



Union Internationale des Avocats
International Association of Lawyers
Unión Internacional de Abogados



GUADALAJARA
2020
UIA CONGRESS

64TH UIA CONGRESS

GUADALAJARA

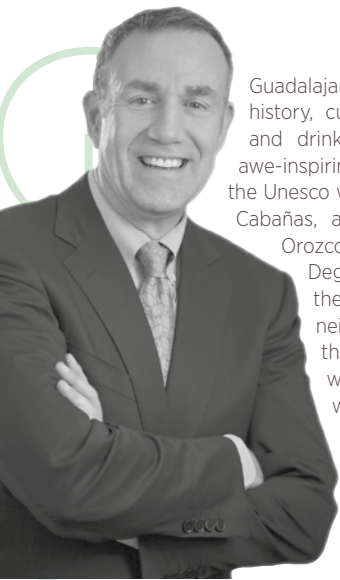
MEXICO



SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 1, 2020

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Guadalajara is the center of Mexican history, culture, music, dance, food, and drink. Its main plaza features awe-inspiring colonial buildings -- from the Unesco world heritage site Hospicio Cabañas, around a hall of stunning Orozco murals -- to the Teatro Degollado, a world-renowned theater. The Tlaquepaque neighborhood rings with the sounds of mariachi who stroll the streets lined with everything from fine restaurants and arts galleries to craft stands. And the agave fields of the charming town of Tequila that lends its name to the famous Mexican spirit lie just an hour out of town. Not

to mention the city's subtropical climate and its short-flight distance from some of Mexico's finest beach resorts (Puerto Vallarta, Nayarit Riviera, Los Cabos, Cancun and Riviera Maya) and historic centers (Mexico City, Oaxaca, Guanajuato and San Miguel).



As Mexico's second largest city with a metropolitan population of over 5 million, Guadalajara is also an economic and legal powerhouse. It is the core of the country's technology sector - and is often referred to as Mexico's Silicon Valley - as well as a vibrant industrial center (food and beverage processing, textiles, automotive, electronic, steel, etc.). And the city is home to the Mexican headquarters of countless domestic and international companies.

The program promises to be extraordinary. Our first main theme revolves around Food and Beverage Law from consumer, GMO, labelling, and supply chain issues, as well as corporate best practices, to global human rights implicated by food and water shortages around the globe. The second main theme will study corruption in the private sector including commercial bribery, corporate compliance, employment issues, and related cross-border criminal and civil litigation. We are also planning a special session on the often-overlooked right to vote in fair elections and to participate in government, a topic of increasing relevance. Of course our more than 40 substantive committees will also feature sessions on cutting-edge aspects of all areas of the law.

Latin America has always been of utmost importance to UIA, with Spanish as one of our Association's three working languages. The Congress will provide an unsurpassable opportunity to bring together Mexican, Central American and South American participants with UIA members from around the globe for highest-quality information exchange along with professional development and networking - all in the authentic atmosphere infused with Mexican history, culture and art that Guadalajara offers.

Jerome C. Roth
UIA President

MAIN THEMES

Food and Beverage Law

Food and beverage are the most basic human commodities and at the same time are big business. Momentous changes in agriculture, manufacture and distribution are now altering the legal landscape in this critical area. From increased regulation and standards, competition concerns, GMO controversies and other new technologies, origin appellations and trademark certifications, "last mile products", international distribution, and consumer protection to questions of human safety, personal injury and crisis management, the panel will explore one of the most important and evolving fields of law.



International Corruption in the Private Sector

Although public corruption has received a great deal of attention, the scourge of corruption in the private sector has been growing, and legal systems have been rushing to adapt to that reality. The problem takes many forms, from improper payments to company employees to secret financial arrangements at the executive level. Different countries have different approaches - some treat private corruption in the same way they treat public corruption, while others have special legal regimes and provisions to deal with commercial bribery. The panel will explore the similarities and differences among these different regimes. It will also look at related civil litigation, for example, by shareholders, competitors, and employees.

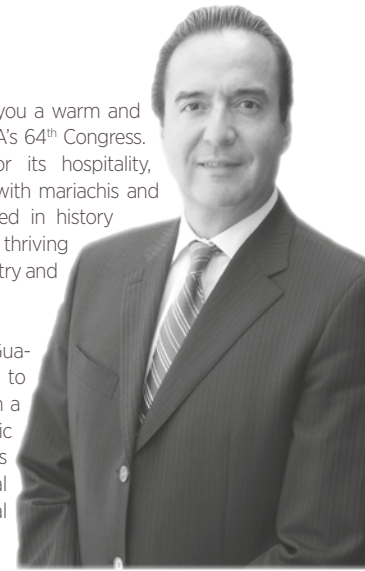
SPECIAL SESSION

Protecting the right to vote and to participate in government – what is the lawyer’s role?

The right to vote and to participate in government is an essential right, one recognized by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international covenants and protected by most national constitutions. But in recent years, that right has faced increasing threats. While the right to vote is of course subject to reasonable and objective limitations, some governments have been taking unjustified, often manipulative measures that go further than necessary and that risk eroding the right altogether. These include efforts to limit voter participation, gerrymandered voting districts, unwarranted voter requirements, and disenfranchisement of large sections of the population -- often through arbitrary legal limitations, practical impediments to participation, or the failure to take account of special challenges some voters face. More blatant examples of interference include outright electoral fraud and dissemination of false information to impact or decrease voter participation. Manipulation of the media, the enormous role and potential abuse of social networks, and the risk of foreign interference in elections have also endangered the right to vote and participate in the political process. What steps can be taken to protect the right to vote, and what role should lawyers play in doing so?



I would like to extend to you a warm and cordial welcome to the UIA's 64th Congress. Guadalajara is known for its hospitality, and is closely associated with mariachis and tequila. The city is steeped in history and traditions, and is also a thriving centre for innovation, industry and technology.



The inhabitants of Guadalajara welcome you to Mexico with open arms, in a region that is emblematic of Latin America and offers an exceptional multicultural environment for the legal profession.

We expect a large number of attendees at this event, which is of capital importance for the development of the legal profession. The five-day Congress has been designed to facilitate and encourage synergies and knowledge sharing.



The Congress will give us an opportunity to debate the legislation on food and beverages. In October 2019, the Mexican House of Representatives approved various reforms of the General Health Act, in order to make it mandatory to display nutritional information that is easily understandable, truthful, direct, simple and visible on the labels and back labels of food and soft drinks. This was a considerable step forward in protecting health as a human right, and consumers, while helping to create a healthier environment for development.

We will also discuss one of the most critical and worrying issues in any society, namely corruption, which, along with immunity, represents one of the greatest challenges to be addressed, not only by the three branches of government, but also by society as a whole, in the public and private sectors, inasmuch as corruption is a source of violence, inequality and insecurity that causes a loss of credibility and compromises the rule of law.

I am convinced that, as lawyers, we are the leading architects of the consolidation and strengthening of the rule of law. We have a duty to ensure that this is reflected in our actions and involvement.

This event could not take place without the active participation of all the members of the Mexican Committee, who have worked tirelessly for the UIA. I hope that the numerous sessions and workshops will enrich your points of view and will enable you to return home with a range of proposals to be implemented.

As the President of the 2020 Congress of our UIA, it is my great pleasure to welcome you here. We are delighted to see you.

Ángel M. Junquera Sepulveda
Congress President



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