Ladies and gentlemen,

please believe me, what I am going to say is fully sincere and not just an act of courtesy.

First of all I would like to thank the International Association of Procedural Law, represented by Professor Loïc Cadiet, for deciding to establish such an important award for procedural science, in particular for "young proceduralists".

At the same time I would also like to thank the committee for giving me such a high recognition and a positive judgment: their unquestionable reputation makes this award even more prestigious.

My work is entitled "Tutela giudiziale europea e arbitrato", that is "European judicial protection and arbitration" and it is a complete study on arbitration in the European Union system.

There is no doubt, that a study on arbitration in the European system sounds like a challenge, but at the same time it is also an invitation to focus on the use of private justice within the space of the European Union.

In particular within the framework of globalization of markets and laws, which a jurist inevitably has to deal
Indeed, the global market has entailed a redefinition of the spatial limits of the legal systems and shrunk state sovereignty.

At the same time, partly because of the not so impeccable functioning of the state judiciary systems, privatization of justice has been gaining momentum.

In an open legal system, without borders, a top-down idea of justice imposed by the state is getting weaker and weaker, whereas the needs that give private citizens wider margins of action, and arbitration in particular, are growing.

In my work, I have looked into the role that private justice can play in the implementation of European Union law. I did it focusing on the protection of European citizens in conventional arbitration courts; the thesis I put forward and worked on was that citizens (and every single individual) can and must find here the same standards of protection that one could find before a State Court.

I therefore examined the topic of the preliminary ruling procedure in arbitration, the application of EC Law both before the arbitrators and during the check of the award, as well as the role played by the private judge in European procedural regulations. Then I proposed
interpreting arbitration not as a foreign body, but as a significant moment in the implementation of European law.

My work is meant to give a small contribution to a field of procedural science, that is a path few have treaded on so far, but I think that in the future it will increasingly attract the attention of researchers from Europe and beyond.

There are many reasons why I am honoured and happy to receive the Cappelletti award, which bears the name of one of the fathers of legal science, who was also president of IAPL for many years.

First of all, I am Italian, just like Mauro Cappelletti, even if I am not from Florence: I was born in Venice and I received my education at the University of Bologna, the city that welcomed me and allowed me to grow. Here I graduated in law and I started my academic career at the Enrico Redenti procedural school. After Redenti, Tito Carnacini managed the school, which is now in Federico Carpi’s hands.

I am lucky to belong to a school of ancient legal tradition that is also open to the future and has an international approach.

After all, one of Cappelletti’s teachings is that "it is absurd to think that the law, as a means of order,
discipline and moderate phenomena that are important for the life and survival of the human kind, can and must remain merely local or national"

But there is another reason why I feel close to Mauro Cappelletti. When I was still a student I remember reading his preface to a popular English-Italian legal dictionary.

Addressing the author and praising his book, he said that what matters in writing is "the victory of tenacity on time and effort, and of dedication on discouragement". This is always inevitable in a long, unknown, meticulous work.

This advice has been in my head for almost ten years and helped me to believe in the development of the results of this book.

Let me finally give my special thanks to two people: the first one is prof. Federico Carpi who taught me, quoting Redenti, that "the law is not only the context of dry science, it engages one’s spirit and feeling"; the second one is prof. Paolo Biavati, my Master who has been guiding me in procedural law studies: without his help my work would never have seen the light.

I would like to dedicate this prize to my parents, my uncle Enrico and to my girlfriend Giulia for their constant support.
Thanks to all of you.

*TEŞEKKÜR EDERİM*