The Agreement on Succession Issues and Some Dilemmas Regarding Its Implementation

The Agreement on Succession Issues was concluded only ten years after the break-up of Yugoslavia and was at the time considered a great political success as it was the first treaty concluded between all of the successor states to the former SFRY. The international community has affirmed its contribution to peace and stability in the region. It regulates almost all succession issues, namely movable and immovable state property, including diplomatic and consular properties, financial assets and liabilities, state archives, other rights and interests, pensions and acquired rights. This article analyses the Agreement in the light of its implementation and highlights important issues that are still to be settled among the successor states in order to bring this process to an end, bearing in mind the consequences for bilateral relations among states and regional cooperation if its full implementation fails. Legal issues are discussed, as well as the political environment, which affects the implementation.

Key words: international law, Yugoslavia (SFRY), succession of states, dissolution of a state, state property, financial assets, financial liabilities, archives, guarantees for the hard currency savings, acquired rights, the European Court of Human Rights, the Ališić judgement