



Update to the Network



PROBONO
ITALIA NEWS



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[Join Pro Bono Italia ETS and renew your 2027 membership fee](#)

The stronger our network, the more organisations and people we can support

The strength of Pro Bono Italia ETS lies in its network: professionals, law firms, companies and organisations that share our mission and choose to put their expertise, experience and resources at the service of the common good.

By joining Pro Bono Italia ETS — or, if you are already a member, by paying your membership fee for 2027 — you make a tangible contribution to **supporting our Clearinghouse, digital platform, Permanent Working Groups, training and awareness-raising activities, and the projects** through which we promote the culture and practice of pro bono in Italy.

An increasingly broad and strong network also enables us to develop new collaborations with non-profit organisations and strengthen their capacity to pursue their missions.

This is what we are doing, for example, through the [CSOs' Legal Health Check project](#), which brings together civil society organisations, law firms and in-house counsel, making specialist legal expertise available to non-profits to strengthen their legal and organisational frameworks.

If you share our values, join our Association. If you are already a member, support our activities by [renewing your 2027 membership fee](#).

[Visit our website to join Pro Bono Italia ETS](#)

[58th Italian Pro Bono Roundtable](#)

New non-profits and the CSOs' Legal Health Check

On **Wednesday, 21 October**, the 58th Italian Pro Bono Roundtable will also provide an opportunity to expand and strengthen the Pro Bono Italia ETS network.

We will welcome new non-profit organisations, including VIDAS, as well as other organisations that we will introduce in due course, and provide an update on the **CSOs' Legal Health Check project**, developed in collaboration with PILnet and with the support of Civitates – The European Democracy Fund.

The project has now entered its operational phase and is progressing well, **involving 7 non-profit organisations, 8 law firms and numerous in-house counsel**.

Its aim is to strengthen the legal and organisational frameworks of civil society organisations by providing specialist expertise through collaboration among non-profits, law firms and companies.



Organised civil society and the social economy: the role of pro bono
The second part of the 58th Italian Pro Bono Roundtable will be dedicated to the **Seminar “Organised civil society and the social economy: the role of pro bono in an integrated for-profit/non-profit ecosystem”.**

The discussion will focus on two initiatives that are shaping the European and national frameworks: the EU Civil Society Strategy, centred on dialogue with civil society organisations, the protection of civic space and funding, and Italy’s National Action Plan for the Social Economy, which addresses the legal and tax framework as well as forms of collaboration between the public sector, the social economy and businesses.

The EU Strategy expressly identifies pro bono legal assistance as a means of strengthening the resilience of civil society organisations, including in relation to regulatory compliance and access to legal protection. The National Action Plan, in turn, identifies several areas in which specialist legal and tax expertise, support networks and partnerships can help social economy organisations.

The seminar will open with **Rosalba Striani**, Head of Unit for Fundamental Rights Policy and Free Movement, DG Justice and Consumers, European Commission. She will be followed by **Luigi Bobba**, President of Fondazione Terzjus ETS; **Giulia Patanè**, Program Director: Europe at PILnet; and **Giovanni Carotenuto**, our President. The discussion will be moderated by **Chiara Capalti**, a member of our Board of Directors.

The seminar will bring these two perspectives — European and national — together to explore how policy priorities can be translated into practical tools and concrete forms of collaboration among civil society, the social economy, businesses and the legal community.

 **Wednesday 21 October 2026**
 **12:30 PM – 3:00 PM**
 [FIVERS Studio Legale e Tributario, Via Pietro Paleocapa 5, Milan](#)

Participation is free of charge, subject to registration, and is also available via live streaming. Attendance qualifies for **1 professional training credit**.

[Register today](#)



[What does it mean, in practical terms](#), to provide specialist legal expertise free of charge to a Third Sector organisation?
It means **helping that organisation overcome obstacles** that may limit its operations and its ability to pursue its mission.

Thanks to the assistance provided by professionals in our network, one association was able to address issues in its bylaws that were preventing it from operating

another organisation was able to resolve a dispute that was preventing it from using accommodation intended for a mental health support programme.

Pro bono can also make a difference in the lives of individuals. In another case, legal assistance enabled a person in need to regain access to their pension after their bank account had been blocked.

Through our Clearinghouse, our digital platform and the network of professionals who support us, we connect the legal needs of non-profit organisations and people in need with the specialist expertise required to address them.

This is the value of pro bono that we want to highlight: **putting the expertise of the legal community at the service of organisations working for the common good, strengthening their ability to act and, through them, generating a tangible impact on people and communities.**

[Read our success stories](#)

Upcoming events from our partners
IBA Annual Conference 2026 in Copenhagen



ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION
IBA 2026 COPENHAGEN
4-9 OCTOBER



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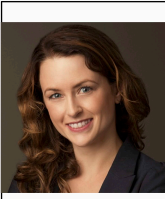
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Kristin Smith
Institutional Liaison Officer, IBA Human Rights Law Committee

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On **Wednesday, 7 October**, Giovanni Carotenuto, our President, will co-moderate the session **“Guardians of advocacy: lawyers standing with lawyers worldwide”** together with León Weinstok, as part of the **IBA Annual Conference 2026 in Copenhagen**.

Together with Roberto Durrieu, Mark Evans, Saroj Ghimire, Martin Lavesen, Amelia Schmidt and Kristin Smith, they will discuss **how the international legal community can support lawyers who face persecution or pressure** as a result of their work defending the rule of law, human rights and the right to legal representation.

The session will explore the support mechanisms available — from pro bono assistance and cross-border collaboration to awareness-raising initiatives — and how professional networks can be mobilised before, during and after a crisis.

Learn more on the IBA website: [link to the session info](#).

Your 5x1000 strengthens our work
in support of people in vulnerable situations

Since we began our activities, **we have received 2,267 requests** for legal assistance from non-profit organisations and people in need.

Your 5x1000 helps us expand our network, strengthen our projects and create new opportunities to provide assistance, including to non-profit organisations that work every day to protect rights and respond to the needs of their communities.

Sign in the section dedicated to “Sostegno degli Enti del Terzo Settore iscritti al RUNTS” and **enter our tax code: 97783370154**



Thank you for taking the time to read our updates. I wish you a pleasant weekend,

Giovanni Carotenuto
Chair of the Board, Pro Bono Italia ETS



GIOVANNI CAROTENUTO
Chair of the Board, Pro Bono Italia ETS

 presidente@probonoitalia.org

 probonoitalia.org



Associazione Pro Bono Italia ETS

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