THE EUROPEAN LAW FACULTIES ASSOCIATION at its Annual General Meeting held in Torino on 11th and 12th April 2019

Confirming its commitment to serve as a forum enabling the joint opinions of European law faculties to be represented at the European level, thus providing its assistance to all European and national institutions dealing with the contribution of legal education to society;

Reaffirming its belief that the commonalities of legal education in Europe warrant the coordination of the general principles of legal education for a European legal profession as well as for a wider professional context;

Considering that:

• legal studies must prepare future lawyers and judges for their professional calling, namely to defend the rights of citizens and to promote legality and the rule of law;

• the ongoing process of legal integration both at the regional level and on a world scale raises new challenges for legal educators, and creates new learning needs that must be satisfied by educational institutions;

• merely national approaches to legal education are insufficient to prepare legal professionals that can meet societal challenges, serve the needs of the public, and render justice under the law;

• law schools should better prepare law students for their future roles in European and transnational contexts by deepening their formation in those areas of the law that are vital to operate in such contexts, along with the more traditional legal education imparted during law studies;

• universities and public institutions should facilitate the development of common curricula between law schools of different countries as a means to positively contribute to the preparation of European legal professionals;

• jurists, and with them the Faculties of Law, should be encouraged to conduct research leading to the preparation of lawyers that are better qualified to operate in this new environment;

• the educational process should encourage students to develop respect and appreciation for inclusive democratic values, which include human rights, for the
richness and the diversity of cultures, considered in its linguistic aspect as well, and for pluralism, that is a fundamental feature of democracy across Europe.

**Calls upon its members to:**

1. Educate students who shall have a firm understanding of the complexity of the sources of law in Europe, and possess the methodological skills that are required to deal with the multiple normative orders that are integrated in the European dimension.

2. Consider and, where appropriate, increase the offer of joint degrees of law and post graduate programs among universities belonging to different countries to promote a vibrant European legal culture across the entire European space;

3. Duly take into consideration the need to develop those linguistic and terminological capabilities and skills that must be acquired to operate in cross border contexts in Europe and beyond, and that are required to guarantee the respect of human rights

4. Promote and increase regional and global agreements between law schools for the exchange of students, faculty, administrative staff to facilitate the exchange of good practices and the interaction with other systems and societies.

5. Work together with professional legal schools and professional associations to achieve the above mentioned purposes, and support continuing education programs that shall ensure the realisation of the same aims.

6. Require the competent administrations to provide more adequate economic endowments to pursue the same aims.

7. Make sure there are appropriate time allowances for scientific research for law professors, which is aimed at maintaining and improving the quality of student-centred legal education in an evolving environment.

8. Educate law students on the basis of the European principle of recognition of cultural diversities as a continuous factor of evolution. Prepare lawyers to contribute to the determination of what is, in the legal context, subject to common principles, while respecting subsidiarity.

9. Educate law students in the values of mutual respect, tolerance, coexistence, and in the guarantee of the rights of all in a plural and diverse open society.