



**Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**



**Republic of Croatia
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

PROTOCOL ON COOPERATION

between

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia

and

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia

Vienna, 5 December 2005

**PROTOCOL ON COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA AND
THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia and Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, hereinafter referred to as "Participants":

Convinced of the importance of international and regional cooperation, and of good neighbourly relations;

Wishing to strengthen and promote cooperation in the field of justice;

Underlining the need to make a constructive contribution to European integration processes in both countries;

Bearing in mind the compatibility of legal systems of the two countries;

Taking into account the undertaken international obligations and national legal frameworks;

For the purpose of the continuation and broadening of the existing cooperation,

Have agreed as follows:

I

The Participants will cooperate by exchanging experiences and practice in the field of their competence, in particular as regards:

- improvement of justice systems in accordance with international standards,
- alignment of legislation with the *acquis communautaire*;
- organisation of the justice system, court and justice administration;
- introduction of IT into the justice system;
- modernisation of the penitentiary system;
- prevention and fight against organised crime, corruption, terrorism and other serious types of crime;
- international legal assistance in civil and criminal matters, and
- other issues of common interest.

II

In the process of achievement of mutual cooperation referred to in item I of this Protocol, the Participants will represent policies and guidelines aimed at European integration.

III

For the purpose of achievement of cooperation in the areas referred to in item I of this Protocol, the Participants may jointly organise seminars and consultations.

IV

The Participants will support the exchange of study visits of representatives from individual directorates within the ministries organised for the purpose of discussing issues of common interest.

V

The Participants will bear the costs of visits incurred as a result of activities referred to in items III and IV of this Protocol in the following manner:

- the Participant hosting the representatives will bear the costs of accommodation and travel within the territory of the host country;
- the Participant sending its representatives will bear the costs of travel to the host country.

VI

This Protocol will come into effect on the date of its signature.

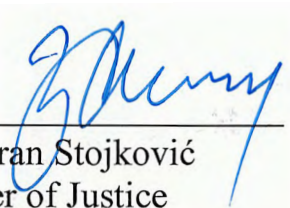
This Protocol may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of the Participants.

This Protocol will be concluded for an indefinite period of time, unless denounced by any of the Participant by giving a written notification to the other Participant.

This Protocol will terminate three months from the date of the receipt of the notification by the other Participant.

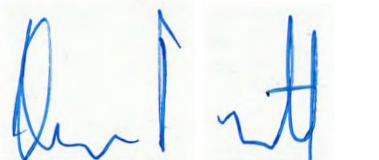
Signed at Vienna, on 5 December 2005 in two originals, each in the Serbian, Croatian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any difference of interpretation the English text will prevail.

For the Ministry of Justice
of the Republic of Serbia



Mr. Zoran Stojković
Minister of Justice

For the Ministry of Justice
of the Republic of Croatia



Mrs. Vesna Škare Ožbolt
Minister of Justice