



Veleposlanstvo Republike Hrvatske u Sjedinjenim Američkim Državama
Embassy of the Republic of Croatia to the United States of America
2343 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. 20008
Office of the Ambassador tel. (202) 588 5943 fax. (202) 588 8937
e-mail: amboffice@croatiaemb.org <http://www.croatiaemb.org>

July 10, 2002

To whom it may concern,

Endorsement Letter for International Youth Initiative

As Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to the United States of America, it is my pleasure to both practically support and officially endorse Michigan Civics Institute's International Youth Initiative (IYI) as well as to encourage the participation of other nations in this unique global opportunity for high school and university age students.

This initiative, developed by Michigan Civics Institute in partnership with University of Michigan's Interactive Communications and Simulations Group, International Institute, and Joint Initiatives Board, is scheduled to pilot in nations throughout the world in fall 2003.

What makes this initiative special is that it will enable the world's youth to meaningfully and effectively communicate with one another as well as to come together as one collective voice to the United Nations.

By 2003, the world's young people will have a platform and infrastructure to regularly meet in an unprecedented format. Not only will participating students share with each other the cultural, political, and economic happenings of their respective countries, but they will also have ongoing discussions on the great global issues of the day.

The world's young people will now be able to organize to articulate their global concerns and points of view. I truly believe that the International Youth Initiative will unite the future leaders of the world around a common set of values, ideas, and visions. It will instill in them a global mindset and help them own their responsibilities as global citizens. Our planet will be a more peaceful, prosperous place as a result. We must prepare our young leaders for the global age.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan Grdesic".

Dr. Ivan Grdesic
Croatian Ambassador to the
United States of America