29 July 2018

STATEMENT

ADC-ICT Statement on the Death of Dragoslav Ognjanović

The Association of Defence Counsel practising before the International Courts and Tribunals (ADC-ICT) is shocked and saddened to hear that Dragoslav Ognjanović, a former member of the ADC-ICT, was killed outside his home in Belgrade on 28 July 2018. His son was also injured during the incident. Dragoslav Ognjanović was a member of the legal team for Slobodan Milošević at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and subsequently a lawyer in Belgrade, Serbia.

The ADC-ICT strongly condemns the killing and our sympathies are with his family and friends at this difficult time. This shocking tragedy is a reminder of the risks that lawyers have in seeking to uphold the rule of law. The murder of Dragoslav Ognjanović is the latest incident in a series of attacks against lawyers in Serbia, such incidents which target lawyers are an attack on the legal profession as a whole.

The Serbia and Belgrade bar associations announced they would stop working for one-week, the ADC-ICT supports their decision and strongly urges the authorities in Serbia to expeditiously find the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

The Association of Defence Counsel practising before the International Courts and Tribunals (ADC-ICT) is an independent professional association which formerly represented all defence counsel practising before the ICTY and now represents all defence counsel practicing before the UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT). The ADC-ICT works to promote and protect the interests of defence counsel and ensure the proper function of defence is respected in proceedings before international courts and tribunals.

For further information, please contact the ADC-ICT: press@adc-ict.org or +31 (0)70 512 5418.