Report of the President – January 2011

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The year 2010 did not provide any particular surprises in the life of our Association. Activities in the first part of the year have already been described in the report I presented at the meeting in July (click here to view the report). The website has been efficiently managed, as always, by Kathryn Kellner, whom we heartily thank.

The location of our Annual Meeting in 2010 was splendid – as was the organization by Bernie Adell and his collaborators. Herstmonceux Castle is an extraordinary piece of Olde England. Also the Call for Papers for the Marco Biagi Award 2010 was very successful: we received eight papers from four countries around the world. As you already know, Virginie Yampelda was judged first in this competition with her paper Travail decent et diversité des rapports de travail, and Marco Peruzzi's paper Autonomy in the European Social Dialogue was acknowledged as runner-up. Unfortunately, only Peruzzi could take part in the meeting; for Yampelda it was impossible to attend because of bureaucratic obstacles to obtaining a visa to the U.K. The two papers have been published, in Italian, in Lavoro e diritto, n. 4/2010. The 2011 Call has since appeared in several journals and websites and one paper, from Nigeria, has already been received.

In 2011 the meeting will be organized by the three Spanish member journals in Seville on the occasion of the X European Congress of the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law. The meeting will be held in September: the business meeting in the afternoon of the 19th, and the academic session on the 20th. This one will be devoted to the theme of the representativeness of unions; a possible title is "Challenges for Workers' Representation in a Changing Workworld", but we still await suggestions for papers from all the participants.

I will remind you about the meeting later in the year but it would be useful to know now how many of you are planning to take part in the meeting itself and also to know who is thinking of presenting a paper at the academic session (some journals of the Association are planning to publish some of the papers). Could you please advise me if you will not be attending.

I wish you a happy and prosperous 2011 and look forward to meeting you in Seville.

Gian Guido Balandi