



Dear Mr Secretary General

I am Lara Roque Figueiredo, Lawyer and Vice-President of the Portuguese Bar Association. I am writing this letter to nominate Fernanda de Almeida Pinheiro for the position of 2nd Vice-President of the European Bars Federation (FBE).

Fernanda de Almeida Pinheiro has a long and distinguished record of service in the Portuguese Bar Association. She served as a member of the Institute for Legal Aid (2010-2012) and the Support to Lawyers in Individual Practice (2014-2016). She also played a key role in organizing the first referendum within the Bar Association, where the social rights of Portuguese Lawyers were discussed and approved (2021).

She was elected President of the Bar Association in 2022, and will remain in office until 2025. She is a strong and determined leader, who sets realistic and achievable goals, and works hard to accomplish them. She is committed to the Rule of Law and the protection of citizens' rights, freedoms and guarantees.

Her candidacy will enhance the FBE Presidency by bringing valuable skills to the Federation. It will also be an honor for Portugal, for Justice and for the Portuguese Bar, to have a Portuguese lawyer in such a high position. Portugal has not been represented in the leadership of the European Bars Federation for a long time, and it is time to change this paradigm, for the benefit of the profession and Justice at the European level.

Moreover, Fernanda has a strong backing from the most prominent legal and judicial institutions in her country, which could offer valuable advantages to the FBE in



various aspects. Fernanda's involvement in the FBE has been remarkable even in a short span of time, as she co-organized the FBE contract competition and the Women Leaders in Law Lisbon Summit, which received very positive and enthusiastic feedback. As the president of POA, she also maintains regular contact with the presidents of other international organizations and national bars, as well as regional bars in Portugal, which would be a great asset to the FBE. Furthermore, she has been invited as a speaker to many prestigious international events and her contributions have always been highly appreciated. Fernanda is a visionary, experienced and charismatic leader, who can represent the FBE with professionalism and excellence. As Vice-President of the Portuguese Bar Association, I fully endorse this nomination, which will be an asset to both the Portuguese and the European lawyers and I will support Fernanda in every possible way so that she can dedicate as much time to the FBE as needed and contribute to its dynamic development.

Coimbra, 28th november 2023

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Lara Roque Figueiredo

Vice-President of the Portuguese Bar Association