

Prof. dr. sc. Blaženka Divjak, Minister of Science and Education

Blaženka Divjak is a Minister of Science and Education since 9th June 2017. There are four reform processes she is leading: curricular reform of general education, reform of vocational education and training, relevant higher education and enhancement of research excellence.

Before that she was full professor of mathematics as well as a scientific advisor in mathematics and information science at the University of Zagreb.

She was born in 1967 in Varaždin, Croatia. She studied Mathematics and Physics at the University of Zagreb and graduated 1989. After that she studied at the postgraduate level and became a master of science in the field of mathematics in 1994. She earned her Ph.D. in 1998 at the University of Zagreb, Department for Mathematics. From 1990 to 1994 she was a high school teacher of Mathematics and Physics in gymnasium (Gimnazija Varaždin).

In 1994, she started her academic career at the Faculty for Organization and Informatics at the University of Zagreb. From 1999 to 2003 and from 2007 to 2010 she was a Vice-Dean for Science and Research and International Cooperation at the Faculty for Organization and Informatics.

From 2010 to 2014 she was a Vice-Rector for Students and Studies of the University of Zagreb.

Minister Divjak attended study periods at the University of Kentucky (October - November 1997), University of Georgia, Duke University (March, 2010), University of Leuven (2010) and University of Edinburgh (March - May 2015). Extended academic project-based cooperation she had with the Karls-Franzens University Graz and University of Freiburg.

In 2005, Blaženka Divjak received a Special Rector's award for quality development at the University of Zagreb and several other rewards for excellence of her academic work.

She has published over 70 scientific papers and around 40 professional papers and has presented at many scientific and professional conferences. Minister Divjak is the author of seven books, two of which are university textbooks and was an editor of four books. She has coordinated 14 national and international projects and participated in many projects as a researcher in the field of mathematics, project management, learning analytics, curriculum development, strategic planning in higher education and quality assurance in research and development.