

**P R E S S R E L E A S E****Dr Milan Parivodic:  
WOLF THEISS Belgrade welcomes senior politician on board**

**Austria's largest law firm has scored another coup in South Eastern Europe: Dr Milan Parivodic, a top Serbian economic reformer, is joining the WOLF THEISS Belgrade team. Only recently, the former Albanian Minister of Justice, Sokol Nako, moved from Deloitte to WOLF THEISS, Tirana, with his whole team.**

WOLF THEISS is a dominant force in Serbia - there is no major transaction in recent years that the Belgrade branch with its 15 lawyers has not contributed to. Now the successful team is being further reinforced, this time by a real heavy-weight. Dr Milan Parivodic, Serbian Minister of International Economic Relations from 2004 to 2007, and recently also interim Minister of Finance, is responsible for numerous milestones in the highly regarded Serbian economic reform. Dr Milan Parivodic was born in 1966, and first studied law in Belgrade. After completing his first postgraduate course in Serbia in 1995, he gained a second Master of Laws degree (LL.M.) at the famous University College London in 1997. In 1998 he qualified as a lawyer, and in 2002 gained his doctorate at the University of Belgrade.

In addition to his activities in the international private sector, Parivodic has been a lecturer in private law and property law at the University of Belgrade, before being appointed as Minister of Trade. In this function he introduced legislation including laws on liberalising foreign investment and foreign direct investment - the latter increased under his auspices by almost 600% within two years. This rising star also reformed the law of liens and pledges and the law on distraint, and carried out a land reform involving extensive restitution of property appropriated under Communist rule.

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Dr Parivodic also showed great skill on the international stage, leading Serbia into accession negotiations with the WTO, to be completed in 2008. At WOLF THEISS, Dr Parivodic, who continues to act as adviser to Serbia's Prime Minister Kostunica, will devote himself principally to his specialist fields of international investment and commercial law, finance law, real estate and construction law, intellectual property and licensing, and competition law. He is also a member of the Wolf Theiss Banking & Finance and Real Estate teams.

In 2007, WOLF THEISS received the following awards:

**"Austrian Law Firm of the Year"** (IFLR Award 2007, International Financial Law Review)

**"Czech Law Firm of the Year"** (IFL Award 2007, International Financial Law Review)

**"Austrian Tax Law Firm of the Year"** (Tax Award 2007, International Tax Review)

In 2006, WOLF THEISS received the following awards:

**"Eastern European Law Firm of the Year"** (Chambers Global Award 2006, Chambers & Partners)

**"Austrian Law Firm of the Year"** (IFLR Award 2006, International Financial Law Review)

**"Austrian Tax Law Firm of the Year"** (Tax Award 2006, International Tax Review)

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