

*Ethical and Legal Aspect of Retired Researchers and Professors Emeriti
Contribution in Public Goodness. The Italian Experience.*

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A contribution to the Zoom meeting of the [Professors Emeriti Network](#),
and the representatives of the network [University eLearning & eEducation Group](#)
June 2, 2021

The core problem is that generally, with differences among the countries, the common position toward emeriti/retired professors is inadequate to their cultural role: It is supposed that due to age their contribution cannot be meaningful and that they are in a preferential position compared to all other workers. *Euklems* (k for capital, l for labor, e for energy, m for material, s for service) is an European Project by which a data Bank was created about industry level, growth, productivity. One field of the Bank is about performance and salaries of workers older than 50-60 years. The conclusion valid in all European countries about this topic is that to older age lower efficiency and capacity are assigned by the common thinking of people and almost consequently observed lower salaries. This correlation between age and salary fails only in the case of very high level study degree. In the case of retired/emeriti professors the pension amount is constant and very near to the salary. In absence of cultural evaluation common people's feeling is, as already pointed out, that retired/emeriti professors are a lucky component of the working community. To contrast this position it is essential that we maintain live our role on continuing as more as possible to teach, to study, to help, to guide with particular attention paid to young that are very well accepting devices from the older ones.

Passing to the Italian situation the participation to knowledge market from retired/emeriti professors is very subjective as related to individual engagements and possibilities. These activities are often offered free by all us so representing a spare for the public resources. Why are they not always accepted? Difficult to find a reasonable answer. In Italy about emeriti/retired we observe differences between scientific and humanistic departments. In the case of scientific ones generally the role of emeriti/retired is strictly linked to their very long experience and ability in the managing of experimental methods and technique, especially for the interpretation of the results. In the case of humanistic departments the role of emeriti/retired is overall linked to their connection with political power and local institutions (municipalities included). Anyway for both kinds of departments according to local situation office spaces and other privileges are not due or alternatively granted.