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Born in 1943, since 1976 Michele Taruffo is Professor of Law in the School of Law of the University of Pavia (Italy), where he teaches Civil Procedure and Dispute Resolution.

As a visiting professor, Michele Taruffo taught courses on Comparative Civil Justice and seminars on the Theory of Evidence at the Cornell Law School and at the Hastings College of the Law of the University of California in San Francisco.

Professor Taruffo is currently a Secretary General of the International Association of Procedural Law; he is a member of the same Association, of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, the American Law Institute, the Bielefelder Kreis, the Instituto Brasileiro de Direito Processual, the Academia Brasileira de Direito Constitucional, the Association Henri Capitant des Amis de la Culture Juridique Francaise, the Associazione Italiana di Diritto Comparato, the Associazione Italiana tra gli Studiosi del Diritto Processuale, and other associations in the domains of procedural law, comparative law, jurisprudence and legal theory. He is also a member of the scientific boards of several legal and philosophical journals in Italy and abroad.

Professor Taruffo published the following books: *Studi sulla rilevanza della prova* (1970); *La motivazione della sentenza civile* (1975), published also in Mexico; *Il processo civile "adversary" nell'esperienza americana* (1979); *La giustizia civile in Italia dal '700 ad oggi* (1980); *Il vertice ambiguo. Saggi sulla Cassazione civile* (1991), published also in Peru; *La prova dei fatti giuridici. Nozioni generali* (1992), published also in Spain; *Sui confini. Scritti sulla giustizia civile* (2002), published also in Colombia; *Cinco lecciones mexicanas* (2002). With Geoffrey C. Hazard he published *American Civil Procedure. An Introduction* (1993), also published in Italy, Spain, Japan and China. With L.P.Comoglio and C.Ferri he published *Lezioni sul processo civile* (4th ed., 2006). He also edited the book *Abuse of Procedural Rights* (1999).

Professor Taruffo published several dozens of essays on procedural, comparative and philosophical topics, in Italy and abroad. He delivered lectures in many Universities including Harvard, Yale, Pennsylvania, Cornell, Hastings, London, Oxford, Madrid, Barcelona, Castellon, Palma de Mallorca, Paris, Frankfurt, Krakow, Warsaw, Lublin, Tokyo, Beijing, Sao Paulo, Fortaleza, Curitiba, Mexico, Rovaniemi, Helsinki, Turku, Tbilisi, Moscow, Montevideo, Puerto Madryn, La Plata, Buenos Aires, Mar del Plata, San Juan, Bogotá, Medellín, Pereira, Barranquilla.

With Geoffrey C.Hazard he was co-reporter of the American Law Institute and UNIDROIT project concerning *Principles and Rules for Transnational Civil Procedure*.

Professor Taruffo's main fields of interest are: civil litigation and dispute resolution, transnational litigation and arbitration, comparative law of evidence, comparative civil justice, jurisprudence, adjudication and legal theory, epistemology, legal history.