

Gordana Petković, LL.M.,
Senior Counsel in Environmental Law
PARIVODIĆ ADVOKATI - LAWYERS

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Present work

Predmet:

Senior counsel in Parivodic Advokati advising major companies and international environmental consultancies on all legal, institutional, economic and other issues of environmental protection in Serbia and other Western Balkans countries. Gordana always applies the comparative law approach in her environmental expertise looking carefully at international instruments, EU and member states environmental laws and practices. She is actively involved in the research of legal and economic aspects of environmental protection, both internationally and nationally since 1980. Gordana has dedicated three decades into developing international environmental law and preparation and implementation of Yugoslav/Serbian environmental legislation. Working as the leading lawyer for Yugoslavia and then Serbia, Gordana personally drafted, introduced and then implemented EU environmental legislation. Gordana has broad experience in legislative matters, implementation, international matters, and EU integration regarding environmental protection, as well as:

- horizontal legislation (environmental impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment, integrated pollution and prevention control – IPPC etc.)
- waste management
- chemical management
- nature protection
- air protection
- water protection
- noise
- industrial pollution
- climate change

After decades of focused work on drafting and practical implementation of international and national legislation Gordana Petkovic is considered the leading lawyer in environmental law in Serbia and well known internationally.

Previous work

Leadership in environmental issues at national level

- Managing, planning, organizing, coordinating and monitoring the legislative work in the state administration:
 - Team leader of the preparation of national environmental legislation (1989-2018)
 - Assistant Director for Nature Conservation of the Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection (2004–2005)

- Assistant Director for legislative and administrative affairs and economic instruments in the field of environmental protection of the Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection (2005–2007)
- Head of Department on EU Integration and International Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection (2014–2017) and Head od Department for International Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection (2017– until 5 October 2018)

Legislative and administrative affairs on environmental protection

Case Drafting of basic laws and regulations on environmental protection (federal Law on environmental protection - 1998, more than adopted 30 national laws in the field of environmental protection and numerous supported regulations in the period 2004-2018) and their practical implementation

Case Successfully implemented international environmental agreements with focus on UNEP, UNECE, WTO, the EU and the Council of Europe (Basel Convention on transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, Espoo Convention, CITES trade on endangered species, the Bonn Convention on migratory species, the Berne Convention on European wildlife, the Carpathian Convention, the Convention on Desertification etc.)

Case As specialist of EU environmental legislation personally contributed in the harmonization of national environmental legislation with EU requirements (comparative analysis, development and implementation of regulations), giving opinions on draft laws and regulations prepared by other state bodies (foreign investment, public private partnership, international trade on environmental goods and services etc.), solving complex and difficult tasks regarding issuing environmental permits, cooperation and advice of industry and other sectorson practical issues in implementation of environmental legislation

Case Active participation in the development of policies, plans and programs (National Environmental Protection Programme, National Environmental Waste Management Strategy, the national waste management plans, the integration of environmental concerns into sectoral policies, etc.), cooperation and advice of industry and other sectors on practical issues in implementation of strategic documents.

Case Edited and authored the first Guidance on Waste Management in the Republic of Serbia with the aim to instruct and assist companies and stakeholders in waste management (producers, exporters, importers, transporters, operators on waste management etc.) how to implement their legal obligations

Membership in international organizations and key functions

- International Council of Environmental Law ICEL (1998)
- IUCN Commission of Environmental Law CEL (1999)
- Vice Chair of Compliance Committee of the Basel Convention (2002–2004)
- Vice Chair for Legal Issues in the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention -OEWG (2004–2006)
- Vice Chair in the Compliance Committee of the Basel Convention (2006-2010)
- Bureau Member of the Aarhus convention (2011– 2017) and Aarhus Convention Working Group and it's task forces
- Vice Chair Bureau member of Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Polluters (2013–2015)

- Vice Chair for Legal Issues in the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention
 OEWG (2015–2017)
- Vice Chair Bureau Member of UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy (2014 2018) and representative of CEP at the Executive Committee of UNECE (4 July 2018)
- First Coordinator, moderator/reporter for the UNEP and UNECE conventions (2000)
- Member of the Serbian Negotiating Team with World Trade Organization), participating in development of trade relationships within CEFTA and EFTA
- Coordinator of the preparation of the UNECE document "Environmental Performance Review" (2001, 2007, 2014) - member of the negotiating team and coordinator for the development of a new survey (2014)
- Member of the Legal Group of the Sava Commission in the preparation of the protocols to the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin (protocol floods, protocol prevention of water pollution caused by navigation, the protocol of emergency situations, protocols on sediments, etc.)

Membership in national organizations/associations and key functions

- Serbian Lawyers' Association (from 1995)
- Association of Water Law (from 2003)
- Editor of the Section « Ecology » at Kopaonik School of Natural Law (from 1997)

Education/Qualifications

2011 L.L.M., Environmental Law, University Business Academy, Faculty of Law – Novi Sad
1987 Bar Examination
1980 LLB, University of Belgrade – Faculty of Law

Publications

- "The Environment and International Agreements of Importance for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia"; Series: "Environment", No. 2; Published by the Federal Ministry for Development, Science and Environment, Belgrade, 1995 (p. 160)
- "Position and Role of the Environmental Law in the Legal System of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia", (edited by Professor DragoljubKavran, Gordana Petkovic), Series: "Law and Environment": No. 1; Published by the Yugoslav Association for Public Administration-Federal Ministry for Development, Science and Environment, Belgrade, 1997, (pp. 11–65)
- "Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes-Instruction Manuel", Published by the Ministry for Health and Environmental Protection-Directorate for Environmental Protection of Serbia, Belgrade, 2001, supported by UNEP (p.95)
- "Legal Assistant Project for the Elaboration and Adaptation of National Legislation for the Effective Implementation of the Basel Convention in Bulgaria, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Serbia and Montenegro" (Gordana Petkovic project coordinator in Serbia), Published by United Nations Environmental Programme, SBC, 2005 (pp. 106–271)
- "Environmental Security in South-Eastern Europe", Proceedings of the NATO advanced research workshop on International regulation Implementation for Environmental Security in South Eastern Europe, Venice, Italy (edited by Massimilliano Montini, Slavko Bogdanovic), NATO Science for Peace and Security, Series C: Environmental Security, Springer, Nederland, 2010 (pp.151–165)

She has published several books as editor and co-author, as well as an important member of articles and studies. Numerous publications in International and Serbian Law Journals in the field of environmental protection (waste and chemical management, nature protection, trade and environment, environmental pollution, industrial accidents, spatial planning, climate/environmental refugies, GMO etc).