

To Mortimer Sellers, President of the IVR  
C.C.: Presidents of the National Sections

Subject: Communication from the Swedish Society for  
Philosophy of Law concerning the 2017 IVR Congress in Istanbul

IVR Sweden, the Swedish Association of Philosophy of Law, expresses its full support for the commitment of our Turkish colleagues for the promotion of the Rule of Law, the protection of Human Rights and Democracy, and the banishment of torture, violence on minors, degrading treatment, forced disappearances, arbitrary arrest and detentions, arbitrary firing from jobs, and violations of academic freedom.

IVR Sweden supports the position of those of its members who will not participate thinking that any participation will somehow legitimize the regime in Turkey and expresses concern about freedom of speech at the Congress. However, it understands those of its members who will participate by actively engaging in organizing workshops and working groups dedicated to the protection of Human rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law.

The Swedish Association for Philosophy of Law, an IVR affiliate, in the light of recent events in Turkey, strongly recommends the IVR EC to reconsider the choice in light of the current situation and opens a debate among the National Associations about the forms and ways of participation.

Uppsala, 1 December 2016

Patricia Mindus  
President of IVR Sweden