



ILUSTRE  
COLEGIO DE ABOGADOS  
DE MADRID

## MADRID DECLARATION SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF LAWYERS

Lawyers, Law firms, Associations of Lawyers and Bar Associations who are signatory of the following Declaration on Social Responsibility of Lawyers (SRL) reaffirm their commitment to society and the universal value of justice, and to this end,.

### DECLARE

1. Lawyers as members of a profession which serves the public interest of justice, have duties and obligations to clients, colleagues and other legal professionals, judges and courts, public authorities and bar associations, but also duties to the society.

2. In order to comply with such duties, and also as an expression of their voluntary and willing commitment to society, the signatories of this Declaration will promote and support:

- a) Access to justice for individuals, groups or communities who are disadvantaged or in a situation of social exclusion, by guaranteeing their assistance by an independent lawyer.
- b) Initiatives to ensure the participation of lawyers in counseling and education activities for the benefit of groups or communities lacking the necessary resources, in order to fully extend in society the right to justice and the rule of law.
- c) Education of lawyers, especially young lawyers and those who intend to enter the profession, on the principles of SRL enshrined in this Declaration.
- d) Cooperation with the judiciary, the representatives of the administration of justice and any other public authority, universities, schools of legal practice, embassies and consular offices, and NGOs.
- e) Initiatives of members of the society when inspired by the value of political pluralism and civic participation in public affairs, especially actions to improve the quality of legislation and the legal framework, rules of good governance, equal access to the administration and the transparency of its institutions and bodies.
- f) Generally any action or initiative that seeks to protect diversity and the right to equality, the strengthening the rule of law, and the safeguard of the rights of defense and human rights.

3. Bar associations and professional associations of lawyers, with full compliance of their functions and obligations of general interest as recognized by legal rules or as established in their statutes, will promote and expand the SRL and its practice. Thus, they may identify specific objectives for social action, facilitate lawyers and law firms information on those objectives and will make available to them their resources, organization and cooperation to achieve those objectives.

4. Signatories of this Declaration will keep each other reciprocally informed on their respective SRL activities and will coordinate their efforts also with public authorities and private organizations, national or international, which pursue objectives of general interest as described in this Declaration.

The Madrid Bar Association, with no other purpose than to serve the legal profession and society, makes available to all signatories of this Declaration as of this date the Center for Social Responsibility of Lawyers, located in Madrid, calle Serrano, n ° 9, as an initial instrument for the coordination, support and dissemination of this Declaration, leaving as depository of the signed copies.

Madrid, --- October, two thousand nine.

Full name of the signer:.....

- Personally
- Representing .....