

Zagreb, 26 March 2003  
in the presence of

*Stjepan Mesić,*

The President of the Republic of Croatia

**DECLARATION  
OF THE FOUNDING OF  
THE MEDITERRANEAN INSTITUTE FOR  
LIFE SCIENCES**

signed by

*Ivica Račan,* Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia

*Gvozden Flego,* Minister of Science and Technology

*Ivan Pavić,* Rector of the University of Split

*Slobodan Beroš,* Mayor of Split and

*Miroslav Radman,* Coordinator of the MedILS, member of the French Academy of  
Sciences

## **DECLARATION OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MEDITERRANEAN INSTITUTE FOR LIFE SCIENCES**

1. The signatories below have irrevocably decided to facilitate the foundation of the “*Mediterranean Institute for Life Sciences*” (hereinafter: **MedILS**) in Split, as an international, private and non-profit science organisation, to be coordinated by prof. Miroslav Radman, Ph.D. (hereinafter: **Coordinator**). The **MedILS** will be integrated in the network of leading international biological research and educational institutions as well as prominent specialists in the field. The mission of **MedILS** is to become a “cultivating ground” of a new generation of young multidisciplinary scientists, a *high-tech* platform for South-East Europe and a centre of scientific excellence in developing original projects to fundamentally understand life and its manifestations.
2. The organisation of **MedILS** and its scholarly activities will be entirely independent and subject exclusively to strict evaluation by the world's elite in science. The heading and management of the **MedILS**, including the selection of the Management and the entire professional staff shall be conducted via international *Science Advisories* based on the selection and criteria set by the organisers of **MedILS**.
3. The Government of the Republic of Croatia and the City of Split are to invest in the **MedILS** project by making available free use of appropriate buildings and land that are part of the “*Vila Dalmacija*” for 40 years as well as providing any necessary funds to render the buildings, surroundings and infrastructure to the desired state of the **Coordinator** with his approval of any Building Plans. Furthermore, the Republic of Croatia and the City of Split oblige to upkeep the necessary maintenance of buildings and fields in use. The City of Split revokes any claims to Utilities' allowances and fees. The equipping, furnishings and all running and personnel costs are the responsibility of **MedILS**.
4. The foreign organisers of **MedILS**, headed by the **Coordinator**, shall secure the financing of expenses required for running costs from various international sources, donations, multilateral international projects, national projects, etc.  
In addition to providing further education to students, **MedILS** will initiate post-graduate science programmes leading to masters and doctoral degrees in its particular field. **MedILS** shall cooperate with Croatian and foreign universities and other respected research institutions in Europe and the USA.
5. The legal status of **MedILS** shall be based upon its international structure and organisation, which is not subject to national domicile institutions, with normal respect for the positive legislation of the Republic of Croatia. Details of the modalities of cooperation and of all reciprocal rights and obligations of both parties (The Republic of Croatia and the founders) will be defined by a special **Agreement**, based upon this document. In the **Agreement**, The Republic of Croatia shall be represented by an authorised representative of the Government of the Republic of

Croatia, and the other side, in name of the founders and financers, by the **Coordinator**. The above mentioned **Agreement** shall refer to this document, which will at the same time be included as a constitutive part.

6. All signatories of this document, and of the abovementioned **Agreement** are bound through their position to continue to support the realisation of this project and throughout its duration, in keeping with the support already offered by the abovementioned relevant factors.
7. The **Coordinator** shall be a direct intermediary between Croatian bodies and the international community during the initial phase of founding the Institute - in defining the profile of activities and heading the preliminary activities of the **MedILS**.
8. The field of research will involve theoretical and experimental disciplines from mathematical modelling to biomedicine and ecology, respecting the internationally accepted ethical principles and standards.

Zagreb, 26 March 2003

Rector of the University of Split

Prof. Ivan Pavić, Ph.D.  
(signature)

Mayor of Split

Prof. Slobodan Beroš, Ph.D.  
(signature)

Coordinator of the MedILS,  
member of the French Academy of  
Sciences

Prof. Miroslav Radman, Ph.D.  
(signature)

Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia

Ivica Račan  
(signature)

Minister of Science and Technology of  
the Republic of Croatia

Prof. Gvozden Flego, Ph.D.  
(signature)