

# NATIONAL REPORT SPAIN 2024



Abogacía Española  
CONSEJO GENERAL

# CGAE WELCOMES A NEW PRESIDENT

Salvador González, new president from del Consejo General de la Abogacía Española (CGAE)

JULY 2024



# EVOLVING TO SERVE BETTER

A CGAE

1

Transformed

2

Constructive

3

Pro-European

4

Supportive





# 1. A TRANSFORMED CGAE

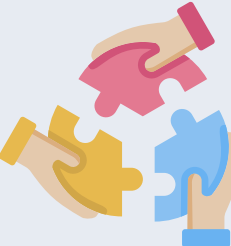
- ✓ **Reorganization of CGAE's Organizational Structure**  
New Committees, Subcommittees, and Working Groups
- ✓ **Approval of the 2025 Budget**  
Transparency, efficiency, and sustainability of services
- ✓ **Improvement of internal regulatory frameworks**  
New disciplinary procedure regulation for the legal profession



# 2. A CONSTRUCTIVE CGAE



Diálogo



Colaboración



Propuestas

The CGAE represented in the STATE COUNCIL



New stage in the collaboration with the COUNCIL OF THE JUDICIARY



Joint Commission CGPJ-CGAE

INSTITUTIONAL dialogue and cooperation of the profession



With the Ministry of Justice



With the Constitutional Court

## 3. A PRO-EUROPEAN CGAE

- ✓ **On the European Day of Justice (October 25)**  
Defending freedom and rights in Europe
- ✓ **CGAE as a partner in six European projects**  
TRAVAR, LAWYEREX2, BREULAW, TRALIM, UpJuDCoop and HELP.
- ✓ **Close collaboration with CCBE in defense of the legal profession and its challenges**



## 4. A SUPPORTIVE CGAE

### The Abogacía's response to the impact of the DANA floods

- ✓ Support and solidarity with affected families
- ✓ Support from the Valencian Abogacía for the suspension of judicial activity and procedural deadlines
- ✓ Collaboration in fundraising to assist affected lawyers

# MILESTONE: LAW ON THE RIGHT OF DEFENSE

- ✓ **A historic law**  
Long-demanded and a major achievement of CGAE
- ✓ **A comprehensive law**  
A complete and systematic regulation of the right of defense
- ✓ **A protective law**  
With the highest legal status in the Spanish system: Organic Law
- ✓ **A pioneering law**  
A first-of-its-kind law in Europe

## Main effects

### Strengthening the rule of law through three key elements:

1. The constitutional protection of effective judicial protection (Article 24 of the Spanish Constitution)
2. Legal defense guarantees for citizens and lawyers
3. The social purpose of laws ► A law for the people



**In force from December 4, 2024**

### Safeguards of the law (E.g.)

- A firm step against unauthorized practice
- Deontological improvements
- Strengthening institutional protection for lawyers
- Better client awareness of legal costs

# SERIOUS PROBLEMS, URGENT SOLUTIONS

## 1 FREE LEGAL AID

### CURRENT SITUATION

- 📌 1996 Regulatory Law: outdated and insufficient
- 📌 Delayed and inadequate compensation

### WHAT DOES CGAE DEMAND?

- ✓ IMMEDIATE increase in legal aid fees
- ✓ A new law ensuring:
  - More resources
  - Annual update of compensation
  - Faster payments
  - Specialization and strengthening of services
  - Reduction of territorial disparities
  - Payment for all services provided



## 2 DECENT RETIREMENT FOR LAWYERS

### CURRENT SITUATION

- 📌 The Spanish social security system does NOT guarantee fair and dignified pensions

### WHAT DOES CGAE DEMAND?

- ✓ An urgent state and constitutional response
- ✓ A legal reform ensuring a decent retirement for ALL lawyers
- ✓ Europe is listening ➤ We brought our proposals to the European Parliament and CCBE

# CHALLENGES



## Technology and innovation

- ACA Plus underway: the new digital signature for the Abogacía
- Unprecedented training funded by NextGenerationEU
- CGAE demands a voice in the digital transformation of the justice system
- Yes to technological justice, NO to digital divides, erosion of the right of defense, or territorial inequality



## Improving the justice system

- CGAE calls for more resources for justice and its reforms
- CGAE defends the rule of law and judicial independence
- CGAE proposes strengthening the right of defense:
  - Mandatory legal assistance in gender violence, disability, and penitentiary cases
  - Advancing work-life balance and digital disconnection



## Continuous training and specialization

- In 2024, over 60,000 lawyers participated in CGAE training sessions, a 76% increase from 2023
- Specialized sessions on equality, gender violence, immigration, technology, legal aid, penitentiary law, money laundering, juvenile justice, and more



## Human Rights

- 11th Congress and 26th Human Rights Awards of the Abogacía 2024 – Business and Human Rights
- Human Rights Classrooms: over 350 sessions and 12,000 attendees in 10 years
- Defending lawyers at risk worldwide: collaboration and presidency of the International Observatory for Lawyers in Danger (OIAD)