

**LAW ON DISPLACED PERSONS AND RETURNEES IN THE FEDERATION OF BOSNIA  
AND HERZEGOVINA AND REFUGEES FROM BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA  
(FBiH Official Gazette, no. 15/05 of 16 March 2005)**

**I GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 1**

This Law shall regulate: basic rights and obligations of displaced persons and returnees, the acquisition and cessation of their status, their return to permanent residences where they have been expelled from (hereinafter: the residence), method of keeping registers of those persons, provision of resources for the return and exercise of other rights, as well as other issues with regard to the rights and obligations of those persons in the territory of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: the Federation).

**Article 2**

The issues regarding displaced persons and returnees in the Federation and refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be regulated in accordance with the Law on Refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Displaced Persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH Official Gazette, no. 23/99, 21/03 and 33/03), this Law and Cantonal regulations.

**Article 3**

The responsible Federation, Cantonal and municipal authorities shall, in accordance with the Constitution of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cantonal Constitutions, this Law and other regulations and documents, be obliged to encourage return and to create political, economic and social conditions conducive to voluntary, safe and sustainable return of displaced persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina and refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**II RECOGNITION AND CESSATION OF THE STATUS OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND  
RETURNEES IN THE FEDERATION**

**Article 4**

A displaced person, under this Law, is a citizen of Bosnia and Herzegovina who, after 30 April 1991, has been displaced in the territory of the Federation as a result of conflict, persecution, a well-founded fear of being persecuted or having his/her rights violated within the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and who is neither able to return in safety and with dignity to his/her former place of residence nor has voluntarily decided to settle in a new place of living.

**Article 5**

A returnee is a refugee from Bosnia and Herzegovina or a displaced person who has expressed wish to return to his/her former place of residence to the responsible body and who is in the process of returning, as well as a refugee from Bosnia and Herzegovina and a displaced person who has returned to his/her former place of residence.

Returnees shall cease to be considered returnees upon the expiry of a six-month deadline, counting from the day of their re-establishment in their former place of residence – address of their former place of residence.

Returnee, under this Law, is not a person who has established himself/herself in another place of residence within Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Article 6**

A refugee from Bosnia and Herzegovina, under this Law, is a citizen of Bosnia and Herzegovina who is outside of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and who has been expelled from his/her residence or left his/her place of residence in Bosnia and Herzegovina and escaped abroad, after 30 April 1991, due to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, affiliation with a particular social group or his/her political opinion, and who is neither able to return in safety and with dignity to his/her former place of residence nor has voluntarily decided to settle permanently outside of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The status of displaced person shall be recognized to a refugee from Bosnia and Herzegovina who has returned to Bosnia and Herzegovina and who is neither able to return in safety and dignity to his/her former place of permanent residence, nor has decided to take up permanent residence elsewhere in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### **Article 7**

Recognition and cessation of the status of displaced person, under this Law, as well as recognition of their rights and obligations, shall be decided upon by the responsible Cantonal body identified by the Cantonal regulation.

An appeal against the decision referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article can be filed with the Federation Ministry for Displaced Persons and Refugees (hereinafter: the Federation Ministry), within 15 days from the receipt of the decision.

An administrative dispute can be initiated against the decision referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article.

Rights and obligations of displaced persons and returnees, defined by Cantonal regulations, shall be decided upon by the responsible body identified by the Cantonal regulations.

#### **Article 8**

The status of displaced person shall be recognized from the day a displaced person or a returnee filed an application requesting the recognition of such a status.

A displaced person identification card shall be issued to a person whom the status of displaced person has been recognized.

At the request of a returnee himself/herself, the responsible department shall issue a certificate on the status of returnee.

The Federation Minister in charge of displaced persons and refugees (hereinafter: the Minister) shall pass the regulation on the form of the card referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article.

#### **Article 9**

The status of displaced person shall not be recognized to a person who has been found guilty of a crime against humanity and International Law by a legally binding decision of the International Crime Tribunal for ex-Yugoslavia or by the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina and such a person shall have his/her status of displaced person re-recognized once his/her sentence is fully served.

#### **Article 10**

The status of displaced person shall cease:

1. upon voluntary return to his/her former place of residence;
2. if he/she refuses to return to his/her former place of residence, although return to his/her former place of residence, in safety and with dignity, is possible, and if there are no compelling reasons arising out of previous persecution or other strong humanitarian reasons;
3. when a displaced person has voluntarily decided to permanently settle elsewhere in the territory of the Federation;
4. when a displaced person has made a free use of his/her pre-war property in his/her former place of permanent residence (sale, exchange, rent);
5. when a displaced person has made a free use of his/her property in his/her place of temporary residence (purchase or construction of house, apartment);
6. when a displaced person has used assistance/donation for an urgent repair of his/her house, apartment in his/her place of permanent/temporary residence;
7. in case of death.

### **III RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND RETURNEES**

#### **Article 11**

Persons whose status of displaced person and returnee has been recognized shall be temporarily provided with the following rights:

1. assistance in basic repair of his/her own apartments and houses;
2. loans or donations for initiating businesses for generating income for themselves and their families;
3. temporary accommodation;
4. necessary food;
5. social reintegration and psychological support;
6. health care;
7. education of children and youth;
8. other necessary living essentials.

A returnee shall not lose the right to receive assistance for sustainable return and assistance in basic repair of his/her own apartment or house after the cessation of the status.

The Cantons may, depending on their financial situation, define other rights of persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

### **Article 12**

A temporary accommodation, under Article 11, paragraph 1, item 3 of this Law, refers to a residing space provided to persons referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of this Law, together with their family members, while the size of the allocated accommodation shall be determined according to the number and age of these persons.

The temporary accommodation shall be provided for in: reception-transit centers, collective centers, settlements that have been constructed, reconstructed or renovated for the purpose of accommodating persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, as well as in the apartments and houses of host families and in the available apartments.

Such accommodation shall not be allocated if those persons have disposable funds, including income, which are sufficient to cover their accommodation needs.

The responsible Cantonal-municipal body shall specify a minimum threshold of disposable funds from paragraph 3 of this Article, equivalent to the threshold of funds determined under the Law on Cessation of Application of the Law on Abandoned Apartments (FBiH Official Gazette, no. 11/98, 38/98, 12/99, 18/99, 27/99, 43/99, 65/01, 15/02 and 24/03) and the Law on Cessation of Application of the Law on Temporarily Abandoned Real Property Owned by Citizens (FBiH Official Gazette, no. 11/98, 29/98, 27/99, 43/99, 37/01, 56/01, 15/02 and 24/03).

In cases where a displaced person or a returnee has regulated his/her accommodation pursuant to the Law on Cessation of Application of the Law on Abandoned Apartments and the Law on Cessation of Application of the Law on Temporarily Abandoned real Property Owned by Citizens and with the approval of the responsible body, and has been requested to vacate his/her current accommodation, s/he shall have the right to another adequate accommodation in accordance with this Law and in the manner and under the conditions determined by the Cantonal regulations on housing relations.

This provision shall be applied to persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article in cases where it has been determined that they occupy a house or an apartment without the approval of a responsible body and are unable to return to their former place of residence, what shall be *ex officio* verified by the responsible body.

### **Article 13**

A reception-transit center refers to a covered space consisting of one or more function-wise rooms.

The reception-transit center has to provide for the rooms designed as: a kitchen with a dining room, a laundry room, a bathroom and a WC, a space for a living room and bedrooms.

The minimum accommodation capacity of a reception-transit center is 40 persons, securing at least 5 m<sup>2</sup> per person.

The reception-transit center shall be used for the accommodation of persons referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of this Law until another accommodation is provided to them, and at most for 90 days from the day of their admission.

#### **Article 14**

A collective center refers to a covered space designed for various purposes, which shall be used in case of a specific need for temporary accommodation of persons referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of this Law, until they are provided with another, permanent accommodation.

The space used as a collective center has to meet one elementary requirement, which is to have one or more function-wise rooms, connected in the manner ensuring necessary feeding and sleeping arrangements, as well as hygiene maintenance and residing.

The minimum accommodation capacity of a collective center is 40 persons, with at least 5 m<sup>2</sup> per person.

#### **Article 15**

A settlement built or reconstructed for the purpose of accommodating persons referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of this Law refers to a number of housing and other units, constructed or reconstructed within a limited space, providing for the minimum of 6-8 m<sup>2</sup> per person within each housing unit.

The settlement referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article has to meet the requirements necessary to ensure feeding and sleeping arrangements, hygiene maintenance and other conditions with regard to residing of these persons.

#### **Article 16**

Available apartments refer to apartments that provide for the minimum of 8-10 m<sup>2</sup> per person and that can be used for the temporary accommodation of persons referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of this Law, in the manner and under the conditions prescribed by Cantonal regulations and regulations on housing relations.

#### **Article 17**

Exceptionally, and with a view to achieving the necessary minimum requirements for accommodating persons referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of this Law, the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: the Federation Government) shall, with the consent of a Cantonal government, select particular units within a canton, which are of the Federation interest, for temporary accommodation of those persons.

#### **Article 18**

The right to food supplies, social reintegration and psychological support, health care, education of children and youth and other living necessities shall be provided to persons referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of this Law, in accordance with this Law, Cantonal regulations and other regulations from the area of social care.

#### **Article 19**

The extent of rights prescribed in Article 11, points 3 through 8, of this Law shall be determined depending on whether a person referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of this Law is employed or not, whether s/he is a pensioner, a social welfare beneficiary, a dependent, or whether s/he makes income based on any other grounds whatsoever.

If a person referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article does not exercise the rights stated in paragraph 1 of this Article, those rights shall be exercised in accordance with Cantonal regulations.

#### **Article 20**

Displaced persons and returnees shall be obliged to notify the responsible Cantonal body of any circumstance affecting the extent and cessation of rights referred to in Article 11 of this Law, within 15 days from the day of manifestation of such a circumstance.

The circumstances referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be *ex officio* checked by the responsible body.

### **IV RETURN OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES FROM BiH TO THE TERRITORY OF THE FEDERATION**

#### **Article 21**

The persons referred to in Articles 4, 5, and 6 of this Law shall have the right to return freely to their former place of residence or to another place of their choice, without any risk of intimidation, terrorizing, persecution or discrimination based on sex, violence based on sex, harassment and sexual and gender-related harassment.

Returnees referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be, regardless the method of their return, obliged to register with the responsible municipal body for the purpose of keeping record on them.

With a view to creating conditions for the return of persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the responsible bodies of the Federation, Canton and municipality shall undertake all necessary measures, such as: ensuring freedom of movement, compliance with human rights and fundamental freedoms, increased residing security in the place of the return, return of property to owners, construction and reconstruction of houses and apartments, creation of conditions for sustainable return and other conditions affecting safe and dignified return of displaced persons and refugees, etc.

#### **Article 22**

To ensure uniform and harmonized realization of objectives identified by Annex VII of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina throughout the territory of BiH, the activities referred to in Article 21, paragraph 3 of this Law shall be coordinated within the Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The status and competency of the Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons is regulated by the Law on Refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Displaced Persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### **Article 23**

With a view to creating conditions necessary for the return of persons referred to in Articles 4, 5 and 6 of this Law, plans of return and repatriation of those persons for the territory of the Federation and cantons shall be made by the responsible Federation bodies, in cooperation with the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees).

#### **Article 24**

The Federation Government shall adopt the grounds for drafting the Plan of Return referred to in Article 25 of this Law, at the proposal of the Federation Ministry.

#### **Article 25**

Plan referred to in Article 23 of this Law for the territory of the Federation shall be adopted by the Federation Government, and for the territory of Canton by the Cantonal Government.

#### **Article 26**

With a view to creating conditions for the return of displaced persons and refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina, the responsible bodies of the Federation and cantons shall provide those persons with necessary information, in particular the information about the conditions for the return, and shall, to that effect, co-operate with the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees, UNHCR and other responsible international organizations, establish inter-entity co-operation, their mutual co-operation, as well as co-operation with other bodies and organizations.

#### **Article 27**

The general criteria for identifying potential beneficiaries of reconstruction assistance are:

1. that he/she is a refugee from Bosnia and Herzegovina, displaced person in Bosnia and Herzegovina or returnee;
2. that he/she has expressed intention to return;
3. that the ownership status or occupancy right on the housing unit that is subject to reconstruction has been established;
4. that the housing unit that is subject to reconstruction was his/her permanent residence on 30 April 1991;
5. that the housing unit that is subject to reconstruction is deemed uninhabitable, pursuant to the applicable standards on the minimum housing conditions;
6. that he/she and his/her household members since 1991 do not have another housing unit in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina that is deemed inhabitable, pursuant to the applicable standards on the minimum housing conditions;

7. that he/she has not received reconstruction assistance sufficient to meet the applicable standards on the minimum housing conditions.

The Federation Ministry shall seek mutual agreement with the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees and Republika Srpska and Brcko District Governments within the Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding the specific criteria for selecting priority beneficiaries and rendering reconstruction and return assistance, as well as regarding the specific standards and procedures ensuring compliance with the general and specific criteria, full transparency of the process and information for the beneficiaries.

The Federation Ministry shall, through its by-laws, ensure the application of the specific criteria, standards and procedures referred to in the previous paragraph.

#### **Article 28**

The decision on the selection of beneficiaries, prepared pursuant to Article 27 of this Law, together with the criteria under which they were selected shall be published in daily newspapers and on the municipal public announcement boards in both the municipalities of displacement and planned return, respecting the protection of data of the selected beneficiary.

#### **Article 29**

Within 15 days of any complaint being filed pursuant to Article 28 of this Law, the Federation Ministry shall conduct a review procedure based on information contained therein and shall issue its conclusions in accordance with the existing legislation.

The Federation Ministry shall inform, in writing, persons who submitted complaints, of its conclusions following the review procedure.

#### **Article 30**

The Federation Ministry shall conclude an individual tripartite contract, with each beneficiary, including personal data and the quantity and type of assistance, in accordance with an instruction to be issued by the Minister within 15 days from the entry into force of this Law.

The beneficiary shall sign the tripartite contract, together with the person authorized by the Federation Ministry to sign on its behalf and an authorized representative of the canton-municipality where the assistance will be delivered. Each signatory shall be provided with a copy of the contract and a copy shall be forwarded to the Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### **Article 31**

The Federation Ministry shall terminate, in accordance with the procedures defined by the Law on Obligations of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina ("Official Gazette of the FBiH", No. 2/92, 13/93 and 13/94), and subject to lawful contractual rights, all contracts with vendors that violate applicable tender procedures or fail to implement assistance projects as specified by the contract.

#### **Article 32**

Beneficiaries shall be entitled to file a complaint with the Federation Ministry, if they believe that a vendor contracted by the Federation Ministry to implement an assistance project fails to meet its obligations or inadequately fulfills its obligations specified by the contract.

The Minister shall form a Commission that shall investigate allegations of nonfeasance or malfeasance in the implementation of assistance projects.

The Federation Ministry shall adopt a Rulebook, which shall regulate the work of the Commission, including the rules of procedures and the composition of the Commission. Persons of both sexes shall be equally represented in the said Commission.

The Minister shall undertake appropriate corrective measures based on the findings of the Commission.

### **Article 33**

Beneficiaries who receive assistance based upon incorrect data or false statements, or who divert assistance for unintended purposes, shall either compensate the Federation Ministry in the amount of the misused or misallocated assistance, or return all aid received via the Federation Ministry.

### **Article 34**

Data on all contracts, as well as copies of all contracts and records of delivery shall be maintained by the Federation Ministry and such data and documents shall be publicly available, in accordance with the Law on Freedom of Access to Information (FBiH Official gazette, no. 32/01).

### **Article 35**

The Federation Ministry shall ensure the transparency of each approved project through its bookkeeping and accounting.

Each project shall have a clear budget breakdown and shall include all information specified in an instruction or instructions regulating the project, which shall be issued by the Federation Ministry.

Every three months, the Federation Ministry shall be obliged to inform the Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons of Bosnia and Herzegovina of the progress made in implementing projects.

### **Article 36**

A more detailed regulation prescribing the organization of the return of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, as well as the return procedure and other issues regarding the return of those persons, shall be passed by the Minister within 60 days from the entry into force of this Law.

## **V RESPONSIBILITIES OF BODIES IN EXERCISING THE RIGHTS OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND RETURNEES**

### **Article 37**

With a view to exercising rights and creating conditions for the return of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law in the territory of the Federation, the Federation Government, the Federation Ministry and the responsible Cantonal bodies shall, in coordination with the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees, undertake the appropriate measures, and in particular:

1. The Federation Government:
  - shall adopt the Plan of Return and Repatriation of displaced persons and refugees from BiH, at least once a year;
  - shall adopt the Plan of reconstruction and construction of units and settlements for accommodation of displaced persons and returnees which are of the Federation importance;
  - shall adopt the grounds for drafting the plans referred to in Article 23 of this Law;
  - shall determine the balance of necessary funds in cases when Cantonal funds are insufficient, all with a view to creating conditions for the return and exercising of the rights of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law;
  - shall nominate its members in the Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
2. The Ministry:
  - shall make the proposed annual plan of return and repatriation referred to in item 1 of this Article;
  - shall prepare the grounds for drafting the Plan referred to in Article 24 of this Law;
  - shall follow up on the implementation of Cantonal plans of return and repatriation;
  - shall co-ordinate activities in the realization of Cantonal plans of return and repatriation;
  - shall plan and implement the plan of construction of units, reconstruction and repair of settlements which are of the Federation interest, for the accommodation of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law;
  - shall prepare the balance of necessary funds referred to in item 1 of this Article;

- shall co-operate with the responsible Cantonal bodies, establish inter-entity co-operation and co-operation with the UNHCR, other international organizations, as well as with other bodies and organizations;
- shall keep the main record on displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law;
- shall conduct other activities with regard to exercising of the rights of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, and in accordance with the Constitution of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, this Law and other regulations.

3. A Canton:

- shall adopt the plan of return and repatriation for the Cantonal area;
- shall plan and implement the plan of the construction of units, reconstruction and repair of settlements for accommodation of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law which are of the Cantonal interest;
- shall prepare and adopt the balance of necessary funds for the Cantonal area, with a view to creating conditions for the return and exercising of the rights of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law;
- shall decide who will carry out the activities and shall determine resources indispensable for exercising of the rights of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, for the Cantonal area;
- shall organize accommodation in and functioning of reception-transit centers and collective centers;
- shall carry out census and keep the basic record on displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, within its territory and deliver report to the Federation Ministry;
- shall co-operate with the responsible bodies of other cantons and of the Federation, as well as with the UNHCR and other international organizations, in particular with regard to the improvement of the planned return of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law;
- shall carry out other activities with regard to exercising of the rights of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, in accordance with the Constitution of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, this Law, Cantonal Constitution, Cantonal regulations, and other regulations and acts.

## **VI CENSUS AND REGISTRATION OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND RETURNEES**

### **Article 38**

The responsible Cantonal body shall carry out a census and keep the basic records on displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, within its territory and deliver report to the Federation Ministry, on monthly basis.

The main record on displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law for the territory of the Federation shall be kept by the Federation Ministry, on the basis of the basic records referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

A more detailed regulation on keeping the main and the basic records referred to in this Article shall be passed by the Minister.

## **VII RESOURCES FOR FINANCING THE NEEDS OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND RETURNEES**

### **Article 39**

Resources for financing the needs of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law shall be provided:

- from the Return Fund which is co-financed by the Federation Government,
- from the Federation budget,
- from Cantonal and municipal budgets,
- from financial assistance of host countries of refugees from BiH,
- by relevant international organizations,



- from donations and credits received for these purposes from international financial organizations, domestic actors,
- from donations from the private sector,
- other sources.

#### **Article 40**

Financial resources shall be used for meeting the needs of and creating conditions for the return of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, in accordance with this Law and Cantonal regulations.

### **VIII SUPERVISION OF THE APPLICATION OF THIS LAW**

#### **Article 41**

The application of this Law, as well as of the regulations governing its application, shall be supervised by the Federation Ministry and the responsible Cantonal body, each within its own jurisdiction.

### **IX PENALTY PROVISIONS**

#### **Article 42**

The responsible person in and the employee of the responsible administrative body shall be fined for a minor offence with 500 KM - 2,000 KM if s/he:

1. recognizes or revokes the status of displaced person and returnee contrary to the conditions of this Law (Articles 4 - 7),
2. denies temporary accommodation to any displaced person and a person referred to in Article 5 of this Law, in accordance with Article 11 of this Law,
3. prevents free and voluntary return of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law (Article 21),
4. fails to forward data on a census and records on displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law,
5. performs or fails to perform an action, due to which some other rights of displaced persons and persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, which they are entitled to in accordance with this Law, have been violated,
6. provides incorrect information or false statements or redirects assistance for unplanned purposes as referred to in Article 33 of this law.

### **X TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Article 43**

Identification documents and decisions verifying the status of a displaced person, and certificates recognizing the status of persons referred to in Article 5 of this Law, which are issued on the territory of the Federation, shall remain valid until determined otherwise.

#### **Article 44**

The Cantons shall harmonize their regulations with this Law, within 90 days from the entry into force of this Law.

#### **Article 45**

The Law on Displaced-Expelled Persons and Repatriates (FBiH Official Gazette, no. 19/00, 56/01, 27/02, 18/03 and 42/04) shall cease to be applied in the territory of the Federation on the day of the entry into force of this Law.

#### **Article 46**

This Law shall enter into force on the eighth day from its publication in the "Official Gazette of the FBiH".

President  
of the House of Representatives  
of the BiH Federation Parliament  
**Muhamed Ibrahimovic**

President  
of the House of Peoples  
of BiH Federation Parliament  
**Slavko Matic**