



million inhabitants). The judicial officers cannot form associations and cannot carry out additional activities apart from enforcement, as it is the case in many countries, like France. Moreover, control on the judicial officers is insufficient and it appears necessary to restrict access to the profession.

The experts of the UIHJ evoked the various points which the Slovak delegation wanted to approach:

- Access to the profession, opening and closing of offices, fixing of the number of offices
- Security of funds collected by judicial officers
- Various forms of exercise of the profession
- Movable and real estate auctions
- Additional activities of the judicial officers
- Service of documents by judicial officers
- The storing of files
- The tariff of judicial officers.

Mathieu Chardon and Anne Kérisit explained the interest to have qualified judicial officers having an high degree of legal knowledge, which gives them vocation to carry out additional missions apart from enforcement of legal decisions and thus to contribute to a better administration of justice. For example,

statements of facts and amicable debt recovery contribute to reduce the backlog of cases by avoiding lawsuits. They also explained how too many judicial officers were counterproductive as it leads to a disproportionate pressure on the debtor. For the UIHJ, access to the profession as well as the installation requirements must be strictly regulated. It was indicated to the Slovak representatives that the system of compulsory insurance and civil liability of the profession is regulated at national level in France and thus allows a complete repair of the possible damage caused by judicial officers at the time of the exercise of their profession.

Attributions of the execution judge as his interaction in enforcement procedures were also developed. Lastly, the principles of the tariff of judicial officers were presented to them.

At the conclusion of a lengthy and profitable meeting, the Slovak representatives thanked the UIHJ and indicated that the information obtained constituted a think tank which would be very useful for them at the time of the reform currently in hand. Guy Duvelleroy, President of the National Chamber of judicial officers of France met the delegation at the end of the meeting. He said his board was at their disposal to go deeper into the topics that had been developed.



In memoriam

Charles Vanheukelen
(1952 – 2009)

Notre confrère Charles Vanheukelen n'est plus. Nommé en 1979 à Louvain (Belgique), il a exercé plusieurs fonctions électives au sein de sa profession pour devenir président de la Chambre nationale des huissiers de justice de Belgique pendant sept années, de 1995 à 2002. Pendant son mandat, en sa qualité de chef de délégation et homme de convictions, il a su entretenir d'excellentes relations avec l'UIHJ, fondées sur la franchise et la volonté de développer la coopération internationale. Eminent juriste, auteur de nombreux articles, il a été un proche collaborateur du professeur Georges de Leval au sein de l'université de Liège où il participait notamment à des cours de formation. Malgré sa grave maladie il a tenu à poursuivre ses activités professionnelles jusqu'à la fin, témoignant de sa grande force de caractère et d'un courage exemplaire. Il a été enterré dans sa ville natale de Louvain. De nombreux confrères et universitaires sont venus lui rendre hommage lors de la cérémonie. Charles nous manque déjà. L'UIHJ adresse ses condoléances attristées à son épouse, leurs trois enfants et leurs proches.



Our fellow-member Charles Vanheukelen has passed away. Appointed in 1979 in Leuven (Belgium), he exerted several elective functions within his profession and was president of the National Chamber of Judicial Officers of Belgium during seven years, from 1995 to 2002. During his mandate, in his capacity as head of delegation and a man of convictions, he succeeded in keeping excellent relations with the UIHJ, based on frankness and the will to develop international cooperation. Eminent lawyer, author of many articles, he was a close collaborator of professor Georges de Leval within the University of Liege where he took part in particular in training courses. In spite of his serious illness he made a point of continuing his professional activities until the end, testifying of his great strength of character and of an exemplary courage. He was buried in his birthplace of Leuven. Many fellow-members and academics came to pay him homage at the time of the ceremony. We miss Charles already. The UIHJ addresses its saddened condolences to his wife, their three children and their relatives.