

Pursuant to Article 14 (2) of the Act on Regulated Professions and Recognition of Foreign Professional Qualifications (»Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia« No. 124/09 and 45/11), the Assembly of the Croatian Chamber of Architects has issued the

## **REGULATION**

### **ON THE RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE**

#### Article 1

(1) The present Regulation prescribes the requirements and the procedure for the recognition of foreign professional qualifications to practice regulated architectural profession to nationals of the European Union and the European Economic Area Member States (hereinafter: the EEA Member States), as well as the general system of recognition of foreign professional qualifications.

(2) Gender specific terminology given in the present Regulation, regardless of whether it is used in female or male equivalents, comprises both the female and the male gender.

#### Article 2

Training requirements for architects, deviations from training requirements and acquired architect-specific rights are prescribed in the Act on Regulated Professions and Recognition of Foreign Professional Qualifications (hereinafter: the Act).

#### Article 3

(1) For the purpose of implementation of this Regulation architectural profession is the profession regularly practiced on the basis of the professional title „licensed architect“ and „licensed architect – urban planner“.

(2) It is considered that an individual who has obtained the professional title „licensed architect“ and „licensed architect – urban planner“ in an EEA Member State in accordance with the regulations and by demonstrating exceptional quality in architecture fulfils the requirement to practice the activity referred to in the previous paragraph. In the procedure of the recognition of professional qualification a formal decision of the EEA Member State in which the individual has obtained his or her professional title is accepted as evidence of architectural activity.

#### Article 4

(1) In the procedure of the recognition of a professional qualification for the profession of licensed architect and licensed architect – urban planner, qualifications listed in Annex V of Directive 2005/36/EU of this Regulation are recognized automatically.

(2) If the applicant does not fulfil the requirements for an automatic recognition of a professional qualification stated in the previous paragraph, the general system of recognition of evidence of formal education is used to recognize his or her qualification, in accordance

with the rules that regulate the procedure of the recognition of professional qualifications for the practice of regulated professions, i.e. activities in the Republic of Croatia to the EEA Member States nationals, respecting the principle of reciprocity between the countries.

(3) The procedure of the recognition of a professional qualification stated in paragraph (2) is implemented by a competent body of the Chamber.

### ***Automatic recognition of qualifications***

#### Article 5

(1) According to the principle of automatic recognition of foreign professional qualifications of EU Member States nationals and of nationals of the Contracting States of the Agreement on the European Economic Area (hereinafter: the EEA Contracting States) who have obtained their professional qualification in an EU Member State, i.e. in an EEA Member State, and who intend to practice architecture in the Republic of Croatia, the Chamber acknowledges that their evidence of formal and professional qualification is equally valid as that of the Republic of Croatia.

For an automatic recognition of qualifications it is necessary to submit the following documents:

- Application given in the Annex of this Regulation,
- Evidence of citizenship,
- Certificate of no criminal record,
- Evidence of formal training as set out in Annex V/VI of Directive 2005/36/EU or evidence of professional qualification,
- Certificate of the architect's professional examination, if passing such an exam is prescribed by the regulations of that EEA Member State

(2) The architect shall submit to the Chamber authenticated copies of the documents referred to in paragraph (1) indent 4 and 5 of the present Article, complete with certified translations into the Croatian language done by a permanent court interpreter, and plain copies and non certified translations of other documents.

#### Article 6

##### General system of recognition

(1) The Chamber implements the general system of recognition of foreign professional qualifications that pertain to EEA States nationals and nationals of the Republic of Croatia who have obtained their professional qualifications in an EEA State, but are not in the system of the automatic recognition.

(2) For the recognition of foreign professional qualifications it is necessary to submit the following documents:

- Application given in the Annex of this Regulation,
- Evidence of citizenship,
- Certificate of no criminal record,
- Evidence of formal training as set out in Annex V/VI of Directive 2005/36/EU or evidence of professional qualification,

- Certificate of the architect's professional examination, if passing such an exam is prescribed by the regulations of that EEA Member State

(3) The architect shall submit to the Chamber authenticated copies of the documents referred to in paragraph (2) indent 4 and 5 of the present Article, complete with certified translations into the Croatian language done by a permanent court interpreter, and plain copies and non certified translations of other documents

#### Article 7

(1) The Chamber implements the general system of recognition of foreign professional qualifications that pertain to EEA States nationals and nationals of the Republic of Croatia who have obtained their professional qualifications outside EEA States.

(2) For the recognition of foreign professional qualifications it is necessary to submit the following documents:

- Application given in the Annex of this Regulation,
- Evidence of citizenship,
- Certificate of no criminal record,
- Evidence of formal training and evidence of professional qualification,
- Certificate of the architect's professional examination,
- Supplementary document about the studies (diploma supplement) or the educational programme,
- Evidence of professional development or professional education and training
- Evidence of professional experience

(3) The architect shall submit to the Chamber authenticated copies of the documents referred to in paragraph (2) indent 4 to 8 of the present Article, complete with certified translations into the Croatian language done by a permanent court interpreter, and plain copies and non certified translations of other documents.

(4) In the case when another EEA State has already recognised an EEA State national's qualification obtained outside EEA States, the following documents need to be submitted for the recognition of foreign professional qualifications:

- Application given in the Annex of this Regulation,
- Evidence of citizenship,
- Certificate of no criminal record,
- Evidence of formal training and evidence of professional qualification,
- Decision of the EEA State on the recognition of the professional qualification,
- Verification provided by the same EEA State that shows 3 years of professional experience within its borders, in accordance with the current regulations in that country

(5) The architect shall submit to the Chamber authenticated copies of the documents referred to in paragraph (4) indent 4 and 5 of the present Article, complete with certified translations into the Croatian language done by a permanent court interpreter, and plain copies and non certified translations of other documents.

(6) Prior to the implementation of the procedure of the recognition of foreign professional qualifications for candidates referred to in paragraph (1), the Chamber is entitled to make a comparison between the education, professional development, professional training and the

manner of practicing the profession in the country where the professional qualification was obtained and the conditions in the Republic of Croatia.

#### Article 8

(1) The Chamber implements the general system of recognition of foreign professional qualifications to third country nationals who have obtained their qualifications outside EEA States.

(2) For the recognition of foreign professional qualifications it is necessary to submit the following documents:

- Application given in the Annex of this Regulation,
- Evidence of citizenship,
- Certificate of no criminal record,
- Evidence of formal training and evidence of professional qualification,
- Certificate of the architect's professional examination,
- Supplementary document about the studies (diploma supplement) or the educational programme,
- Evidence of professional development or professional education and training
- Evidence of professional experience

(3) The architect shall submit to the Chamber authenticated copies of the documents referred to in paragraph (2) indent 4 to 8 of the present Article, complete with certified translations into the Croatian language done by a permanent court interpreter, and plain copies and non certified translations of other documents.

(4) Prior to the implementation of the procedure of the recognition of foreign professional qualifications for candidates referred to in paragraph (1), the Chamber is entitled to make a comparison between the education, professional development, professional training and the manner of practicing the profession in the country where the professional qualification was obtained and the conditions in the Republic of Croatia.

#### Article 9

(1) The Chamber implements the general system of recognition of foreign professional qualifications to third country nationals who have obtained their professional qualifications in an EEA State.

(2) For the recognition of foreign professional qualifications it is necessary to submit the following documents:

- Application given in the Annex of this Regulation,
- Evidence of citizenship,
- Certificate of no criminal record,
- Evidence of formal training and evidence of professional qualification,
- Certificate of the architect's professional examination,
- Supplementary document about the studies (diploma supplement) or the educational programme,
- Evidence of professional development or professional education and training

– Evidence of professional experience

(3) The architect shall submit to the Chamber authenticated copies of the documents referred to in paragraph (2) indent 4 to 8 of the present Article, complete with certified translations into the Croatian language done by a permanent court interpreter, and plain copies and non certified translations of other documents

(4) Prior to the implementation of the procedure of the recognition of foreign professional qualifications for candidates referred to in paragraph (1), the Chamber is entitled to make a comparison between the education, professional development, professional training and the manner of practicing the profession in the country where the professional qualification was obtained and the conditions in the Republic of Croatia.

#### Article 10

In the procedure in which a party is undergoing the recognition of foreign professional qualification, the Chamber is entitled to seek expert opinion about the educational part of the qualification from the Agency for Science and Higher Education.

#### Article 11

(1) If the competent body decides that the candidate's qualifications do not comply with requirements, i.e. that there are significant differences between the candidate's professional qualifications and professional qualifications required for the practice of architecture in the Republic of Croatia, the candidate will be asked to choose one of the following additional measures:

- That the candidate obtains verification of professional education and training, or
- That the candidate undergoes an adjustment period of up to three years.

(2) The procedure stated in the previous paragraphs of this Article is conducted in accordance with the Law.

(3) Having successfully implemented the procedure, the Chamber issues a decision on the recognition of the foreign professional qualification.

#### Article 12

(1) The Chamber will issue a decision on the application and deliver it to the candidate no later than 3 months after the submission of the application.

(2) By way of derogation, if it is not possible to issue a decision referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article, the Chamber will notify the architect on the deferment of the decision, explain its reasons, and ask him to provide additional information or to present additional documents.

(3) In case of the deferment stated in paragraph (2) of this Article, the Chamber will issue a decision within 30 days after the completed documentation was received.

(4) If the Chamber fails to meet the deadlines stated in paragraphs (1) and (3) of this Article, the application will be considered approved. The architect is entitled to ask the Chamber to issue a decision which confirms that his application has been approved. The Chamber shall issue such a decision within 8 days of receipt of the architect's request.

(5) The candidate has the right to appeal to the competent Ministry against the decision stated in paragraph (1). The candidate does not have the right to appeal against the decision of the competent Ministry, but he or she can initiate an administrative dispute.

### Article 13

For services provided temporarily and occasionally, on the basis of foreign professional qualifications, provisions of Articles 4 and 10 of the Act on Regulated Professions and Recognition of Foreign Professional Qualifications, as well as the provisions of the Regulation on the Registration in the CCA Directories will be applied.

## ***Transitional and Final Provisions***

### Article 14

Annexes I and II to this Regulation form an integral part of this Regulation.

### Article 15

The Assembly of the Chamber is authorised for the interpretation of this Regulation.

### Article 16

With the present Regulation coming into force, the Regulation on the Recognition of Foreign Professional Qualifications for the Practice of Architecture of 27 June 2013 is annulled.

### Article 17

The present Regulation shall come into force on the day of its adoption by the Assembly of the Chamber.

Class:  
Reg. no:  
Zagreb, 13 December 2013

President of the Croatian Chamber of Architects  
**Tomislav Ćurković, licensed architect, m. p.**