



CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE FORENSE

PRESSO IL MINISTERO DELLA GIUSTIZIA

Il Presidente
Avv. Andrea Mascherin

Rome, 31st January 2017

Minister of Justice
Mr. Bekir Bodzag
006659 Kizilay
Ankara
Republic of Turkey

e-mail to: info@adalet.gov.tr

Dear Minister,

the Consiglio Nazionale Forense, which represents about 250,000 lawyers registered to 139 Bars and Law Societies of Italian cities, expresses its protest for the arrest, that took place at Istanbul airport, on January 13, 2017, of lawyer Barbara Spinelli, from the Court of Bologna, which, after 17 hours of deprivation of liberty, was permanently expelled from Turkey and repatriated with a flight Istanbul-Bologna.

The lawyer Barbara Spinelli, very appreciated in Italy for her commitment to the protection of human and women's rights, was traveling to Ankara to take part in an international conference entitled *The judicial system under the state of emergency in Turkey*, scheduled for 14 and 15 January 2017. The arrest of lawyer Barbara Spinelli and the measure of permanent expulsion from her suffered are therefore totally unjustified.

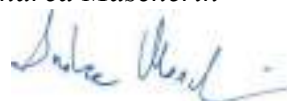
In my capacity as President of the Consiglio Nazionale Forense, I sent a letter to the Italian Foreign Minister Angelino Alfano and to the Italian Minister of Justice Andrea Orlando, stressing that the colleague Barbara Spinelli «is engaged along with other lawyers in representing the institutions and Italian bar associations in missions monitoring the respect for human rights and the right to defense in Turkey and certainly it will not be these episodes to stop the action of the Italian Bar, that on the contrary draws further incentive and motivation to continue with determination in the activities of protection of citizens in every part of the world».

The Consiglio Nazionale Forense also expresses the strongest condemnation for the final closure of some associations of lawyers and the arrest of many colleagues in Turkey and asks to Your Excellency that the processes dependent on them are held in full compliance with the principles of fair process recognized by international agreements, based on evidence lawfully acquired in full compliance with procedural rules.

It also asks that lawyers be guaranteed the freedom of association in Turkey and to be assured the free exercise of the profession.

Best regards
The President of
Consiglio Nazionale Forense

Avv. Andrea Mascherin

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Mascherin', with a horizontal line extending to the right.