

Walter Rodinò, *Secretary-General ad interim* (1997–1998)

In 1958 Walter Rodinò (1934 -2020) became a member of staff of UNIDROIT, first as Assistant Librarian, then as Librarian and finally as Director of the Library. After having collaborated with the Secretary-General on the reorganisation of the staff, on the foundation of the Uniform Law Review and on the reform of the Statute of the organisation together with Jean-Pierre Plantard, at the time Deputy Secretary-General of the organisation, he was appointed Deputy Secretary-General (1985). Upon the untimely demise of Malcolm Evans, he was appointed Secretary-General *ad interim*, to fill the void left by the late lamented Evans.

As Director of the Library he considerably increased the holdings of the Library by the means of donations and exchanges of publications, as Deputy Secretary-General and Secretary-General *ad interim* he substantially reduced the administrative expenses incurred by the organisation, initiated the computerisation of the work and of the library. He also renovated several premises, including the transformation of the reading room into a meeting room, which had become necessary in view of the increase in number of the member States of the organisation. In 2016, the Secretary-General entitled the meeting room “Sala Walter Rodinò”.

Over the years, Mr Rodinò illustrated the works of the Institute at Universities around the world. The Scientific Council of the Russian Foreign Trade Academy bestowed the title of Honorary Professor upon Mr Rodinò for his achievements (1999).