

CURRICULUM VITAE

Duro Sessa
President of Supreme Court of Republic of Croatia

I. Personal details:

Name, forename: Duro Sessa
Sex: Male
Date and place of birth: December 26th 1957, Rijeka, Republic of Croatia
Nationality: Croatian

II. Education and academic and other qualification

- 1966 - 1972 Primary school in Dubrovnik, Republic of Croatia
- 1972 - 1976 Grammar school in Dubrovnik Republic of Croatia
- 1976 - 1980 - Faculty of Law University of Zagreb
Achieved Masters Degree in law
- 1984 - Bar exam

III. Relevant professional activities

a. Description of judicial activities

- 1983 - 1984. Court trainee in County Court in Sisak, Republic of Croatia,
- 1984 - 1988. Judge in Municipal Court in Petrinja and Sisak in Civil Department dealing with Civil, Real estate, Enforcement and No disputable cases,
- 1988 - 1991 Judge in Municipal court in Zagreb as a judge in Civil Department dealing only with civil cases,
- 1991 - 1993. Head of Civil Department of Municipal Court in Zagreb,
- 1993 -1996. Consul Counsellor in Consulate General of Republic of Croatia in Perth, Australia with a duty on legal matters,
- 1996 - 2004. President of Municipal Court in Zagreb, Republic of Croatia,
- 2004 - 2008. Judge of County Court in Zagreb and President of Civil Appellate Department, where I acted as a judge in the appellate panel and fulfilled administrative duties attached to me as Head of Civil Department
- 2008- Justice of Supreme Court of Republic of Croatia - Civil and Administrative Department.
- 19 July 2017- President of Supreme Court of Republic of Croatia (**current position**)

As a judge of County Court I was elected as member and Deputy President of State Judiciary Council from 2005 to 2009.

Ad-hoc Judge of European Court of Human Rights

b. Description of non-judicial legal activities

1982.- Corporate lawyer at "Dubrovkinja Trade Co" in Dubrovnik

1993-1996- Consul Councillor at Consulate General of Republic of Croatia in Perth- Australia

In 1991 I was one of judges who launched foundation of association of Croatian Judges. From that time till today I was Treasurer, Vice-president, Deputy President and President of Association.

As President of Association I was elected by General Assembly of Association in 2004 and once again in 2009 and 2013. I am fulfilling this strictly voluntary activity in second mandate.

Member of Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE) from its foundation, and member of Working Group for since 2008.

CCJE Vice-president from 2015.

President of CCJE from 2017 until 2019.

Member of the CCJE Bureau from 2019.

President of State Electoral Commission (Ex officio as President of Supreme Court)

Member of various Working Groups within Ministry of Justice with a task to draft law proposals (Civil Procedural Law, Enforcement Act, Law on Courts, Law on State Judicial Council, Law on Judicial Academy),

Member of Bar Exam Commission at Ministry of Justice for Civil Law.

Lecturer at Judicial Academy, and various seminars organized by Legal Publishing Companies,

Member of Governmental Group for negotiations with EU in Chapter 23 and 24., Head of Subgroup for Judiciary

Member and Deputy President of Croatian Association for Civil Law,

Listed Arbitrator at Croatian Chamber of Commerce Permanent Arbitration Court for cases with and without international element.

Vice-President of International Association of Judges from 2014.

Council of Europe Expert (DGI & Venice Commission) on all aspects of independence of judiciary with missions in Romania, Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine, Poland

GRECO evaluator for 4th Evaluation Round (Corruption among MPs, Judges and Prosecutors, for Spain, Ukraine and Germany)

TAIEX expert with various short term assignments in Republic of North Macedonia and Montenegro

OSCE evaluator for Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for Law on Courts and Law on Council for Judiciary,

International Association of Judges (IAJ) rapporteur for Montenegro in process of accepting Association of Montenegrin Judges to IAJ

IAJ special rapporteur for Serbia in process of appointing judges

Cooperating with Faculty of Law in Zagreb through colloquium in Family Law.

c. Description of non-legal professional activities.

President of Governing Board of Judicial Academy (Ex officio)

During the period from 1991 when first free elections took part in Croatia until today I was president or deputy president of Election commission for City of Zagreb in local, parliamentary or presidential election

IV. Public activities.

None beside those naturally attached to the functions I am exercising.

V. Other Activities

I have no other public activities.

VI. Publications and other works.

In recent years (from 1997) I have published various works in field of independence and position of judiciary, standards of international law, in field of law on obligations and contract law, land register law, property law and procedural law.

All together 80 works have been published until today.

In my view ten most important articles which could be especially stressed are as follows:

1. Media Civil Liability I&II (Law Revue "Informator" No 4827 and 4828 Year 2000)
2. Protection of property in case law of European Court of Human Rights (Law revue "Informator" No. 5206 Year 2004),
3. Judiciary and separation of powers (Law revue "Informator" No 5246, Year 2004)
4. Banks and other financial institutions and their civil liability (Publication" Contractual and Legal Interest Rates"- "Informator" Group of authors, Year 2005.
5. Standards in Professional Behaviour of Judges ("Informator" No 5446-5447, Year 2006)
- Achievements of Council of Europe in Independency of Justice ("Croatian Law revue" No 3, Year 2001)
6. Returning of Confiscated Property to Previous Owners (" Immoveable property " Group of Authors, Publisher "Inzenjerski biro" Year 2007.)

7. Democratic legitimacy of judiciary in separation of powers ("Croatian Law Revue" No 5. Year 2005.)
8. Principles of EU Law ("Croatian Law Revue" No.9. Year 2001)
9. Court Jurisdiction and Industrial Actions ("Informator" No 4857, Year 2000),
10. Execution of judgments and real estate property ("Croatian Law revue" No 6. Year 2002).
11. Judges in the executive branch of power (Law Revue "Novi Informator" 2013.
12. Evaluation of judges in Croatia. When, Why, How (CCJE web site- 2013.)

VII. Languages

a. First language

Croatian, native speaker

b. Other:

English, very good in reading, writing and speaking

French, passive basic knowledge