

# **Ms. VESNA RATKOVIC**

## **PERSONAL DATA**

Name: VESNA RATKOVIC, PhD

Place of Birth: Niksic, Republic of Montenegro

Nationality: Montenegrin

## **KEY QUALIFICATIONS**

Ms. Ratkovic has twenty-nine years of progressive experience in working with Government of Montenegro (GOM), international and domestic organizations in project development, management, monitoring and evaluation in Montenegro. Ms. Ratkovic has a Master degree of the Criminal Law and a seasoned judiciary, penitentiary and management specialist experience in working with the Ministry of Justice in Montenegro and USAID/Montenegro to address issues of effective justice system and management. From March 2007, Ms. Ratkovic is director of the Directorate for the Anti-Corruption Initiative. She has high political analytical and diplomatic skills. She is able to communicate across sectors and cultures, and possesses well-developed knowledge of, and experience in using the media to promote an organization and its activities including successful public campaigns. She has demonstrated management skills and experience. Her working languages are Montenegrin and English.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

March 2007 to present

### ***GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF MONTENEGRO***

#### ***DIRECTORATE FOR THE ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE***

##### ***Director***

- Ms. Ratkovic is responsible for co-ordination of activities towards undertaking promotional and preventive activities aimed at effective combating corruption; adoption and implementation of European and international standards and instruments, enhancing the transparency in business and financial operations; other activities that arise from the membership in the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) for the South-Eastern Europe and other international organizations and institutions and other activities delegated to DACI competence.

December 2002 to March 2007

***USAID Serbia & Montenegro Program***

***Program Specialist – Democracy and Governance Office – Montenegro Office***

- Ms. Ratkovic was responsible for providing day-to-day management support to key components of the USAID/Montenegro portfolio of Democracy and Governance (DG) activities pertaining to the reform and development of judiciary sector, and for assisting the DG Advisor in providing technical advice and guidance to senior Mission management, staff, and implementing partner Checchi and Company on the design, implementation, and management of USAID-funded four year ROL activity. Responsible for: Managing the project budget of \$6.7 million; the Cognizant Technical Officer (CTO) for the Montenegro Judicial System Reform Project (MJSRP), also serving as an alternate CTO for ORT NGO Development Program and NDI Political party and Parliamentary program.

January 1995 to December 2002

***Ministry of Justice Montenegro***

***Deputy Minister of Justice – Judiciary and Penitentiary Division***

- In the above referenced period, Ms. Ratkovic was a Deputy Minister of Justice (two mandates) in charge of Judiciary and Penitentiary, where she was directly held accountable by the Minister of Justice and the GOM for: organization and proper functioning of the judiciary and penitentiary systems, comparative law analysis and managing of working groups for drafting laws and regulations pertaining to judiciary and penitentiary, human resource issues in Montenegrin judiciary, financing and budget development issues, development and realization of major reform goals in Montenegrin Judiciary (development of new laws, education, modernization and establishment of the new institutions.) She was also instrumental in planning and problem solving of the most important issues related to Judiciary with the highest representatives of Government, Judiciary and Parliament. She has established excellent cooperation with representatives of domestic and international organizations, institutions and foundations (Council Of Europe, OSCE, European Agency for Reconstruction, ABA/CEELI, Konrad Adenauer, Save the Children, UNICEF, SOS- victims of domestic violence).

November 1992 to January 1995

***Ministry of Justice Montenegro***

***Senior Advisor – Judiciary and Penitentiary Division***

- Senior Adviser and Judiciary inspector, responsible to the Deputy Minister of Justice for enforcement of law by judiciary; working in WG for drafting legislation and by-laws; drafting financial plans for the Judiciary (investments, equipments, etc)

January 1989 to November 1992

***Ministry of Justice Montenegro***

***High Advisor – Judiciary and Penitentiary Division***

- High Advisor responsible to the Deputy Minister of Justice for enforcement of law by judiciary; research and gathering of comparative laws and by-laws in the drafting stage; managing human resources in the judiciary, etc.

March 1982 to January 1989

***Ministry of Justice Montenegro***

***Intern and Advisor - Public Administration Division***

- Advisor responsible to the Deputy Minister of Justice for enforcement of law and by-law by public administration.

March 1981 to March 1982

***Radio and Television of the Republic of Montenegro (RTVCG)***

***Reporter on RTV CG***

- Journalist in the Internal Affairs Department within RTVCG (in charge of reporting from Parliamentary Assemblies and Judiciary)

**EDUCATION**

**2003 – 2008**

**The University of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia**

“Imprisonment and its alternatives”, PhD degree work; Law faculty, Belgrade, Cathedra on Criminal Law

**2002**

Master’s degree in Criminal Law

**1988**

The Bar exam

**October 1975 - October 1979**

The University of Montenegro, Law Faculty Podgorica, Montenegro  
Bachelor, General law degree

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

### **February 2007- to present**

Member of the National Commission for Monitoring the Implementation of the Action Plan for Combating Corruption and Organized Crime

### **March 2007- to present**

RAI Senior representative for the Republic of Montenegro and Chairperson of Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI)

### **March 2007- to present**

Head of the Montenegrin delegation in GRECO

### **September 2004 – to present**

Founding member of the International Association for court administration