

primijeniti načela međunarodnog prava na konkretnim slučajevima Hrvatske i Slovenije, i koji je poznavao narav komunizma kao totalitarnog režima. Papin pritisak bio je odlučujući činitelj kod priznanja Republike Hrvatske.

Potpunu međunarodnu afirmaciju i vrhunac diplomatske borbe za međunarodno i diplomatsko priznanje Republika Hrvatska postigla je 22. svibnja 1992. kada je kao 178. članica akamacijom primljena u Organizaciju ujedinjenih naroda.

Međunarodno i diplomatsko priznanje dalo je snažan poticaj hrvatskom državnom vodstvu da, prvo vlastitim snagama (vojnim prije svega), a kasnije i uz pomoć europske i svjetske diplomacije uspostavi nadzor nad svojim međunarodno priznatim granicama. U tim je godinama Republika Hrvatska, unatoč stalnim iskušenjima (oslobađanje okupiranih područja, pitanje suradnje s Haškim sudom, politika prema Bosni i Hercegovini i dr.), postupno gradila i jačala svoj međunarodni položaj što je dovelo i do njezine pune međunarodne afirmacije oživotvorene pri ulasku u NATO-savez (2009.) te u Europsku uniju (2013.).

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**On Gaining the Independence of the Republic of Croatia  
and Its International and Diplomatic Affirmation:  
Between Opposition and Approval**

On June 25, 1991, the Croatian Parliament passed the Constitutional Decision on Sovereignty and Independence and passed the Declaration on the Establishment of the Sovereign and Independent Republic of Croatia. In doing so, the Parliament declared and formalized the will of the people and citizens of the Republic of Croatia, which was expressed at a

referendum held five weeks earlier. By adopting these documents, and without the possibility of reaching a new political agreement that would dissolve the Yugoslav state and solve the political crisis, Croatia entered the final phase of its independence-gaining process. However, inner Yugoslav and additional international circumstances and relations did not provide a favourable framework for the Croatian independence. In this process, Croatia had to overcome a number of obstacles, an overall lack of understanding, even resistance. Having understood the pressure of decisive Croatian political leadership and the brutality of the Serbian armed aggression, a number of actors on the international stage gradually built their acceptance of the Croatian decision to leave the SFRY. They saw it as the only rational answer to the Yugoslav crisis and the growing Greater Serbian nationalism and expansionism. Three decades after these historic decisions of the Croatian Parliament, it is now a good time to remember the key national political and international legal acts that have led to the international and diplomatic affirmation, as well as the recognition of the Republic of Croatia. This is an opportunity to highlight the local and international stakeholders who resisted this process, as well as those who supported it.

Key words: *Republic of Croatia, 1991, independence referendum, international and diplomatic recognition*