

NEWSLETTER NO 26.
Of the Association of Corporate Lawyers

For all those who has forgotten or has not know, the web site of the Association is
www.udruga-korporativnih-pravnika.hr

HAT WAS HAPPENING DURING MARCH

- 1. Spring ECLA Session in Amsterdam**
- 2. Conciliation**
- 3. Arbitrators Association Members**
- 4. Round table with the topic New Labour Act**
- 5. Registered projects**
- 6. Organisation of legal profession in France – when is Croatia going to follow that path?**
- 7. IBA – Annual Conference in Vancouver**

1. Spring ECLA Session in Amsterdam



President of the Association of Corporate Lawyers
Josipa Jurinić, LLM
Main Legal Counsellor
Ericsson Nikola Tesla d.d. Zagreb

Spring session of ECLA Presidency was held in Amsterdam, from 11th to 13th March. The President of our Association, Ms. Josipa Jurinić and her deputy, Ms. Marina Kralj Miliša participated in the working programme of the hosts.



I would like to remind you that the Association of Corporate Lawyers has been an ECLA (European Company Lawyers Association) member since 16th November, 2007. Since the very beginning, the Association Deputy President, Ms. Marina Kralj Miliša, has been participating in ECLA activities very actively as a representative of our Association. Another proof of her successful operation is her appointing into the Executive Board at the spring ECLA session.

That is not only a prise worthy success of our Deputy President, but also a significant breakthrough of a Croatian association cooperating with similar associations aboard. I would like to use this opportunity and to congratulate our Deputy President and invite Association members to take an active part in the Association with their proposals regarding Association activities and to participate in activities organised by the Association and also in events and seminars organised by foreign organisations, because, in such a way, we promote our Association and the Republic of Croatia inside and outside the national frames.

At its spring session, ECLA discussed financials as well, including spending of assets, membership fees and budgets, and especially the importance of the “legal privilege” issue for corporate lawyers, in the first line its importance for corporate lawyers employers.

More information on Amsterdam Session is available at ECLA web site.

2. Conciliation

We remind all the colleagues that the Rule Book on the Register of Conciliators and Standards for Accreditation of Conciliation Institutions was adopted (and published at the Association web site: <http://www.udruga-korporativnih-pravnika.hr>) and invite all of you who comply with the conditions from Article 9 of the Rule Book to obtain a certificate issued by an accredited institution and to register yourselves with the Ministry of Justice; after that you should submit your Resolutions on Registration into the Register to the Association to enable possible organising of a Conciliation Centre.

3. Arbitrators Association Members



Narcisa Knežević, a member of the Association Presidency and the Head of Legal Services of, HEP-Operator distribucijskog sustava d.o.o. (Croatian Power Authority – Distribution System operator Inc.)

During March, a few of our members entered the list of arbitrators in proceedings without international character at the Permanent Arbitration Court at the Croatian Chamber of Commerce. The list of arbitrators was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia (“Narodne novine”) No. 34 of 19th March 2010. Their inclusion into the activities of the Permanent Arbitration Court is a proof that we, corporate lawyers, are also respectable members of the legal profession community.

The list of arbitrators includes:

- Josipa Jurinić, LL.M., the President of the Association, Main Legal Counsellor, Ericsson Nikola Tesla Inc.
- Marina Kralj Miliša, a Managing Board Member, Končar – Electrical Industry Inc.
- Narcisa Knežević, Head of Legal Services, Croatian Power Authority – Distribution System operator Inc.
- Damir Lemačić, Technique Inc.
- Aida Marijan, Legal Services and Representation Director, Končar-Electrical Industry Inc.
- Marijan Pavlović, Legal Services Head, Transmission Lines Inc.

Introduction of our members into the List of Arbitrators, together with professors and assistant professors of Law Faculties, judges and attorneys-at-law represents not only a promotion of our Association, but also an obligation to continue activities for development and improvement of the status and the importance of corporate lawyers through Association activities.

4. Round table with the topic of new Labour Act

We invite all the members of the Association, and especially participants of the seminar with the topic the New Labour Act held on 21st January 2010 to express their interest for the discussion about the New Labour Act to enable us to determine the date of the round table.

5. Registered projects

- Continuance of the activity – Cross Border Programme Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina 2007 – 2013

As we have been informing you throughout previous numbers, the Association prepared and registered the project proposal within the frames of the Cross Border Programme Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina that has been executed during the time period from 2007 to 2013 promoting cooperation between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. We have been informed that we have passed the first circle of the administrative check up and we can expect some news at the end of the May.

- **Holcim d.o.o.** has invited for Public Bidding for sponsorship this year as well, and our Association applied with the topic Anticorruption Activities – the role and contribution of corporate lawyers and their employers. Results will have been published at Holcim web site by 22nd April 2010.

- **Karlovačka pivovara d.o.o.** (Karlovac Brewery Ltd.) – we have applied for the public bidding for Karlovac Brewery Ltd. donations and we expect results soon.

- **Ministry of the Exterior and European Integrations** has invited for applications by associations that monitor association of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union for awarding of financial supports from the assets of 2010 State Budget planned for the Ministry of the Exterior and European Integrations.

The Project should incorporate activities aimed at promotion and widening of public discussion (organisation of round tables, public debates, public lectures, discussions, debate clubs) at the local level among the general public on topics bound to accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union in the light of preparation of citizens for a referendum on the support of the Croatian membership in the EU, and in accordance with the implementation of the Communication Strategy for informing of the Croatian general public on the European Union and preparations for membership, with a time limit of the project implementation bound to the fiscal year 2010.

The reported topic is bound to the contribution of corporate layers to the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union and we expect results at the middle of May.

We have introduced experience, knowledge and efforts into preparation of these projects and we are certain that they are going to be successful, if not completely then at least partly.

Be active and propose you, too – possible projects, ideas, cooperation.

6. Organisation of legal profession in France – When is Croatia going to follow that path?



Martina Pejić, LLB
Head of Commercial and
Legal Affairs
KONČAR – POWER PLANT
AND ELECTRIC TRACTION
ENGINEERING Inc.

During several recent years, contemplations within the legal profession have been gradually changing and lawyers have become conscious of challenges they are facing as well as inevitable changes. Wind in the back of changes and modernisation has been given by the French President, Sarkozy, while the amendment proposal has been made by Jean Michel Darrois, a senior partner in Paris Attorney-at-Law Company Darrois Villey Maillot Brochier. The main aim of amendments is provision of money, financial assets and training for French

legal profession necessary to compete with Anglo-Saxon rivals that have been providing for legal counselling in France for years.

From the point of view of Croatian corporate lawyers, the especially interesting proposal is to enable corporate layers to become the Bar members. It is a proposal that has been constantly and actively promoted in Croatia by our Association. Or, in other words, the Association of Corporate Lawyers has been making efforts to organise the work of corporate lawyers within the frames of a separate bar or within the frames of the Bar from the association incorporation, starting from the idea that the same level of education should result in the same professional status.

Another proposal that is actual in Croatia as well is uniting of lawyers within the legal profession in such a way that lawyers can move from one legal profession branch to another without obstacles. Comparing the situation to the relatively homogeneous American organisation, separated branches within the legal profession in Europe are significantly strong and obstacles, such as separate ethical codes and separate education, block undisturbed moving from one branch to another. Therefore the obligatory professional education that is general for all legal profession branches has been proposed in France. That education should be managed by a newly incorporated central educational entity. Unfortunately, the need for strengthening of cooperation among lawyers, attorneys-at-law and other legal profession stakeholders has not been recognised at a sufficient degree in Croatia. The state school for public legal officials that was established in 2009 and intended exclusively for judges and state attorneys-at-law has the opposite direction and decreases the mobility of the legal profession.

We believe that changes in France will resemble in Croatia as well. Accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union and every day more severe competition provided by foreign attorney-at-law companies require modification and modernisation of the organisation of the legal profession in Croatia. The Ministry of Justice is to recognise that need.

An article with the same topic was published in Business Diary (Poslovni dnevnik) on Monday, 29th March, 2010.

7. Annual IBA Conference in Vancouver

We invite all the members younger than 35 to apply for the scholarship for 2010 Annual IBA Conference in Vancouver. Terms and condition are published at the Association web site.

WHAT ARE WE PREPARING FOR APRIL?

Seminar Amendments of the Trade Company Act shall be hold in two parts: on Thursday, 8th April and on Wednesday, 21st April at 14:00 due to the lecturers' full schedule.

**We invite you to be active!
Send us letters, proposals, supplements for our and yours
Newsletter – and web site.**

In Zagreb, March 2010

The Association of Corporate Lawyers

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