

### CURRICULUM VITAE

1. **Family name:** Valas
2. **First names:** Helena
3. **Date of birth:** 25.01.1972
4. **Nationality:** Slovenian
5. **Civil status:** Married (maiden family name: Popovič)
6. **Contact:** [helena.valas@inveniam.si](mailto:helena.valas@inveniam.si) or [helenavalas@gmail.com](mailto:helenavalas@gmail.com) , mobile: +38651358627
7. **Education:**

Institution [ Date from - Date to ]	Degree(s) or Diploma(s) obtained:
Central European University 8/1999-12/2000	LL.M. International Business Law
Law School, University of Ljubljana 9/1990-7/1997	LL.B.

8. **Language skills:** Indicate competence on a scale of 1 to 5 (**1 - excellent; 5 - basic**)

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing
Slovenian	1	1	1
English	1	1	1

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing
French	3	3	3
Croatian, Serbian	1	1	1

9. **Membership of professional bodies:** AUTM, ASTP, LESI, ELSA,

10. **Other skills:** Computer literate, strong negotiating skills, project management.

11. **Present position:** IPR & Technology Transfer Consultant

12. **Years of consulting:** 6

13. **Key qualifications:**

- 16 years of general professional experience in diverse working environments with more than 8 years of specific professional experience in the field of research and development and technology transfer from research to development and production phase;
- In depth knowledge and understanding of the collaboration projects between research and development sector and industry, with proven track record of successful technology transfer from research to industry;
- Experience with policy-making and regulation in the field of research and development and technology transfer;
- Experienced in preparation, execution and oversight of research policies with emphasis on IPR protection and commercialisation;
- Working knowledge of project preparation, planning and execution in the field of publicly funded and collaborative and sponsored research projects;
- Familiar with the project cycle management and logframe approach, by working as applicant of EC funded projects;
- Experienced with status assessment, strategic data collection, preparation and conducting of studies in the industry and research sector, with emphasis on strategic alliances and common collaboration projects;
- Experienced in effective linking of multi-actor and multi-disciplinary co-operation between research institutions and industrial partners;
- Experienced lecturer and coach with working knowledge of directing multi party open and public consultations with key stakeholders of diverse interests;
- Working knowledge of the OECD Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy;
- Legal background with diploma and masters degree in International Trade Law.

14. **Specific experience in the region:**

Country	Date from - Date to
Slovenia	1996-ongoing
Hungary	1999-2000 (part time lecturer during masters studies)
Austria	2000 (Attending a PennState Summer School)
Croatia	2009 (lectures on technology transfer for researchers)

15. General experience

Date from - Date to	Location	Company/ Reference	Position	Description
2010 – 2013  2y 8m	Slovenia, USA, Kenya	Polimat – Centre of Excellence for Polymer Materials and Technologies, Prof.dr. Majda Žigon, <a href="mailto:majda.zigon@ki.si">majda.zigon@ki.si</a>	Senior Legal Advisor	<i>Part of project management team in a publicly funded project (10 million EUR) of a research Centre of Excellence - an independent entity that comprises of 22 founders from industry and public research. As part of the innovation policy preparation, we (3 experts) have conducted internal data collection through workshop presentation, questioner and conducted individual interviews. Collected data was analysed and used as a basis for creation of strategy and internal rules on innovation. I have participated in drafting, execution and oversight of internal rules related to innovation and intellectual property rights. Gained <b>expertise in idea and project evaluation</b>, management and <b>maximization of the value of innovations and IP rights</b> portfolio. Given internal lectures and workshops on value of innovation and product lifecycle, participated in spin-off creation and writing of business plan. Provided legal and business consulting, annual budgeting, participated in management committee meetings. Insight into project management of a project with partners of conflicting interests.</i>
2008 – present  6y 4m-ongoing	Slovenia, Croatia,	Helena Valas s.p., TTO and IPR Consultant	TTO Project Manager	<i>Independent consultant on intellectual property, innovation and commercialization for research and industry. One of the clients being the University of Ljubljana, where I worked from Jan. 2008 till April. 2010 as a <b>project leader of a Technology Transfer Office</b>. My duties and responsibilities involved preparation of a business plan, financial planning and reporting, preparation and execution of annual plan for TTO, execution of planed activities, attracting needed funds. During my consultancy at the University of Ljubljana I managed to attract 3 funded projects (look in section 15. below) to the TTO, signed 2 spin-off contracts and negotiated 6 licensing contracts and 4 sponsored research projects with industry. Part of my duties was to supervise the negotiations and IPR clauses at <b>FP projects</b> in which University of Ljubljana was partnering. I participated as a representative of the Republic of Slovenia at the <b>OECD meeting of the Scientific and Technological Policy Committee</b>. I also provided expert help to the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology with drafting regulations related to financing of the technology transfer offices at the public research institutions.  I provide help with <b>business plans</b> to my clients that are mostly from research, development and innovation sectors. With clients such as National Institute of Biology, Centre of Excellence Polimat, Namaste and Cipkebib, I have gained <b>deep insight into research and development sector</b> in Slovenia.As a consultant I provide expert help with multi party consultations in the field of research and innovation, with experience in formulating and analysing questioners for stakeholders and drafting research policies to <b>stimulate innovation with commercial out-put</b>.</i>
2006 – present  7y-ongoing	Slovenia	Amas Consulting d.o.o.	Managing Director	<i>Managing a real estate development company that abruptly lost its founder (Tone Valas) with two big real-estate projects (<b>one worth 5 and the other 50 million EUR</b>) unfinished. Managed to take over control of the company, re-negotiated the company's position in both projects and fulfilled all obligations. Both projects were successfully finished. Company is now in state of "comfortable hibernation" pending the closure of court proceedings. Gained experience in <b>working under stress and time pressure and negotiation skills</b>. Deepened knowledge of project management and financial statements with expertise on project planning.</i>
2000 – 2004  3y 9m	Slovenia	Kapitalska družba d.d., Jože Lenič, <a href="mailto:joze.lenic@abanka.si">joze.lenic@abanka.si</a>	Senior Legal Advisor	<i>Senior Legal Advisor in the asset capital management and corporate governance company that is government owned. Represented the company at shareholders and stakeholders meetings, drafted legal documents and internal rules and procedures, negotiated contracts of sell. Participated at negotiations with other stockholders and shareholders. Gained expertise in <b>financial statement analysis and budget planning</b>. Participated in supervisory board member capacity in one company. Gained working knowledge of <b>writing and evaluating business proposals</b>. Experienced in fund management rules and regulations. Provided legal help and assistance in setting up second pillar pension structure as part of business activity. Actively managing divestment process of several investments. Participating in corporate restructuring and initiating bankruptcy proceedings.</i>
2000  2m	Austria	PennState Summer School	Participant	<i>Two months summer school at Vienna with US Supreme Court justice Scalia as the main lecturer. Gained deep insight into US constitutional system with working knowledge of U.S. practice of statute drafting. Gained experience of working under pressure with <b>dispersed responsibilities and clear division of work</b>.</i>
1999-2000 1y 5m	Hungary	English School, Oxford British School	Part time instructor	<i>During postgraduate studies at the Central European University in Budapest I worked as an English language instructor for two different language schools. Gained experience in lecture preparation, crossing cultural differences and instructor's responsibilities to the attendees.</i>

1997-1999 1y 10m	Slovenia, France	Revoz d.d. – part of Renault S.A. group, Zdravko Slak, <a href="mailto:zdravko.slak@renault.com">zdravko.slak@renault.com</a> (retired)	Junior Legal Advisor	<i>Junior Legal Advisor to Mr. Zdravko Slak, member of the Board of Directors (now retired). Provided legal advice to other internal departments. Gained expertise in the field of legal document drafting with focus on internal rules and procedures. Gained expertise in the field of <b>negotiation tactics and strategies</b> as a back-up member of the team that negotiated with syndicates and factory suppliers. Represented company at the court proceedings and internal disciplinary processes. Gained experience with legislative process at the level of chamber of commerce. Member of the team <b>negotiating collaborative research projects</b> between factory in Novo mesto and Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. Running Legal Department of 3 people and me. Preparing <b>annual budget plans and yearly reports</b> for Legal Department. Writing reports and legal memorandums for Legal Division of Renault in France. Gained insight into <b>corporate governance</b>. Working in multi-cultural environment at different locations.</i>
1996-1997 1y 4m	Slovenia	Slovenian Office for Intellectual Property Janez Kukec Mezek, <a href="mailto:janez.kukec@uii-sipo-si">janez.kukec@uii-sipo-si</a>	Junior Trademark Examiner	<i>Worked as a hired outside help to the Slovenian Office for Intellectual Property. Provided administrative help with transfer of trademarks registered at the Yugoslavia Patent Office to Slovene trademark register. Gained expertise of intellectual property rules and regulations, a deep insight of <b>administrative rules and procedures</b>, working knowledge of classifications and document archive. Project was financed from public budget through Slovenian Office for Intellectual Property and involved 2 Junior Trademark Examiners and a supervisor. It was finished before projected time line.</i>

#### 16. Other relevant information

- **Publications**

- “Arbitration of Industrial Property Disputes”, Helena Popovič, mentor: Prof.dr. Marko Ilešič, publication year 1997, library of Law School, University of Ljubljana
- “A Comparative Analysis of Corporate Defensive Measures in Germany, Slovenia, the United Kingdom and the United States of America”, Helena Popovič, advisor: Richard M. Buxbaum, publication year 2000, library of Central European University, Budapest College

- **Projects**

Title	Engagement	Role	Description
<b>Commercializing NIB's Knowledge</b>	Jul. 2014–Jan. 2015	Project Manager	Assessment, analysis and evaluation of marketable knowledge and services at the National Institute of Biology. Building internal competences for sponsored and joint research projects. <b>Project budget 20.000 EUR.</b>
<b>Setting up a TTO Office</b>	Jan. 2008-Apr. 2010	Project Manager	Setting up a TTO with internal rules and regulations, clear line of employee responsibilities and active protection and commercialization of the employee related innovation created at the University of Ljubljana. Project was financed through public tenders from the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology with <b>annual budget of 70.000 EUR.</b> Activities report: <a href="http://www.riteh.uniri.hr/bolonja/programi/WBC_Regional_Model_UNICOOP_draft.pdf">http://www.riteh.uniri.hr/bolonja/programi/WBC_Regional_Model_UNICOOP_draft.pdf</a>
<b>Promoting Business Potentials through Spin-Off's in Slovenia</b>	Apr. 2008-Apr. 2009	Project Manager for one Partner	Project partners: Innotek vzw, Katholieke Hogeschool Kempen, Ljubljana University Incubator and Ljubljana University. Project goal was development of an idea evaluation tool with emphasis on research environment. Budget: <b>200.000 EUR.</b>
<b>Pilot Project on Technology Transfer</b>	Sep. 2008-Dec. 2010	Project Manager for one Partner	Project run by European Patent Office with partnering TTOs from Universities in Poland, Hungary, Italy, Slovenia, Turkey and Portugal. On the project: <a href="http://www.uprp.pl/uprp_gallery/20/70/20700/11_The_role_of_National_Patent_Offices_in_technology_transfer_-_Gerard_Giroud.pdf">http://www.uprp.pl/uprp_gallery/20/70/20700/11_The_role_of_National_Patent_Offices_in_technology_transfer_-_Gerard_Giroud.pdf</a>

- **Lectures and Work Shops**

- “IPR for Researchers”, May 2009, Summer School for researchers, organized by: European Patent Office, Slovenian Office for Intellectual Property, University of Ljubljana
- “WIPO National Seminar on the Innovation Promotion, Technology Transfer and Successful Technology Transfer”, November 2009, organized by: World Intellectual Property Organization, Slovenian Office for Intellectual Property, Chamber of Commerce of Slovenia

- **“IPR for Researchers”**, May 2010, Summer School for researchers, organized by: European Patent Office, Slovenian Office for Intellectual Property, University of Ljubljana
- **“Intellectual Property Rights and Technology Transfer”**, September 2012, organized by Tehnocenter at the University of Maribor (part of the project FORT)
- **“IPR in Research Environment”**, Nov. 2008, Work Shop for public research organisation Faculty for Electro Engineering, University of Ljubljana
- **“Management of Intellectual Property Rights at the University of Ljubljana”**, Feb. 2009, Lecture at Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana
- **“Technology Transfer at the University of Oxford”**, Mar. 2009, Lecture organized by University of Ljubljana
- **“Efficient Technology Transfer; Are Patents Only Cost or an Opportunity?”**, Apr. 2009, Lecture organized by Inoverzum Ltd. at the University of Ljubljana
- **“Stratgy of IPR Management in an International Business Environment”**, Oct. 2009, Work Shop at the University of Ljubljana
- **“Public Patent Information, Patent Procedures, Innovation Processes and Intellectual Assets”**, Mar., Jun., Dec. 2011, series of Work Shops at the Centre of Excellence POLIMAT
- **“Introduction to IP Protection in Start-up Phase”**, Jun. 2012, Work Shop organized by the USA Embassy in Ljubljana
- **“Key IP Questions”**, Feb. 2014, lecture part of a workshop “Prepare a Winning Business Plan” organized by Technology Park Ljubljana
- **“IP protection and Business Plan”**, July 2014, Work Shop organized by the USA Embassy in Ljubljana