

## Bilag 5



### *Velesposlanstvo Republike Hrvatske u Kraljevini Danskoj* *Embassy of the Republic of Croatia to the Kingdom of Denmark*

Dear Sir,

*As a follow-up to your email with the letter entitled „Inquiry regarding the use of reserved parking spaces after business hours“, the Embassy of Croatia is informing you as follows:*

- 1) After discussing the issue with EU Ambassadors (and some others), the answer of the Embassy of Croatia to your inquiry is a clear NO. And, please be advised that this is the point of view shared by all the Embassies in Copenhagen I was in touch with – some of them will extend to you their respective answers along the same lines.*
- 2) The usual and customary way of dealing with diplomats is primarily within the Vienna Convention, with a high respect of national laws of the receiving country. In the same context, it would be very much appreciated if the Diplomatic Protocol would be included on this issue.*
- 3) Due to the specific type of work, the Ambassador and the diplomats must have an unlimited and an unhindered access to the premises of the Embassy at all times, to say it colloquially 24/7. Furthermore, the Ambassador and the diplomats cannot negotiate the access to the Embassy, ie. the parking spaces, with the local residents, especially since the diplomacy is not „a-9-to-5-job“. Giving up/sharing the Embassy's parking spaces „after hours and weekends“ would mean that, in case of an emergency, an official visit etc., neither the Ambassador nor the diplomats would be able to access their workplace easily (time and again), if the parking spaces are occupied within the provisions of an arrangement of „after-hours“ sharing.*
- 4) Additionally, the Embassy in Copenhagen needs to pay for the permit for the parking spaces, which is unusual practice, since the most receiving states ensure parking spaces for Embassies, free of charge and based on reciprocity (the number of staff etc.). This Embassy has had so many unpleasant encounters with local residents, full of insulting words, rudeness and disrespect, not to mention resorting to violence. The Ambassador was approached on social media by random Danes and then asked for the permit to use the parking spaces (security for the Ambassador is an issue here in particular).*

- 5) *Accepting your proposal would also raise a lot of security concerns. For instance, the parking spaces are near the Embassy for a reason, also due to our internal rules about cars which are the state-owned property and paid by the Croatian tax payers. The same financial dimension is to be applied on the issue of sharing the parking space paid for and by the Croatian tax payers.*

*Therefore, in conclusion and following the consultations with many Ambassadors in Copenhagen (EU and others), the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia is unable and unwilling, for that matter, to accept your proposal regarding the use of Embassy's parking spaces after business hours and over the weekend.*

*Sincerely,*

  
Tina Krce  
Ambassador  
Dean of Diplomatic Corps in the Kingdom of Denmark

