Henry CARTON de WIART
(1924 – 1946)

The Count Henry Carton de Wiart was born in Brussels (Belgium) on January 31st, 1869.

After his secondary education at Saint Michel School, he studied Law at the Free University of Brussels, and then, at the Law School in Paris, where he was familiar with the literary atmosphere. It was at this moment that he became a lawyer. In 1896, he was elected to the Belgian House of Representatives as Representative of Brussels, where he remained as elected Representative until his death in 1951. He is the author of the famous Child Protection Act of 1912, adopted during his term in office as Secretary of State for Justice (1911-1918), creating tribunals for children.

He was the Prime Minister of Belgium from 1920 to 1921, and the king Albert I of Belgium conferred him the title of Count.

In 1924, the Count Carton de Wiart appears as one of the founders, in Paris, of the International Association of Penal Law, a continuation of the work of the International Union of Penal Law, which was founded in 1889 by Franz Von Liszt, Gérard Van Hamel and Adolphe Prins. He was elected as its first President, and he remained in office until 1946, when he was appointed as Honorary President. In his capacity as founder of the Belgian Union of Penal Law, the Belgian section of the IAPL, he organized in Brussels the First International Congress of Penal Law in 1926.

The Count Carton de Wiart died on May 6th, 1951.

References: