

## FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT



大阪弁護士会  
Osaka Bar Association

Between

OSAKA BAR ASSOCIATION

and

MILAN BAR ASSOCIATION



ORDINE DEGLI  
AVVOCATI DI MILANO

### WHEREAS

- A. Osaka Bar Association ("OBA") was originally established in June 17, 1880 as "Osaka Union Advocates", which was reorganized as "Osaka Bar Association" in 1893. Any person who practices law as an attorney in Osaka Prefecture must belong to OBA. Under Article 31 of Attorneys Act, the purpose of bar associations in Japan (including OBA) is to perform functions relating to the guidance for, liaison between, and supervision over its members in order to maintain their dignity and improve and advance their legal practice, in view of the mission and duties of an attorney and a legal professional corporation. OBA currently has made "friendship agreements" with nine (9) foreign bar associations/law societies.
- B. Milan Bar Association ("MBA") is an organization representing, in an exclusive and institutional way, lawyers belonging to the district of Milan (according to art. 25.1, Law Profession Act). Its main duties are the following: (i) keeping the Register; (ii) supervising on legal training; (iii) organizing and promoting training events for lawyers in compliance with their "continuing education" obligation; (iv) by means of its committees, promoting and organizing initiatives and study seminars concerning the role of the lawyers and the profession, in general, as well as providing services in favor of people and companies.
- C. Each association caters for the specialized interest of members through the establishment of sections or commissions.
- D. Each association has formed an international law section or group, the objectives of which include clarification and promotion of the rights of their respective members when practicing international law, practicing in foreign jurisdictions or otherwise becoming involved in international transactions.
- E. The ability of each association to advance the interests of its members would be enhanced through close co-operation with the equivalent sections or groups of prominent law associations in other countries.
- F. OBA and MBA intend to explore ways of cooperation between the two Bar associations among which organizing, events about legal issues of common interest, which may be hosted in Milan, Osaka, or online.
- G. There is mutual respect between members of OBA and MBA.

H. The above recitals demonstrate that there are opportunities between the respective areas of Japan and Italy for closer relations between the legal professionals of OBA and MBA.

NOW, THEREFORE, OBA AND MBA, DESIROUS OF MEMORIALIZING AN AGREEMENT RECOGNIZING THEIR COMMON INTERESTS AND GOALS AND TO FURTHER ENCOURAGE COOPERATION, RESOLVE AND STATE:

OBA and MBA:

- recognizing their mutual interests in the law,
- desiring to strengthen their co-operation in promoting the mutual respect and exchange between lawyers in both countries and the exchange of legal information and materials,
- recognizing their mutual support for the rule of law and the development of legal research work throughout the world,
- recognizing the growing importance of trade around the world and the need closer ties between people in the legal profession and the vital part played by the law in these relationships,
- recognizing the potential for more effectively addressing international legal issues through international programs, seminars, congresses, community outreach projects and the exchange of publications internationally;
- recognizing that MBA has experienced in Milano 2015 EXPO and the mutual consultation between OBA and MBA will be meaningful for support of the Expo 2025 Osaka; and
- recognizing the advantages inherent in developing and improving understanding within each jurisdiction of the laws of the other jurisdictions relevant to international business transactions, commercial disputes, human rights and the transnational delivery of legal services,

hereby agree that they will seek to enhance the honor of the law and the profession of law and to develop and maintain a relationship based on mutual respect and co-operation, and that through exchanges based on mutual respect and co-operation, and specifically through exchanges as appropriate of legal publications, materials and information, as well as visits of lawyers, and possibly through the conduct of educational events, they will endeavor to strengthen the bonds which join them as members of the international legal profession.

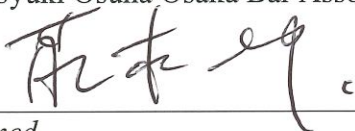
Parties also agree to promote the possibility of training and internships or traineeships in law firms selected by each signatory Bar Association for professionals, young lawyers or trainee lawyers sent by the other Party, on condition that i) each Party acknowledges the validity of the training period or

legal practice carried out in the other country; ii) each Party organizes selection procedures based on transparency and meritocracy, aimed to reward the most prepared and motivated candidates.

This Friendship Agreement shall enter into force at the time of the signature by both Parties and shall remain effective for five (5) years. At the expiring date, the Friendship Agreement will automatically be renewed for another five (5) years, save for the faculty of any of the Parties to terminate it, at any time, in reason of its incontestable decision.

for the **Osaka Bar Association**

Ichiro Fujimoto on behalf of the President  
Hiroyuki Osuna Osaka Bar Association



Signed

Nov 9, 2024

Dated

for the **Milan Bar Association**



Signed

4/11/2024

Dated