



Association of Croatian Judges

in partnership with

University of Zadar

organize:

2nd INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

September 30 /October 1 2016

University of Zadar

Zadar, Croatia

with support of:

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia

U.S. Department of State

CEELI Institute Prague

Zadar County

Working languages: English and Croatian with simultaneous interpretation

Thursday, September 29

Participants arrive in Zadar

Friday, September 30

09:30 – 10:15

Welcoming remarks and opening statements:

- Jadranka Nižić-Peroš, President of Association of Croatian Judges, Zadar Branch
- Boris Babić, President of the County Court Zadar
- Đuro Sessa, President of Association of Croatian Judges
- Dijana Vican, Rector of the University of Zadar
- Stipe Zrilić, Prefect of Zadar County
- Ante Šprlje, Minister of Justice, Republic of Croatia
- Branko Hrvatin, President of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia

10:15 – 10:45

Family photo / Coffee Break

Working part
(closed to public)

- 10:45 – 12:30 **Independence of Judges**
- "The position of the judiciary and its relation with the other powers of state in a modern democracy", CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN JUDGES (CCJE), OPINION NO. 18 (2015)
 - discussion on the guarantees securing the independence of judges in two aspects: (1) with regard to other branches of the State authority, and (2) with regard to the parties in the proceedings
 - discussion on the national laws and practices securing the two limbs of independence
 - discussion on the European Convention on Human Rights practices - Grand Chamber judgments: Volkov vs. Ukraine (no. 21722/11, 9.1.2013), Kleyn vs. Netherlands (nos. 39343/98, 39651/98, 43147/98, 46664/99, 6.5.2003)
 - *Justice Đuro Sessa, Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia*
 - *Judge John R. Tunheim, Chief Judge, District of Minnesota, USA*
 - *Judge Domagoj Frntić, President of the Labor Court Zagreb, Croatia*
- 12:30 – 13:45 Lunch
- 13:45 – 14:45 **Impartiality of Judges**
- challenges to impartiality
 - discussion on the functional impartiality of judges
 - the concepts of subjective and objective impartiality as defined in the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights. Grand Chamber judgments: Piersack vs. Belgium (no. 8692/79, 26.10. 1984), Kyprianou vs Cyprus (no. 73797/01, 15.12. 2005), Zahirović vs Croatia (no. 58590/11, 25.4. 2013)
 - the existence of national rules securing the impartiality of judges
 - *Judge Jan Westhoff, District Court of Amsterdam, Netherlands*
 - *Judge Marijan Bitanga, County Court Zadar, Croatia*
- 14:45 – 15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:00 – 16:00 **Impartiality of Judges, cont.**
- 16:00– 16:15 First Day Closing Remarks
- 18:30 Welcome Dinner Hosted by Zadar County
County Building Terrace, Zadar

Saturday, October 1

- 09:30 – 10:45 **Importance of Communication in Judicial Profession**
- Importance of strategic communication and public relations in the judicial profession;
 - Media relation – Judges appearance in public; communication between judges and the media – DO's, DON'Ts; what (not) to say;
 - social networks as a communication tool – yes or no?
 - Communication in crisis - guidance for adequate communication between the court/judges and the public – with an aim to protect personal integrity of each judge and reputation of the judicial profession as a whole
- *Mr David Sellers, Public Affairs Officer, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts., USA*
 - *Judge Krešimir Devčić, County Court Zagreb, Croatia*
 - *Mrs Ksenija Renko, Strategic Communications Adviser*
- 10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00 – 12:30 **Importance of Communication in Judicial Profession, cont.**
- 12:30 – 13:45 Lunch
- 13:45 - 14:30 Final Discussion and Closing Remarks
- 18:00 Departure by bus to Polača
- 19:00 Dinner Hosted by the Association of Croatian Judges
“Ražnjevića dvori”, Polača

Saturday/

Sunday, October 2 Participants depart Zadar