



**DINO SERAFINI**

### **Candidacy letter for the position of Secretary-General of AIJA**

Dear AIJA Members,  
Friends,

I am excited to submit my candidacy for the position of Secretary-General of our beloved Association.

AIJA has been a cornerstone in my life as a lawyer. I first encountered AIJA in 2017, when I was a newly admitted 27 years old lawyer: I quickly realized that this connection was for life.

My first major involvement with AIJA was on the Organizing Committee for the 2018 Annual Congress in Rome. There, I made lifelong friends and discovered I could combine my legal career with my passion for sustainability. Through my work on the Executive Committee, starting that same year, I started learning about the Association's governance and dynamics. I have cherished the years that followed, contributing as an OC member, speaker, moderator, and active participant. Since the Annual Congress in Zurich in 2021, I have served as AIJA's first Sustainability Officer and later co-chaired the Sustainability Board and participated to the works of the Extended Bureau. These roles have been crucial in promoting our sustainability initiatives, and I will continue to support these efforts as long as I am with AIJA. Our journey toward a more sustainable AIJA has just begun, but the support our commitment to a more responsible model has received from members and stakeholders shows that we are heading in the right direction. Since the 2023 Rio Congress, I have had the privilege of working closely with our dear current Secretary-General, Tomáš Rybár, and my fellow Bureau members as Deputy Secretary-General. What I learned thanks to their leadership in this function inspired me to submit this candidacy.

AIJA has shaped my vision of the lawyer I want to be. The Association is to me the home to such a vision.

The role of Secretary-General comes with significant responsibility, requiring knowledge, experience, balance, and leadership. I am committed to continuing the excellent work of my predecessors, Tomáš, Jean-Philippe, and Emiliano, who demonstrated the power of sound governance, in both good times and challenging ones. I wish AIJA to be increasingly fair, sustainable, diverse, and inclusive for everyone. I am dedicated to bringing fresh energy to these challenges to ensure the AIJA Spirit remains the gold standard for young professionals across the globe.

Looking ahead, while staying true to its Spirit, AIJA's growth and global reach require increased corporate governance and more resilient protocols. As Secretary-General, I aim to complete the revision of our internal rules and guidance documents, starting from the election rules and moving on to internal governance and representation policies. At the same time, I wish to work with the Association's management to ensure our corporate culture and operations meet our ambitions and members' needs. I also plan to continue collaborating with the Bureau and the Sustainability Board to further integrate ESG factors into AIJA's governance and maintain sustainability as a core principle.

Is this a big challenge? Absolutely. Could I ask for a better team? Hardly so! I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the inspiring colleagues and friends in the Bureau, our Officers and Representatives worldwide, the wonderful AIJA community, and the talented AIJA Team.

I am truly thankful to my law firm, Arendt & Medernach, for their support, from the partners to my peers and team members, who are always by my side, even when AIJA "forces" me away from Luxembourg to various places across the globe. The biggest thanks go to Bianca, my wife, for her (at times critical) support, for her companionship, especially now that she agreed to come more often to the AIJA parties!

AIJA has been instrumental in my professional development, providing a platform for growth, learning, and networking. I wish this to be true for all young lawyers willing to engage in AIJA.

Thank you for your trust and support. I am always available for any concerns, projects, or initiatives. Let's continue to work and grow together, fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable AIJA.

Warm regards,  
Dino