

# LAW ON THE TERRITORIES OF ŽUPANIJAS, TOWNS AND MUNICIPALITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. General Provisions.....	1
Article 1 .....	1
Article 2 .....	1
Article 3 .....	2
Article 4 .....	2
Article 5 .....	2
II. Territories of Županijas, Towns and Municipalities .....	3
I. Zagreb Županija.....	3
Article 6 .....	3
II. Krapina-Zagorje Županija .....	3
Article 7 .....	3
III. Sisak-Moslavina Županija.....	4
Article 8 .....	4
IV. Karlovac Županija.....	4
Article 9 .....	4
V. Varaždin Županija.....	5
Article 10 .....	5
VI. Koprivnica-Križevci Županija .....	5
Article 11 .....	5
VII. Bjelovar-Bilogora Županija .....	6
Article 12 .....	6
VIII. Primorje-Gorski Kotar Županija .....	6
Article 13 .....	6
IX. Lika-Senj Županija.....	7
Article 14 .....	7
X. Virovitica-Podravina Županija.....	7
Article 15 .....	7
XI. Požega-Slavonija Županija .....	8
Article 16 .....	8
XII. Brod-Posavina Županija .....	8
Article 17 .....	8
XIII. Zadar Županija.....	9
Article 18 .....	9
XIV. Osijek-Baranja Županija .....	9
Article 19 .....	9
XV. Šibenik-Knin Županija .....	10
Article 20 .....	10

XVI. Vukovar-Srijem Županija .....	10
Article 21 .....	10
XVII. Split-Dalmacija Županija.....	11
Article 22 .....	11
XVIII. Istra Županija.....	11
Article 23 .....	11
XIX. Dubrovnik-Neretva Županija .....	12
Article 24 .....	12
XX. Međimurje Županija.....	12
Article 25 .....	12
III. Borders of Units of Local Self-Administration.....	13
Article 27 .....	13
Article 28 .....	13
Article 29 .....	13
IV. Changes to Territories, Changes to Centres and Establishment of New Units of Local Self-Administration.....	14
Article 30 .....	14
Article 31 .....	14
V. Transitional and Final Provisions .....	14
Article 32 .....	14
Article 33 .....	15
Article 34 .....	15
Article 35 .....	15
Article 36 .....	16
Article 37 .....	16
Article 38 .....	16

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**SABOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

Pursuant to Article 89 of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, I bring forward the following

**DECISION**

**ON THE PROCLAMATION OF THE LAW ON THE TERRITORIES OF ŽUPANIJAS, TOWNS AND MUNICIPALITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

I hereby proclaim the Law on the Territories of Županijas, Towns, and Municipalities in the Republic of Croatia which was passed by the Republic of Croatia Sabor House of Representatives at the session on January 17, 1997.

No: 01-97-117/1  
Zagreb, January 23, 1997

President of the Republic of Croatia

*Dr. Franjo Tuđman*

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**LAW ON THE TERRITORIES OF ŽUPANIJAS, TOWNS AND MUNICIPALITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

***I. GENERAL PROVISIONS***

**Article 1**

This Law determines županijas, towns, and municipalities in the Republic of Croatia, their names, territory and centre, and it also regulates other matters of importance for the territorial structure of the units of self-administration, i.e. units of local administration and self-administration.

**Article 2**

Županijas in the territory of the Republic of Croatia are as follows:

- I. Zagreb Županija with centre in the city of Zagreb
- II. Krapina-Zagorje Županija with centre in Krapina

- III. Sisak-Moslavina Županija with centre in Sisak
- IV. Karlovac Županija with centre in Karlovac
- V. Varaždin Županija with centre in Varaždin
- VI. Koprivnica - Križevci Županija with centre in Koprivnica
- VII. Bjelovar-Bilogora Županija with centre in Bjelovar
- VIII. Primorje-Gorski Kotar Županija with centre in Rijeka
- IX. Lika Senj Županija with centre in Gospić
- X. Virovitica-Podravina Županija with centre in Virovitica
- XI. Požega-Slavonija Županija with centre in Požega
- XII. Brod-Posavina Županija with centre in Slavonski Brod
- XIII. Zadar Županija with centre in Zadar
- XIV. Osijek-Baranja Županija with centre in Osijek
- XV. Šibenik-Knin Županija with centre in Šibenik
- XVI. Vukovar-Srijem Županija with centre in Vukovar
- XVII. Split-Dalmacija Županija with centre in Split
- XVIII. Istra Županija with centre in Pazin
- XIX. Dubrovnik-Neretva Županija with centre in Dubrovnik
- XX. Međimurje Županija with centre in Čakovec

### **Article 3**

The city of Zagreb, as the capital city of Croatia, is a special and integral territorial and administrative unit whose structure shall be regulated by the Law on the City of Zagreb.

### **Article 4**

The territory of županijas, towns and municipalities in the Republic of Croatia is regulated by this Law, unless otherwise specified by a special regulation.

### **Article 5**

The name of municipality, town, i.e. županija, is regulated by this Law according to the name of the settlement where the centre of the representative body of the unit of local self-administration i.e. units of the local administration and self-administration, is located.

The name of the municipality, town, and županija can also be regulated according to historic or geographic characteristic.

## ***II. TERRITORIES OF ŽUPANIJAS, TOWNS AND MUNICIPALITIES***

### **I. ZAGREB ŽUPANIJA**

#### **Article 6**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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### **II. KRAPINA-ZAGORJE ŽUPANIJA**

#### **Article 7**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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### III. SISAK-MOSLAVINA ŽUPANIJA

#### Article 8

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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### IV. KARLOVAC ŽUPANIJA

#### Article 9

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## V. VARAŽDIN ŽUPANIJA

### Article 10

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## VI. KOPRIVNICA-KRIŽEVCI ŽUPANIJA

### Article 11

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## VII. BJELOVAR-BILOGORA ŽUPANIJA

### Article 12

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## VIII. PRIMORJE-GORSKI KOTAR ŽUPANIJA

### Article 13

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## IX. LIKA-SENJ ŽUPANIJA

### Article 14

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## X. VIROVITICA-PODRAVINA ŽUPANIJA

### Article 15

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## **XI. POŽEGA-SLAVONIJA ŽUPANIJA**

### **Article 16**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## **XII. BROD-POSAVINA ŽUPANIJA**

### **Article 17**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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### **XIII. ZADAR ŽUPANIJA**

#### **Article 18**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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### **XIV. OSIJEK-BARANJA ŽUPANIJA**

#### **Article 19**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## **XV. ŠIBENIK-KNIN ŽUPANIJA**

### **Article 20**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## **XVI. VUKOVAR-SRIJEM ŽUPANIJA**

### **Article 21**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## **XVII. SPLIT-DALMACIJA ŽUPANIJA**

### **Article 22**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## **XVIII. ISTRA ŽUPANIJA**

### **Article 23**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## **XIX. DUBROVNIK-NERETVA ŽUPANIJA**

### **Article 24**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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## **XX. MEĐIMURJE ŽUPANIJA**

### **Article 25**

The Županija is composed of the following towns and municipalities which the listed settlements are becoming part of:

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Town	Municipality	Settlements
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### ***III. BORDERS OF UNITS OF LOCAL SELF-ADMINISTRATION***

#### **Article 27**

Borders of municipalities, i.e. towns, as a rule represent the borders of the bordering cadastral municipalities.

When the borders of peripheral cadastral municipalities do not correspond to the borders of the peripheral settlements, i.e. places entering the composition of a certain municipality, i.e. town, the border is considered to be the border of the peripheral settlements as presented in the official registry of the territorial units.

If the borders of the peripheral cadastral units, i.e. settlements, are not unambiguously presented in the official registries of the territorial units, the neighbouring units of local self-administration shall decide on the borders by agreement.

#### **Article 28**

Units of local self-administration may change the mutual borders by agreement.

The decision on changing the borders of units of local self-administration from Paragraph 1 of this Article is made by the representative bodies by simple majority of votes of all members, on the proposal of the leadership, upon obtaining the opinion of the population in the territory to which the change relates.

On the basis of the decision of the representative body, the leadership heads shall reach an agreement, in which the borders are described in writing. A map is an obligatory part of the agreement. The signed agreement shall be forwarded to the Ministry of Administration, the State Geodetic Administration and the State Institute for statistics.

#### **Article 29**

If the units of local self-administration fail to co-ordinate borders through an agreement, i.e. when a representative body of a certain unit of local self-administration proposes a change to the border for economic, transportation or other reasons, a Commission of the Government of the Republic of Croatia for borders of units of local self-administration (hereafter: Commission) shall decide about the borders, upon obtaining the opinion of the population of the territory to which the change relates.

The Government of the Republic of Croatia shall determine the composition and the manner of work of the Commissioner, as well as adopt the Rules of Procedure for its work.

The Government of the Republic of Croatia shall appoint the Chairperson, members and secretary of the Commission within 30 days after this Law enters into effect.

A grievance against a decision of the Commission may be presented to the Government of the Republic of Croatia within 30 days of the delivery of the decision.

#### ***IV. CHANGES TO TERRITORIES, CHANGES TO CENTRES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW UNITS OF LOCAL SELF-ADMINISTRATION***

##### **Article 30**

Changes to territories or centres of units of local self-administration, as well as the establishment of new units of local self-administration, can be proposed by the representative body of the unit, i.e. one-third of the citizens with residence in the territory requesting the change, i.e. in the territory of the unit of local self-administration.

Insofar as the proposal is made by a representative body, it is obligated to obtain the opinion of the citizens in the territory requesting the change. If the proposal is made by the citizens, they are obligated to obtain the opinion of the representative body.

The proposer of the territorial changes or centre of units of local self-administration, i.e. the proposer for the establishment of new units, is obligated to obtain the opinion of the Županija Assembly in the territory of the unit of local self-administration for which a change or establishment is requested.

The proposer of changes to the centre of an existing unit of local self-administration, as well as the proposer for the establishment of a new unit of local self-administration, is obligated to submit the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance to the proposed change, or if the establishment of a new unit of local self-administration is requested, a proposal for the source of financing all liabilities of the unit of local self-administration, as prescribed by special laws.

##### **Article 31**

A change to the territory of a unit of local administration and self-administration can be proposed by the representative body of the unit, i.e. one-third of the unit of local self-administration from the territory of the unit of local administration and self-administration.

#### ***V. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS***

##### **Article 32**

Existing representative bodies of the units of local self-administration, i.e. units of local administration and self-administration whose territories have been altered, shall continue to work

in the previous jurisdiction and with the previous territorial authority until the constitution of new representative bodies of the units of local self-administration, i.e. units of local administration and self-administration.

### **Article 33**

Newly formed units of local self-administration shall form administrative bodies within 30 days following the election of the leadership.

The tasks of the administrative bodies of the units of local self-administration formed by this Law, and the administrative bodies of the units of local self-administration to which territories of other towns and municipalities have been annexed, shall be performed by the previous towns and municipalities until the administrative bodies from Paragraph 1 of this Article are formed and until matters are taken over.

### **Article 34**

The administrative bodies of newly formed units of local self-administration and administration, as well as the administrative bodies of the units of local self-administration to which a part of the territory of other towns and municipalities has been annexed, shall take-over work matters, as well as archive matters and the documentation of the administration bodies of the towns and municipalities related to their territories. Matters and documentation shall be taken over by the commissions for the take-over of matters and documentation. Commissions for the take-over of matters and documentation have three members, one appointed by each unit of local self-administration appoints, and one by the Župan.

### **Article 35**

Units of local self-administration whose territory has been changed, i.e. newly formed units of local self-administration, shall reach an agreement within six months of constituting new municipalities by which it shall divide property, as well as rights and obligations in accordance with the territorial changes determined by this Law. The agreement shall be forwarded to the ministry in charge of affairs of the local self-administration within 10 days of being signed.

If the units of local self-administration fail to reach an agreement within the deadline specified in Paragraph 1 of this Article, they are obligated to inform the ministry in charge of affairs of the local self-administration within 15 of the end of the deadline.

In the case from Paragraph 2 of this Article, the division of property, rights and obligations of the units of local self-administration shall be decided upon by the Commission of the Government of the Republic of Croatia for settling disputes on the rights of municipalities, towns and županijas.

**Article 36**

The Law on the Territories of Županijas, Towns and Municipalities in the Republic of Croatia (*Narodne Novine*, no. 90/92, 2/93, 58/93, 90/93, 10/94 and 29/94) ceases to be valid the day this Law enters into effect.

**Article 37**

Article 3 of the Law on the Zagreb Županija (*Narodne Novine*, no. 69/95) ceases to be valid on the day this Law enters into effect.

**Article 38**

This Law enters into effect eight days after being published in *Narodne Novine*.

Class: 015-02/96-01/03  
Zagreb, January 17, 1997

SABOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Speaker  
Sabor House of Representative

*Academician Vlatko Pavletić*