what would be expected from big corporations to truly take into considerations the environment in which human beings live.

The strength of third sector is exactly the dual capacity to support, build and nurture and that role requires a great deal of creativity.

Michele Masulli, I-Com, thanked the keynote speaker and he welcomed all the panelists. He referred to the importance to address the climate crisis. He mentioned that Fridays for Future are back on the streets to protests, he pointed to political campaign on the energy bills, and the forthcoming COP27 in Sharm El Sheik. On top of those, there is the ongoing war in Ukraine, the friction between China and US whilst net-zero emissions target for businesses is set at 2050.

Bellinda Bartolucci gave an overview on **ClientEarth** activities and mission to use the power of the law to bring systemic change at local, national and international level.

Within the environmental field, cooperation is the key, especially for advocacy. At ClientEarth, they share their view and receive inputs from scientists and lawyers from different jurisdictions. Although they do not have an office in Italy, they collaborate with WWF, for instance as in power plant in Federico II case, in Brindisi.

There are several high-level commitments in the environmental area, such as 2019 European Green Deal, and climate neutrality by 2050, but the issue is how to translate that into tangible legal measures. At ClientEarth, they are working on that, for instance within the perimeter of Industrial Emission Directive.

In addition, she mentioned that one of the biggest challenges is that political negotiation on those topics is currently shadowed by the ongoing war in Ukraine and energy crisis, as everyone is focusing on short perspective. Therefore, the ambition of the environmental measures might be watered down in the legal instruments that follow. She further mentioned several legal instruments enacted within the environmental area at EU level, and legal actions against European Commission decisions.

The **moderator** gave the floor to Stefano Bassi referring to Patagonia and its outstanding example as responsible company and its brand-new ownership.

Stefano Bassi, Patagonia, commenced by referring to the news concerning Patagonia new ownership, whereby the founder family has transferred all ownership to two new entities: Patagonia Purpose Trust and the Holdfast Collective. Most significantly, every dollar that is not reinvested back into Patagonia will be distributed as dividends to protect the planet for a responsible business.

He emphasized that the businesses should focus not only on sustainability but most importantly responsibility and it should acknowledge its impact and be part of the solution instead of being cause of the problem. It is possible to reduce its own impact. He firmly believes that there are many areas in which someone can and must pursue that. The business model should tend towards a regenerative model, looking also at 'compensation'. The third sector can support such model together with the businesses in order to account for the communities where they work. Similarly, to the keynote speaker, he upheld the idea of a new capitalism.

Michele Masulli went back to legal aspects concerning EU policy on environment, for instance Power You, and the review of Renewables Directive before leaving the floor to Eugenia Gambarara.

Eugenia Gambarara, Hogan Lovells, focused on the policy and legislative framework within the environmental sector. She pointed to the European Council approach. She emphasized that currently it is required that all policy adopted within EU should be in line with the 2050 net zero targets, which means not only that such targets are important but also urgent.

The framework surrounding environmental matters is extremely complex but in practical terms it seems it is always late. The challenge would be to act on time. The third sector might play a fundamental role within the legislative as well as policy processes and act as representative of local realities due to their proximity to the territory where they operate.

The **moderator** referred to COP27 and other international and national challenges and efforts to involve civil society.

Mariagrazia Midulla, WWF, followed through to the latest speech to emphasize that the legislation chase the real world, and there it comes the frustration to run after the climate change. She rightly pointed out that in Italy there is also an additional delay, as most of the laws concerning environment are coming from EU.

In terms of international negotiation, the frustration is further caused by the fact that it seems to be detached from local realities, what is happening locally and what the institutions are doing in those realities.

However, the inclusion of climate change issues and solutions in rules set forth in legislation is only one way of looking at the problem. Targets will be most often set out in legal and/or policy instruments but then what happens into the practical daily life? There might be a gap in terms of rules that can be filled up by other means.

Another crucial factor, causing delays and frustration within environmental area, is the shortage of skilled people within such field, and sometimes lack of exchange of experience and cooperation between for instance scientists and politicians.

She invited lawyers to be more present in environmental discussion, particularly with NGOs. She referred to ClientEarth and other NGOs which jointly stated that if States do not act, they will act by engaging in legal battles in order to speak out for people. In such way the giants, the governments, and the big corporation might be pushed to act upon environmental issues.

Fabio Stevanato, presented **European Climate Foundation ('ECF')**, that was born in 2008 where awareness on climate matters was gaining importance. The early mission was to expedite the transition towards a society no longer reliant on fossil fuels.

He acknowledged that within the last decades the ECF developed significantly, and today provides funds to roughly 500 organisations. The Foundation deals with grant making and creation of thought leadership. It structured in national and sectoral programmes that span from transportations to climate governance. He specifically deals with Italy programme.

In Italy, ECF aims to bring ecosystem that will be able to create common good, create more skills, bring about creativity and find most innovative projects.

Where politics is no longer able to uphold actions, the third sector is even more important to uphold social demands.

The theory of change is based upon triggering and empowering civil society.

He makes two pleas: 1) call third sector to build the ecosystem by sharing; 2) innovate and be creative in terms of approach and models related to the said theory of change.

The **moderator** refers to urbanization and climate change. He further referred to the Protocol signed by 9 cities and Ministry of Infrastructure within the EU mission climate neutral and smart cities targets; that consists of 5 pillars.

Edoardo Zanchini, Municipality of Rome, shared his institutional point of view by sharing a project. Rome had been selected from the European Commission together with other cities to participate to a programme aimed at achieving zero-net target by 2030. It will be a revolution! His team is now busy building up a working group that truly works together, even more so considering that Rome is far back compared to many other cities. They must take account of national plan on climate, climate adjustment plan and set priorities. As he worked in a national NGOs with local presence, Legambiente, before joining the municipality offices, he admitted that although public administration has powers, those powers have effect only when the civil society, businesses and all actors are engaged. He knows how much third sector is important in the cities for climate, for instance they can manage area where the municipality is no longer able to invest funds and they understand local people needs. He mentioned a project regarding an energy community, with the support of many professionals. He firmly supports that in order to tackle environment matters it must change the way in which the processes are seen.

Michele Masulli, provides a summary of all issues raised by the speakers.

8. Conclusions

Roberto Gagliardini, I-Com.

It is an important day that leaves everyone with suggestions and queries. It was enriching as speakers with different backgrounds and experience took the floor.

Federico Anghel , The Good Lobby.

Being optimistic as far as it is required by the commitment. Generate virtuous collaborations to provide a sharp contribution.

Giovanni Carotenuto, PBI.

Enthusiasm governed the seminar, and it was its fil rouge. Everyone brought his own experience to speak about an issue that concerns all. That is an area in which third sector can make the difference. Pro Bono Italia itself belongs to the third sector and has made the difference for many. In order to thrive the third sector must be supported by skilled and talented people and adequate funds.

The Roundtable ends at 3:50pm