

4. TRENTINO VOLUNTEER SERVICE CENTER

The Organization: CSV Trentino

The Trentino's Volunteer Service Center has served as a vital nonprofit hub in the Trentino province since 2002. Acting as a strategic catalyst for community development, the center supports a network of over 660 associations and 5,000 volunteers. Their mission focuses on:

- **Fostering Inclusion:** Promoting supportive initiatives through individual participation and active citizenship.
- **Diverse Community Service:** Managing a wide variety of local efforts, from cultural events to environmental care and the support of vulnerable groups.
- **Social Cohesion:** Building relationships and networking among public and private entities to increase local social capital.

The Challenge: Navigating Liability Standards

The Center faced a complex legal question regarding the liability of internal auditors for an association it supports. The organization had appointed a collegial audit body whose members lacked professional auditor registrations. This created significant uncertainty regarding the legal responsibilities of these individuals, specifically whether the strict liability standards and five-year statute of limitations outlined in Article 15 of Legislative Decree 39/2010 applied to them. Without professional clarity, the center risked operational instability and potential legal exposure for its volunteers.

PBI our Member Law Firm's Pro Bono Support

As a clearinghouse, PBI connected the center with lawyers from one of its Member Law Firm. The Law Firm work involved dedicating 50 hours to provide legal expert advice on complex regulatory compliance. It interpreted 15 of Legislative Decree 39/2010 to determine the exact nature of the auditors' liability and the applicable statute of limitations and offered guidance to the association on how to structure its audit bodies safely and transparently.

The Impact

This intervention by PBI and lawyer Santini not only resolved the immediate liability concerns but also equipped CSV Trentino with proactive governance tools to prevent future uncertainties. Armed with clear interpretations of Legislative Decree 39/2010, the center could confidently refine its support models for the 660+ associations it serves, ensuring auditors and volunteers operate under transparent, legally sound frameworks that prioritize risk mitigation without stifling community action.

The ripple effect extends far beyond this single query: by fortifying the center's advisory capacity, PBI helped sustain Trentino's vibrant volunteering ecosystem—over 5,000 dedicated individuals driving inclusion, cultural events, and social cohesion across the province. This case exemplifies PBI's role as a leader, and force multiplier, transforming complex regulatory hurdles into opportunities for enduring organizational strength and heightened volunteer trust.

Through PBI's coordination, the expert counsel provided by the Law Firm gave CSV Trentino the legal certainty required to allow the center to continue mobilizing volunteers and supporting social cohesion with the confidence that their governance models were legally defensible. By securing this professional foundation, PBI helped preserve the infrastructure that thousands of volunteers in Trentino rely on every day.