



## Ivica Sabljic honoured with the Gaspart Bonet Foundation award



**Dubrovnik, 17 October 2019 – During the 79<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of HOTREC, Ivica Sabljic received the Gaspart Bonet Foundation award in recognition of his dedication and contributions to the Croatian hospitality sector.**

*“I am glad to honour Mr. Ivica Sabljic with the symbol of prestige of the hospitality sector, for all these years of work contributing to the development of tourism in Croatia”* said Mr. Jens Zimmer Christensen, President of HOTREC.

*“This award aims at recognising Mr. Sabljic’s contribution in the field of the tourism sector over the last decades and is given on behalf and in memory of the Gaspart Bonet Foundation”*, added Mr. Juan Gaspart, Vice-President of EHF.

*“I am delighted that Mr. Sabljic receives the award, which is the Oscar of the hospitality industry and a reward to his dedication to the hotel industry during his entire career”*, commented Christian de Barrin, CEO of HOTREC.

Hospitality professional from Dubrovnik, Ivica Sabljic worked in the hotel sector for 47 years, of which 33 as a director of luxury hotels. He was among the founders and was President of UPUHH, the Association of Employers in Croatian Hospitality. Mr. Sabljic is currently the director of the Valamar Lacrome Dubrovnik Hotel.

The Gaspart Bonet Foundation award is delivered twice a year to a personality who has contributed, in a remarkable manner, and/or for a significant number of years, to the activities of the hospitality industry. The award was designed by Miquel Planas, famous artist and chairman of Sculpture Department of Fine Arts of the Fine Arts Faculty of Barcelona. The next Gaspart Bonet Foundation award ceremony will take place on 23-24 April 2020 in Berlin.

### **What is HOTREC?**

HOTREC represents the hotel, restaurant and café industry at European level. The sector counts in total around 2 million businesses, being 99,5% small and medium sized enterprises (91% are micro enterprises, i.e. employing less than 10 people). These businesses make up some 60% of value added. The industry provides some 11,9 million jobs in the EU alone. Together with the other tourism industries, the sector is the 3rd largest industry in Europe. HOTREC brings together 44 national associations representing the interest of this industry in 32 different European countries.

For further information: [www.hotrec.eu](http://www.hotrec.eu)

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