

SABOR WEEKBOOK

Plenary Session:

Last week, Sabor MPs debated the Amendments to the following Acts: Criminal Procedure Act, Crime Act, Office for Combating Corruption and Organised Crime Act, Roads Act, and State Archives Act. The session continues 29 March.

Parliamentary Activities:

- **March 20:**

Sabor Speaker Bozo Petrov (MOST) participated at the Croatia We Need conference.

- **March 22:**

The members of the Agriculture Committee and European Affairs Committee met with Phil Hogan, EU Commissioner for Agriculture & Rural Development.

Committees:

- **March 22:**

The Finance and Central Budget Committee discussed the decision on the election of auditors of the company that will audit the financial statements of the Croatian National Bank (HNB).

- **March 23:**

The Committee on Maritime Affairs, Transportation and Infrastructure discussed the position of the Republic of Croatia on the European Parliament and European Council regulatory proposal for establishing bodies of European Regulators for electronic communications.

FEATURED MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Irena Petrijevcanin Vuksanovic (HDZ)

Irena Petrijevcanin Vuksanovic, PhD, is a 38-year old Member of the Parliament (MP) who recently entered politics. In the Parliament, she is known

for her constructive approach to issues and debate absent of demagoguery. Because of her long surname, she likes to be called Irena. Irena entered

politics during a very turbulent time in Croatian politics and, nevertheless, she is a very active MP, confirming her belief that she is doing great.

As a relatively new MP, you began your political career as an Independent and recently became a member of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ). Can you elaborate more about these recent political processes?

Obviously, there was a need for a catharsis on the Croatian political scene. Some political parties have disappeared, some of them changed/adapted and some of them are still changing. We are all taking part in these latest developments and, personally, I stand for honesty and responsible work ethics, as the essential characteristics of politicians.

What is your main objective as an MP?

At the end of my mandate, I want to see that all of my partners and colleagues are satisfied with my work. During my MP term, I don't want to pretend that I'm something that I'm not. Even though I respect the hierarchy in the political party, I'm not giving up on my principles. As an MP, I stand for the principles of equity and social solidarity, human rights and I am against violence of all forms. Moreover, the technological modernisation of the public administration and preservation of natural resources are my main objectives as an MP.



Do you think that politicians should have experience from the private sector?

In my opinion, it is better that politics consists of professionally stable and developed politicians that are using politics as a key tool for social interest, instead of using it for self-interests. Today, while I am an MP, I behave the same way I used to behave when I was not a politician. That is the reason why I don't consider myself an ordinary politician. I'm performing my duties at Parliament, as if it is any other duty or job.

Who is your political role model?

I love the wisdom of Mahatma Gandhi, whose beliefs are, according to my beliefs, a universal truth: "the politics of an eye for an eye will make the whole world blind". It is very important to make new generations aware of the mistakes that can lead to the further deterioration of the society in which we live. Besides Mahatma Gandhi, I would also mention Mother Teresa and the Burmese politician Aung San Suu Ky as my political role models.