

### **«Culture e Impresa»: ICA/SBL patronage**

*by Hans Eyvind Næss*

The magazine «Culture e impresa» (Cultures and Enterprise) is worth ICA/SBL (International Council on Archives/ Section of Business and Labour Archives) patronage because it focuses, among other subjects, on preservation and enhancement of businesses archival heritage.

It is not by accident that the magazine was founded by the *Centro per la cultura d'impresa* in Milan and the *Fondazione Ansaldo* in Genoa: indeed, they are among the main Italian institutions committed to business archive preservation and involved in enhancing the creation of «territorial economic archives».

The first territorial economic archives and business archives were created in Central Europe in early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Afterwards, they spread over all Western Countries, although with different features and in different times, and lately they are reaching every industrial area in the world.

An overall point of view is then needed, and therefore we chose to give the magazine an international approach. This choice was required also by the current European integration and economic globalisation. There is no way back from these processes, that are already affecting the choices of European business as far as culture creation and organization are concerned, and in the future are going to steadily increase their impact on them.

The magazine is directed by this awareness, and ICA/SBL, through its patronage, means to promote «Culture e Impresa» as a place where business and scholars share their reflections on the several subjects that will be dealt in each issue.

The Section on Business Archives (SBL) as an important section of the International Council of Archives (ICA) deals primarily with encouraging and supporting the preservation of business archives and its use as research material for cultural history in a broad sense of the word. It is therefore with great pleasure I salute the Italian initiative that «Culture e impresa» represents.