



**Mag. 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 & Mediation Office CIKAČ**; she is also involved in the work of many associations and in humanitarian activities.

## **Childhood and family**

Mag. 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.

## Postgraduate studies in Trade law and Company law

After finishing Law School in Zagreb, Mag. Cikač 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*).

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

Apart German and English, Mag. Cikač 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. Cikač became the court trainee-volunteer at the Commercial Court in Zagreb (2002). After a year at the Commercial Court in Zagreb, Mag. Cikač 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.

#### 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, Mag. Cikač has devoted to law activities together with her team, as a representative and counsellor of private persons (domestic, or from the German speaking area, Austria, Germany, Switzerland...) especially regarding **family law and law on inheritance** (popularly said: *Marriages-Divorces-Property-Inheritance*).

Due the fact that Mag. Cikač in the meantime has more clients from Austria, which previously came to Croatia/Zagreb in order to meet with her, she decide to use legal possibility to become **EIRAG odvjetnica**\* (translated\*: **attorney-at-law**) with the office in Graz, at the address Mohsgasse 10/4 and in Wienna, at the address Billrothstr 86/2.

### Mediation

Mag. Cikač 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. 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.

#### **MOOTs and students competitions**

Until today Mag. Cikač 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 Mag. Cikač 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)*.

### Humanitarian work

Mag. Cikač began with humanitarian work in 1995 when she became the member of the association *"Wall of Love/Bedem Ijubavi*" 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 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 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*. In 2016, she has moved to *Rotary E-Club Croatia*.

### Social work

Mag. Cikač 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. Cikač 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. Cikač has been since 2014 member of the *International Chamber of Commerce Paris-Hrvatska*.

Regarding foreign memberships, Mag. Cikač 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. Cikač has been since 2012 member of the *German-Croatian Lawyers Association (Deutsch-Kroatischen Juristenvereinigung-DKJV)*. Mag. Cikač has been since 2013 member of *DACH-Europäische Anwaltsvereinigung (European Lawyers Association)* from Zürich. Mag. Cikač has been since 2016 member of *Association of Lawyers in Austria (Juristenverband Austria)*. Mag. Cikač 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. Cikač 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. Cikač is blessed mother of one son and aunt of three nieces, in fortunate partnership and loved by her whole family.