

## The 2023 "Krunoslav Sukić" Accolade for the Promotion of Peacemaking, Nonviolence and Human Rights

is awarded with gratitude to:

### **Members of the CROATIAN MEDIATION ASSOCIATION**

For twenty years of enthusiastic, persistent, professional and creative peace-building work on disseminating the idea and vision of mediation. We are grateful for all those, and there is an abundance of them, who, in meeting with the members of the CMA, with mediation, mediators and teaching about mediation, were empowered to change their perspective and view of the world. For a world of cooperation in which conflict is not only a threat, but also an opportunity for everyone to be better and to become better.

The CMA is not only the first mediation association in Croatia, but also the first to start with numerous activities to raise awareness of the importance of mediation in the context of out-of-court dispute resolution, in the everyday life of groups and individuals and in the community (in schools, with students, representatives of local governments and trade unions). In its twenty years of existence, hundreds of participants in over 300 conflicts and as many as 2,242 mediator training participants have given their trust to the CMA. The CMA participated in the articulation of all three reconciliation laws; organized eleven Mediation Weeks during which citizens are offered pro bono mediation in order to bring mediation closer to them and make it accessible. Additionally, it is a place to recognize, connect and give recognition to everyone who contributes in distinct ways to the spread of the concept and practice of mediation – up until now, the CMA has awarded as many as 83 mediation awards.

Members of the CMA say they are a part of the CMA family. They indicate that their greatest achievement is the creation of a space and a valuable experience where conflicting parties can express their thoughts, emotions and perspective without fear of being judged, ignored or appraised and where they have the necessary support to understand and connect with the person on the other side, because through mediation they further empower each other in dealing with conflict in a non-violent and cooperative way. The CMA helps individuals to find their voice, teachers to apply mediation skills with colleagues, students and parents and to teach students to solve problems peacefully, students and volunteers to master communication skills, business partners to find their development path, and families to find the love that they had towards each other, but had forgone it along the way.

Congratulations to this remarkable group of people! It is time to celebrate!

Osijek, December 7, 2023

