

## About Building a Legacy

**“In the human spirit, there are many forces that remain dormant until the occasion awakens them and enlivens them”.**

**Anonymous**

By participating in this electoral process, I am pleased and gratified. There is a list of candidates competing publicly and democratically, in a spirit of service and cooperation for the same position, contrasting ideas, visions and projects; nothing is healthier for the institutional life of an association. Currently, WJA is a revitalized, enthusiastic association with a desire to grow and stabilize.

**Background.** After my first Presidency (1991-1993), WJA was among the first global associations of law professionals. The Board of Governors, integrated by Continental Presidents, continued the successful route established since 1965, and the Past Presidents continue to collaborate. What happened after the elimination of the Continental Presidents? Diverse explanations can be given about the loss of momentum and world leadership; perhaps the globalization or the simple estrangement from the roots cemented and proven by Charlie Rhine, our founder.

By the end of 2015, the presidency had been repeated twice consecutively and none of those in the line of succession had agreed to take the rescue. The new generation had not been fomented, spaces beyond the USA had been abandoned, and no new National Chapter leaders had been created, although more autonomy had been denied to the existing ones.

The ideal would have been to go to those bases or to the leaders of the three World Associations and Law Center for recovering WJA, but the business model to date had collapsed. On the contrary, for the revitalization they came to me, retired for 22 years already, through convalescent President Ronald Greenberg.

According to Kim Quarles, she took the initiative of Ronald's call, since on that occasion she was declining the presidency. My appointment was done through conference call, there was no congress. My first presidency had not gone unnoticed, and I was called in to carry out a specific rescue mission. I am grateful to Ronald and Kim for having placed their trust in me. Today I feel it is my duty to take the ship safely, just as Kim feels it hers.

**Recovery and Rejuvenation.** During the 2015-2017 period, along with the team built and among other objectives, we tried to fulfill my three conditions to accept the presidency: to decentralize the administrative operations of Bethesda, Maryland; to take control of finances; and to support the creation of an anti-corruption treaty to help Venezuela, my country of origin. After an arduous work and with donations from different sources, the files of the association were compiled and digitized, the image was refreshed, the website was launched, 16 National Chapters were created and / or reconstituted around the world, and WJA was promoted again in different events to achieve its international repositioning.

Finally, today we are organizing the Biennial WJA Congress *Energy: Justice and Peace for All*, to be held at the Hilton Aruba Resort and Casino from October 30 to November 2, 2017. We have a robust and very well-prepared panel program, with leading speakers from all over the world. The program, costs and all the necessary information for the registration can be found at <http://worldjurist.org/2017/09/world-jurist-association-congress/> We look forward to having you all there!

**Legacy and Electoral Process.** Once met these goals, we present our conclusion to the B of G: The amendments of the By Laws to adapt to the new times of globalization, return to the roots under a Council of Presidents consisting of 5 Regional Forums: Africa, Asia-Australia & the Pacific, Europe & Middle East, North America, and Latin America & Caribbean. The main lines of the Project were approved by the Amendments Committee, but doubts arose about the control and eventual responsibility for the members of the B of G. The period valid for amendments was reached, according to the By Laws, and the project was deferred for further analysis.

Faced with this situation, the team decided not to remain in the simple diagnosis, but to implement the cure: to run for elections in order to make the necessary corrections and implement the new management model that will consolidate the globalization of WJA. We have the *know how* on our side, we understand how to implement it with clear ideas about the territories, functions, restrictions, forms of financing. The goal is to bring the project to fruition and leave a legacy for the new generations.

Many of you know me personally; to others I have only had the pleasure to contact you via digital. To these last ones, I invite you to read this interview recently published by Best Lawyers, Business, Fall 2017 Edition <https://www.bestlawyers.com/article/ga-with-franklin-hoet-linares-of-venezuela-s-hoet-pelaez-castillo-duque/1564> It contains notes on my career as a lawyer and my ideals made through the WJA.

Subsequently, I have the honor to introduce you to my current and closest team, with whom I would like to count for this new challenge:

- Tao Kaiyuan – Current 2nd Vice-President of WJA, Justice and Vice-President of the Supreme People's Court of China.
- Zayed Saeed Al Shamsi – Current 3rd Vice-President of WJA, President of the Emirates Association of Lawyers and Legal & Board Member of the Arab Arbitration Society.
- Monica Grill – Current National President of Argentina of WJA & Law Professor of the *Universidad de Buenos Aires*.
- Peter N. C. Umeadi – Current National President of Nigeria of WJA, Chief Justice of the State of Anambra of Nigeria, Member of the *Chartered Institute of Arbitrators*.
- Jacinto Soler-Padró – Current National President of Spain of WJA, founder of Hispalem (German Hispanic Association for Culture and Economy), Partner at Soler-Padró v.Hohenlohe Hopewell Weitzmann.
- Alex Löw – Current National President of Germany of WJA, Representative of WJA to the UN Committee against Crime, Cybercrime and Space, President Member of the German Association for Technological Defense, Owner of Data-Warehouse GmbH.
- Alberto Jurado – Present National President of Venezuela of WJA, Partner of ALC Penal Abogados & Law Professor at universities Rafael Urdaneta and Rafael Bellosó Chacín.
- Ramon Soler-Padró – Current Executive Vice-President of WJA, President of the Association of Young Jurists of Spain, Partner at Soler-Padró v.Hohenlohe Hopewell Weitzmann.
- Sorell Negro – Current National President of USA of WJA and Associate at Robinson & Cole.
- Ved Nanda – Past President and President of the World Association of Law Professors of the WJA, Director of the International Legal Studies Program at University of Denver Sturm College of Law, USA.
- Ben Griffith – Current General Counsel of WJA, selected Best Lawyers in America, Partner at Griffith Law Firm.

In addition, during this period I have had the support of Kim Quarles, currently a Vice President of WJA, who is also running for WJA President. I am sure that we will continue working together for the Association, regardless of the position we hold in the future.

**Graphic Summary.** Finally, enclosed please find an explanatory summary of our achievements and future projects for WJA.

Hopefully, I will be able to contact you all personally, as long as the Congress organization allows me.

**See you all in Aruba!**

**Franklin Hoet Linares**  
President  
World Jurist Association



**WORLD JURIST  
ASSOCIATION**  
A WORLD RULED BY LAW, NOT FORCE

# About building a legacy



**Franklin Hoet-Linares**

President

1991– 1993 | 2016 – Present

# Legacy building...

## Adventure, challenge and compromise



### What have influenced us?

- Advances and challenges inherited from previous generations.
- The responsibility that comes along with power and influence.
- The fact that we won't always be here and the commitment to prepare new generations.

### What have we achieved so far?

- New offices in Wellington, Aruba and Barcelona decentralizing tasks and functions.
- Finances: clarification, control and transparency.
- Physical & digital control of files.
- New model of law (the Venezuelan case): draft applicable in Latin America as a benchmark in the fight against corruption, money laundering and financing of terrorism.
- Incorporation/reconstitution of over 16 National Chapters for the Association and 2 Young Jurist Associations.
- Development and training of a task force for the transition / restructuring of the WJA
- Sponsorship of International events / promotion with other organizations: Nassau (3), Seoul (2), Barcelona (4), UN-NY (1), Caracas (2), Maracaibo (2), and Wuhan (1).



## What do we have in store?

### New objectives

- To generate changes for the survival of the Association.
- To promote growth at National and Regional Organizations through Foundations and events, ensuring local money influx.
- To contribute with National Chapters in selecting professionals to advertise, manage and strengthen contact with int'l teams
- To take into account local needs, characteristics, strengths and weaknesses.
- To deepen the organization's commitment to diversity and inclusion (geographic, legal professionals and gender).
- To encourage equal access for all to leadership positions.
- To implement new Continental responsibilities, Presidents and VPs, rotating Worldwide Presidents on a yearly basis.
- To implement general controls, supervision methods and systems by regions.

### New ways of financing

- Boosting traditional methods: seminars, events, conferences and congresses.
- Incorporating foundations through Continental and National Presidents (Sharing 80% of the income to the Region and 20% to the WJA's HQ, as solidarity contribution).
- Stimulating donations from institutions and legacies from members.
- Recruiting new members to the Association and improving fees collection system.
- Promoting publications and subscriptions (Law and Technology).
- Co-sponsoring of member's projects or participation in strategical alliances.
- Encouraging synergy with other institutions (e.g. the Caribbean Anticounterfeiting Association promoted by WJA).

### Unique strengths

- Vision for a new realistic business model.
- Focus on creating a legacy in search of transcendence.
- Experienced team with strong roots, worldwide networks and relationships.
- Seasoned team with deep knowledge of the Association and its needs as they rose hierarchy within the WJA.
- Leaders with proven success in the WJA.
- Ability to incorporate new generations for transitional management and leadership.
- Entrepreneurial expertise focused on better management and competitiveness.



## Our Slate...

<b>President</b>	<b>Franklin Hoet-Linares (VEN/BEL)</b>
<b>Vice-Presidents</b>	<b>First Tao Kaiyuan (CHN) Second Zayed al Shamsi (UAE) Third Monica Grill (ARG)</b>
<b>World Association of Judges</b>	<b>Peter Umeadi (NIG)</b>
<b>World Association of Lawyers</b>	<b>Jacinto Soler-Padró (SPN)</b>
<b>World Association of Business Associates</b>	<b>Alex Löw (GER)</b>
<b>World Association of Professors</b>	<b>Alberto Jurado (VEN)</b>
<b>EVP</b>	<b>Ramón Soler-Padró (SPN)</b>
<b>General Counsel</b>	<b>Ved Nanda (LKA/USA)</b>



# Let's build WJA's legacy together...

**Franklin Hoet-Linares**

President

1991– 1993 | 2016 – Present