

Croatia

1. Recently, the Office of the State Attorney General has urgently needed information regarding pre-investigative actions concerning serious criminal acts in economic business operations. Appropriation of multimillion sums (in US dollars) was in question.

It was necessary to obtain information from several European countries, and since we could not obtain the information from competent State Attorney's Offices, the only option was to ask for regular international assistance through competent Ministries of Justice, or through police – Interpol.

In this specific case, a problem of inability of immediate cooperation arose, which is even more emphasized by the fact that the Republic of Croatia is not a member of the European Union.

2. There are more such examples.
 - a) In Bosnia and Herzegovina, a rocket was launched to a mosque from a rocket launcher. A suspicion, that a suspect had a flat in the Republic of Croatia in which certain material evidence could be found (clothes and footwear), existed. The Office of the State Attorney General was asked to collect those clothes. A search warrant for the flat in the Republic of Croatia was asked, clothes and footwear were collected and delivered to prosecutors in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
 - b) In County Prosecutor's Office in the city S in the Republic of Serbia, there were certain case documents, important for conducting the investigation in a case regarding criminal offences of different crimes. A request was sent to the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Serbia and a visit of representatives of the Office of the State Attorney General of the Republic of Croatia was arranged so as to provide insight into the case documentation and copy whatever was needed. The visit was very successful.
 - c) We were asked by the Prosecutor's Office for War Crimes in Serbia to check certain information from the State's Archive of the Republic of Croatia. We enabled our colleagues from Serbia to come and check the information they needed.
 - d) Investigators from Canada are interested in questioning of witnesses in the Republic of Croatia regarding a possible perpetrator of criminal offence who is residing in Canada. They asked us to identify the witnesses and check whether they are willing to answer questions of Canadian investigators. All preparatory actions have been conducted and now we are awaiting the arrival of the Canadian investigators.
3. Some more work regarding the possibility of immediate cooperation is needed.