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BEACH CONCESSIONS AND THE DETERMINATION OF MARITIME DOMAIN BOUNDARIES: LEGAL CHALLENGES AND OPEN ISSUES

Summary: *This paper analyses the normative framework of the legislation of the Republic of Croatia, as well as the existing judicial and administrative practice, in relation to concessions on beaches and the determination of the boundaries of the maritime domain, with the aim of addressing certain unresolved legal issues in this field. Significant ambiguities and practical difficulties persist in the application of the relevant legal provisions governing the institute of the maritime domain and, consequently, concessions granted on beaches, which are inherently linked to the determination of the boundaries of the maritime domain. Considering the legal sensitivity and complexity of legal relations concerning the maritime domain, as well as the undisputed obligation of the State to manage it and ensure its effective protection and efficient utilisation, it is evident that greater and more consistent engagement of all competent authorities and stakeholders is required in these processes. The paper examines the possible influence of the right of ownership on the determination and registration of the maritime domain, that is, on the establishment of its legal status. Furthermore, the paper analyses the registration of the maritime domain in the land register as confirmation of the property-law status of immovable property in relation to the procedure for granting concessions on beaches, as well as the necessity of conducting judicial proceedings for the purpose of recording (registering) the maritime domain in the land register.*

Keywords: *concession, beach, boundary of the maritime domain, legal status of the maritime domain, right of ownership.*