

**SOME CONNECTIONS BETWEEN  
THE CROATIAN STATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (= DZIV in Croatian)  
AND THE FRENCH INPI AND DANISH PTO**

**Note:** *DZIV Annual Reports (bilingual Croatian/English) are available online here:*  
<https://www.dziv.hr/en/about-sipo/annual-report/archive/>

**1. CONNECTION TO FRENCH INPI**

**Source:** *DZIV Annual Report 2008*

[https://www.dziv.hr/files/File/go-izvjesca/godisnje\\_izvjesce\\_2008.pdf](https://www.dziv.hr/files/File/go-izvjesca/godisnje_izvjesce_2008.pdf)

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**4 April:** A visit to the Croatian SIPO by a high delegation of the National Intellectual Property Institute of France (INPI France) - an Agreement on Bilateral Cooperation signed.

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Photograph nr.3 shows Battistelli and Topic heading their respective delegations during a meeting.



Photograph nr.7 shows Battistelli and Topic signing a bilateral agreement.

## 2. CROATIAN SIPO CONNECTION TO DANISH PTO

Source: *DZIV Annual Report 2009*

[https://www.dziv.hr/files/File/go-izvjesca/godisnje\\_izvjesce\\_2009.pdf](https://www.dziv.hr/files/File/go-izvjesca/godisnje_izvjesce_2009.pdf)

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**6-8 September:** A study visit of the Croatian senior officials of the authorities for the enforcement of intellectual property rights to the partner Danish institutions in Copenhagen. ...

**9-10 November:** A return visit by the senior officials of the authorities for the enforcement of intellectual property rights of the Kingdom of Denmark to the partner Croatian institutions in Zagreb

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### **3.3.2.1. European Union Assistance Projects**

During the 2009 a significant part of the activities relating to the project PHARE 2006: Strengthening the Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights, which implementation started in December 2008, was implemented. The implementation of this project is planned for the total period of 20 months. Contractual value of the project makes in total EUR 1,266,848 of which EUR 266,848 refers to the procurement of technical equipment, and amount of EUR 1 mil for professional technical assistance. In 2009 planned procurement and installation of technical equipment was fully implemented. In the part of technical assistance project is implemented by **the so called twinning principle by direct cooperation with the administration of one of the Member States of the EU, in this case the Kingdom of Denmark. The main coordinator of the project by Denmark is Danish patent and trademark office, and by Croatia the main coordinator is SIPO.**

Beneficiaries of the project, besides the Office are in great part the authorities for the enforcement of intellectual property rights (Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Customs Administration and State Inspectorate). The project consist of several components related to strengthening horizontal activities of authorities for the enforcement of intellectual property rights and strengthening their relevant institutional capacities, primarily by professional training of their experts. During the 2009 the activities on preparing and alignment of the future model of formal cooperation and coordination of competent authorities as well as significant part of the planned activities of professional training were carried out.

#### **See also:**

Project number: EUROPEAID/114452/D/SV/HR - EU (Cards 2001)

<http://internationalcooperation.dkpto.org/international-projects/projects/croatia/croatia---ip-croatia-europeaid.aspx>

Croatia Twinning Project - HR/06/IB/OT/01

<http://internationalcooperation.dkpto.org/international-projects/projects/croatia/croatia-twinning.aspx>

### **3. CONNECTION BETWEEN DANISH PTO AND ROMANA MATANOVAC VUČKOVIĆ (FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CROATIAN SIPO UNDER TOPIĆ)**

On her personal website Romana Matanovac Vučković (RMV) includes the following detail in her CV: *"Since 2013, she has been cooperating with Pohl Consulting & Associates GmbH from Berlin and the Danish Patent and Trademark Office as a consultant in the project of legal assistance in the field of intellectual property at Kosovo, also funded by the European Union."*

[http://matanovac-vuckovic.com/radno\\_iskustvo\\_eng.php](http://matanovac-vuckovic.com/radno_iskustvo_eng.php)

The EU Kosovo project has a budget of ca. 1 million Euros:

<http://internationalcooperation.dkpto.org/international-projects/projects/kosovo.aspx>

<https://www.devex.com/en/contracts/strengthening-the-intellectual-property-system-in-kosovo-unscr-1244>

RMV was previously a deputy Director of the Croatian SIPO under Topić (ca. 2005-2008).

During that period, she was also Croatia's "alternate representative" to the EPO's Administrative Council (i.e. Topić 's deputy). Refer to the following extract from the EPO Official Journal 2008 where her name is listed under "HR: Croatia": [http://archive.epo.org/epo/pubs/oj008/04\\_08/04\\_2158.pdf](http://archive.epo.org/epo/pubs/oj008/04_08/04_2158.pdf)

During her time at the Croatian SIPO, RMV acted as head of an official committee called the "Council of Experts on Remunerations for Copyright and Related Rights". This appointment was controversial in Croatia and it was alleged to be unlawful due to a "conflict of interest" (see attached translation of press reports). RMV had previously worked for the Croatian Composers' Society (HDS) and the private company "Emporion" which was involved in managing musical royalty payments.

According to informed sources, her previous employment should have disqualified her from an appointment to the Council of Experts. It was claimed in the Croatian press that RMV only secured the position due to her connections with the Croatian President Ivo Josipović.