



## The ECBA Human Rights Committee

The ECBA Human Rights Committee is a body/ working group of the European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA) and consists of members of the ECBA, but at the same time is open to any other criminal lawyer, judge or academic wishing to contribute to the Committee's causes.

The Committee is coordinated by the ECBA Human Rights Officer (HRO), appointed by the ECBA Executive Committee.

Their task is to uphold human rights, fair trials and the rule of law both in the European countries and internationally, especially in relation to lawyers, their professional activities and the upholding of human rights standards.

To that end, they can use any possible actions or means they deem appropriate, such as statements, campaigns, and interventions before domestic and international Courts, for the protection of the rule of law, human rights and the proper administration of justice.

## The ECBA Human Rights Award "Scott Crosby"

The ECBA and their Human Rights Committee have decided to institutionalize the ECBA Human Rights Award, named after our late friend and passionate human rights activist Scott Crosby, to be awarded once a year to distinguished lawyers who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and sacrifice to uphold fundamental values.

The objective of the ECBA is to honour the efforts of lawyers and at the same time raise awareness of the core values of the legal profession.

The receivers of the ECBA Human Rights Award 2020 are Judge Igor Tuleya and the Dean of the Warsaw Bar Association, lawyer Mikołaj Pietrzak, both from Poland.

## In Memoriam of Scott Crosby - Alexis Anagnostakis, ECBA HR Officer

Scott Crosby was a passionate advocate, a sharp and inquisitive mind, a peaceful and lovely soul. His presence and personality had a tremendous impact on others and words are not enough to describe him.

It was impressive how his readiness to fight for the common good was perfectly combined with his kindness and serenity.

He believed so much in the importance of human rights that he did not hesitate to put his safety at risk to support his beliefs.

The strongest memory we have of Scott is when he decided to go, on behalf of the Human Rights Committee, on the mission to Istanbul to support our imperiled colleagues. Many had advised him not to go, but he insisted on going with the aim of giving support. The atmosphere in the trial was tense, polarised, and there was no guarantee for his safety. He impressed everyone with his bravery and his passion. He behaved with strong determination but at the same time a humble sense of service. That was Scott's spirit.

That is why the task to replace Scott is rather a "mission impossible": we won't even try to. Scott Crosby's memory stands from now on as a beacon for every one of us who wishes their voice about fair trial and human rights to be heard.

Let's not just make human rights great again – let's work to make them better than ever before. In Scott's memory!