



**Mag. Vlatka Adler** (before Cikač) (born on 06 February 1979) is a lawyer and a mediator. She works as a lawyer and a mediator in the **Law Office & Mediation Office ADLER**, with **offices in Vienna**, **Graz and Zagreb**, she is also involved in the work of many associations and in humanitarian activities.

## **Childhood and family**

Mag. Adler 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.

## Postgraduate studies in Trade law and Company law

After finishing Law School in Zagreb, Mag. Adler started Postgraduate studies in Trade law and Company law.

Until today she passed 9 exams:

- 1. Trade law, Prof. Parać
- 2. Civil law, Prof. Uzelac
- 3. Execution law, Prof. Uzelac
- 4. International Private law, Prof. Sajko
- 5. Sea and Traffic law, Prof. Filipović
- 6. International Payment law, Prof. Vukmir
- 7. Intellectual Property Rights, Prof. Parać
- 8. Arbitration law, Prof. Dika
- 9. Accountanting, Prof. Tadijančević

## 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*), and in 2018 passed level "C1" with grade "gut".

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

Apart German and English, Mag. Adler is fluent also at Italian and French, as well as Slovenian and of course Croatian language.

#### **Trainee internship**

Upon the completion of Law School in Zagreb, Mag. Adler became the court trainee-volunteer at the Commercial Court in Zagreb (2002). After a year at the Commercial Court in Zagreb, Mag. Adler worked as law trainee in the law office of Eugen Zadravec 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.

#### Attorney-at-Law Career

Armed with knowledge about law, entrepreneurial genes and comprehensive support by her ex-husband and family, in 2007 she opened the Law Office CIKAČ.

As a lawyer and a mediator, Mag. Adler has devoted to law activities together with her team as a representative and counsellor of private persons especially regarding **international family law and law on inheritance** (popularly said: *Marriages-Divorces-Property-Inheritance*).

Due the fact that Mag. Adler in the meantime has more clients in Austria, she become **EIRAG odvjetnica**\* (translated\*: **attorney-at-law**) with the office in **Graz**, **at the address Mohsgasse 10/4**.

#### Mediation

Mag. Adler has been since 2010 member of *Croatian Mediation Chamber (HUM)*, where she took part in many trainings and gave many lectures.

#### Practice

In 2010, Mag. Adler 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.

#### Wassermann Grupa

Vlatka Adler founded in the year 2014, together with partner the company Wassermann Grupa. The main activity of the company was the consulting of the Family Businesses regarding business transfer from the older to the younger generation, as well as use of the Mediation as a way of solving problems in the Family Businesses. Wassermann Grupa organized in the year 2015 und 2016 two WG Conferences and one WG Forum on these topics:

- WG Conference, "Mediation in Family Business - special focus on business transfer from older to younger generation", 16. April 2015, Hotel "Dubrovnik"

- WG Forum, "Prevention of the conflict in the Family Business", 25. November 2015, Hotel "Dubrovnik"

- WG Conference, "Mediation in Family Business - business transfer from older to younger generation", 19. April 2018, Hotel "Dubrovnik"

#### MOOTs and students' competitions

Until today Mag. Adler served twice as mentor for the teams that took part at the *Moot Court Croatia (MCC)*, organised by *Law Faculty of the Zagreb University*. In the year 2016 case covered family law, and in the year 2017 trade law.

In July 2017 she served as Expert Assessor at Mediation-Competition *"Consensual Dispute Resolution Competition 2017*" (*CDRC*), *"International Mediation and Negotiation Competition*" in Vienna, organised by *International Bar Association (IBA)* and *Vienna International Arbitral Center (VIAC)*.

In October 2017 and 2018 Mag. Adler served as Juror at *"Soldan Moot zur Anwaltlichen Berufspraxis*", organised by *Hans Soldan Stiftung* together with *Bundesrechtsanwaltskammer (BRAK)*, *Deutscher* 

Anwaltsverein (DAV) and Deutscher Juristen-Fakultätentag (DJFT), all under scientific and organising responsibility of the Universitätsprofessor Dr. Christian Wolf and his co-worker's from the Institut für Prozess-und Anwaltsrecht Hannover (IPA).

In February 2018 she served as Observer at Mediation-Competition *"13th ICC International Commercial Mediation Competition*" in Paris, organised by *ICC-a (International Chamber of Commerce)*.

In November 2018 she served as Judge at Mediation-Competition *"7th NLIU-INADR International Law School Mediation Tournament*" in Bhopal, India, organised by *International Law Institute University of Bhopal, India.* 

#### Humanitarian work

Mag. Adler 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.

## Activities in Rotary

She started her activities in the *Rotaract Club Zagreb* in 2003 and she participated in numerous humanitarian and social actions and projects, as well served as the president of the *Club* during her mandate in 2007/2008. In 2008, 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 secretary and Youth Exchange Officer (YEO). In 2013, she has moved to *Rotary club Zagreb-Zrinjevac*, and in the mandate 2015/2016 she serves as the President of the Club. She is active also in *Rotary District 1913*, working actively since 2011 in the work of the *Youth Exchange Board* and in the mandate 2014/2015 serves as the YE Committee Chair. She also performs the duty of *Alumni Manager*, where she initiated the foundation and took part in the organisation of *Rotex club Zagreb* (2012) and *Rotary Alumni club Zagreb* (2013). Since 2012 she is active in the work of *ICC-Inter Country Collaboration Croatia*, and is Chair of the *ICC Committee Croatia-Austria* bis 2019. In 2016, she has moved to *Rotary E-Club Croatia*.

#### Social work

Mag. Adler is member of the *Croatian Bar Association (HOK)* since February 2003 as trainee, and since February 2007 as Attorney-at-Law. Since 2005 till 2017 she was member of the *German-Croatian Industry and Trade Chamber (Deutsch-Kroatische Industrie-und Handelskammer.* Since 2007 till 2017 she was member of the *Croatian-Austrian Trade Chamber (Kroatisch-Österreichische Handelskammer)*. Since 2012 till 2017 she was member of the *American Chamber of Commerce in Croatia (AmCham in Croatia)*, and in the mandate 2014/2016 founder and Chair of the ADR Committee (Alternative Dispute Resolution-Mediation & Arbitration). Mag. Adler was also member of the *British Croatian Chamber of Commerce (BCCC)* since 2013 till end of the Chamber in 2015. Since 2013 she has been nearly connected with the work of the *CEPOR-a (Center for the politics of the development of the small and middle companies as well entrepreneurship)*, regarding family business. Mag. Adler has been since 2014 member of the *International Chamber of Commerce Paris-Hrvatska*.

Regarding foreign memberships, Mag. Adler has been since 2011 member of the *German Lawyers Association (Deutscher Anwaltverein-DAV)*, where she is also member of the working group for family law, inheritance law and mediation. Since 2012 she has been member of the *Association of the German Lawyers (Verband Deutscher Anwälte-VDA)*. Mag. Adler has been since 2012 member of the *German-Croatian Lawyers Association (Deutsch-Kroatischen Juristenvereinigung-DKJV)*. Mag. Adler has been since 2013 member of *DACH-Europäische Anwaltsvereinigung (European Lawyers Association)* from Zürich. Mag. Adler has been since 2016 member of *Association of Lawyers in Austria (Juristenverband Austria)*. Mag. Adler has been since 2016 member of *MIKK-Berlin (International Mediation Center for Family Conflicts and Children Abduction)*, and took part at LEPCA Conference.

## **KRUG - Croatian Association of Businesswomen**

Since 2007 Mag. Adler has been member of the *Croatian Association of Businesswomen (KRUG)*, while in the mandate 2017/2019 she serves as the president of the Zagreb Branch-office and Vice-President of KRUG Croatia.

# Private life

Mag. Adler is in fortunate marriage and is blessed mother of two sons.