2010

José María Davó Fernández
Spain

My presidency took place in 2010, during the 50th anniversary of the CCBE. A special commemorative programme was organised on the occasion. Starting with a colloquium in Brussels in January on professional secrecy/legal professional privilege, with the participation of judges from EU Courts, it continued with a meeting of the Presidents of the European and South American national councils of lawyers in May in Malaga (Spain), analysing human rights in each of their countries, followed by a ceremony in Basel (Switzerland) commemorating the founding act, and ending with a conference in November on legal aid, with the intervention of the European Commission Vice-President Viviane Reding.

A book on the fiftieth anniversary was also published, with a summary of the history of the organisation. All former CCBE Presidents and the Presidents of the two European Union Courts contributed to this book.

The Human Rights Award, created on my initiative three years earlier, was given to two Mexican lawyers defending the victims of mass murders of women, which led to the creation of the criminal category of *femicide*.

> The Human Rights Award, created on my initiative three years earlier, was given to two Mexican lawyers defending the victims of mass murders of women, which led to the creation of the criminal category of *femicide*.

In addition, I travelled the world to spread the importance of our organisation. As an anecdote, I could tell you that when I attended the historic ceremony of the first joint meeting of Serbian and Croatian lawyers at the Parliament in Belgrade, after the clashes between the two countries, all speakers spoke in Serbian or Croatian, without me being able to understand anything they were saying. Surprisingly, I was invited to speak without prior notice. I spoke in English and French, without being sure that the assistants could understand me either!

Fortunately, at the end of the ceremony, some of the international observers present congratulated me for having spoken about the work of harmonising lawyers, as well as about the use of both languages, as a sign of union between the two peoples.

EUROPEAN LAWYERS
BARREAUX EUROPÉENS
EUROPEAN BARS
AVOCATS EUROPÉENS

CCBE

60 YEARS | ANS
1960 - 2020

#CCBE60