

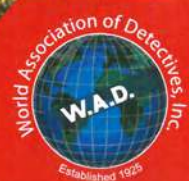
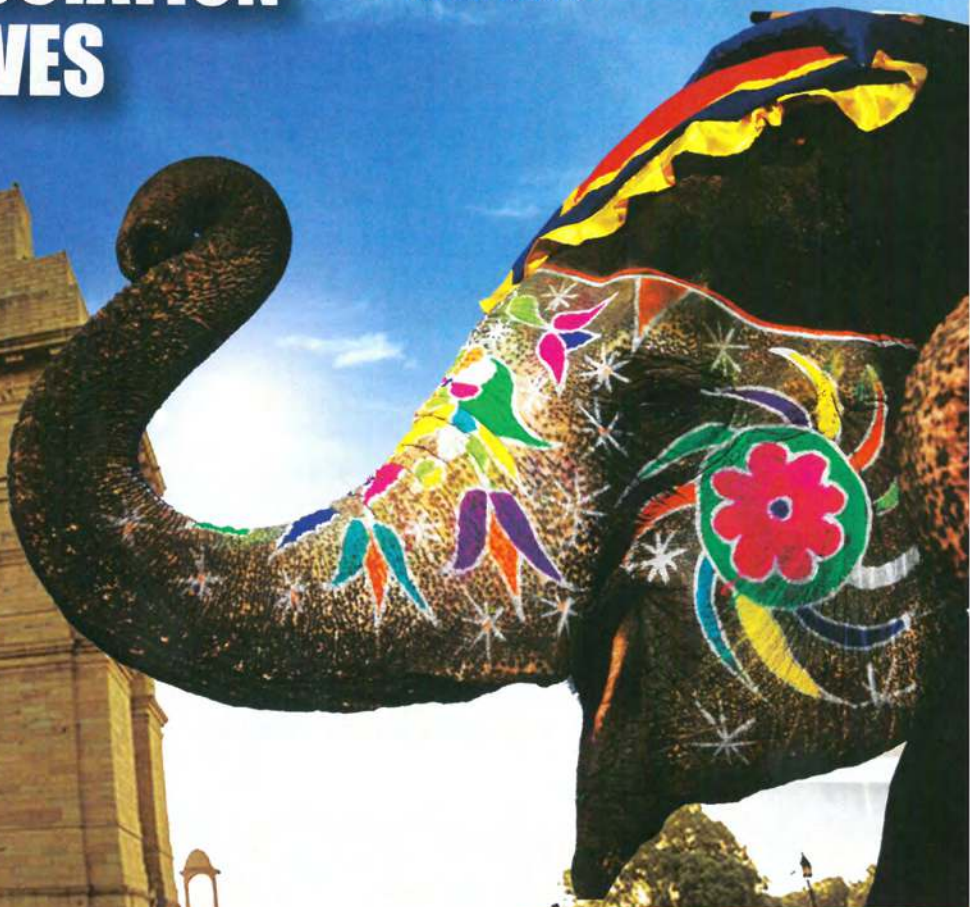
W.A.D. beyond GLOBAL

A Quarterly Journal for Investigators and Security Professionals

NEW DELHI

WELCOMES THE WORLD ASSOCIATION OF DETECTIVES

- THE EUROPEAN UNION'S GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)
- INDIA – ONE IN A BILLION
- MAPPING THE REAL ROUTES OF TRADE IN FAKE GOODS



"A Global Alliance of Investigators and Security Professionals"

LAURA GIULIANI

2nd VICE PRESIDENT



BUILDING A FUTURE FOR WAD

Trust. Networkiing. Global connections. And effective local support. There's a new initiative to take our organization to the next level. And it's time to get started.

«To promote and maintain the highest ethical practices in the profession of private investigator or security service».

Listed as the top purpose of WAD, this noble endeavor nonetheless finds only limited possibilities of practical application throughout the remaining contents of the association's Bylaws. In each participating nation, there are different laws, different lawmaking, jurisdictional and procedural principles at work; different associative structures, different relations with the local institutions that control our working licenses (where applicable) or our overall activities; also, different ways of managing media relations.

Should we give up right away, then? Would it not be possible for WAD to engage on a practical level – with structured lobbying and institutional relation activities with lawmakers, ministers, privacy authorities, opinion leaders and the like – in the 90+ worldwide states where its members operate?

Clearly, the top priority for our professional agenda has to be the optimization of our operativity (on all levels: territorial, technical, factual), and the extension of our expertise (exclusive assignments, an increased cooperation with courts and attorney's offices) in several fields; in short, the maximisation of our range of activities, regulated by clear and innovative lawmaking wherever possible; in countries where legislation is either insufficient or too limiting for the field of private investigation, we shall at the very least endeavour to bring about progress.

In so far, the unceasing activity of our P.I.-area representatives to pressure all relevant institutions and decision-makers on the national level (ministries, parliaments, similar interest groups, the media etc) is of the utmost importance. To do whatever is in our power to influence both citizens and the body politic in order to get better laws should always be part of our core activities.

So, with all this in mind, and after debating the issues at hand with all executives in the steering committee, I have come

to a simple conclusion: **YES, there is a right approach for WAD to do a better job of backing our global members' activities.**

At the heart of this approach is WAD's ability to support its members by consulting, networking, providing guidance (eg, case histories), connections and even financial backing to the single national associations which engage in those activities to uphold our local members' best-practice standards and defend their rights if necessary.

Looking back at my personal experience, when I used to serve as President of Federpol – Italy's association of private eyes – working on a major revision of my country's set of laws regulating the security and investigation area, WAD, acting upon the recommendation of Italian Board members Gavino Piredda and Laura Rossi, assisted me with a financial contribution of about \$ 400, effectively enabling the entire team at Federpol to keep up the fight and help push the law reforms through.

From that moment on, I started referring to the World Association of Detectives's intervention as a gamechanger in all communications, formal and otherwise, and as I remember with encouraging results both in terms of image building and of public and institutional response. All of which, ultimately benefited the approval of the law reforms incorporating my proposed changes benefitting Italian private investigators.

Nor is this Italian experience unique: **WAD boasts a proven track record of many more positive interventions both on the national and continental levels. With this in mind, I endeavoured to get the ball rolling on a far-reaching WAD project of mentoring and support with all local organizations that include WAD members within their ranks.** After extensive consultation and greenlighting by the elected Officers, the Board came together in Miami last April and approved this project.

To see it through, an ad hoc commission was set up, overseen by past-president Vladimir Solomanidin, along with Rumanian member Andrea Dobrescu and myself. This commission is tasked with outlining a fixed set of rules and procedures for collaboration, and with evaluating all single applications for Board approval.

In general, **the project calls for WAD support as an international organization in favour of its single members, provided they are effectively supported on their national level by the local associations, with a proven record of lobbying activity for all relevant aspects (operative, legislative, institutional, pr/media-related).**

This seems the best, and most concrete, chance for us to have our global association take on an active role in backing its members on all levels. A secondary target of this initiative is **to consolidate a global network of connections between associations, enabling a fruitful exchange of information and experiences, also providing an example for all those minority associations that do not yet count WAD members among their ranks**, and do not yet fully grasp our organisation's potential. Moving forward, these should be carefully, and gradually, involved in constructive relations wherever possible.

As I anticipated in the October, 2017, issue of WAD Beyond Global, the involvement of WAD members and representatives, especially at the Ambassador/Area Governor levels, is of paramount importance, since they are consistently and reliably well informed on local requirements, practices and regulations.

Ultimately, the project is based on a mutual approach of professional enrichment, encouraging widespread collaboration between the more representative associations, whose bylaws should state complementary, non-contrasting purposes in the respective fields.

More details on this plan and a roadmap to implement it are to be unveiled at the New Delhi Conference due in October 2017. The guiding principle is that WAD should, and will, not only implement high-level international cooperation, but increase its focus on the day-by-day operational interests of its members. If all single WAD members are to build up a trusting relationship with their national professional association and work under principles that are in accordance with our bylaws and ethical guidelines, it is more than ever vital that WAD should facilitate all relevant cooperation.



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