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### *In Memoriam*

## MIODRAG JOVIČIĆ

After a long illness, Dr. Miodrag Jovičić, one of the greatest Serbian law writers, passed away in Belgrade on October 16, 1999. Born in 1925, Dr. Jovičić, after having graduated from the Law Faculty of the University of Belgrade, commenced his career of a law scientist at the Institute of Comparative Law from the very foundation (in 1955) of this one-time the most important Yugoslav centre for foreign laws studies and connecting domestic and foreign lawyers. By the end of 1970s, Dr. Jovičić left for Novi Sad to hold a professorship at the Faculty of Law of the University of Novi Sad and stayed there to the date of becoming a professor emeritus. He was a full member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, editor-in-chief of the professional journal "Archive for Law and Social Sciences", president of the Yugoslav Association for Constitutional Law as well as a member of the board of the journal *Facta Universitatis*, Series Law and Politics, from the first issue.

During the 1960s and 1970s, Dr. Jovičić was mainly engaged in the study of the public power organization at all levels, from the community to the state, predominantly using a comparative method. Thus, he has enabled a great number of generations of our lawyers to acquire outstanding knowledge on the foreign constitutional law and the foreign state and law theory, primarily the constitutional law and the theory of constitutions of the Western countries. This work resulted in the following books of his: *Modern Local Self-Government Worldwide* (1962), *Local Self-Government System in England, Sweden and Switzerland* (1963), *Responsibility of the Public Functions Holders* (1968), *Ombudsman – Legitimacy and Citizen Rights Watchman* (1969), *Modern Federalism - Comparative and Law Studies* (1973), *On Constitution – Theoretical and Comparative Study* (1977), *The Statute and the Legality* (1977), *Modern Political Systems* (1981) and *Great Constitutional Systems* (1984).

But, when dissolution of that Yugoslavia created in 1918 came into being by the end of 1980s, having tragic consequences for the Serbs, who then had to look for a new state and legal solution as a framework for their existence, Dr. Jovičić was no more only a scientist-teacher, but, in addition, became a patriotically directed law politician devising ways and modes of the Serbs constitutional restoration. Thus inspired, he wrote the following studies: *Where Are You Going Serbia?* (1955), *Regional State – Constitutional Law Study* (1996), *Constitution of the United Serbian States – Constitutional Law Study* (1996). By the very end of his life he was grappling with the problems of the history of constitutionality and published *The Lexicon of the Serbian Constitutionality – 1804-1918* (1999). A manuscript on solving the Kosovo question, which he did not complete, is a vivid testimony that to his last breath he was deeply concerned over his people.

Both as a writer and a man, Dr. M. Jovičić was a personality full of honesty, sense of responsibility and humanness; as if he had stepped down from the pages of a romance whereto he returned after his death.

M. P.