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NOVELTIES IN NON-CONTENTIOUS LAW IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Summary: *Having gained its independence, Croatia endeavoured to pass the Law on non-contentious proceedings on several occasions, for which several working groups were established and several bills were drafted. However, each time there seemed to be a lack of determination to actually pass that law. It is difficult to rationally determine the objective reasons therefor. It might be the political unattractiveness of the act, problems in distinguishing between substantive and procedural regulation of particular institutes (especially non-contentious proceedings related to property law), as well as the alleged doubt as to whether the passing of this law is necessary for the legal system. Nevertheless, despite caution suggested by the unrealized normative optimism so far, it seems that this or the beginning of next year at the latest, the Law on Non-contentious Proceedings of the Republic of Croatia could finally be passed. Such optimistic statement is based on the existence of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan for the Republic of Croatia (2021-2026), which envisages the reform of non-contentious law and the adoption of the Law on Non-contentious Proceedings. This article deals with the issues such as the novelties introduced in the general part of the Law that is of exceptional importance regarding all non-contentious proceedings, and with the proceedings to be governed by a special part of the Law. Although the bill of the Law on Non-contentious Proceedings is currently still being drafted, its basic features and reform directions are already noticeable.*

Keywords: *Non-contentious law reform, Law on Non-contentious Proceedings, general and special part of the law, non-contentious property law proceedings*