



Dear AIJA Members,
Dear friends,

I am extremely happy to humbly submit before you my candidacy to serve as Treasurer and Member of the Bureau of our beloved Association.

It has been an honor to be entrusted with the responsibility to serve through this past year as AIJA's Deputy Treasurer and help AIJA navigate, alongside my fellow Bureau members and the fantastic Brussels team, through the difficult financial landscape that the COVID-19 global pandemic has represented.

The challenges have abounded. The curtailment of international travel, the impossibility to hold brick and mortar – physical events and the limited access to sponsorship funding, have forced us, as an Association, to change our model on the fly.

But, here we are, still standing tall. AIJA is in a healthy financial situation.

The job, though, is not yet finished. The pandemic and its effects (economic and otherwise) still persist and remain a challenge for a global association like ours. The goal then, (and my goal as Treasurer), is and will be to keep AIJA financially sound all the way through the other side of the pandemic. We have (happily) congresses, half-year conferences, seminars and a number of initiatives to organize, and as important, to setup in a financially sustainable way.

If elected Treasurer, it will be a privilege to keep serving AIJA and all of you, its members and my friends. I have been in love with our Association since my first AIJA event, the 2013 Buenos Aires Congress. So serving AIJA in different capacities has been an honor and an absolute joy. It has been a wonderful experience, and one that I am very grateful for, to speak at different AIJA events and to, respectively, chair and co-chair the organization of successful events such as AIJA's 10th Annual Arbitration Conference in Singapore (2018) and the Fall Half Year Conference in Miami (2019). The same I can say about the opportunity to serve, first as Vice-President (2017-2019) and then as President (2019-2021), of AIJA's International Arbitration Commission. Just a true honor.

As to my other life, meaning the one related to the actual practice of law, I am Counsel at the international law firm Reed Smith LLP. I am based in Miami and focus my practice on

international arbitration and litigation representing corporate transnational clients, international businesses, and entrepreneurs in international arbitration proceedings and complex international litigation cases before arbitral tribunals and courts seated in the US, Latin America, and other places in the world. I am also a dual-licensed attorney in the United States and Mexico, with full J.D. degrees in both countries.

Therefore, if nothing else, when you happen to visit Miami, please do not be a stranger and call me. *Mi casa es tu casa*. My family, my wife Jessica, my seven year old-son Pablo, my ten-month old daughter Valentina, and myself, of course, we are always happy to meet and welcome AIJA friends from every corner in the world. I promise you lots of AIJA spirit.

Best regards dear friends, see you in Zurich,

Eduardo.