



Dr. Peter Kriependorf
President
5th Letter

**To all representatives of
the members of ECLA**

28.12.2011

Dear Madam, dear Sir!

As the year 2011 is rapidly drawing to its end I take the opportunity to thank you all for your loyal co-operation with our Association and its Executive Board.

ECLA has seen some progress during the course of the year especially with respect to the fine-tuning of ECLA's Vision/Mission statement and the specification of our foremost targets. The discussion of these basic principles of our self-conception held during our General Assembly in Torino produced a broad consent among our members' representatives, which should serve as sound basis for the work lying ahead of us.

Progress has also been achieved with our financial situation:

With **Kluwer Law International** as our new sponsor for an initial three year period and **GLG** extending its partnership for another year, ECLA has gained some monetary relief, although we all have to continue our efforts to provide additional resources.

During the last few weeks ECLA has gotten involved in the Prezes UKE case pending before the ECJ by applying to intervene in a matter which poses a serious threat to the professional practice of in-house lawyers. **While the outcome of our application may be open and - if accepted - the success of our intervention may appear somewhat contingent, I wish to make it quite clear that our engagement in this law suit must not dissuade us from our foremost mission, i.e. lobbying for a better understanding and wider acceptance of the professional status of in-house lawyer, this being a national as well as a European issue.**

I do hope that our forthcoming General Assembly at London will show initial results in this case. It is there that the members of the Executive Board will stand for re-election and I urge all member associations to be duly represented there in order to participate in this important membership function.

Let me extend to all of you my very best wishes for a successful New Year in good health, prosperity and peace.

With my best regards
Sincerely

Dr. Peter Kriependorf
President