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**Vlatka Cikač** (born on 06 February 1979) is a lawyer and a mediator. She works as a lawyer and a mediator in the Law Office CIKAČ; she is also involved in the work of many associations and in humanitarian activities.

### **Childhood and family**

Vlatka Cikač was born in a loving family in Varaždin and has one sister. Her childhood was influenced by Middle European culture, especially Austria and Germany, thus she has been learning German since early age. Her father, the manager and director of the rockwool factory, taught her discipline and the rules of business world. With her mother, a business woman in production of therapeutic products and cosmetics, she first experienced the world of entrepreneurship. At the age of 13 she was already active in the work and development of the family company, especially in sale. She has been working since.

### **Education**

She attended primary school in Kneginec Gornji (1985-1993), completing all classes with the best grades and compliments.

She continued her education in a high school in Varaždin (1993-1997), completing all classes with best grades and compliments, why she was relieved from high school final exam (baccalaureate exams). She was elected the class president for all four years.

In 1997, she enrolled the Law School in Zagreb; she graduated in February 2002, with thesis on Company Law.

### **Improving knowledge of foreign languages**

Along with her regular studies she perfected the knowledge of German and English languages.

In 2000, she was awarded a DAAD scholarship (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst*), and she participated in the summer school of German language (*III. Internationaler Münchner Sommerkurs*) at LMU (*Ludwig Maximilians Universität München*) in Munich, in the period of one month. Then she successfully passed the exam in German with Goethe-Institute and was awarded the ZMP Certificate (*Zentrale Mittelstufenprüfung*).

A year later she passed the exam in English, getting the English Language Certificate -*University of Cambridge*.

### **Trainee internship**

Upon the completion of Law School in Zagreb, Vlatka Cikač became the court trainee-volunteer at the Commercial Court in Zagreb (2002). After a year at the Commercial Court in Zagreb, Vlatka Cikač worked as law trainee in the law office of Eugen Zadavec in Zagreb where she stayed until the beginning of 2006. Meanwhile, by the end of 2005 she passed the national bar examination at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia. In 2006, she worked as a law trainee in the Law Office Borić in Zagreb. Both Law Offices were oriented to the work with foreign private and legal persons, especially in the German speaking area.

## Career

Armed with knowledge about law, entrepreneurial genes and comprehensive support by her husband and family, in 2007 she opened the Law Office CIKAČ. As a lawyer and a mediator, Vlatka Cikač has devoted to law activities in the Law Office CIKAČ as a representative and counsellor of domestic and foreign companies (especially of German speaking area) in legal matters pertaining to foundation, work and development of companies and to resolution of disputes occurring in their business. Apart from that, Law office CIKAČ represents also private persons (domestic, or from the German speaking area) especially regarding family law and law on inheritance, right to work and reside in the Republic of Croatia, and acquisition of real estates in the area of the Republic of Croatia.

## Practice

In 2010, Vlatka Cikač participated in practical training for lawyers in Bonn/Germany (organised by *Bundesanwaltskammer, DeutscherAnwaltVerein* and *Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Rechtliche Zusammenarbeit e.V.*); within this programme she performed her vocational practice in the Law Office HEUKING KÜHN LÜER WOJTEK in Düsseldorf (Germany), with special emphasis on arbitration and arbitration procedures, all under the mentoring of the lawyer Ulrike Gantenberg.

## Humanitarian work

Vlatka Cikač began with humanitarian work in 1995 when she became the member of the association „Wall of Love/Bedem ljubavi“ in Varaždin. She was active in the association until 2003, in which period she participated in many humanitarian actions, as well as in organisation and holding of annual assemblies of the mentioned association.

## Work in Rotary


She started working actively in Rotaract Club Zagreb in 2003 and she participated in numerous humanitarian and social actions and projects. She became the president of the Rotaract club Zagreb during her mandate in 2007/2008. In 2010, when she was 29, she became the member of the Rotary club Zagreb-Sesvete, and apart from many club activities she initiated the foundation of Rotaract club Zagreb-Sesvete (2009), whereas in Rotary club she also performed the function of Youth Exchange Officer (YEO). In 2013, she has moved to Rotary club Zagreb-Zrinjevac. She is active also in Rotary District 1913, working actively in the work of the Youth Exchange Board; she performs the duty of Alumni Manager. As Alumni Manager she has initiated the foundation and took part in organisation of Rotex club Zagreb (2012) and Rotary Alumni club Zagreb (2013).


## Social work

Law office CIKAČ and Vlatka Cikač are member of following associations:

*Croatian Bar Association (HOK)* 


*German Bar Association - Deutscher Anwaltverein (DAV)*  Mitglied im AnwaltVerein


*Verband Deutscher Anwälte (VDA)* 

*Deutsch-Kroatische Industrie-und Handelskammer (German -Croatian Commerce and Industry Chamber) (DIHK/AHK)* 

*Kroatisch-Österreichische Handelskammer (Croatian-Austrian Commerce Chamber) (KÖHK)*

*American Chamber of Commerce in Croatia (AmCham)* 

*The British Croatian Chamber of Commerce (BCCC)*  The British Croatian Chamber of Commerce

*Croatian Association of Businesswoman (KRUG)* 

## Private life

Vlatka Cikač is mother of one child.