

Síndic de Greuges de Catalunya Sr. Rafael Ribó Regional President IOI Europe Passeig de Lluís Companys 7 08003 Barcelona Spain

VA-5610/0002-IK/2011

Vienna, 18 August 2017

Dear Rafael,

We have been extremely shocked and filled with profound sadness when we learned about the horrible terrorist attacks which hit Barcelona yesterday and took the lives of innocent people.

On behalf of the International Ombudsman Institute we would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to those suffering in the wake of this catastrophe; our deep sympathy goes out to those who have lost loved ones during this horrible attack.

Catalonia is known for its open-mindedness, its welcoming culture and its strong belief in democratic values. The Office of the Síndic de Greuges de Catalunya has contributed to the proliferation of these values and the fact that yesterday's attack happened in the middle of this vibrant and multi-cultural city filled us with with tremendous sadness and sorrow.

It is difficult times like these that remind us of the importance of democracy, tolerance and international solidarity. On behalf of the international Ombudsman community, we would like to express our solidarity with the people of Barcelona and to offer all support that is within our possibilities.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tyndall IOI President

Günther Kräuter IOI Secretary General