

## Croatia on the way to the European Union or challenges of reunion of the one European family

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### Abstrak

Drawing upon Croatia's past and present situation, this paper attempts to propose actions that need to be taken in adopting new economic, legal and political standards. Our approach shall include an overview of historical foundations of modern Europe. Accordingly, we shall conclude this paper with an assessment of future economic and societal directions of the European circle. Owing much to her geography and culture. Croatia has, in effect, belonged to the European community of nations throughout its thirteen-century long history. At the beginning of her historical route, having been a sovereign kingdom in the 10th century. Croatia had existed as a functional part of European civilization. In Thousand Years that ensued, Croatia came under a number of multiethnic political entities. First, it entered the union with Hungary, then Austria, followed by Austro-Hungarian Empire. In 20th century, it entered into the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, which later on was renamed the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. Following the end of WWII, Croatia entered Socialist Federative Yugoslavia, together with other South Slavic peoples. However, Croatia has only recently as the 1990s become an independent nation state, in a modern sense. In this way, Croatia can effectively fulfil her historical path by entering the European Union, therefore reverting to her historical roots. It is the challenges of this most recent era of Croatian history, that form the backbone of this paper. Several basic aspects of Croatian accession to the EU are put into perspective. First, we make certain assumptions regarding the integration, with respect to the shift from transition to transformation brought about by integration. Second, we bring to mind the procedure of European integration, both in form and content. Third, we talk about the effects of integration, from societal to economic achievements.