

INSURANCE LAW BETWEEN NATIONAL LAWS AND GLOBALIZATION

Introductory Paper (29/9/2014)

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SUMMARY: 1. The 14th World Conference of AIDA. – 2. Acknowledgments.

1. *The XIVth World Conference of AIDA.*

Authorities, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen and Participants all,

As President of the Italian Section of AIDA, it is my pleasure to officially open the XIVth World Conference of AIDA and underline the importance of this anniversary: 52 years back, in 1962, Rome again hosted the First World Conference of AIDA, which was chaired by Antigono Donati, one of Italy's best-famed scholars of insurance law, and attended by the Italian President of the Republic, Giovanni Gronchi.

I would like to extend my thanks to all those who have shouldered the task of organizing this Conference, which is aimed at addressing the main issues relating to insurance law and its application throughout the world, in four intense days of work, both in the *Plenary Sessions* and in the *Working Parties*.

The main problems in the field of insurance law will be tackled with an innovative formula developed during the *Plenary Sessions* and in the *Working Parties*.

The *Plenary Sessions* – which will mainly focus on contractual transparency, arbitration procedures and preventive measures, as well as on online insurance and discrimination – will be configured as Round Tables

coordinated by the introductory paper of the session's Chairperson, which will be based on the analysis of the answers given in homogeneous questionnaires filled out by the National Sections. The aim of the report is to provide conference participants with a synthetic but detailed overview of national legislations, highlighting the differences and similarities between single or groups of national legislations through a comparative approach.

The *Working Parties* – which will focus on issues relative to subrogation, consumer protection, reinsurance, maritime insurance and vehicle/car insurance – will give participants an in-depth take into specialist issues.

2. *Acknowledgements.*

I would like to make a number of acknowledgements that I feel to be dutiful.

First and foremost to the Presidency of the Republic, which has awarded its high patronage to our AIDA Conference, a recognition that both honours us and stimulates us to not disappoint the expectations placed on our Association and on this conference in particular.

A special thanks must also be addressed to the Assicurazioni Generali Foundation which, by making a significant contribution already in the earliest phases of the conference organization over two years ago, helped us along an undoubtedly cumbersome organizational path.

A special thanks should also be directed to the European University of Rome which, in addition to making a generous contribution, has made available its facilities for our Congress and also provided us with valuable organizational assets – in terms of secretarial staff and services – which proved to be essential for the success of the Conference.

A heart-felt thanks should also go to all the sponsors and especially our “*platinum*” sponsors, Reale Mutua Assicurazioni and UnipolSai, both of which are long-dated supporters of our Association, and Reale Mutua ever since the end of WW2. These are immediately followed by our *gold sponsors* – Consap -

Concessionaria Servizi Assicurativi Pubblici S.p.A. and Banca Fideuram – and the *silver sponsors*, Ania - Associazione Nazionale fra le Imprese Assicuratrici; Banca CR Firenze; Banco di Sardegna; Società Cattolica di Assicurazioni and Octo Telematics. Their priceless economic support enabled us to meet our many financial commitments aimed at not only assuring an efficient conference organization but also an intense programme of collateral activities in the eternal city of Rome, whose wealth of history, art, and centuries-old traditions are well-known the world over.

A special thanks should also be addressed to AIDA World Congress 2014 s.r.l. for having organized this conference and especially to Dr. Danijela Rupcic and Dr. Elena Bico who, under the coordination of Prof. Claudio Russo and Sveva Bernardini, articulated step by step the complex organizational tasks that go into putting in place a conference that, precisely because of its global dimension, presented uncommon difficulties.

Last but not least, I would like to thank our friends of AIDA World, starting with its President, Michael Gill, and its Secretary General, Colin Croly, the Scientific Committee Chairman Jérôme Kullmann and his fellow committee members, the Presidents of the *National Chapters*, as well as all the coordinators, keynote speakers and participants in the Plenary and Working Parties Sessions, and to all our friends – whom, for the purpose of brevity, I cannot list one by one – who made a significant contribution in all these years of preparatory work.

My personal thanks go to our Honorary President, Prof Agostino Gambino who, through his great experience, wisdom and resourcefulness, revealed to be key to the success of this Conference.

Let me now extend my thanks to all the participants who honour this initiative with their presence. I take this opportunity to wish them all a fruitful and enjoyable stay in Rome.