

## **Dialogue among LASIL'S President and members of the ESIL at the Valencia Conference (September 13-15, 2012)**

LASIL's President, Judge Antonio A. Cançado Trindade was invited to the Bi-annual Conference of the European Society of International Law (ESIL) taking place past 13-15 September at Valencia, Spain. The President Cançado Trindade, while presiding a panel on this occasion on regional human rights systems, highlighted the fact that such systems operate in time and space and that therefore each of them counts with a geographical frame of application and lives its own historical moment (different from each other).

Nevertheless, as affirmed by President Cançado Trindade, regional systems operate within human rights' *universality* and share the basic premise of being inherent to the human being, preceding in time the state (and other forms of political organization), showing themselves superior to this and being essentially *universal*. Every regional protection system contributes in this way to human rights *universality*. Furthermore, President Cançado Trindade thanked Professors Djamchid Momtaz (Tehran) and Theodore Christakis (Grenoble) for the quality of their interventions in the panel he presided.

At a second stage, President Cançado Trindade, addressed ESIL's General Assembly and thanked for the hospitality received. He recalled the fact that he had received only a few days before President Anne Perers and other members of the ESIL at LASIL's last conference in Rio de Janeiro and highlighting that the cooperative spirit among institutions was renewed in Valencia, where several members of LASIL participated in the ESIL's conference. The President affirmed the importance of the latinamerican doctrine in international law, reflected today in different international instruments, such as the fundamental principle of the prohibition of the threat of force (Art. 2(4) UN Charter) and right to access to justice (Art. 8 of the Universal Human Rights Declaration), of latinamerican origin.

Finally, he thanked for the hospitality of those in charge of organizing the conference and in particular of Professors Jorge Cardona (Valencia), Mariano Aznár (Castellón) and Carlos Expósito (Madrid), and reminded that the beautiful University of Valencia where the conference was held, was many centuries ago the place were legal scholars such as Juan Luis Vives and Miaja de la Muella, embraced legal humanism, defended victims of oppression and repression remaining loyal to the ideas of the founders of the *droit des gens*.

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