Chemical Legislation in Serbia: An Overview

Alja Livio Torkhani*

I. Introduction

At the proposal of the Ministry of European Integration, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the 3rd revised version of the National Program for the Adoption of the Acquis Communautaire (NPAA, Nacionalni program za usvajanje pravnih tekovina Europske unije) at its session on 1st March 2018.

The NPAA is the most important and comprehensive document in the process of the European integration of Serbia, considering that in addition to harmonizing the entire domestic legislation with EU law, it also envisages the obligation to strengthen administrative capacities during accession negotiations with the EU, as well as long term financial planning and responsible budget planning.

According to the NPAA, it is planned to fully harmonize the legislation with EU law by the end of 2021, followed by a period of monitoring the implementation of regulations until accession.1 One of the chapters related to current Serbian negotiations with the European Union is Part 27, which is focused on adopting EU Legislation in the field of environmental protection, including management of chemicals.

II. Legal Background

In Serbia the competent authority for safe management of chemicals is the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection with its Department of Chemicals as the central administration. The Republic of Serbia passed in 2009 the Law on Chemicals (Zakon o hemikalijama).2 This law regulates integrated management of chemicals, classification, packaging and labeling of chemicals, integrated register of chemicals and register of chemicals placed on the market, restrictions and prohibitions on production, placing on the market and use of chemicals, import and export of certain hazardous chemicals, licenses, marketing authorizations for the use of particularly hazardous chemicals, placing on the market of detergents, systematic monitoring of chemicals, availability of data, supervision and other issues of importance for the management of chemicals.

Another important act in Serbia concerning chemical control is the Law on biocidal products (Zakon o biocidnim proizvodima).3 The public debate on the draft legislation was held in the period from 25th October until 23rd November 2018 and was conducted by the Ministry of Environmental Protection according to the Public Hearing Program.4 The draft text was posted on the Ministry’s website5, and remarks, proposals and suggestions were submitted to the Ministry.

Bylaws based on both above mentioned regulations can be found in the List of regulations issued by the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection and its Department of Chemicals.6

Important part of Serbian legislative framework concerning chemicals is also the Law on General Use Items (Zakon o predmetima opšte upotrebe).7

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4 Izveselj sa javne rasprave o Nakazu zakona o biocidnim proizvodima, 2018, see < ekologija.govrs/izvestaj-sa-javne-rasprave-o-nakazu-zakona-o-biocidnim-proizvodima >, accessed 11th November 2020;

5 Izveselj sa javne rasprave o Nakazu zakona o biocidnim proizvodima (Note 5);


1. Serbian Law on Chemicals

Serbian Law on Chemicals is composed of 15 chapters. The following subjects are dealt with in this regulation:

- Chemical Inventory,
- Classification, Packaging and Labeling of Chemicals,
- Restrictions and Prohibitions on the Production, Placing on the Market and Use of Chemicals;
- Import and Export of Certain Dangerous Chemicals;
- Permits for Performing Trade Activities and Permits for the Use of Certain Dangerous Chemicals;
- Integrated Chemical Management;
- Placing on the Market of Detergents;
- Obligations of Chemical Advisors;
- Systematic Monitoring of Chemicals;
- Availability of Data;
- Supervision and other Issues of Importance for the Management of Chemicals.

a. Definitions of terms with respect to the Serbian Law on Chemicals

According to Article 3 the below mentioned terms are defined. Below only those are referenced, which are used as well under EU REACH (Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006).8

- Downstream User:
  A legal entity or entrepreneur based in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, which is not a manufacturer or an importer of the substance, and who uses the substance or substance contained in the mixture for industrial or professional purposes, including the person producing the mixture. The distributor and consumer are not considered downstream users.
- Distributor:
  A legal entity or entrepreneur based in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, which stores and places chemicals on the market.
- Scientific Research and Development:

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The scientific experimentation, analysis or research of chemicals carried out under controlled conditions.

- Article:
  An object which during production has been given a certain shape or design which determines its function more than its chemical composition.
- Manufacturing:
  Production or extraction of substances in their natural form.
- Manufacturer:
  A legal entity or an entrepreneur who manufactures a substance.
- Placing on the Market:
  The supply or making available of chemicals to third parties in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, either with or without compensation, whereby import is also considered to be placing on the market.
- Substance:
  A chemical element and its compounds in the natural state or obtained in the manufacturing process including additives necessary to maintain its stability and impurities arising from the applied process, excluding solvent which can be separated so as not to affect the stability of the substance or change its composition.
- Preparation:
  A mixture or solution of two or more substances.
- Exposure Scenario:
  Set of risk management conditions and measures, including workplace conditions, which describe how a substance is produced or used during its life cycle, how the manufacturer or importer can control it, and which recommend to the downstream user how to control the substance when people and the environment are exposed to it, provided that the recommendation may relate to one specific process or method of use or several processes or methods of use of the substance.
- Supplier of a substance or a preparation:
  A legal entity or entrepreneur who is a manufacturer, importer, distributor or downstream user, who places chemicals on the market.

The Serbian law on chemicals defines some terms that are not mentioned in REACH:

- Detergent is defined as a substance or mixture that contains soaps or other surfactants and is used for washing and cleaning. Detergents also include
auxiliary washing mixtures (pre-washing, rinsing or bleaching of clothes), fabric softeners, mixtures for other cleaning and the like. European authorities have on the other hand clarified in Questions and agreed answers concerning the correct implementation of Regulation (EC) No 648/2004 on detergents that cleaning products without soaps and surfactants can also be subjected to regulations on detergents.9

- **Good Laboratory Practice (GLP)** is laboratory practice that is carried out in accordance with the principles (guidelines) prescribed by the law governing drugs and medical devices.10

- **Revocation** is any activity or measure that enables the return of a chemical or product which the manufacturer or distributor has already delivered or made available to consumers or downstream users.

- **Withdrawal** is any activity or measure that prevents further supply and making available of chemicals or products placed on the market.

- **Complete aerobic biodegradability** is such a level of biodegradability that the surfactant is completely decomposed into carbon dioxide, water and mineral salts with the help of microorganisms in the presence of oxygen (mineralization).

- **Washing** is the cleaning of laundry, dishes and hard surfaces.

- **Primary biodegradability** is a structural change (transformation) of a surfactant under the action of microorganisms, which loses its surface active ability due to the degradation of its structure.

- **Handling** is the production, processing, packaging, storage, trade, transport and use of chemicals or any other activity related to chemicals.

- **Surfactant** is any organic substance or mixture having surface active properties and containing one or more hydrophilic and hydrophobic groups capable of reducing the surface tension of water by forming a spread or adsorbing monolayer at the water-air contact and forming an emulsion or microemulsion or micelles, as and to be adsorbed on the water-solid surface contact.

- **Chemical name** according to the IUPAC nomenclature is the name of the chemical identified in the nomenclature of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

- **A chemical** is a substance and a mixture.

- **Chemical and product intended for general use** is a subject of general use in terms of the law governing the safety of general use objects.11

- **Cleaning** is the definition of this term from the standard SRPS ISO 862.12 This differs from the EU regulation. Reference to the ISO 862 definition was removed from the Regulation 648/2004/EC on Detergents by amendment by (EU)259/2012.13

b. Application of the Serbian Law on chemicals

The legislation does not apply to:

- radioactive chemicals,
- chemicals in transit,
- transport of dangerous chemicals,
- chemicals which are considered waste in terms of the provisions of the law governing waste management,15
- chemicals which are under customs control in a customs warehouse or free zone for re-export or transit if the chemicals are not processed or processed there.

The provisions of the Law on chemicals relating to the entry of chemicals in the Register (Inventory) of Chemicals and to the entry of substances of concern in the Register of Chemicals shall not apply to chemicals that are placed on the market in final form as:

- Biocidal Products,
- Plant Protection Products,
- Medicines and Medical Devices used in human and veterinary medicine,
- Cosmetic products,
- Food, Food Additives and Flavors,
- Animal Feed and Food Additives.

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11 Law on General Use Items (Note 8);

12 Serbian Institute for Standardisation, Institut za standardizaciju Srbije, Surfaktants SRPS ISO 862:1994;


The provisions of this law relating to the classification, packaging and labeling of chemicals do not apply to the following categories of chemicals:
- which are used for scientific research and development and which are not placed on the market, but are used under controlled conditions where exposure is reduced;
- which are placed on the market in the final form as:
  - Medicines and Medical Devices used in human and veterinary medicine,
  - Cosmetic Products,
  - Food, Food Additives and Flavorings,
  - Animal Feed and Food Additives.

The provisions of this Law from Chapter VIII relating to the import and export of certain hazardous chemicals shall not apply to:
- Chemical Weapons and Precursors for Chemical Weapons;
- Precursors of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;
- Food and Food Additives;
- Animal Feed and Food Additives;
- Medicines used in human and veterinary medicine;
- Chemicals used for Scientific Research and Development in an amount that does not affect human health and the environment, and does not exceed 10 kg for each chemical at each import.16

C. Classification, packaging and labeling of chemicals

Chapter IV regulates classification, packaging and labeling of chemicals. Further details are set in the Rulebook on classification, packaging, labeling and advertising of chemicals and certain products.17 Article 9 states that the manufacturer, importer or downstream user who places chemicals and certain products on the market is obliged to classify them, and the supplier of chemicals to label and package them in accordance with this law and regulations adopted on the basis thereof. The exporter is obliged to package and label the exported chemical in accordance with this law and regulations adopted on the basis thereof, unless it is necessary to package and label the chemical in a different way, in accordance with international standards, required by the country to which the chemical is exported.

A dangerous chemical is defined as a chemical that can be classified into at least one of the hazard classes. Within hazard classes, chemicals can be further classified based on the route of human or environmental exposure to the chemical or on the nature of the effects.

A substance is classified in accordance with the classification of a substance with the same chemical composition from the List of Classified Substances.18

If a substance is not on the List of Classified Substances or listed in the respective hazard classes, the classification of that substance is based on existing data on the properties of that substance.

The classification of a mixture is performed by assessing the hazard of the mixture on the basis of data on the properties of the substances contained in the mixture or by direct experimental tests of properties of the mixture.

When classifying a chemical, data from epidemiological studies, statistical data on occupational diseases, as well as data obtained by other internationally accepted methods for determining the properties of chemicals can be used.

Evidence of chemical hazards obtained from animal studies shall be used for classification, regardless of the shortcomings of the findings related to effects on humans.

The properties of a chemical for the purpose of its classification are determined on the basis of the form or physical condition in which the chemical is placed on the market, and in special cases on the basis of the form or physical condition in which the chemical is used.

In addition the Environmental Ministry shall issue legislation, which is regulating the procedures of classification, packaging, labeling and advertising of chemicals and certain products in accordance with the Globally Harmonized System (UN GHS).19

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16 Law on Chemicals (Note 3);
17 Rulebook on classification, packaging, labeling and advertising of chemicals and certain products, Official Gazette 105/2013, 52/2017, 21/2019, Pravilnik o klasifikaciji, pakovanju, obeležavanju i oglašavanju hemikalije i određenog proizvoda;
18 Rulebook regarding list of classified substances, Official Gazette 22/2020, Pravilnik o spisku klasifikovanih substanci, Službeni glasnik 22/2020;
19 Globally Harmonised UN Classification and Labeling System, 2019;
d. Chemical Advisor

Part V describes the role of the adviser for chemicals. It requires that suppliers of hazardous chemicals are obliged to appoint a person who takes care of the proper management of these chemicals (hereinafter: chemical advisor). However, certain suppliers are not obliged to appoint

a chemical advisor. Environmental Ministry still needs to define in detail which sectors shall nominate the advisor.

The chemical advisor must have appropriate qualifications and have passed the Chemical Advisor Exam. The knowledge of chemical advisors is checked every six years. The Ministry defines the education, training program and the testing of knowledge of chemical advisors.

Training and testing of knowledge of chemical advisors according to the defined programs is performed by a legal entity or an entrepreneur who meets the requirements in terms of professional staff, premises and technical equipment for conducting the training. The Ministry shall issue an approval to a legal entity or entrepreneur who has met the conditions for appropriate training.

In order to manage hazardous chemicals in a way that reduces the risk and minimizes the harmful effects of these chemicals on human health and the environment and ensures the application of preventive measures, the chemical advisor shall ensure that the Law on chemicals and regulations adopted on its basis are properly applied.

e. Integrated register of chemicals

The Republic of Serbia introduced an integrated register of chemicals (Inventory), which is outlined in Part VI. Detailed information regarding the integrated register of chemicals is described in the Rulebook on the Register of Chemicals.20

Article 38 provides information on what kinds of chemicals are included in the Register. The Integrated Register consists of the Register of Chemicals and the Register of Biocidal Products as well as data on Plant Protection Products (PPPs).

Data on PPPs are general data on the trade names, names and properties of active substances, permitted uses, the person who places them on the market and the quantities placed on the market that the body responsible for plant protection received during registration procedure on the basis of the law governing PPPs.

The body responsible for plant protection shall submit to the Environmental Ministry the required data once a year, but no later than 31st March of the current year for PPPs placed on the market in the previous year.

The Environmental Ministry also maintains the Integrated Register of Chemicals as an electronic database for the purpose of data exchange and integrated management of chemicals. Chemicals that are produced or imported to the Serbian market are entered in the Register. Chemicals that have certain properties or are used for certain purposes are not entered in the Register, and they are placed on the market in quantities that are below the defined lower limit on an annual level. The Ministry does define certain chemicals that are not entered in the Register, as well as the lower volume limits of a chemical of certain properties and manner of use, below which that chemical is not entered in the Register.

Article 40 requires that the manufacturer, importer or downstream user (the person who registers chemicals) is obliged to submit an application for entry of chemicals in the Register to the Environmental Ministry by March 31st of the current year for chemicals produced or imported in the previous year.

Confidential data required for the entry in the Register may be submitted by the foreign manufacturer directly or through an eligible representative.

The application shall contain: name and address, tax identification number, type of activity and name of the responsible person in the company (chemical advisor) who is obliged to present document that he/she is qualified in this field.

Along with the application a dossier on each chemical and for some chemicals also Safety Data Sheet shall be submitted. The chemical dossier shall contain in particular:

- Trade name of the chemical and other identification of the chemical,
- Data on the quantity of the chemical placed on the market,
- Data on each manner of use of the chemical,
- Data on chemical composition.

The Ministry shall define in detail the content of the chemical dossier. The electronic portal for integral register of chemicals, e-IRH portal, operates since 1st January 2019, when the legal obligation to report chemicals in the Register was put in place.

f. Other Parts

Other parts of the regulation include the following subjects:
- Restrictions and Prohibitions on the Production, Placing on the Market and Use of Chemicals (part VII),
- Import and Export of Certain Hazardous Chemicals (part VIII),
- Licenses for performing Traffic Activities and Licenses for the Use of Especially, Hazardous Chemicals (part IX),
- Detergents (part X),
- Systematic Monitoring of Chemicals (part XI),
- Data Availability (part XII),
- Control (part XIII),
- Penalties (part XIV) and
- Transitional and final provisions (part XV).

2. Classification of chemicals according to the Rulebook on Classification, Packaging, Labeling and Advertising of Chemicals and Specific Products and its Interconnection with the Law on Chemicals

Basic provisions regarding packaging, labeling and advertising of chemicals are set in the Articles 16 to 19 of the Law on Chemicals. An additional relevant document concernig classification, labeling and packaging of chemicals is the Rulebook on Classification, Packaging, Labeling and Advertising of Chemicals and Certain Products.

The packaging of a dangerous chemical and a specific product must correspond to the properties, purpose and manner of use of the chemical or product and must be marked in the described manner.

Packaging of a dangerous chemical, a certain product and a certain mixture that is not dangerous, but contains at least one substance classified as dangerous, must be disclosed so that it contains the trade name of the chemical, names of certain dangerous substances contained in the mixture, name and address of the chemical supplier, the amount of chemical in the packaging as well as graphic elements, labels and text indicating the hazardous properties of the chemical.

The packaging of a chemical and a certain product must be referenced in the Serbian language.

The method of labeling and packaging of a hazardous chemical depends on whether the chemical is packaged in both inner and outer packaging.

The Environmental Ministry has yet to further clarify in more detail the procedures and types of packaging and labeling of a chemical and a certain product.

The supplier of a dangerous chemical and a certain mixture that is not dangerous, but contains at least one substance that is classified as dangerous, is obliged to emphasize its dangerous properties in the advertisement and to advertise it in such a way that its users are not misled about the dangerous properties of the chemical.

A substance may be classified differently from a classification of a substance of the same chemical composition, which is included in the EU Classification and Labeling Inventory. In that case, when entering the substance in the Register of Chemicals, together with the dossier on the chemical, an explanation for such differing classification shall be submitted.

In general, a substance shall be classified in accordance with the classification of a substance of the same chemical composition which is included in the EU Inventory of Classification and Labeling if the classification is the same and if it is included in the List of Classified Substances.

Article 19 also states that the supplier is obliged to keep records on chemicals, which in particular contain data on the identity of the chemical, distributors or downstream users and the quantities of chemicals delivered to them, as well as on the total quantities of chemicals sold to consumers in a calendar year. The supplier is obliged to collect all data on chemicals related to classification and labeling as well as other data necessary for the implementation of this law. The supplier is obliged to keep the records referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the data

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21 EU Classification and Labeling Inventory, see <echa.europa.eu/information-on-chemicals/cl-inventory-database>, accessed 16.1.2021;
for at least 10 years after the last production, placing on the market and use of the chemical and to submit them to the Environmental Ministry upon request. If the supplier has ceased his business or divested part of his business to a third party, the obligation to keep and retain data and information passes to that person, and if the responsible person of the supplier has stopped working, he is obliged to submit the data to the Ministry immediately after termination.

III. Safety Data Sheet Content in the Republic of Serbia and Labels for Serbian Market

1. Safety Data Sheets

The Safety Data Sheet content is set in the Rulebook Concerning the Content of the Safety Data Sheet.22

The supplier is obliged to submit a Safety Data Sheet when placing on the market a dangerous chemical, a chemical containing substances identified as persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) or very persistent, very bioaccumulative. (vPvB) and other chemicals that have very high concerning properties to any other distributor or downstream user in the supply chain free of charge, in printed or electronic form and in Serbian language.

The Serbian exporter of a chemical is obliged to submit the Safety Data Sheet to the non-Serbian importer, and if possible the Safety Data Sheet should be in the language of the country to which it is exported.

The supplier is obliged to deliver the Safety Data Sheet to any other distributor or downstream user in the supply chain at their request, when they procure a mixture that is not classified as hazardous and contains:
- at least one dangerous substance, based on the danger that the substance poses to human health and the environment, in the amount of at least 1% by weight of the non-gaseous mixture, or at least 0.2% of the volume of the gaseous mixture;
- at least one substance, in the amount of at least 0.1% by weight of a mixture that meets the criteria for identification as PBT or vPvB or other substances that have the properties referred to in Article 43, paragraph 3 of the Law on chemicals;
- a substance for which occupational exposure limits (OEL) exist.

A Safety Data Sheet must contain the issuing date. The content is divided into 16 Chapters according to the REACH format.
1) Identification of the chemical and data on the person who places the chemical on the market (supplier);
2) Hazard Identification,
3) Data on the Ingredients in the Mixture,
4) First Aid Measures,
5) Fire Protection Measures,
6) Measures in Case of a Chemical Accident,
7) Handling and Storage,
8) Exposure Controls and Personal Protection,
9) Physical and Chemical Properties,
10) Stability and Reactivity,
11) Toxicological Data,
12) Ecotoxicological Data,
13) Waste Treatment and Disposal,
14) Transport Data,
15) Regulatory Data,
16) Other information.

The chapter on identification of chemical and data concerning supplier who places the chemical on the market is described in the Article 3 of the Rulebook Concerning the Content of the Safety Data Sheet and must contain following information:
1) the name of the chemical which must be identical to the name on the label of the individual package and in accordance with the regulations governing the classification, packaging and labeling of chemicals;
2) data on all known ways of using the chemical, and when the chemical can be used in more ways, only the most important or common uses are given, as well as a brief description of the chemical’s action (e.g. antioxidant, antifreeze, etc.);
3) data on the legal or natural person who places the chemical on the market, as follows:
a) the name of the legal or natural person who places the chemical on the market;
b) whether that person is a manufacturer, importer or distributor;
c) address and telephone number;
d) e-mail address of the person in charge of preparing the Safety Data Sheet, and if that person is not located in the Republic of Serbia, the contact de-

22 Rulebook concerning the content of the Safety Data Sheet, Official Gazette 100/2011, Pravilnik o sadržaju bezbednosnog lista, Službeni glasnik 100/2011;
tails of the person in charge of submitting the safety data sheet with residence in the Republic of Serbia (telephone number and full address);
e) emergency telephone number of the legal or natural person who places the chemical on the market, that is, the telephone number of the Poison Control Center, with an indication
f) time at which the telephone number is available (eg twenty-four hours or only during working hours, etc.).

Sections of the Safety Data Sheet are subdivided. Detailed description regarding compulsory data for each subsection can be found in articles 7 to 25 of the Rulebook Concerning the Content of the Safety Data Sheet. If one Safety Data Sheet in all chapters contains information that is relevant for two or more chemicals, one Safety Data Sheet may be provided for those chemicals, provided that Chapter 1 provides identification for all chemicals.

The issuing date must be indicated on the first page of the Safety Data Sheet.
If the safety data sheet has been amended or supplemented the following must be stated on the first page: issuing date of the revised document, revision number and the date of the previous version.
All pages, including annexes, must be numbered and have an indication of the total number of pages (for example page 1 of 3) or an indication that the next page exists or that this page is the last (example end of Safety Data Sheet). It must not contain blank subsections.
The emergency telephone number from subsection 1.4 shall indicate the information on the services providing emergency information and the telephone number of the Serbian Poison Control Center (The Military Medical Academy, Vojnomedicinska akademija), indicating the time at which the service is available (example only during working hours) or the type of information provided by the service. The Military Medical Academy provides 24 hour medical assistance.\(^{23}\)

2. Labels
The packaging of a substance or mixture classified as dangerous contains a label with following elements:
- Name, address and telephone number of the supplier,
- The nominal quantity of the substance or mixture in the package intended for general use, unless this quantity is indicated elsewhere on the packaging,
- Product identifier referred to in Article 19 of the Rulebook on classification, packaging, labeling and advertising of chemicals and specific products,
- Pictogram of danger from Article 20 of the Rulebook mentioned in point 3, if it can be applied;
- The word of warning referred to in Article 21 of the Rulebook mentioned in point 3, if it can be applied;
- Notifications on danger referred to in Article 22 of this Rulebook, if applicable;
- Notifications on precautionary measures referred to in Article 23 of the Rulebook from point 3, if applicable;
- Part for additional information from Article 26 of the Rulebook from point, if it can be applied.
The information on the labels must be in Serbian language. The label may be written in several languages, provided that the information given in all the languages used is the same.
Label placement and appearance is described in article 32 of the Rulebook on Packaging, Classification and Labeling. Details are explained in Appendix 1, chapter 1.2.
Hazard pictograms are square in shape, placed diagonally, horizontally or vertically in relation to the pages of the label.
The hazard pictograms given in Appendix 3 of the Rulebook on Classification, Packaging and Labeling shall have a black pictorial symbol on a white background with a red frame of sufficient width to be clearly visible.
Each hazard pictogram shall occupy at least one-fifteenth of the surface of the label containing the information referred to in Article 18 of the rulebook mentioned in the last paragraph. The minimum area of each hazard pictogram is 1 cm².
The below Table 1 provides information on minimum dimensions of hazard labels and pictograms.
When the packaging of a substance or mixture is of such a shape or is so small that it is impossible to satisfy the general rules for the application of the label than information on labels can be displayed in one of following ways:

\(^{23}\) The Military Medical Academy, see <http://www.vma.mod.gov.rs/sr-lat/specialnosti/centri/nacionalni-centar-za-kontrolu-trovanja>, accessed 5th February 2021;
Table 1: Minimum dimensions of labels and pictograms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Packaging capacity</th>
<th>Label dimensions (in mm)</th>
<th>Pictogram dimensions (in mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does not exceed 3 liters</td>
<td>if possible at least 52 x 74</td>
<td>at least 10 x 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>if it’s possible 16 x 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between 3 and 50 liters</td>
<td>at least 74 x 105</td>
<td>at least 23 x 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between 50 and 500 liters</td>
<td>at least 105 x 148</td>
<td>at least 32 x 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 500 liters</td>
<td>at least 148 x 210</td>
<td>at least 46 x 46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- On folded labels or,
- On an attached plate or label or
- On the outer packaging.

The label on the inner packaging shall contain the pictogram of the hazard, the product identifier and the name and telephone number of the supplier of the substance or mixture.

Article 18 further outlines some exceptions to the application of the labeling elements.

When substances or mixtures, on the basis of classification, correspond to more than one hazard pictogram, the principles of precedence shall apply in order to reduce the number of hazard pictograms on the label.

Where a substance or mixture, according to the classification, corresponds to more than one hazard pictogram for the same hazard class, the label shall indicate the hazard pictogram corresponding to the most severe hazard category for each relevant hazard class.

The label of substances that are included in the list of classified substances and classified in accordance with the Rulebook on Classification, Labeling and Packaging of Chemicals in hazard classes that are not given in that list, shall indicate the hazard pictogram corresponding to the most severe hazard category for each relevant hazard classes.

IV. Implementation of GHS in the Republic of Serbia

In 2015 Serbia started a Partnership Project sponsored by the Eupean and Serbia. The Project was concluded in 2018 with the help of the Slovenian Bureau for Chemicals and the Austrian Agency for Environment in order to support the transition of EU Chemical Legislation into Serbian Chemical Laws. Since Serbia is in the process of becoming a member of the European Union it has to integrate European legislation into national regulations. Domestic legislation is in line with the EU since the seventh ATP (Adaptation to Technical Progress) of CLP.24

V. Trade with certain chemicals and international concessions

Chemicals are imported or exported in accordance with the Ratification of the Rotterdam Convention on the Procedure for Giving Consent on the Basis of Prior Notification for Certain Dangerous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (hereinafter the Rotterdam Convention)25, as amended.

In order to improve the division of responsibilities and cooperation in international trade with hazardous chemicals in accordance with the Rotterdam Convention for the Import and Export of Certain Substances, Restrictions and Prohibition of Production, Placing on the Market and Use, as well as certain mixtures and products containing these substances, the procedure of prior notification (PIC procedure) has

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24 Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1221 amending Regulation (EC) 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, for the purposes of its adaptation to technical and scientific progress;

to be followed in Serbia. The responsible competent authority is the Environmental Ministry.

VI. Implementation of GHS and CLP in the Republic of Serbia

National legislation implementing the GHS was adopted on 29th June 2010. It was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia on 10th September 2010. Serbia implemented a transitional period for re-classification and re-labeling according to GHS for substances until 2011 and for mixtures until 2015. If mixtures were placed on the market before June 1st 2015, the supplier has to re-label them from June 1st 2017 onwards.

Following building blocks are implemented into Serbian Rulebook on classification of substances:

- Unstable explosives, explosives division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6,
- Flammable gases category 1 and 2, and chemical unstable gases category A and B,
- Aerosol category 1, 2 and 3,
- Oxidizing gases category 1,
- Gases under pressure: compressed gas, liquidified gas, refrigerated liquid gas, dissolved gas,
- Flammable liquids category 1, 2 and 3,
- Flammable solid substances and mixtures category 1 and 2,
- Selfreactive substances and mixtures type A, B, C, D, E, F and G,
- Pyrophoric liquids category 1,
- Pyrophoric solid substances and mixtures category 1,
- Self-heating substances and mixtures category 1 and 2,
- Substances and mixtures, which in contact with water, emit flammable gases category 1, 2 and 3,
- Oxidizing liquids category 1, 2 and 3,
- Oxidizing solid substances and mixtures category 1, 2 and 3,
- Organic peroxides type A, B, C, D, E, F and G,
- Substances and mixtures corrosive to metals category 1,
- Acute toxicity category 1, 2, 3 and 4,
- Skin corrosion /irritation 1, 1A, 1B, 1C, 2,
- Serious eye damage/irritation, eye damage 1, eye irritation 2,
- Respiratory sensitization / skin sensitization, respiratory sensitisation 1, 1A, 1B, skin sensitisation 1, 1A, 1B,
- Germ Cell Mutagenicity 1A, 1B and 2,
- Carcinogenicity 1A, 1B and 2,
- Reproductive toxicity 1A, 1B, 2,
- Reproductive toxicity lactation,
- Specific target organ toxicity, single exposure category 1, 2 and 3,
- Specific target organ toxicity, repeated exposure category 1 and 2,
- Aspiration hazard category 1,
- Acute hazard to aquatic environment category 1 acute toxicity, category 1, 2, 3 and 4 long-term toxicity,
- Hazard to the ozone layer category 1.

From 1st June 2015, the relevant chapters of the Safety Data Sheet concerning hazard classification must provide information on classification of the substance or mixture according to the Rulebook.26

The last update of the Rulebook regarding the list of classified substances was in 2020.27

The following building blocks have been implemented:

- Unstable explosives, explosives division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6,
- Flammable gases category 1 and 2, and chemical unstable gases category A and B,
- Aerosol category 1, 2 and 3,
- Oxidizing gases category 1,
- Gases under pressure category 1,
- Flammable liquids category 1, 2 and 3,
- Flammable solid substances and mixtures category 1 and 2,
- Selfreactive substances and mixtures type A, B, C, D, E, F and G,
- Pyrophoric liquids category 1,
- Pyrophoric solid substances and mixtures category 1,
- Self-heating substances and mixtures category 1 and 2,
- Substances and mixtures, which in contact with water, emit flammable gases category 1, 2 and 3,
- Oxidizing liquids category 1, 2 and 3,
- Oxidizing solid substances and mixtures category 1, 2 and 3,
- Organic peroxides type A, B, C, D, E, F and G,

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26 Rulebook on classification, packaging, labeling and advertising of chemicals and certain products (note 13);
27 Rulebook regarding list of classified substances (note 19);
Substances and mixtures corrosive to metals category 1,
Acute toxicity category 1, 2, 3 and 4,
Skin corrosion / irritation 1A, 1B, 1C, 2,
Serious eye damage/irritation, eye damage 1, eye irritation 2,
Respiratory sensitization / skin sensitization, respiratory sensitisation 1, 1A, 1B,
Germ Cell Mutagenicity 1A, 1B and 2,
Carcinogenicity 1A, 1B and 2,
Reproductive toxicity 1A, 1B, 2,
Reproductive toxicity lactation,
Specific target organ toxicity, single exposure category 1, 2 and 3,
Specific target organ toxicity, repeated exposure category 1 and 2,
Aspiration hazard category 1,
Acute hazard to aquatic environment category 1 acute toxicity, category 1, 2, 3 and 4 long-term toxicity,
Hazard to the ozone layer category 1.
A lot of GHS capacity building activities were undertaken through activities within the project “Chemicals Risk Management in Serbia” with the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KEMI) and the project “Assistance in Implementation of Chemical Management System in Serbia” in order to establish effective implementation and enforcement of the new legislation. 28

Serbia has already a high level of alignment with the EU chemical legislation. In 2019, Serbia opened an online platform for registering biocidal products. The goal of the Government is for Serbia to be technically fully ready for EU membership by the end of 2021, regardless of the date of the formal closing of the accession negotiations and the acquisition of full membership.

In 2019, Serbia started new projects related to “Further Development of the Framework for Harmonization with EU legislation in the Field of Air, Chemicals and Horizontal Legislation” (EAS 3 project). 29
Furthermore, Serbia needs to boost its administrative capacity to implement legislation in these areas, and to ensure proper monitoring of persistent organic pollutants (POPs). 30

Further alignment is needed as EU regulations are further updated. As of 1st September 2019 the new Rules on Product Classification, Packaging and Labelling according to CLP/GHS, entered into force. The change harmonised the requirements with EU legislation and comprises several amendments of the Regulation (EC)1272/2008( CLP). 31

Legislation concerning classification, packaging, labeling and advertising of chemicals of the Law on Chemicals, shall be issued by the Environmental Ministry in accordance with EU Regulations.

VI. Conclusions and Outlook

This paper tries to give an overall summary of the status of chemical legislation in Serbia and the situation on implementation of EU chemical legislation into Serbian law.

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31 Regulation (EC) No 1223/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP Regulation) (Note 22);