

(courtesy translation)

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The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia presents its compliments to the Diplomatic Missions of the EU Member States accredited to the Republic of Croatia, and has the honour to inform that as of the date of accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union, representation offices of foreign entities from the EU member states will not be required to register as such but, in order to be able to continue working on the Croatian market, the representation offices will have to be transformed and registered as either branch offices or companies.

Enclosed, please find the official announcement of the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Croatia together with the list and information of the representative offices in the Republic of Croatia. For further information contact Ms. Višnja Bengez, tel: 01/6106981, e-mail: [visnja.bengez@mingo.hr](mailto:visnja.bengez@mingo.hr) at the Ministry of Economy.

The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Diplomatic Missions of the EU Member States accredited to the Republic of Croatia the assurances of its highest consideration.

Zagreb, April 8, 2013

**DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS  
OF THE EU MEMBER STATES  
ACCREDITED TO THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

**OPERATION OF REPRESENTATION OFFICES FROM EU MEMBER STATES  
WHEN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA HAS ACCEDED TO THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Representation offices of foreign entities in the Republic of Croatia have been registered with the Register of Representation Offices on the basis of the Ordinance of the Government of the Republic of Croatia on Requirements for Establishment and Operation of Representation Offices of Foreign Entities in the Republic of Croatia (Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia 21/09). This Ordinance was issued pursuant to Article 52 paragraph 6 of the Trade Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia 87/08, 96/08, 116/08, 114/11).

Pursuant to Article 83 of the Trade Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia 87/08, 96/08, 116/08, 114/11), as of the date of accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union, **Article 52 of the Act shall cease**, but only in relation to the **Member States of the European Union**, whereas **the obligation to register foreign representation offices shall remain for Third States and the states of the European Economic Area that are not Member States of the European Union.**

Considering that commercial activity is regulated in the Trade Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia 152/11, 57/112) through establishing subsidiaries and companies, the founders of representation offices coming from Member States of the European Union that are already registered with the Register of Representation Offices kept with the Ministry for Economic Affairs, who intend to continue their operation on the territory of the Republic of Croatia, shall change the form of their operation in such a manner as to register with the Companies Register as a subsidiary or company.

Once the Republic of Croatia has acceded to the European Union, commercial entities from EU Member States shall no longer be able to open representation offices in the Republic of Croatia, but only to register as a subsidiaries or companies.

The existing representation offices from Member States of the European Union shall not need to apply to be stricken from the Register, because it shall be assumed that as of the date of accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union, they ceased to exist *ex lege*.