



Dr. Milan Parivodić, LLM (UCL Lond), principal

PARIVODIĆ ADVOKATI - LAWYERS

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Present work

Milan Parivodic is principal in law firm PARIVODIC ADVOKATI represents and advises international and local companies in all of their business law, corporate law and legal advocacy needs in Serbia. We are committed to delivering a world-class service – providing the highest quality advice and support efficiently and effectively, every time. Our clients are at the heart of how we work. Listening very carefully to our clients, and aligning with their needs, we ensure that clients benefit from our formidable knowledge and market insights. We work on complex investment projects, often in highly regulated industries. Our team of eminent lawyers takes full care that the investment moves forward efficiently and lawfully - as planned - that all permits are issued timely and all rights effectively protected. We do not let go before we win for our client.

Our highest expertise is in foreign investment law, all kinds of international business transactions and contracts, government relations, real estate and construction law, mining law, environmental law, IP and IT Law and corporate matters and M&A transactions.

We act for clients in resolving all disputes in these areas, either before courts and arbitration, or through careful negotiations.

Dr Milan Parivodic is Serbian advokat admitted to the Belgrade Bar since 2004. Milan advises foreign investors in their complicated investment projects in various industries and solves challenges quite efficiently in these areas of law:

1. Investment law and government relations (providing strong legal security and predictability);
2. All business contract transactions: from sales, agency, distribution, franchising, licensing, leasing, factoring to complex and innovative contract structures;
3. Permitting in all industries;
4. All real estate related transactions (sales, leasing, financing arrangements);
5. Construction permitting and transactions,
6. Mining (permitting, all exploration and mining transactions) and energy;
7. Environmental law;
8. IP and competition law.
9. Banking and financial law (from loans documentation and mortgages to structuring innovative financial and real estate SPVs);

Milan is general counsel of the Geological and Mining Association of Serbia (GRAS). Milan is professor of international business and contract law. He is well known for introducing breakthrough novelties into Serbian legislature. The Mortgage Law (2005) which Milan drafted and defended in Parliament enabled for the first time mortgaging of non-registered real-estate and even mortgaging just a building permit – this innovation doubled the total real estate assets which can be mortgaged in Serbia. While in government Milan totally reformed the Serbian Law on International Trade, by aligning it fully with WTO and reducing the number of required approvals from 24 to four. Milan typically bridges legitimate needs of modern companies with traditional practices of the Serbian state.

Case An international oil company for years had problems with the state rejecting to return excise duties to their qualified buyers for oil products bought from their franchisee-owned

- gas stations because of an misinterpretation of the applicable regulation. The Ministry of Finance changed the regulation upon Milan's reasoned request, thereby making a level playfield for company-owned or franchised gas stations.
- Case An international chemical conglomerate urgently needed a complex construction permit from Ministry of Construction and an official approval of their environmental impact assessment study from Ministry of Environment in order to build a new chemical factory. Both permits were issued on fast-track within 3 months - as requested by Milan.
- Case For a major mining investor Milan drafted the first Mining Investment Agreement planned to be signed between Republic of Serbia and miner. The Investment Agreement, once signed, will secure world class long-term fiscal and legal stability and regulate an efficient cooperation regarding permitting in all stages and renders full legal security and predictability to mining investor.
- Case A major banking group's hedge fund worked through Milan on resolving a complex land ownership dispute for 115 Ha of prime investment land, between the City of Belgrade, Port of Belgrade and the hedge fund.
- Case The Law on Investments (2015) adopts several new legal concepts proposed by Milan, thereby strengthening investors' legal security and predictability: 1) privilege of resolving all administrative procedures ahead of queue for investors; 2) ad-hoc state-investor working groups for supporting investment; 3) signing an "investment program" between state and investor, 4) investors one-stop shop
- Case Law on Mining (2015) adopts amendments proposed and drafted by Milan, which guarantee amongst other 1) automatic right of conversion from exploration to mining; 2) extension of exploration terms (from previously 7 to 12 years), 3) right to land expropriation for needs of private miner, 4) clarifying and streamlining permitting procedures.
- Case An investor planned investing EUR 140 million into hydro-power plants with accumulation lakes, but exorbitant fees for water rights were breaking the economics of the project. The Regulation on usage of water had been changed at Milan's reasoned request which investment into hydropower plants above 10MW with accumulation lakes.
- Case Greenfield mobile operator needed quickly to develop its base stations network in order to save renting costs paid to other mobile operators. The Law on Planning and Construction was changed abolishing the requirement for obtaining building permits for base stations on existing objects. This dramatically speeded up developing the mobile network.
- Case Court litigation between an international bank which had a multi-million Euro claim from a large conglomerate. Milan coordinated the entire bank's effort and it won the case and collected the full amount through court enforcement.

In the last 15 years Milan participated in drafting Serbian commercial legislation: Foreign Investment Law (2015), Mining Law (2015 and 2021), Foreign Trade Law (2005), Arbitration Law (2006), Mortgage Law (2006), Religious Communities Restitution Law (2006), Foreign Investment Law (2002), Concession Law (2003), Law on Efficient Protection of Intellectual Property (2006), draft Property Law (2006), draft Law on Restitution (2007).

Previous work

- 2007-2009** Partner at Austrian law firm Wolf Theiss, managing their Belgrade office of some 30 lawyers. In this period also worked on some of the largest transactions on the side of foreign investors
- 2007-2008** Advisor to the Prime Minister of Serbia for economy and law
- 2006-2007** Minister coordinator of the Ministry of Finance of Serbia
- 2004-2007** Minister of International Economic Relations of Serbia
- 1991-2004** Lecturer in civil law and property law at the University Of Belgrade Faculty of Laws

Education / Qualifications

- 2002** Doctorate in International franchising agreements, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Law
- 1997** LL.M. in International Business Law, University College London
- 1995** LL.M. in International distribution agreements with honors, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Laws
- 1991** LL.B. (with honors), University of Belgrade, Faculty of Laws
- 1998** Serbian Bar Examination
- 2000** Serbian intellectual property registered agent examination

Publications

"Exclusive Distribution in the Laws of Yugoslavia and the European Community" (Official Gazette of Yugoslavia, pp.176, 1996)
"Law of International Franchising" (Official Gazette of Serbia, 380pp, 2003)

Numerous Publications in International and Serbian Law Journals in the fields of International Trade Law, Contract Law, Intellectual Property, Competition Law, Distribution Law.

Honors

Dr Parivodić is decorated with the Grand Cross of the Serbian Royal Order of the White Eagle and Kara-George Star of Third Order