**CROATIA**

Article 3 - Designation of competent authorities

When a Croatian judicial authority issues a decision prescribing a precautionary measure or specific obligation and containing a protection measure on the possibility and conditions for issuing a European protection order, it will inform the protected person who is residing or staying or who decides to reside or stay in another Member State, or the protected person’s guardian or representative. The European protection order **will be issued by the investigating judge of the county court competent for the place where the proceedings are being conducted and will be executed by a probation decision or alternative sanction.** The European protection order will be issued **on a request by the protected person** or his or her guardian or representative, submitted directly to the Croatian authority. The European protection order will also be issued on a request submitted to the competent authority of the State in which the protected person is residing or staying, or decides to reside or stay, and forwarded to the competent county court.

On receipt of a European protection order issued by the competent authority of the issuing State, **the investigating judge of the county court competent for the place in which the protected person is residing or staying or intends to reside or stay** will recognise the protection order and take the measures required to execute it.

**Information on the competent Croatian courts for issuing, recognising and executing European protection orders can be found in** [**Annex I[Word](https://e-justice.europa.eu/fileDownload.do?id=4befc083-d72e-4f52-a695-9a90f84357a6)(15 Kb)[hr](https://e-justice.europa.eu/fileDownload.do?id=4befc083-d72e-4f52-a695-9a90f84357a6)**](https://e-justice.europa.eu/fileDownload.do?id=4befc083-d72e-4f52-a695-9a90f84357a6)**.**

Article 4 - Recourse to a central authority

**The ministry responsible for justice** **is the coordination authority** that provides assistance to the competent Croatian authorities and the competent authorities of other Member States in establishing contacts and judicial cooperation. It should be noted that the Ministry of Justice **does not act as central authority** in the sense of receiving and forwarding protection orders.

Article 17(3) - Languages

The competent judicial authority will execute an order provided it, and the accompanying documentation, has been translated into **Croatian.** In emergencies, **translations into English** will be accepted, provided the Member State submitting the decision in English agrees to accept the decisions of the competent Croatian authorities forwarded to it in English.