

**ABOUT THE PUBLIC INSTITUTION
CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL AND PROSECUTORIAL TRAINING
CENTRE OF THE REPUBLIKA SRPSKA**

As a vision of future, and in the Draft of the Strategic Plan of the Republika Srpska Judicial and Prosecutorial Training Centre it is foreseen as follows:

“In the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina and in its entities rule of law has been achieved, main guarantor of which is independent, highly professional and efficient judiciary, where, among the other, public confidence exists, owing this to the expertise of judges and prosecutors.”

THE MISSION OF THE CENTRE

The mission of the Centre is, under the supervision of the appropriate entity High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (hereinafter: Council), to ensure that training programmes for judges and prosecutors are designed and implemented in the light of requirements of open-mindedness, competence and impartiality, these being an integral part of the exercise of judicial and prosecutorial duties. That mission has to be accomplished through functions of the Centre.

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE CENTRE

The functions of the Centre are as follows:

- 1) To provide, under the direction and supervision of the Council, induction training courses to those persons considering a career as a judge or prosecutor;
- 2) To provide, under the supervision of the Council, advanced professional training for judges and prosecutors;
- 3) To award certificates of graduation on the successful completion of induction training and, where appropriate, annual certificates on the completion of any minimum advanced professional training requirement.

The Centre will establish, under the supervision of the Council, curricula for and implement courses for advanced professional training, guaranteeing to judges and prosecutors the maintenance and broadening of the technical, social and cultural knowledge needed to perform their duties. The advanced professional training is obligatory for all judges and prosecutors in each calendar year. Judges and prosecutors shall be provided with instruction on interpreting and applying laws and procedures, ethical standards for judges and prosecutors, the latest scientific and professional developments in the field of law, the practices of judges and prosecutors from other countries, and other topics determined by the Steering Board. Council, in consultation with the Steering Board, shall determine the minimum amount of training each judge and prosecutor must receive annually to satisfy this professional obligation. The Centre awards annual certificates to those judges and prosecutors who satisfy the minimum training requirement.

The Centre establishes, in accordance with the direction and under the supervision of the Council, an induction-training program and awards graduation certificates to those participants who successfully complete the

induction-training program. The Centre provides induction training in judicial skills and on the law and practice of courts for those persons considering a career as a judge or a prosecutor.

TRAINERS

THE STATUS OF THE CENTRE AND FINANCING

The Centre is established as a public body on the basis of the Law on Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette" of the Republika Srpska, 34/02, 49/02 and 77/02).

The seat of the Centre is in Banja Luka, Blagoja Parovica 139b. The Centre has the status of a legal entity. It is registered in the Banja Luka Basic Court (Decision U/I No. 748/03). Process of registration was finished in the April 2003, after the appointment of the Director who was authorized to submit such request before the competent court.

The Government of the Republika Srpska is obliged to provide appropriate premises, equipment and an annual budget for the work of the Centre; according to the Law that is the legal basis for the establishment of the Centre. Premises and annual budget for the year 2003 have been provided. For financing of the Centre in the budget of the Republika Srpska for this year 317.000 KM has been provided.

In the Draft of the Strategic Plan it is said that Centre will try to find permanent premises on the other location. Ministry of Justice and Supreme Court of the Republika Srpska support this intention. Ministry of Justice made the proposal of the Decision on providing the permanent premises to the Centre to the Republika Srpska Government and its adoption is expected before the end of July .

The Centre could receive operating funds not only from the Entity Budget, but also from cities and municipalities, from donations and bequest from domestic and foreign physical and legal persons and international organisations, from loans, and from revenues for services provided by the Centre (the Centre may not, in any event, accept funds if their provision could be considered to compromise the independence of the Centre). The operating funds of the Centre shall be used for the following purposes: payment of employee salaries, payment to persons who work under temporary service contracts, operating costs, acquisition and maintenance of necessary equipment, repayment of any loans, and other expenses necessarily incurred carrying out the activities of the Centre that have been specifically approved by the Steering Board.

We are in the process of finding donors for additional equipment (computers, copy machine, video beam, equipment for interpreters, library etc.)

THE MANAGEMENT AND EXECUTIVE POWERS

The managing body of the Centre is the Steering Board, consisting of nine members (one judge of the Supreme Court - elected by the general session of the Supreme Court; one Deputy Public Prosecutor - elected by the collegiums

of the respective Public Prosecutors offices; two distinguished legal professionals, having expertise within the field of training, appointed by the Minister of Justice, after consultation with professional associations, law faculties and other law-related bodies; two judges and two prosecutors elected by the members of the Association of Judges and Prosecutors of the entity: one minor offence court judge elected by the members of the Association of Minor Offence Judges).

The Council announced the members of the Steering Board in the October 2002.

Members of the Steering Boards are appointed or elected for terms of five years. Terms are renewable only once.

The executive powers are vested to the Director who is nominated for term of four year. The Director of the Centre was nominated in late March 2003. The Director has the right to attend and participate in meetings of the Steering Board but without voting powers.

ORGANIZATION AND EMPLOYEES

The three basic units (or lines of management) of organization with 5 employees in Centre are foreseen:

1. Programming (3 assistants or advisers: for criminal law, civil law and commercial law)
2. Finance (1 assistant for finance/ accountant)
3. Administrative (1 secretary and 1 technical assistant/driver)

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

1. Complete institutional building of the Centre
2. Positioning of the Centre in the community with the aim of adequate usage of its potentials
3. Preparing and implementing projects for:
 - Permanent education of judges and prosecutors
 - Inductive education
 - Other categories in the future (attorneys lawyers, notary, other legal representatives) in the course of self-sustaining existence
4. Providing the same standards in education on the whole territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina
5. Being an active partner EU and neighbouring countries in the sphere of judicial and prosecutorial education
6. Proactive role in proposing by-laws
7. Securing that Centre's is self-sustainable