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385/2000 Coll.

ACT

of 5 October 2000

on Judges and Lay-Judges and on amendment and supplementing of certain Acts

Amendment: [385/2000 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [185/2002 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [385/2000 Coll.](#), [670/2002 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [385/2000 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [426/2003 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [458/2003 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [385/2000 Coll.](#), [462/2003 Coll.](#), [505/2003 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [267/2004 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [514/2003 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [403/2004 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [458/2003 Coll.](#), [548/2003 Coll.](#), [267/2004 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [530/2004 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [586/2004 Coll.](#), [609/2004 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [757/2004 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [122/2005 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [609/2004 Coll.](#), [622/2005 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [586/2004 Coll.](#), [622/2005 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [15/2008 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [517/2008 Coll.](#), [520/2008 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [59/2009 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [290/2009 Coll.](#), [291/2009 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [500/2010 Coll.](#), [543/2010 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [33/2011 Coll.](#), [100/2011 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [467/2011 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [503/2011 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [79/2012 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [335/2012 Coll.](#), [392/2012 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [462/2013 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [216/2014 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [195/2014 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [261/2014 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [322/2014 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [335/2012 Coll.](#), [307/2014 Coll.](#), [362/2014 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [443/2015 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [322/2014 Coll.](#), [401/2015 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [125/2016 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [152/2017 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [152/2017 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [314/2018 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [177/2018 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [40/2019 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [282/2019 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [459/2019 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [397/2019 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [241/2020 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [423/2020 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [71/2021 Coll.](#)
Amendment: [423/2020 Coll.](#)

National Council of the Slovak Republic promulgated the following Act:

Article I

PART ONE GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1

Subject matter of the Act

The Act herein regulates the position of Judges, their rights and obligations, rise and end of appointment as a Judge, disciplinary liability of Judges and their entitlements after their appointment as a Judge has ended. It also governs the position of Lay-Judges from amongst citizens (hereinafter only as "Lay-Judge").

Position of Judge and Lay-Judge

Section 2

(1) Judge is a representative of judicial power. Judge performs the authority of the Court at an independent and impartial Court separately from other State bodies.

(2) Judge is independent in their performance of the authority of the Court and they interpret laws and other generally binding legal regulations according to their best knowledge and conscience; they decide impartially, fairly, with no undue delays and only based on facts discovered in accordance with the law.

(3) In the execution of their office Judge is independent and, in their decision-making, they are only bound by the Constitution of the Slovak Republic, constitutional laws, international treaties pursuant to Article 7(2) and (5) of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic and by laws. Legal opinion of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic included in the decision of Judge handed down in proceedings pursuant to Article 125(1) of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic based on the proposal of the court is binding for the court.

(4) Under conditions stipulated by special legislation¹⁾ Judge is also bound by direct legal opinion expressed in its decision by higher instance court.

Section 3

(1) Judge decides in panel or as Sole Judge, unless law stipulates otherwise. Law stipulates when Lay-Judges shall participate on the deliberation of panel of Judges. Only Judge may be a chairperson of panel of Judges.

(2) Both Judges and Lay-Judges are equal in making decisions.

Section 4

(1) Law affords protection to Judges and Lay-Judges from unauthorised interference in their actions.

(2) State also provides for independence of Judges by affording them economic welfare.

PART TWO JUDGES

TITLE ONE POSITION OF JUDGE

Chapter one

Conditions for appointment of Judge and appointment of Judge

Section 5

Conditions for appointment of Judge

(1) Appointed as Judge may be a citizen who:

- a) had reached at least 30 years of age on the day of appointment,
- b) has obtained a masters university degree in law at the faculty of law of a university in the Slovak Republic²⁾ or has a recognized certificate of a masters university degree issued by a foreign university; if they have an undergraduate university degree first and then a master's degree, they are required to have degrees in the field of law,³⁾
- c) has full competence to perform legal acts and is of sufficiently good health to exercise judicial office,⁴⁾
- d) is of beyond reproach,
- e) meets the conditions for judicial competence, which guarantee that they will execute judicial office properly (hereinafter only as "qualifications for judicial competence"),
- f) has permanent residence in the Slovak Republic,
- g) has passed professional judicial examination,
- h) has successfully passed selection procedure, except as otherwise provided by this Act,
- i) has consented with their appointment as a Judge and with allocation to specified Court or with an assignment for a Regional Court circuit as a visiting Judge; such consent must be given in writing.

(2) Appointment as a Judge may not be given to a citizen who has previously performed the function of a Judge and was recalled due to reasons stipulated in Section 18(1)c) or to a citizen against whom there is a pending disciplinary proceedings of removal from office as executor, disciplinary proceedings of disbarment, disciplinary proceedings of disbarment from the chamber of commercial attorneys, disciplinary proceedings of removal from office as notary public, or disciplinary proceedings of removal from office as prosecutor.^{4a)}

(3) As a professional judicial examination pursuant to this Act is also considered bar examination, prosecutor examination, notary public examination and professional examination of commercial attorneys. With the approval of Court Council of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as „Court Council“) the Minister of Justice of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as „Minister“) may waive the obligation to pass professional judicial examination for a person who is demonstrably a scientific or other distinguished personality in the field of law and has been active in the legal profession for at least 10 years. The judicial examination may be waived in accordance with the procedure under the preceding sentence for those who have acted and decided for at least 10 years in the field of public administration or have worked in the field of drafting legislation and their professional experience and knowledge are required to execute judicial office.

(4) Conditions for appointment as a Judge stipulated in Paras 1 c) to f) and the condition of citizenship of the Slovak Republic must be met by the Judge continuously throughout the entire duration of judicial office.

(5) A person being beyond reproach for the purposes of this Act is not considered a natural person who was sentenced with final verdict for premeditated criminal offence including cases where such sentence with final verdict for premeditated criminal offence was expunged or if such person is perceived as though it was not sentenced for such criminal offence pursuant to special legislation.^{4b)} Being beyond reproach is proven by copy of criminal register.⁵⁾ For the purpose of proving integrity under this Act, a natural person shall provide the data necessary to request a copy of the criminal record.^{5aa)} The authorized person shall immediately send the data pursuant to the third sentence in electronic form via electronic communication to the General Prosecution Office of the Slovak Republic for the purpose of issuing such copy of criminal record.

(6) Prerequisites for judicial competence are the moral standard, the integrity of the Judge for proper and responsible execution of their function, as well as the fact that the Judge has no business, property or financial relations with persons from the environment of organised crime.

(7) repealed as of 23.2.2019. *)

Appointment of Judge and tenure of Judge

Section 6

Judges are appointed by the President of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as „President“) upon the proposal of the Judicial Council; they are appointed for indefinite period.

Section 7

Judicial Council shall submit to the President proposal for appointment of Judge only if such person meets all conditions pursuant to Section 5(1) and (3).

Section 8

Repealed as of 16.4.2002

Section 9

Repealed as of 16.4.2002

Section 10

(1) After their appointment a Judge shall administer an oath prescribed by the Constitution of the Slovak Republic into the hands of the President and shall affirm it with their signature.

(2) Refusal to administer an oath or administering an oath with reservation shall result in forfeiture of function as a Judge.

(3) Judge shall assume their appointment on the day of administering an oath.

Chapter two Assignment, temporary assignment and reassignment of Judge

Section 11

Assignment of Judge

(1) Judge is assigned by the Judicial Council from among the candidates for the position of Judge based on the results of a collective selection procedure to execute the office of a District Court Judge or to execute the office of a visiting Judge for a District Court. A Judge is assigned to a Regional Court, a Specialised Criminal Court, the Supreme Administrative Court of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as "Supreme Administrative Court") and the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as "Supreme Court") by Judicial Council based on selection procedure results notified by the selection board chairman.

(2) Judge may be assigned to the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as „Supreme Court“) only after having performed legal profession for at least 15 years. Only a Judge who has practiced law for at least ten years may be assigned to the Supreme Administrative Court.

(3) Only a Judge who has been practicing law for at least seven years may be assigned to a Regional Court and a Specialised Criminal Court in the case of assignment to a Regional Court to an administrative department and at least ten years in other cases.

(4) Assignment of Judge to execute their function at specific Court and the assignment of a Judge for the District Court circuit as a visiting Judge is done on the day of appointment. The Minister is notified of assignment of Judge by the Judicial Council within three days after their assignment.

Section 11a

Visiting Judge

(1) Visiting Judge is a Judge who executes judicial office in a designated District Court in the Regional Court Circuit and who has granted consent to the assignment of a visiting Judge for the Regional Court Circuit.

(2) Visiting Judge shall execute judicial office in the District Court, that shall be determined in writing by the president of the Regional Court pursuant to Para 1 after consultation with the Minister, due to

a) in lieu of a legal Judge during

1. maternity leave or parental leave,
2. six weeks of incapacity for work,
3. temporary assignment,
4. internship,
5. interruption of the performance of the function according to Section 24(1 to 3),
6. temporary suspension of the performance of the function; or
7. delegation of tasks in a body of the European Union,

b) temporary overload of the District Court, only if the visiting Judge is not appointed to execute the office under letter (a).

(3) Execution of judicial office as a visiting Judge in a District Court pursuant to Para 2(a) shall expire on the date on which the Judge represented resumes judicial office. Execution of judicial office as a visiting Judge in a District Court pursuant to Para 2(b) shall end on the date on which the appointment of a Judge as a visiting Judge is determined pursuant to Para 2(a).

(4) After four years of execution of judicial office as a visiting Judge, the visiting Judge may, at their request, be transferred to the vacancy of a Judge in a District Court or based on the results of a selection procedure in a Regional Court. The period referred to in the first sentence shall not include maternity leave, parental leave, internship of a Judge, appointment of a Judge to perform tasks in a European Union body or body created jointly by Member States of the European Union (hereinafter only as "European Union body"), interruption of the execution of judicial office and temporary suspension of the execution of judicial office.

(5) During the execution of their office, the visiting Judge shall be a member of the plenary board of the court in which they execute their office.

(6) The list of visiting Judges shall be kept by the Judicial Council and published on its website.

Title repealed as of 16.4.2002

Section 12

Temporary assignment

(1) Judge may, with their consent, be temporarily assigned to a higher court for the purpose of deepening or upgrading a qualification to perform a current or future office. During the temporary assignment to a higher court, the Judge does not execute their judicial office.

(2) Decision of temporary assignment of Judge is made by Judicial Council based on the proposal of President of the Court, to which the Judge is to be temporarily assigned after obtaining prior standpoint of the President of the Court, at which the Judge is currently executing their office.

(3) Temporary assignment of Judge may not exceed three months within a three-year period.

(4) During temporary assignment the Judge is member of plenary board of the court to which they were temporarily assigned; however, they do not have the right to be elected into bodies of judiciary self-administration of that court, while their elected functions at the court from which they were reassigned do not cease.

Section 12a

Temporary assignment of Judge to exercise the office of President of the Court

(1) To exercise the mandate of President of the Court at lower instance Court or the same instance Court the Judicial Council shall temporarily assign Judge who was appointed into such function pursuant to special legislation.^{5b)} During temporary assignment to exercise the mandate of President of the Court Judge performs their function as a Judge at Court to which they were temporarily assigned. Section 12(3) does not apply to such temporary assignment.

(2) Temporary assignment of Judge to exercise the mandate of President of the Court shall cease by expiry of the function of President of the Court.

Section 13

Internship of Judge

(1) Judge, with their consent, may also perform internship:

- a) Office of the Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as "Judicial Council"),
- b) at the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as the "Ministry"),
- c) in an institution providing training for Judges,^{5c)} or
- d) as a judicial advisor⁶⁾ at the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic.

(2) During internship pursuant to Para 1 Judge may not execute judicial office. Internship of a Judge pursuant to Para 1 is considered execution of judicial office.

(3) Assignment of Judge to internship pursuant to Para 1(b and c) is decided by Minister after discussion with President of the Court at which the Judge is working. In other cases, the Judicial Council decides on the internship of the Judge after position of the Minister is provided and after consultation with the President of the Court at which the Judge is active.

(4) Internship of a Judge shall last a maximum of two years, unless a special law provides otherwise; if necessary to ensure the functioning of the bodies referred to in Para 1, such internship may be extended for a further period of maximum two years.

(5) Provisions of this Act on temporary assignment of Judge shall also apply appropriately to Judge internship.

Section 13a

Commissioning of Judge to perform duties in body of European Union

(1) Judge, with their consent, may be commissioned to perform duties in a body of European Union if pursuant to special legislation it is required that a Judge be a permanent member of such body. Commissioning of Judge to perform duties in a European Union body is considered execution of judicial office. During such commission the Judge does not perform adjudication activities; otherwise, all authorisations as a Judge shall remain with them.

(2) Commissioning of Judge to perform duties in European Union body is decided by Minister.

Section 13b

Delegating Judge to perform crisis management – related work outside of the territory of the Slovak Republic

(1) Judge, with their consent, may be delegated as civilian expert to perform crisis management-related work outside of the territory of the Slovak Republic pursuant to special legislation. ^{6a)} Delegating Judge pursuant to the first sentence is considered execution of judicial office. During such delegation pursuant to the first sentence the Judge does not perform adjudication activities at the territory of the Slovak Republic; otherwise, all authorisations as a Judge shall remain with them.

(2) Delegating of Judge pursuant to Para 1 is decided by Minister.

Section 14

Reassignment of Judge to another court

(1) Court Council may reassign Judge to another Court only with their consent, upon their own request, or upon decision of Disciplinary Panel. Judge may only be reassigned to a vacant position as a Judge specified by Minister pursuant to special legislation^{5a)} and in the case of a transfer of a Judge to a court of the same instance, such Judge may be transferred only to a vacancy determined after the application of the Judge for transfer to another court. Judicial Council shall notify the Minister of reassignment of Judge within three days from reassigning Judge to another Court.

(2) Only a Judge having performed legal profession for at least seven years, in the case of a transfer to a Regional Court to an administrative college and at least ten years in other cases may be reassigned to Regional Court and to Specialised Criminal Court. Only a Judge having performed legal profession for at least 15 years may be reassigned to Supreme Court.

(3) Judge shall be reassigned to a higher instance Court based on results of selection procedure and in accordance with the principle of career advancement of Judges.

(4) Judicial Council shall reassign Judge to lower instance Court upon decision of Disciplinary Panel.

(5) A Judge may be transferred at their request no sooner than five years after the date of their appointment as Judge; for reasons worthy of special consideration, a Judge may, at their request, be transferred before the expiry of that period.

Chapter three Appointment to higher judicial office and removal from it

Section 15

Appointment to higher judicial office

(1) Judge shall be appointed Chairman of Panel by President of the Court of the appropriate Court from amongst the Judges of that Court based on result of selection procedure and after obtaining prior position of Court Council; appointment of Chairman of Panel of the Supreme Court and Chairman of Panel of the Supreme Administrative Court also requires the position of the appropriate Supreme Court Division.

(2) Chairman of District Court Board is elected by members of the appropriate Court Board by secret ballot for three years from amongst Chairmen of Panels of such Court Board. Proposals may be submitted by members of the District Court Board or by President of the Court who shall submit their proposal to the appropriate Court Board.

(3) Chairman of Regional or Supreme Court College is elected by members of the appropriate Supreme Court Board by secret ballot for three years from amongst Chairmen of Panels of the appropriate Court Board. Proposals may be submitted by members of the Regional or Supreme Court Board or by President of the Court who shall submit their proposal to the appropriate Court Board. If the

election of the President of the College is not successful, it shall be repeated every 30 days until the election of the President of the College.

(4) District Court Judge is Chairman of Panel of District Court from the day of their assignment or reassignment to the District Court; provision of Para 1 does not apply to them.

(5) Chairman of Court College, Chairman of Court Board, and Chairman of Panel are not representatives of court administration.

Section 16

Removal and release from higher judicial office and its expiry

(1) Chairman of Panel may be removed from their function upon final decision of Disciplinary Panel.

(2) Upon proposal of the President of the Court or upon proposal of at least two thirds of members of District Court Board the Court Board shall decide about removal of District Court Board Chairman by secret ballot.

(3) Upon proposal of the President of the Court or upon proposal of at least two thirds of members of the Court College the Court College shall decide about removal of the Court College Chairman by secret ballot. The function of the Chairman of the College is terminated upon merger of colleges.

(4) Judge, upon their own request, shall be released from the function of Chairman of Panel except of the function of the Chairman of Panel of the District Court or Chairman of Regional or Supreme Court Division no later than within two months from having requested to be released from such function. Such release is decided by President of the Court.

(5) The right to perform a function into which Judge was appointed pursuant to Section 15(2) shall cease on the day on which decision of removal or release from such function was delivered to the Judge.

(6) Function of Chairman of Panel shall expire by reassignment of Chairman of Panel to a higher instance Court.

Chapter four Expiry of judicial office

Section 17

Grounds for expiry of judicial office

Judicial office shall expire by:

- a) disqualification from office (Section 18),
- b) abdication from office (Section 19),
- c) incapacitation to execute legal acts or limiting capacity to execute legal acts (Section 20(1)),
- d) failure to remove the grounds for incompatibility with execution of judicial office (Section 23(1)),
- e) failure to take oath or by taking oath with reservation (Section 10(2)),
- f) renouncing of oath (Section 151 Para 4),
- g) day stipulated in Article 146(2) of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic,

h) death.

Section 18

Removal from judicial office

(1) President shall remove Judge from office:

- a) by virtue of final Judgement imposing sentence for premeditated criminal offence,
- b) if such Judge was sentenced for criminal offence with final Judgement and the Court in their case had not ruled on suspension of imprisonment sentence,
- c) by virtue of decision of Disciplinary Panel for action, which is incompatible with execution of judicial office,
- d) if their electability to the National Council of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter only as "National Council") had expired.

(2) President may, pursuant to [Article 147\(2\) of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic](#) remove Judge from office, if:

(3) If there is a ground for removal of Judge from office pursuant to Paras 1 or 2, Court Council shall submit to the President proposal for removal of Judge from office. If grounds exist for removal of Judge from office pursuant to Para 2, Minister shall notify the Court Council of this fact.

(4) Judicial office shall expire on the day of delivery to the Judge of decision on disqualification.

Section 19

Abdication from judicial office

A Judge may resign as a Judge by written notice to the President. In such a case, judicial office shall expire at the end of the calendar month in which such written notice of resignation was delivered to the President. The resignation of a Judge shall also be deemed to be the signing of a declaration in which the Judge agrees to their candidacy on the list of candidates of a political party or political movement in elections to the National Council and elections to the European Parliament pursuant to a special regulation.^{6b)} In the case according to the previous sentence, the State Commission for Elections and Control of Political Party Financing according to a special regulation^{6c)} is obliged to deliver to the President a copy of the Judge's statement approving their candidacy on the list of candidates of political parties in elections to the European Parliament pursuant to a special regulation^{6b)} within five days of receiving the list of candidates annexed to it by a special regulation^{6b)}; such declaration may also be delivered to the President by the Judge concerned, without prejudice to the duty of the State Commission for Elections and Control of the Financing of Political Parties under this sentence; delivery of declaration of the Judge to the President by the State Commission for Elections and Control of Funding of Political Parties or by the Judge concerned pursuant to this sentence shall be deemed to be delivery of the resignation of the Judge to the President for the purposes of the first sentence.

Section 20

Other grounds for expiry of office

(1) Judicial office shall expire on the day of Judgement on incapacitation to execute legal acts or limiting capacity to execute legal acts coming into force, and by death of Judge.

(2) The Judge shall send a notification under [Article 146\(2\) of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic](#) to the attention of the Ministry.

Section 21

Entitlements related to expiry of judicial office

(1) If Judge was removed from office pursuant to Section 18(2) or if they had abdicated from office by virtue of these grounds, they shall be entitled to five-month salary from the end of execution of office in the amount equal to that of the last base salary. That shall not apply if the Judge is entitled to severance pursuant to Para 2.

(2) Upon expiry of judicial office of Judge having qualified for retirement pension, early retirement pension, or disability pension the Judge shall be entitled to retirement benefit in the amount of base salary, if they executed judicial office for at least five years. This rate shall be increased for each additional completed year of execution of judicial office up to 20 years of service by 20 % of the base salary of Judge and for each additional year of executing the judicial office up to 50% of the basic salary of a Judge up to 24 years of service. For the 25th and each additional completed year of execution of judicial office the retirement benefit shall be increased by one base salary, however only up to the maximum of multiple of ten of the last specified base salary of Judge.

(3) Severance shall be paid no later than on the day the last judicial salary is payable. Severance shall be reduced by the amount that is equal to that of the entitlement to benefit for early termination of judicial office, if any severance was paid.

(4) If Judge shall die or shall be declared dead, the surviving spouse is entitled to 50% of the amount of severance, to which the Judge would be entitled on the day of death. Each surviving child qualifying for orphan's annuity is entitled to 10% of the amount of severance, to which the Judge would be entitled on the day of death. If the amount of severance for the surviving spouse and children would exceed 100% of the severance, payment shall be reduced pro rata for each one of them. If there is no surviving spouse, the entitlement to 50% of the amount of severance shall pass on the surviving children of the Judge. If Judge shall die during the execution of judicial office or in relation to it, the severance shall be paid in full. This provision applies to surviving relatives even though the Judge did not apply for pension.

(5) Judge shall not be entitled to severance if they were removed from office pursuant to Section 18(1) or if disciplinary proceedings were terminated due to abdication from judicial office.

(6) If, at the time of leaving office, a Judge is charged with a premeditated criminal offense, the severance shall be paid after the lawful conclusion of the criminal prosecution; however, a Judge is not entitled to severance if they have been convicted of an intentional criminal offense.

Chapter five Temporary suspension of judicial office

Section 22

(1) Judge facing criminal charges for premeditated criminal offence or disciplinary proceedings for actions, for which they may be disqualified from judicial office, may be temporarily suspended from judicial office until final conclusion of criminal proceedings, disciplinary proceedings, or until decision of President on disqualification from judicial office.

(2) Temporary suspension from judicial office is decided by Disciplinary Panel upon the motion of:

a) Minister, if the Judge is facing criminal charges for premeditated criminal offence,

b) he, who lodged motion for initiating disciplinary proceedings against the Judge for actions, for which they may be disqualified from judicial office.

c) repealed as of 15.10.2019

(3) Disciplinary panel shall decide on motion for temporary suspension from judicial office within 10 days from lodging of such motion and appellate Disciplinary Panel shall decide within 10 days from delivery of appeal; the appeal does not have deferring effect.

(4) Decision on temporary suspension from judicial office may be cancelled by the same Disciplinary Panel which had decided on temporary suspension from judicial office even during disciplinary proceedings, namely forthwith upon motion of the same person having lodged the motion of temporary suspension from judicial office, or upon motion of the Judge against whom the disciplinary proceedings are pending, or also without any motion. Judge, against whom the disciplinary proceedings is pending may lodge again motion to cancel temporary suspension from judicial office no earlier than after one month from decision on rejection of previous such motion had become effective.

(5) Judge, who was temporarily suspended from judicial office, shall be entitled to salary from the day of suspension in the amount of 30% of base salary. Thus, paid salary shall be increased by 10% of base salary for each dependent child, however up to the maximum of 50% of base salary. During the temporary suspension from judicial office the Judge may not stay at workplace with the exception of time necessary for claiming entitlements of Judge relating to their personnel office.

(6) Temporary suspension from judicial office shall cease on the day of resolution on termination of criminal proceedings or on conditional termination of criminal proceedings, Judgement or ruling of Disciplinary Panel becoming final; the above shall not apply if the actions for which the Judge was temporarily suspended from judicial office was a premeditated criminal offence, for which they were sentenced with final verdict, or if the actions, for which they were temporarily suspended from judicial office had resulted in the Judge being imposed with disciplinary measure of disqualification from judicial office. Judge is obliged to notify forthwith the Court Council of such circumstances.

(7) If temporary suspension from judicial office shall cease pursuant to Para 6, the Judge shall receive the difference by which their salary was cut. If temporary suspension from judicial office shall cease pursuant to Para 4, the Judge shall receive the difference by which their salary was cut after ruling pursuant to Para 6 shall become effective; the above does not apply if the actions for which the Judge was temporarily suspended from judicial office was a premeditated criminal offence, for which they were sentenced with final verdict, or if the actions, for which they were temporarily suspended from judicial office had resulted in the Judge being imposed with disciplinary measure of removal from judicial office.

Section 22a

(1) It is possible to temporarily suspend the execution of judicial office concerning whom there are reasonable doubts that they qualify as a Judge if the credibility of the judiciary or the reputation of the judiciary is seriously jeopardized.

(2) The temporary suspension of a Judge pursuant to Para 1 shall be decided by the Court Council on the proposal of the President of the Court Council or the Minister, and in the case of Judges of the Supreme Administrative Court on the proposal of the President of the Supreme Administrative Court. A Judge has the right to comment on a motion to temporarily suspend a Judge at a meeting of the Court Council, to which they shall be invited by the President of the Court Council.

(3) The Court Council shall decide on the application for temporary suspension of judicial office pursuant to Para 1 within 30 days of receipt of the application for temporary suspension of judicial office.

(4) The temporary suspension of judicial office pursuant to Para 1 shall last until a maximum of six months until the grounds for the temporary suspension of judicial office have ceased to exist. The temporary suspension of judicial office pursuant to Para 1 may be extended by the Court Council, on a proposal from the President of the Court Council or the Minister, for a maximum of six months. The total period of temporary suspension of a Judge under Para 1 may not exceed 12 months.

(5) The decision to suspend a Judge pursuant to Para 1 and the decision to extend the temporary suspension of a Judge may be revoked by the Court Council at the request of the person proposing the temporary suspension of judicial office or extension thereof, at the request of the Judge concerned or without a motion. The Judge may re-file their application for annulment of the temporary suspension of judicial office pursuant to the preceding sentence not earlier than one month after the date of adoption of resolution of the Court Council rejecting their previous application.

(6) A Judge whose execution of judicial office is temporarily suspended pursuant to Para 1 shall be entitled to a salary in the amount of 80% of the base salary from the date of suspension. During the

temporary suspension of the office of a Judge, the Judge may not remain at the place of work, except for the time necessary for claiming entitlements of Judge relating to their personnel office.

(7) If the temporary suspension of the execution of judicial office pursuant to Para 1 expires upon the expiration of the period pursuant to Para 4, the Judge shall be paid the difference by which their functional salary was reduced. If the temporary suspension is lifted in accordance with Para 5, the Judge shall be reimbursed for the difference by which their salary was reduced; this shall not apply if the execution of judicial office pursuant to Section 22 has been temporarily suspended and the actions for which the Judge was temporarily suspended from the execution of judicial office pursuant to Section 22 was a premeditated criminal offense for which they were legally convicted or if the Judge was the execution of judicial office has been temporarily suspended pursuant to Section 22, and disciplinary action has been imposed on the dismissal of a Judge.

Section 22b

(1) If during a temporary suspension of the office of a Judge for any of the reasons under Section 22 or Section 22a a new reason for temporary suspension of the Judge arises, the competent authority under Section 22 or Section 22a shall decide to extend the reasons for temporary suspension of the Judge.

(2) If a Judge has temporarily suspended the execution of their office of a Judge for several reasons, the difference by which the functional salary of a Judge was reduced may be paid to the Judge only when all reasons for temporary suspension of the execution of judicial office cease to exist.

Chapter six Incompatibility and suspension of judicial office

Section 23

Incompatibility of judicial office

(1) Execution of judicial office is incompatible with office in another public administration body, including the office of President of the Court Council and Vice-President of the Court Council, civil service, employment contract, similar employment relationship, entrepreneurship, membership in managing or supervisory body of legal person engaging in business activities, or with any other economic or gainful activity except for administering own property, scientific, educational, literary or art activities, and except for membership on Court Council.

(2) In case of doubt the Court Council shall decide on obligation to resign from such office or cease such activity except for membership on Court Council.

(3) Judge may hold mandate in professional organisation of Judges and in trade union organisation.

Section 24

Suspension of judicial office

(1) Execution of judicial office is suspended on the day when Judge had become:

a) President, Member of Government, Chairperson or head of other type of Central body of State Administration, State Secretary, or

b) Justice of Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic.

c) President of the Court Council, or

d) Prosecutor General or Special Prosecutor.

(2) Execution of judicial office is also suspended on the day when Judge shall register as candidate for election of President of the Slovak Republic, or local elections. Such suspension shall continue over additional three months after announcement of elections results, if such Judge was not elected, or additional three months after end of execution of office into which the Judge was elected.

(3) Minister shall suspend judicial office of Judge who works in international organisation or in international judicial bodies established to execute international treaty binding for Slovak Republic, if such activity prevents them from executing judicial office.

(4) Minister shall suspend judicial office of Judge who shall meet the conditions for entitlement for allowance for execution of judicial office pursuant to Section 95(1). If, after suspension the Judge shall resume their judicial office the allowance for execution of judicial office shall not be paid to such Judge during the execution of judicial office.

(5) Minister, after receiving the position of the Court Council, may grant the application of Judge for suspension of judicial office due to serious family or personal grounds. Such suspension may not exceed five years.

(6) Vacant position of the Judge whose execution of judicial office was suspended pursuant to Para 4 may, after designation by the Minister by the virtue of special legislation^{5a)}, become judicial vacancy.

(7) Judge, whose execution of judicial office was suspended pursuant to Paras 1 and 3 or Para 5, may resume their judicial office either at the same Court at which they executed judicial office prior to suspension of execution of judicial office or at another Court, to which they were reassigned by the Court Council; the Judge shall notify the Ministry of such fact at least 60 days prior to resuming execution of judicial office. If the execution of judicial office of Judge was suspended due to election for President, Member of the National Council, Member of Government, Prosecutor General, Special Prosecutor, Chairperson or head of other type of Central body of State Administration, State Secretary, they may not apply for the mandate of President of the Court of Vice-president for the period of one year from the end of suspension of judicial office.

(8) Judge, whose execution of judicial office was suspended pursuant to Para 4 may, with the consent of the President of the Court and the Court Council, re-enter the duties of a Judge in the court where they were serving before the suspension of execution of their judicial office or in another court transferred or temporarily assigned by the Court Council, if there is a temporary vacancy of a Judge in the competent court determined by the Minister pursuant to a special regulation^{5a)}. The date of commencement and duration of office in this case shall be determined by the President.

(9) Judge, whose execution of judicial office was suspended pursuant to Para 4 shall, on the day of their election as a member of the evaluation panel, take up judicial office in the court in which they served as a Judge before the suspension, if there is a vacancy in that court or in another court to which they were reassigned by the Court Council.

Chapter seven

Relationship between Judge and the State

Section 25

Legal relations of Judge

(1) Appointment as Judge gives rise to and expiry of judicial office shall cease special relationship of Judge to the State, which result in rights and obligations of both the Judge and the State as governed by this Act. Acting on behalf of the State in such relations is the central body of State Administration, whose jurisdiction is governed by special regulation.⁹⁾

(2) Execution of judicial office shall begin on the day of taking oath and shall cease on the day of termination of judicial office or on the day of suspension of judicial office, except as otherwise provided by this Act.

(3) Personnel office of the Judge shall keep documents pertaining to the Judge and the execution of their office in the personal file of the Judge. Judge has the right to be made acquainted with the content of their personal file and with the fact if their personal file was submitted or reassigned to another Court of central body of court administration, including the grounds for such procedure. Personnel office of the Judge shall furnish the Judge with copies of documents filed in their personal file and shall enable them to make extracts from and photocopies of documents filed in their personal file.

(4) Personnel office of the Judge is the Court to which the Judge was assigned, reassigned, or temporarily assigned pursuant to Section 12a. Personnel office of visiting Judge is the Regional Court. Personnel office of Judge is the ministry if the Judge had suspended the execution of judicial office or if the Judge is receiving allowance for execution of judicial office or if they are a surviving relative after Judge receiving allowance to survivorship annuity.

(5) Personnel office of the Judge shall issue to the Judge their identity card on the day of assuming judicial office. Judge, whose judicial office was suspended or whose execution of judicial office was temporarily suspended, is obliged to return their identity card to the personnel office.

Section 26

Court Councils

Court Councils established pursuant to special regulation¹⁰⁾ also act to protect the rights and eligible interests of Judges. If the appropriate Court Council does not provide its position or if it does not decide on matters submitted to it for providing position or making decision pursuant to this Act within 30 days, any procedure pending shall continue without its position or decision. However, it is required to request the position of appropriate Court Council if the matter in question involves appointment to Higher Judicial Office (Section 15).

Chapter eight Evaluation of Judge and selection procedure

Section 27

Annual statistical report of Judge

(1) Before 31st March each year the President of the Court shall make out an annual statistical report of Judge (hereinafter only as "report") for the preceding calendar year.

(2) The report shall include the following information:

- a) designation of Court,
- b) title, name and family name of Judge,
- c) number and composition of unfinished cases assigned to the Judge as of the first and the last day of the calendar year,
- d) number of cases assigned to the Judge during the calendar year
- e) number and composition of decided cases during the calendar year,
- f) number of finished cases during the calendar year,
- g) number of publicly heard cases during the calendar year,
- h) number of days worked, number of scheduled hearing days including the number of utilised hearing days during the calendar year,
- i) number of decisions of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic pertaining to decision-making of the Judge and by which the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic had declared violation of right

to public hearing of one's case with no undue delays or violation of other fundamental rights and freedoms specifying the number of cases, in which delays in proceedings had occurred before such case was assigned to the Judge under evaluation,

j) information on average performance pursuant to c) to g) in the same type of docket at particular Court and the Slovak-wide average performance pursuant to c) to g) in the same type of docket,

k) reasons why Judge is participating in execution of judicial office in reduced scope,

l) information on the manner in which appellate panels had decided cases assigned to the Judge,

m) information on participation of the Judge in training activities pursuant to this Act,

n) information on performance of Judge pursuant to Para 3,

o) date on which the report was made out,

p) title, name and family name of the President of the Court,

q) signature of the President of the Court.

(3) President of the Court shall further include in the report comparison of data pursuant to Para 2(c to g) with the data pursuant to Para 2 j) together with reasoning thereof. If the result of such comparison is lower performance of Judge than average pursuant to Para 2 j) the President of the Court shall also include in the report information on measures adopted to remove the discovered shortcomings^{10a)} or reasons for not adopting such measures.

(4) In the case of a panel of Judges, case assigned to Judge is considered the one assigned to Judge as a Judge-Rapporteur.

(5) Sample report is published by the Ministry on its website.

(6) Written report is part of personal file of Judge. President of the Court shall arrange for publication of report of Judge on the website of the Ministry no later than by 30th April of each calendar year.

Evaluation of Judge

Section 27a

(1) Evaluation of Judge is done:

a) after five years of execution of judicial office; evaluation period in such case is the period of five years preceding the current evaluation,

b) as regards to selection procedure; the above does not apply if a Judge evaluation not older than one year is submitted to the selection committee,

c) on application of person authorised to submit motion to initiate disciplinary proceedings (Section 120(2)); evaluation period in such case is the period of five years preceding the current evaluation, or the period of execution of judicial office if Judge has been executing their office for period shorter than five years,

d) if Judge shall request evaluation

e) after one year, if the immediate previous evaluation included conclusion "unfit".

(2) For the purposes of arranging for evaluation of Judge pursuant to Para 1(b) they, who declare selection procedure, shall notify forthwith the person doing the evaluation of Judge that the Judge to be evaluated in relation to selection procedure had applied for the selection procedure.

(3) First evaluation of Judge pursuant Para 1 a) is done after five years of execution of judicial office.

Section 27b

(1) Evaluation of Judges in the Regional Court Circuit is performed by a three-member evaluation commission composed of Judges. A Judge who has suspended the performance of their office and receives a bonus for the execution of judicial office, as well as a person whose position of Judge has ceased to exist pursuant to [Article 146 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic](#).

(2) The members of the evaluation committee are elected and removed by the Court Council. For the Regional Court Circuit, three members from the Judges of another circuit of the Regional Court are elected. The term of office of the members of the evaluation committee is five years. A proposal for the election of a member of the evaluation commission may be submitted to the Court Council by a member of the Court Council, the Minister, the professional organization of Judges, the college of chairmen of Court Councils and the Court Councils.

(3) A Judge elected as a member of the evaluation committee does not execute judicial office. Membership in the evaluation committee is considered to be the execution of judicial office. The provisions of this Act on the temporary assignment of a Judge shall apply appropriately to a member of the evaluation commission.

(4) The evaluation of a Judge of the Supreme Court and a Judge of the Supreme Administrative Court shall be performed by the chairman of the college, of which the evaluated Judge is a member. The chair of the college is evaluated by another member of the college appointed by the college.

Section 27c

Evaluation of Judge is based on:

- a) research of their adjudication activity, continuity and dignity of managing Court hearings during the evaluated period, taking into account the legal and factual complexity of cases assigned to the Judge,
- b) opinions of appellate panels, or extraordinary appeal panels, as appropriate,
- c) statement of President of the Court on performance of evaluated Judge and, if the Judge being Judged is a visiting Judge, from the statements of the presidents of the courts in which the visiting Judge was a Judge during the period under assessment; the statement of the President of the Court in which the visiting Judge performed the function of a Judge during the evaluated period, this President of the Court is obliged to prepare and deliver to the personnel office of the visiting Judge immediately after the termination of judicial office at this court,
- d) own knowledge of the person doing the evaluation of Judge (Section 27b) and on the opinion of Chairman of Panel,
- e) status and causes of older pending cases and delays in proceedings and on reports pursuant to Section 27,
- f) from the position of the Court Council on compliance with the principles of judicial ethics and, if the Judge being Judged is a visiting Judge, from the opinions of the Court Councils of the courts at which the visiting Judge served as a Judge; the opinion of the Court Council of the court in which the visiting Judge performed the function of a Judge during the evaluated period, this Court Council is obliged to prepare and deliver to the personnel office of the visiting Judge immediately after the termination of the Judge's office in this court.

Section 27d

(1) Research pursuant to Section 27c Para 1 a) is done by an evaluation commission. Research of the docket of Judge is based on internal review report conducted at the Court, to which Judge was

assigned, reassigned, or at which the Judge served as a visiting Judge. If the internal review report is not sufficient for the purpose of evaluation of Judge, the evaluation commission shall mainly focus on:

- a) adherence to regulations on conduct of Court hearing, particulars of hearing records and decisions, observance of legal deadlines for proceedings and decision-making,
- b) timeliness of execution and persuasiveness of decisions,
- c) level of preparation of Court hearings and the course of Court hearings, utilisation of hearing days and reasons for adjourning hearings; for this purpose, the commission members shall attend randomly selected hearings conducted by the evaluated Judge.

(2) When examining the judicial files of the evaluated Judge, the evaluation commission will examine at least 10 and at most 15 court files, but at least two court files for each evaluated year, and on five court files selected by the evaluated Judge; they must not be court files in cases with the same subject-matter, and at the same time most court files must relate to cases in which a decision has been given in the main proceedings. Examination of court files can only cover legally concluded cases; this does not apply to cases long overdue.

(3) Based on conducted research the evaluation commission shall award the evaluated Judge a maximum of 30 points.

(4) Activities referred to in Paras 1 to 3 at the Supreme Court and at the Supreme Administrative Court shall be carried out by a three-member commission appointed by the Court Council of the Judges of the competent court; on the basis of the survey carried out, the commission will award a maximum of 30 points to the evaluated Judge, of which it will submit a written report to the chairman of the relevant college.

(5) Based on positions of appellate panels or extraordinary appeal panels, position of the Court Council concerning adherence to the principles of judicial ethics and based on own knowledge of the person doing the evaluation of Judge concerning actions of the evaluated Judge he, who conducts the evaluation (Section 27b) shall award the evaluated Judge a maximum of 35 points.

(6) Based on reports pursuant to Section 27 and based on own knowledge concerning actions of the evaluated Judge, President of the Court shall award the evaluated Judge a maximum of 35 points, on which they shall provide written notice to whom, who conducts the evaluation of Judge (Section 27b).

Section 27e

(1) Result of evaluation of Judge is the following verdict:

- a) "excellent", if the sum of points awarded pursuant to Section 27d is 86 to 100,
- b) "good", if the sum of points awarded pursuant to Section 27d is 60 to 85,
- c) "unfit", if the sum of points awarded pursuant to Section 27d is 59 and less.

(2) Verdict pursuant to Para 1 must be reasoned.

(3) He, who conducts the evaluation of Judge shall make out written evaluation of Judge within 15 days from submission of written reports pursuant to Section 27d and shall notify the Judge with the evaluation no later than within 15 days from making out the written evaluation of Judge.

(4) Judge has the right to request supplementation or clarification of their evaluation within 15 days from its delivery. If the Judge does not request supplementation or clarification of the evaluation within the deadline specified in the previous sentence, the evaluation of the Judge is final.

(5) If he, who conducts the evaluation of Judge does not fully sustain the objections of the Judge, Court Council of the Court at which the Judge is executing judicial office, shall present its opinion on the disputed issues at hand, which shall be attached to the evaluation of the Judge. He, who

conducts the evaluation of Judge may, based on the opinion of the Court Council, change the evaluation of the Judge; if the evaluation of Judge has been changed, thusly amended evaluation of Judge is final. Evaluation of Judge is not up for judicial review.

Section 27f

(1) If the evaluation of Judge is done in relation to selection procedure to the position of President of the Court, the evaluation of Judge is based on facts stipulated in Section 27c b), c) and f); provisions of Section 27d Paras 5 and 6 shall not apply.

(2) Verdict pursuant to Section 27e Para 1 is based on facts determined pursuant to Para 1.

(3) If the candidate for the position of President of the Court is the President of the Court of Court Vice-President, position pursuant to Section 27c c) shall be provided by Chairman of District Court Board or Chairman of Regional and Supreme Court Board, who is the President of the Court of Court Vice-President is a member of.

Section 27g

Under selection procedure to a vacancy at higher instance Court the Judge shall only participate in test translation from foreign language, psychological assessment, and verbal part of the selection procedure if the immediately preceding evaluation of the Judge pursuant to Section 27a Para 1 a) resulted in verdict "excellent"; that does not apply if the verdict of evaluation of Judge pursuant to Section 27a Para 1 a) was "good" or "unfit".

Section 27h

He, who conducts the evaluation of Judge shall ensure that the evaluation of Judge is published in full on the Ministry website, no later than 30 days from the date on which the evaluation of Judge became final; together with the evaluation of Judge, it shall also publish the objections of the Judge, if they have been applied, including the position of the Court Council, as well as the evaluation of Judge changed pursuant to § 27e par. 5.

Selection procedure

Section 28

(1) Each vacancy of a Judge and a vacancy of a visiting Judge designated by the Minister pursuant to special regulation^{5a)} shall be filled on the basis of a selection procedure; the vacancy of a Judge in a District Court and the vacancy of a Judge in a Regional Court may be filled by transferring a Judge to a court of the same instance pursuant to § 14 para. 1 and the vacancy of a Judge in a District Court may also be filled by transferring a visiting Judge pursuant to § 11a par. 4. The records of applications of Judges for transfer to the court of the same instance shall be kept by the Court Council, which shall immediately inform the Ministry of any application received.

(2) The selection procedure for the position of Judge in the District Court is carried out as a collective selection procedure for an unspecified number of vacancies for Judges and for an unspecified number of vacancies for visiting Judges. The number of candidates for the position of Judge occupied by a collective selection procedure is determined for the district of each Regional Court by the Minister after consultation with the Court Council, based on the expected number of vacancies for Judges and the estimated number of vacancies for visiting Judges in the respective calendar year.

(3) The selection procedure for the position of Judge at Regional Court, Specialised Criminal Court, Supreme Court and Supreme Administrative Court is carried out for a predetermined number of vacancies for Judges.

(4) The selection procedure for the position of Judge verifies professional knowledge, general overview, which must be required considering the level of the court where the selection procedure takes place, ability to think creatively, speed of thinking and ability to decide, verbal expression, personal prerequisites, health status and foreign language skills of the candidate.

(5) The selection procedure is public, except for the voting of the selection committee and the psychological assessment. If the public can be expected to show greater interest in the meeting, the administrative and organisational body organising the selection procedure is obliged to hold the selection procedure in a suitable room, taking into account the extent of the expected interest and capacity available.

(6) The selection procedure shall be conducted in accordance with the principle of equal treatment.⁷⁾

Section 28a

(1) The collective selection procedure is announced by the President of the Court Council at least once a year in the spring or autumn period with territorial jurisdiction for the circuit of each Regional Court so that the collective selection procedures are held on the same date. Selection procedure according to Section 28(3) shall be declared by the President of the Court in which the vacancy of the Judge is filled within 60 days from the date of the determination of the vacancy of the Judge, otherwise the determination of the vacancy of the Judge shall expire; this does not apply if the vacancy of the Judge is filled by transfer.

(2) The selection procedure shall be announced publicly on the website of the Court Council and the Ministry, in periodicals with nationwide coverage and in other generally accessible means of communication with reference to the details stated in the tender notice published on the website of the Court Council and the Ministry at least 60 days before it being held.

(3) The selection procedure is supported administratively and organisationally

- a) the President of the competent Regional Court in the case of a collective selection procedure, or
- b) the President of the competent court, in the case of a selection procedure according to Section 28(3).

Section 28b

(1) In addition to a Judge, a person who has reached the age of 30 on the first day of the selection procedure at the latest and meets the preconditions for appointment as a Judge pursuant to Section 5(1)(b) to (d), (f), (g) and (2). *

(2) Applicant shall, together with the application for participation in selection procedure, submit written statement, in which they shall state the list of related persons^{7a)} who are Judges, employees of Court, Ministry, including budget-funded or contribution-funded organisations under the jurisdiction of the Ministry, or members of selection commission, stating their name, family name, function held and designation of institution. Such statements shall be published together with application for participation in selection procedure. The applicant is also obliged to submit an asset declaration together with the application for inclusion in the selection procedure, which must contain data pursuant to this Act.

(3) The President of the Court according to Section 28a(3) is obliged to ensure the publication of all applications for inclusion in the selection procedure, professional CVs of candidates and their motivation letters on the website of the Ministry, at least 30 days before the selection procedure. Within 20 days of the publication of the applications under the previous sentence, anyone may make justified reservations to the Ministry against the candidates; the Ministry shall submit them together with the applications to the selection committee. The selection committee shall request the opinion of the persons concerned by such reservations. The President of the Court according to Section 28a(3) on the website of the Ministry shall ensure the publication of the date and place of the selection procedure and the list of members of the selection committee, at least 15 days before the selection procedure being held.

Section 28c

(1) The collective selection procedure consists of a written test, a case study, elaboration of court decisions, translation from a foreign language, psychological assessment and an oral part and a selection procedure pursuant to Section 28(3) consists of a case study, drafting court decisions,

translation from a foreign language, psychological assessment and an oral part. The written test, case study, court files for the purposes of drafting a court decision and translation from a foreign language are drawn on the day of the selection procedure by a selection committee from designated databases created and managed by the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic. Psychological assessment is performed by applying psychodiagnostic methods determined by the Ministry.

(2) The oral part of the selection procedure shall also be recorded with the use of technical equipment intended for sound recording.

(3) After the end of the selection procedure, the chairman of the selection committee shall ensure the preparation of the list of candidates ranked by the order of success. In the event of a tie, it shall be decided by lot. In a collective selection procedure, the number of successful candidates is determined according to the number of vacancies filled by candidates for the position of Judge for the circuit of the relevant Regional Court. Successful candidates in a collective competition become candidates for the position of Judge for the circuit of the relevant Regional Court. A candidate for the position of a Judge is also an applicant for the position of a Judge who is not a Judge and who placed first in the selection procedure, in case of a selection procedure pursuant to Section 28(3).

(4) The chairman of the selection committee is obliged to ensure the publication of the minutes on the course of the selection procedure, sound recording pursuant to Para 2 and the list pursuant to Para 3 on the Ministry website within 24 hours of the end of the selection procedure.

Section 28d

(1) Based on the results of the collective selection procedure, the Ministry shall create a database of candidates for the position of Judge, separately for the circuit of each Regional Court.

(2) The vacancy of a Judge in a District Court in the circuit of Regional Court and the vacancy of a visiting Judge may be filled only from the database of candidates for the position of Judge created for circuit of this Regional Court. If, in accordance with the previous sentence, the vacancy of a Judge or the vacancy of a visiting Judge cannot be filled due to the fact that no candidate for the position of Judge is included in the database, the vacancy for a Judge may also be filled from candidates for the position of Judge created for circuit of another Regional Court; the provision of Para 3 shall apply accordingly.

(3) In the databases referred to in Para 1, candidates for the position of Judge shall be ranked according to their success in the collective selection procedure. Based on the results of the next collective selection procedure, the databases referred to in Para 1 shall be supplemented according to the order of success of the candidates for the post of Judge from the next collective selection procedure by including them in the database for candidates for the post of Judge previously included in the database. Vacancies for Judges and vacancies for visiting Judges shall be filled by candidates for judicial office according to their success in the collective selection procedure, which shall be listed first in the database referred to in Para 1.

(4) A candidate for the position of a Judge is obliged to complete preparatory education aimed at acquiring the practical skills necessary for the execution of judicial office and to notify the Ministry of the completion of preparatory education.

(5) The databases pursuant to Para 1 shall be published on the website of the Ministry. In addition to the title, name and surname of candidates for the position of Judge, they also include information on the fulfilment of the prerequisites for judicial competence and on the completion of preparatory education.

Section 28e

Selection procedure to fill the vacancy of Chairman of panel of higher instance Court is promulgated for the Judges of the appropriate Court and is comprised of oral part. The number of members and the composition of selection commission for selection procedure pursuant to the first sentence shall be determined according to the principles applicable for appointment to a higher judiciary function.

Section 28f

(10) Generally binding legal regulation issued by the Ministry shall stipulate the particulars of promulgating selection procedure, list of documents the applicants shall submit, manner of conducting the selection procedure, remuneration of selection commission members who are not Judges, details of written test, case study, drafting judicial decisions, translation from foreign language, psychological assessment, and of verbal component of the selection procedure, details on creating databases pursuant to Section 28c(4), manner of evaluating results of the selection procedure and the particulars of the minutes from the course of the selection procedure.

Section 29

(1) Selection procedure pursuant to Section 28(1) shall be conducted by a five-member selection commission. Members of the selection commission, always after promulgating the selection procedure

a) are appointed by President of the Court from database of candidates for membership in selection commission in such manner as to enable the appointment of one member from candidates Court Council, and two members from candidates appointed by the Minister; one member of the selection commission shall be elected upon the request of the President of the Court by the Court Council and appropriate college of the Court to which the vacancy is to be filled.

b) are appointed by the President of the Court Council, in the case of a collective selection procedure, from a database of candidates for members of the selection commission, so that two members are appointed from candidates nominated by the Court Council and two members are nominated from candidates nominated by the Minister; the fifth member of the selection commission shall be elected, at the request of the President of the Court Council, by the relevant college of presidents of the Court Councils.

(2) For the purposes of creating a database of candidates for membership in selection commission the Court Council shall elect at least 16 candidates and the Minister shall appoint at least 16 candidates; database is published at websites of the Court Council, and Ministry.

(3) Only such person may be elected or appointed as a candidate for membership in selection commission who meets moral and professional conditions for unbiased execution of the function of member of selection commission, who is capable of assessing the candidate pursuant to Section 28(4) and who is working mainly in the university sector, non-profit sector, or is performing legal profession; it applies equally to a member of selection commission elected by the Court Council, college of a court and college of presidents of the Court Councils.

(4) Members of the selection commission shall elect Chairman from amongst themselves. Selection commission shall have reached quorum if at least four its members shall participate in voting. Its decision is valid if simple majority of all its members voted in favour of such decision.

(5) Along with the appointment of the members of the selection commission, the President of the Court or the President of the Court Council shall also appoint alternate members of the selection commission from relevant databases of candidates for selection commission members. If there are not enough candidates for members of the selection commission in the relevant database to appoint alternates, the alternate shall be appointed at the request of the President of the Court or the President of the Court Council by the person who elects or appoints candidates for the selection commission. At the request of the President of the Court or the President of the Court Council, alternates shall also be appointed by the Court Council, the relevant panel of the court and the college of presidents of the Court Councils.

Chapter nine **Scope of immunity of Judges and Lay-Judges**

Section 29a

The extent of immunity of Judges and Lay-Judges is regulated by Article 148 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic.

TITLE TWO FUNDAMENTAL OBLIGATIONS OF JUDGE AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF JUDGE

Section 30

Fundamental obligations of Judge

(1) In civil life, during execution of judicial office, and after completion thereof a Judge must refrain from anything that could deprave the authority and dignity of judicial office or could jeopardize the confidence in independent, impartial, and fair decision-making of courts. Limitations applicable to civil servants in administration of public service pursuant to special legislation¹¹⁾ shall also apply to Judges accordingly.

(2) In the interest of guarantee of independence and impartiality of execution of judicial office Judge obliged mainly to:

- a) enforce and defend independence of judiciary and its good reputation,
- b) refuse any interference, coercion, influence, or request whose aim could be threat to the independence of judiciary,
- c) not allow to be influenced in execution of judicial office by interests of political parties, political movements, public opinion, or news media,
- d) act without bias and approach the parties or participants of hearing without any economic, social, racial, ethnic, sexual, or religious prejudice,
- e) heed by their actions that no reasonable doubt could be cast upon their impartiality,
- f) meet the preconditions of judicial competence during the entire time of executing the judicial office,
- g) observe the principles of judicial ethics.

(3) Judge may not unilaterally provide to or receive from parties to hearing or their legal counsel, except for cases laid down by Acts on procedure before Courts¹⁾ any information or discuss with them the merits of the case under consideration or procedural issues, which may have impact on such case.

(4) Judge is obliged to conduct their duties diligently, to act continuously in assigned cases without undue delays; always indicate to the President of the Court excessively high number of assigned cases if there is obvious threat that they would not be able to handle them without unnecessary delays.

(5) Judge is obliged to perform their duties duly and on time also in case of having permission to carry out their work at home. Equally they are obliged to carry out mandated standby service and execution of their office overtime in accordance with work schedule, including the function of Disciplinary Panel Judge or of Disciplinary Panel Chairman, if they were elected into such function by the Court Council.

(6) Judge is obliged to utilise the designated hearing days thus providing for proper and timely disposal of assigned cases.

(7) Judge is obliged to improve their professional knowledge and use the provided training opportunities. Judge is obliged to contribute by their knowledge and skills to training of more junior Judges, professional judicial interns (hereinafter only as "intern"), and other Court staff, unless the performance of their judicial duties would prevent them from doing so.

(8) Judge does not have the right to strike and must refrain from any actions, which would in any way hinder the operation of the judiciary.

(9) Judge may not be a member of any political party or political movement, nor may conduct any political activity in political parties or political movements. Running on the list of candidates of a political party or political movement in elections to the National Council and in elections to the European Parliament is also considered to be an active political activity.

(10) Judge is obliged to maintain secrecy, which also applies after expiry of judicial office, concerning matters they had learned during the execution of their office, unless they were relieved of their duty pursuant to this Act or by person in whose interest they are maintaining this duty; the obligation of maintaining secrecy does not apply to reporting on crime or any other antisocial activity.^{11aaa)} On serious grounds the President of the Court may relieve Judge of this duty and if it concerns the President of the Court, it shall be done by the President of the Court of a directly superior Court, and if it concerns the President of the Supreme Court and President of the Supreme Administrative Court, by the President of the Court Council. Judge may not be relieved of this duty to maintain secrecy concerning matters of voting; this does not apply in the case of disciplinary proceedings pursuant to this Act and the release of secrecy is necessary to assess the disciplinary liability of the Judge for disciplinary offenses pursuant to Section 116(2)(e). However, a Judge must not be forced to testify as witness on matters they had learned during the execution of judicial office. Even after being relieved from the duty to maintain secrecy, Judge shall continue to heed eligible interests of parties to hearing.

(11) Judge is obliged to observe regulations on safety and protection of health at work pursuant to special legislation;^{11aa)} Judge is considered an employee for the purposes of safety and protection of health at work.

Section 31

Written statement of Judge

(1) Judge is obliged to lodge, within 30 days from the day of assuming judicial office and during execution thereof always by 31 March of each calendar year, written statement to Court Council, stating the following:

- a) whether they meet conditions stipulated by Section 23,
- b) what functional or other benefits are they entitled to according to their activities and functions pursuant to Section 23,
- c) list of related persons^{7a)} who are Judges, employees of Court or the Ministry, including budget-funded or contribution-funded organisations under the jurisdiction of the Ministry, stating their name, family name, function held and designation of institution.

(2) Part of data on functions and activities pursuant to Para 1 are also the following data:

- a) if it concerns functions and activities designated by the Constitution of the Slovak Republic or in this Act as incompatible with judicial office, data on when and how the performance thereof had ended, or is going to end,
- b) title and address of any legal person and name and family name and residential address of any natural person for whom the Judge is performing such function or activity,
- c) specifying any income realised during the preceding calendar year from functions and activities, which the person lodging the statement, is going to continue to perform even after having assumed judicial office.

(3) Judge is obliged to report:

- a) any change in facts, which were stated in their statement pursuant to Paras 1 and 2,
- b) any function or activity, which they began performing or shall perform after appointment to judicial office.

(4) Report pursuant to Para 3 shall be lodged within 30 days from the day this fact had occurred.

Section 32

Asset declaration

(1) Judge is obliged during the entire term of judicial office to declare the status of their assets:

- a) within 30 days from the day of assuming judicial office,
- b) by 31 March of each calendar year of their term of judicial office.

(2) Asset declaration shall include the following data:

- a) legal grounds and date of acquisition of real estate property and the acquisition price, in case of acquisition without payment the price pursuant to special regulation,^{11a)}
- b) each movable asset exceeding the value of 6,600 EUR, legal grounds and date of acquisition of such asset, acquisition price, in case of own making the expenditures for making such asset, in case of acquisition without payment the customary price,
- c) each shareholding and other valuable asset exceeding the value of 6,600 EUR, legal grounds and date of acquisition of such shareholding or other valuable asset, in case of payment transfer the acquisition price, in case of acquisition without payment the customary price,
- d) movable assets, property rights and other valuable assets even if each of their value does not exceed the value of 6,600 EUR, if their aggregate value exceeds the value of 16,600 EUR, for the purposes of asset declaration their value shall be established by customary price,
- e) any income achieved during preceding calendar year from execution of judicial office and from performance of other activities,
- f) any obligations of the Judge, if their value exceeds EUR 6,600.

(3) Judge is obliged also to declare in asset declaration the financial status of their minor child and spouse sharing the same household, even if the married couple had concluded agreement on either reduction or extension of lawful scope of their community property or administration of common property. If the married couple had concluded agreement on either reduction or extension of lawful scope of their community property or administration of common property, Judge shall declare financial status of their spouse in asset declaration separately from their own financial status.

(4) Part of the asset declaration is also declaration on oath of Judge that to their knowledge they are not aware of such income of persons sharing their household, which may be considered as undeclared income or proceeds from dishonest sources.

(5) Data on financial status declared pursuant to Paras 1 to 4 shall be reported by the Judge to the Court Council in electronic format while the assets of the Judge shall be verified by the Court Council following proceedings regulated by special regulation.¹²⁾

(6) Provisions of Paras 1 to 5 do not have any impact on the duty of the President of the Supreme Court, President of the Supreme Administrative Court, Vice-President of the Supreme Court, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court to declare their assets pursuant to special regulation.¹⁴⁾ For the purposes of special regulation¹⁴⁾ the President and Vice- President of the Supreme Administrative Court are public officials.

(7) President of the Court Council shall arrange for publication of statement pursuant to Section 31(1), statement pursuant to Section 31(3) and asset declaration at a publicly accessible website pursuant to personal data protection stipulated by special legislation^{14a)} each year by 30 June for the preceding calendar year.

Section 33

Repealed as of 1.1.2021

Section 34

Fundamental rights of Judge

(1) Each Judge has the same rights and obligations under equal conditions. Judge may not be favoured or disadvantaged for their legal opinions expressed during decision-making or for their opinions and attitudes as Judge, member of Court Council or Court Council.

(2) Each Judge has the right to vote and to be elected as member of Court Council appropriate for the circuit of the Court they are assigned to for execution of their office, and to participate in administration of the judiciary through the Council.

(3) Judge has the right to have cases assigned to them in accordance to work schedule^{14b)} in order to be able to hear them and rule on them without undue delays. If Judge is complaining that cases are not assigned to them in such manner and if the President of the Court does not accommodate their complaints, appropriate Court Council shall decide about them.

(4) Judge, who is conducting a hearing, shall decide whether it is permitted during the hearing to make video recording, video transmission, or audio transmission. While maintaining secrecy the Judge has the right to publish professional legal problems concerning cases closed with final verdict.

(5) Judge has the right to establish interest-based professional organisation of Judges and to assemble therein; their aim is to enforce and protect the rights and interests of Judges, their independence, and to support professional training. Activity in such organisation may not be to the disadvantage of Judge. Association of Judges pursuant to special regulation¹⁵⁾ is not affected by it.

(6) In justified cases, Judge has the right for protection of their person, that of their relatives, and their residence, if they shall request the court administration for such protection; they shall also have the right to be provided free of charge such appropriate means for protection or for reimbursement of expenses incurred for such protection.

(7) The face and residence address of Judge may not be published without their consent; the same applies to relatives of the Judge, if it is necessary for effective protection of Judge and their family and their relatives agree with it. Judge also has the right to appropriate level of secrecy of data about their person and that of their family.

(8) Judge of Specialised Criminal Court and a Judge acting and deciding within the agenda of partners of the public sector shall be compulsorily eligible for rights listed in Paras 6 and 7. Judge of the Supreme Court deciding on recourse against decisions of the Specialised Criminal Court shall be eligible for rights listed in Paras 6 and 7 upon their own request. In such cases the security of persons and residences is provided free of charge by the Police force if the president of applicable court requests the Minister of Interior of the Slovak Republic to provide such protection.

TITLE THREE

DEEPENING AND INCREASING THE QUALIFICATION OF JUDGE

Section 35

Training of Judge

(1) Judge has the right to having conditions at their disposal for systematic and free training throughout the entire duration of their office, for free provision of legal regulations, professional literature, and information necessary for proper execution of judicial office.

(2) Education of Judges is provided by both domestic and international educational institutions. Education of Judges is also conducted by professional study stays in both domestic and international

judicial institutions, which may last up a maximum of one year; over the course of such study-stays Judge may not decide on matters belonging to substantive jurisdiction of Courts.

(3) Repealed as of 1.1.2021.

Section 36

Deepening of qualification

(1) Deepening of qualification is understood a systematic professional education of Judges with the aim of continuously retaining, perfecting, and broadening the required knowledge and skills necessary for execution of judicial office in the appropriate department or for the purpose of lecturing activity; deepening the qualification of Judge is also provided pursuant to Section 35(2).

(2) For the purpose of deepening of qualification Judges are entitled to study holiday in necessary scope; during such time the Judge is entitled to their salary.

Section 37

Increasing of qualification

(1) Increasing of qualification is understood the acquisition of knowledge and skills necessary for execution of judicial office at higher instance Court, for execution of particular specialisation or for performance of management function in administration of Courts. Increasing qualification of Judge is also provided pursuant to Section 35(2).

(2) Increasing of qualification is further understood additional university study in the department necessary for execution of judicial office, for passing rigorous examination, as well as other special study at universities or other educational institutions in both Slovakia and abroad, if they are recognised as such.

(3) Upon the request of Judge the President of the Court may, with the approval of appropriate Court Council, and in case of increasing qualification abroad also with the approval of the Minister, issue decision on approving the increasing qualification of Judge if such increasing of qualification is in accordance with requirements for performance of certain function. Decision on increasing of qualification shall include the following:

- a) designation of field and manner of increasing qualification,
- b) conditions of increasing of qualification,
- c) specific function or reason why such increasing of qualification is required,
- d) validity duration of such decision.

(4) Judge is entitled to study holiday based on certificate of educational facility specifying the field and duration of such study:

- a) in scope necessary for participation in classes,
- b) two days for preparation and passing each examination,
- c) ten days for preparation and passing the final examination,
- d) ten days for elaborating and habilitation of diploma or another final thesis.

(5) During study holiday pursuant to Para 4 Judge is entitled to their salary.

Section 38

Costs of qualification

(1) Costs related to deepening of qualification and increasing of qualification of Judge are reimbursed by Court administration.

(2) Judge is obliged to reimburse fully or in part the costs of increasing of qualification if they did not meet the conditions laid down in decision pursuant to Section 37(3); that does not apply if judicial office had expired pursuant to Section 18(2) or if Judge had abdicated due to health reasons or serious personal reasons. Decision on the obligation to reimburse and the amount of compensation shall be made by appropriate President of the Court. Appeal is admissible against such decision, which shall be decided by the Ministry. Proceedings are governed by general regulation on administrative procedure.

TITLE FOUR

CONDITIONS FOR EXECUTION OF JUDICIAL OFFICE

Chapter one

Weekly working hours and daily working hours

Section 39

(1) Weekly working period of Judge is maximum of 40 hours.

(2) Within work schedule Judge is determining their daily working hours after agreement with President of the Court depending on the number and urgency of cases assigned to rule on them, taking into consideration adequate working hours of Court staff.

Section 40

Standby service and overtime work

(1) In the interest of providing for proper operation of the Court pursuant to special regulation¹⁾ the Judge is obliged to carry out mandated standby service in accordance to the work schedule. For performing judicial office during overtime, Judge is entitled to compensatory free time.

(2) Mandated standby service is carried out during time stipulated by work schedule. Mandated standby service shall begin after the end of daily working hours and shall end before the beginning of daily working hours of the following business day or before the beginning of daily working hours of business day following a public holiday. Should the circumstances require, the beginning and the end of standby service may be scheduled differently.

(3) Judge may not be mandated to carry out standby service without their consent more frequently than once in every four weeks. Duration of standby service may last up to maximum of seven consecutive calendar days.

Section 41

Place of execution of judicial office

(1) Unless this or any special Act does not stipulate otherwise Judge is executing their office within official premises of the Court. Upon their own request in justified cases, President of the Court may permit a Judge who is not under disciplinary proceedings to execute their judicial office in household environment in scope laid down by principles adopted by Court Council after agreement with the Minister. If the President of the Court does not approve the request of the Judge, they must substantiate such decision.

(2) The President of the Court may conduct a review of the performance of the Judge's duties conducted at home. The President of the Court shall revoke the authorisation referred to in Para 1, stating the reasons in the case of

- a) failure to perform the duties of a Judge or for breach of judicial duties; or
- b) a final decision of the Disciplinary Panel finding the Judge guilty of a disciplinary offense.

(3) When assessing the application pursuant to Para 1 and revoking the permit pursuant to Para 2(a) the President of the Court may request the opinion of the Court Council as well as the position of appropriate Chairmen of Panels and of Chairmen of Colleges or Boards.

Chapter two

Business trip related to execution of judicial office and reimbursement of expenditures

Section 42

(1) Business trip related to execution of judicial office (hereinafter only as “trip”) is understood the time from Judge commencing trip to a location other than that of the seat of the Court at which they are executing judicial office, including the duration of carrying out the activity, which is the purpose of the trip of the Judge, at the destination of the trip up to the return of the Judge from such trip.

(2) Trip abroad is understood the time from commencement on the trip from the Slovak Republic to abroad, duration of carrying out the activity, which is the purpose of the trip of the Judge to abroad, and return to the Slovak Republic.

(3) Unless stipulated otherwise, Judge is sent to a trip by President of the Court for necessary time. The President shall specify the place of commencement on and place of destination of the trip, its duration, manner of transport, and place of completion of the trip.

(4) If it concerns a trip required by procedural actions in the substance of a case, which has been assigned to the Judge to rule on, Judge shall notify the President of the Court of such trip with appropriate notice prior to such trip; in the notice on such trip the Judge shall specify facts pursuant to Para 3. President of the Court shall provide the Judge official vehicle with driver for such trip. President of the Court may change the conditions of making such trip if they are obviously unreasonable to the nature of the procedural action the Judge had provided notice on or if official vehicle has been scheduled to another trip; such decision on change is binding to the Judge.

(5) President of the Court may send Judge on a trip lasting more than three business days with their consent only. It also applies to sending in the interest of deepening and increasing qualification. Judge may refuse to be sent every time the trip would foil the execution of procedural acts already imposed.

(6) Judge has the right to use domestic means of transportation in the first-class category. If Judge requests to take domestic trip using their own motor vehicle with the exception of official Court vehicle, the President of the Court shall accommodate such request unless serious reasons would prevent that and if the vehicle is insured.

(7) Special conditions for Judges to execute their office pursuant to Sections 53 to 55 are thereby not affected.

Section 43

Reimbursement of trip-related expenses

(1) Judge is entitled to have reimbursed expenses incurred in direct relation to a trip made pursuant to Section 42 or if this Act further stipulates so. Procedure on reimbursement of expenses is governed by special regulation.¹⁶⁾

(2) If Judge makes a trip, which relates to execution of office within the location of the seat of the Court, it is considered as trip with entitlement for reimbursement of documented expenses. If the residence of Judge is located within the location of the seat of the Court, travel from residence to the

seat of the Court and back is not considered as trip with entitlement for reimbursement of documented expenses.

Section 43a

Reimbursement of expenses of visiting Judge

Visiting Judge is entitled to reimbursement of increased expenses under conditions and in scope stipulated by generally binding legal regulation issued by the Ministry.

Section 44

Reimbursement of expenses incurred as a result of reassignment, temporary reassignment, and internship

Judge, who is temporarily reassigned pursuant to Section 12 and Judge carrying out internship pursuant to Section 13, is entitled to reimbursement of increased expenses under conditions and in scope stipulated by generally binding legal regulation issued by the Ministry. Same entitlement applies to a Judge reassigned to a higher instance Court in the interest of providing for execution of judiciary, however for up to maximum of one calendar year from such reassignment. For a Judge reassigned to the Supreme Court the President of the Supreme Court and in case of a Judge reassigned to Supreme Administrative Court the President of the Supreme Administrative Court may extend such period in justified cases.

Chapter three

Recreational holiday

Section 45

(1) Basic scope of holiday for Judge is six weeks per calendar year.

(2) Judge is entitled to holiday for calendar year if he executed judicial office for the entire year. If the execution of judicial office did not last the entire calendar year, they are entitled to 1/12th of holiday for each calendar month of execution of judicial office. If Judge had commenced execution of judicial office no later than on the 15th day in a month, such Judge shall be entitled to 1/12th of holiday for such calendar month. For calendar month, in which the judicial office expired, Judge shall be entitled to 1/12th of holiday if the execution of office lasted more than 15 days.

(3) Judge shall not be entitled to recreational holiday during drawing of maternity leave. Judge shall also not be entitled to holiday during temporary suspension of judicial office.

Section 46

(1) Judge shall draw part of their holiday during the Court holiday in minimum duration of two weeks, unless they had agreed with President of the Court otherwise.

(2) Drawing holiday is designated by President of the Court after discussion with Judge in such manner as to provide the Judge, as a rule and upon their own request, with opportunity to draw the remainder of their holiday in its entirety, by the end of the calendar year. Otherwise, the President of the Court shall give the Judge a minimum notice of one month to draw their holiday. In the interest of urgent execution of judicial office, the Judge may refuse the scheduled time of commencing their holiday or to cancel such holiday entirely.

(3) Judge is entitled to reimbursement of documented expenses if they had incurred them without their own fault and because, with the approval the President of the Court, they had to change the date of commencement to holiday or to interrupt drawing such holiday in the interest of urgent execution of judicial office.

(4) Judge must not have the drawing of their holiday scheduled for time when they are preparing for hearing and deciding particularly urgent or serious and time-demanding case and during such hearing.

Section 47

(1) If Judge was unable to draw their holiday within the given calendar year as a result of urgent interest to arrange for execution of judicial office, they have the right to such holiday in such manner as to end such holiday no later than by the end of consequent calendar year; however, President of the Court shall allow drawing holiday in the duration of minimum three weeks, if the Judge is entitled to it.

(2) Judge is entitled to compensation for unused holiday if they were unable to spend it even by the end of consequent calendar year as a result of urgent interest to arrange for execution of judicial office or if they were not scheduled for commence drawing their holiday.

(3) Judge is obliged to pay back their salary or proportionate part thereof for holiday, to which they lost their entitlement, or to which they did not become entitled.

Section 48

Judge is entitled to judicial salary during holiday. For unused holiday or proportionate part thereof, they are entitled to compensation in the amount of their last judicial salary corresponding with the duration of unused basic holiday.

Section 49

Basic duration of holiday is extended by one week to Judge who used a minimum of two weeks of basic duration of holiday for spa treatment upon recommendation of physician.

Chapter four

Medical care

Section 50

(1) Judge, who shall reach the age of 45 years in given calendar year and has been executing judicial office for a minimum of 10 years, is entitled to preventive rehabilitation in the duration of one week, beginning that year and for each additional calendar year, unless it is stipulated otherwise. Judge who reaches the age of 50 in a calendar year and has been a Judge for at least 15 years is entitled to preventive rehabilitation for a period of two weeks, starting in that year and in each subsequent calendar year, unless it is stipulated otherwise.

(2) Judge shall not be entitled to preventive rehabilitation if they were provided spa treatment in that calendar year.

(3) Preventive rehabilitation is carried out in rehabilitation facilities established or managed by the Ministry or in rehabilitation facilities with day-long treatment selected by the Judge, or as outpatient-type treatment in the form of active rest and preventive treatment with the main focus on strengthening and consolidation of mental health of Judges.

(4) Judge has the right to reimbursement of expenses incurred in relation with provision of preventive rehabilitation and stay-related expenses; in case of preventive rehabilitation in facility selected by the Judge they are entitled to reimbursement of expenses only up to the amount of expenses for provision of rehabilitation and stay-related expenses charged by facilities established or managed by the Ministry.

(5) Conditions of preventive rehabilitation are arranged for by Court administration.

Section 51

Personnel office of the Judge shall provide, upon their own request, for making arrangements related to concluding a health insurance policy and comprehensive medical examinations one every two years.

Chapter five

Additional conditions for execution of judicial office

Section 52

(1) Judge has the right to be provided professional literature and to be provided proper working conditions in such manner as to enable them to utilise Court staff during their work and have available suitable technical equipment, appropriate office equipment, and information technology equipment for the purpose of efficient decision-making without undue delays in assigned cases. In relation with guaranteeing the dignity of hearing they are also entitled to be provided free judicial gown.

(2) Judge is entitled to monthly flat reimbursement of expenses related to performance of any function¹⁷⁾ in the amount of 1/12th from 50 % of their base salary.

TITLE FIVE

SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF FEMALE JUDGES FOR EXECUTION OF THEIR OFFICE

Section 53

(1) Female Judge taking care of child younger than one year of age or pregnant female Judge may be assigned with especially serious criminal cases pertaining to criminal offenses against life and health and against human dignity with her consent only.

(2) If, according to medical assessment, the execution of judicial office is threatening the pregnancy of female Judge and President of the Court does not have the option of appropriate relief from execution of office by changing the work schedule, such female Judge shall be placed, until commencing on maternity leave, out of active execution of judicial office. Same procedure applies if, after the end of maternity leave until the ninth month after giving birth, they are unable to execute judicial office according to medical assessment. During such period they are entitled to base salary, which they were entitled to before being put out of active execution of judicial office.

Section 54

(1) Pregnant female Judge and female Judge taking care of child younger than one year of age may not carry out standby service. Female Judge taking care of child younger than 15 years of age as a single mother may be assigned to standby service and overtime work with her consent only.

(2) Pregnant female Judge and female Judge taking care of child younger than one year of age may not be sent to a trip outside of circuit of the seat of the Court at which they are executing judicial office or her permanent residence address. Female Judge taking care of child older than one year of age, before the child had reached the age of eight years, may be sent to such trip with her consent only; the same applies to female Judge taking care of child younger than 15 years of age as a single mother.

(3) Provision of Para 2 does not apply if making such trip is required for timely and lawful ruling on case assigned to the female Judge in accordance with work schedule. In such case the female Judge is entitled to appropriate reimbursement of expenses incurred as a result of providing for special care of her child during such trip. If making such trip could threaten the pregnancy of female Judge or if it concerns a female Judge who is nursing her child, she has the right to refuse making such trip.

(4) If female Judge taking care of child younger than 15 years of age or pregnant female Judge requests shorter labour week or another suitable change of her designated weekly working hours, President of the Court is obliged to accommodate her request, unless serious grounds would prevent such arrangement, especially if administration of justice was to be threaten by it.

(5) If female Judge taking care of child younger than eight years of age or pregnant female Judge requests for permission to work in household environment pursuant to Section 41, President of the Court shall accommodate her request if by the execution of her office hitherto she had shown that provision of such relief will not be to the detriment of execution of her office.

(6) Provisions of Paras 1 to 5 under conditions stipulated therein shall also apply accordingly to Judges living as single persons.

(7) Living as a single person is understood single, widowed, or divorced women, single, widowed, or divorced men, also men and women having become single due to other serious reasons.

Section 55

(1) In addition to breaks in daily execution of judicial office, female Judge who is nursing her child, is entitled to special nursing breaks.

(2) Female Judge, executing judicial office throughout the entire designated weekly working hours, is entitled to two half-hour daily breaks for each child before the end of sixth month of age and to one half-hour daily break during additional three months.

(3) If female Judge is executing judicial office during shortened weekly working hours, they are entitled to one half-hour daily break for each child before the end of sixth month of age. Such breaks shall be calculated into the daily working hours.

Section 56

(1) As regards to giving birth and care of new-born child, female Judge is entitled to maternity leave during 34 weeks; female Judge taking care of child as a single mother is entitled to maternity leave during 37 weeks, and female Judge who gave birth to two or more children at once is entitled to maternity leave during 43 weeks. Judge, taking care of child, is also entitled to maternity leave.

(2) In order to deepen care of child Judge or female Judge, upon own written request, is entitled to additional maternity leave for the duration of up to three years of age of child, if it concerns a long-term seriously disabled child requiring special care, or in case of long-term seriously disabled child requiring extraordinary and highly demanding special care, for the duration of up to seven years of age of child. Additional maternity leave as regards to taking care of the same child is due to one parent only.

(3) During maternity leave, female Judge or Judge is entitled to maternity bonus¹⁸⁾ and additional bonus to financial assistance during maternity pursuant to Section 94 and during additional maternity leave Judge is entitled to maternity bonus pursuant to special regulation.

(4) As a rule, female Judge is commencing maternity leave from the beginning of the sixth week before the expected day of birth, however no earlier than the beginning of the eighth week before such day.

(5) Maternity leave is also due to a Judge having assumed custody of child which was entrusted to them based on final decision of appropriate body, or of child whose mother had deceased.

(6) Maternity leave of female Judge as regards to giving birth shall last a minimum of 14 months and shall not end, nor be interrupted before the end of six weeks from the day of birth.

Section 57

(1) If, due to medical reasons, the child was hospitalised in medical facility and meanwhile the female Judge shall commence the execution of her office, the maternity leave is interrupted by such commencement, however not earlier than after six weeks from the day of birth; maternity leave shall be provided to female Judge again from the day she had accepted her child from the medical facility back to her care having thus stopped executing judicial office, however no longer than until three years of the age of child, and if it concerns a long-term seriously disabled child requiring special care, or in case of

long-term seriously disabled child requiring extraordinary and highly demanding special care, for the duration of up to seven years of age of child.

(2) Female Judge is not entitled to maternity leave if the child she was taking care of was:

a) entrusted into substitute custody on the basis of final decision of appropriate body,

b) placed in facility with year-long, weekly, or daily stay; that does not apply if child was placed in daily-care facility, because it is required by its medical status or that of its parent, on the basis of opinion of attending (specialist) physician.

(3) If child was stillborn, female Judge is entitled to maternity leave in the duration of 14 weeks.

(4) If child shall become deceased during the time female Judge is on maternity leave or additional maternity leave, such leave shall still be provided to her during two weeks from the day of death of child, no longer than until the day such child would reach the age of one year.

TITLE SIX

IMPEDIMENTS TO EXECUTION OF JUDICIAL OFFICE

Section 58

Paid leave of absence

(1) Judge is entitled to paid leave of absence, unless it is stipulated otherwise, due to the following reasons and in the following scope:

a) medical examination of treatment of Judge in medical facility; leave of absence from work shall be provided for necessary time, if it was not possible to perform such examination of treatment outside of working hours, however no longer than for seven business days during calendar year.

b) childbirth given by wife of Judge; leave of absence from work shall be provided for time necessary for transport of wife to medical facility and back,

c) accompanying of relative of Judge to medical examination of treatment in the event of suddenly becoming ill or sudden injury, and to scheduled examination, treatment, or therapy; leave of absence from work shall be provided for necessary time, however not for longer than one day, if such accompanying was necessary and it was not possible to perform the above actions outside of working hours, namely to only one of accompanied persons, even if both are Judges, leave of absence from work shall be provided for no longer than seven business days during calendar year.

d) accompanying of child with disability by Judge to social services facility or to special boarding school and back, namely in similar fashion to only one accompanied person; leave of absence from work shall be provided for necessary time, however not for longer than 15 calendar days during calendar year,

e) attending blood donation as a donor and apheresis, and attending tissue donation as a donor; leave of absence from work shall be provided for necessary time,

f) death of relative; leave of absence from work shall be provided for:

1. three days in case of death of spouse or child,

2. one day to attend the funeral of parent and sibling of Judge, parent and sibling of their spouse, and for additional day if Judge is making arrangements for the funeral of the above deceased,

3. necessary time, however for maximum of one day, to attend the funeral of grandparent of Judge or their grandchild or of grandparent of their spouse or grandchild of their spouse, and for additional day if Judge is making arrangements for the funeral of the above deceased,

- g) own wedding and wedding of child of Judge; leave of absence from work shall be provided for two days for own wedding, for one day for wedding of child,
- h) relocation of Judge in relation with change of location of execution of office; leave of absence from work shall be provided for three business days,
- i) inability of Judge to travel to the location of execution of office; leave of absence from work shall be provided for necessary time, however not for longer than one business day,
- j) other actions in public interests, as laid down by special regulations; leave of absence from work shall be provided for necessary time,
- k) attending the funeral of colleague; leave of absence from work shall be provided for necessary time.

(2) A relative for the purposes of this Act is spouse, own children, children entrusted into substitute custody of Judge or that of their spouse based on final decision of appropriate body, parent and sibling of Judge, spouse of sibling of Judge, parent of spouse, grandparent and grandchild of Judge.

(3) Judge is entitled to paid leave of absence due to performing civic duties, mainly during the following:

- a) providing medical first aid,
- b) undergoing mandatory medical examinations,
- c) taking measures against infectious diseases,
- d) other urgent measures of medical treatment nature,
- e) isolation due to veterinary protective measures,
- f) providing special assistance in fire protection, natural disasters, rescue action of mountain rescue service in the field, or in other similar extraordinary events, and in cases when pursuant to legal regulations natural person is obliged to provide assistance.

(4) Judges, who are members and representatives of professional organisation of Judges, are entitled as regards to the activities of such organisation, to paid leave of absence. Scope and conditions of providing paid leave of absence shall be stipulated by agreement concluded between the Minister and such organisation.

(5) During leave of absence pursuant to Paras 1, 3, and 4 Judge is entitled to judicial salary.

Section 59

Unpaid leave of absence

Upon their own written request, Judge may be provided unpaid leave of absence due to serious personal reasons, which, however, do not require suspension of judicial office. Unpaid leave of absence shall be provided for necessary time. Decision about such request shall be made by President of the Court.

Section 60

Authorised absence of Judge at the location of execution of office

(1) During temporary inability to execute judicial office due to illness or injury, during parent holiday, quarantine, medical treatment of ill relative, and during care of child younger than 15 years of age, which, due to serious reasons, is unable to attend educational institution for children or school, in whose care such child normally is, or if person, who is taking care of such child, had become ill or was ordered into quarantine (quarantine measure), or had underwent medical treatment or therapy in

medical facility, which was not possible to be arranged outside of working hours of Judge, absence of Judge from execution of office is considered authorised. Pecuniary performance (benefits) during such period is regulated by special regulation, except as otherwise provided by this Act.

(2) The President of the Court may, during the temporary incapacity to execute judicial office due to illness or injury, request the Social Insurance Agency to carry out an inspection of compliance with the treatment regime of a temporarily incapable Judge.

Section 61

Notification on leave of absence and its duration

(1) If the reason for leave of absence was known to Judge in advance, they are obliged to notify the President of the Court in time of such leave and the expected duration thereof. Otherwise, the Judge is obliged to notify the President of the Court of the reason for leave of absence without undue delay.

(2) Judge shall provide to President of the Court proof of the reason for the leave of absence and its duration.

Section 62

Execution of judicial office

As execution of judicial office, except for carrying out activities laid down by special regulation¹⁾ in the interest of administering justice, except as otherwise provided by this Act, is considered the following time:

- a) drawing holiday and preventive rehabilitation,
- b) paid leave of absence,
- c) improvement service, carrying out civilian service as a replacement for military training exercise,
- d) deepening and increasing qualification,
- e) breaks for nursing child,
- f) compensatory time for working overtime and during public holidays,
- g) if Judge does not execute office due to public holidays,
- h) absence of Judge from the location of execution of office due to:
 - 1. Temporary inability to execute office due to ill health or injury,
 - 2. quarantine,
 - 3. maternity leave for period up to three years of the age of child and in relation with taking care of long-term seriously disabled child requiring special care, or in case of long-term seriously disabled child requiring extraordinary and highly demanding special care, for the duration of up to seven years of age of child,
 - 4. taking care of relative,
 - 5. taking care of child younger than 15 years of age, which, due to serious reasons, is unable to attend educational institution for children or school, in whose care such child normally is, or if person, who is taking care of such child, had become ill or was ordered into quarantine, or had undergone medical treatment or therapy in medical facility, which was not possible to be arranged outside of working hours of Judge,

- i) temporary assignment pursuant to Section 12,
- j) temporary suspension of judicial office (Section 22 or Section 22a), if the remaining judicial salary was paid in full pursuant to Section 22(9) or Section 22a(7),
- k) internship of Judge pursuant to Section 13,
- l) delegating Judge to perform duties in body of European Union pursuant to Section 13a,
- m) suspension of judicial office pursuant to Section 24(1)(b) and (3),

Title repealed as of 1.1.2009

Section 63

Repealed as of 1.1.2009

Section 64

Repealed as of 1.1.2009

TITLE SEVEN

SALARIES OF JUDGES

Section 65

Salary of Judge

(1) under the conditions laid down by this Act, Judge is entitled to the following:

- a) base salary of Judge,
- b) bonus:
 - 1. functional,
 - 2. for execution of judicial office as visiting Judge
 - 3. during temporary assignment,
 - 4. for managing an intern
 - 5. for standby service,
 - 4. special bonus,
- c) pay for execution of judicial office overtime,
- d) additional pay,
- e) salary adjustment,
- f) Repealed as of 1.1.2021.

(2) Judge is entitled to reimbursement of expenses and other material benefits, if laid down by this Act.

(3) If Judge is commissioned to perform duties in body of European Union, beginning from the first day of such delegation, in addition to their salary as Judge pursuant to Para 1 they are also entitled

to reimbursement of expenses laid down in special regulation.^{18a)} Ministry shall reimburse the Judge expenses laid down in special regulation.^{18a)} and it shall reimburse the personnel office of the Judge the difference between judicial salary increased pursuant to Section 88(3) and the judicial salary prior to such increase.

(4) If Judge is delegated to perform duties in crisis management activities outside the territory of the Slovak Republic^{6a)} beginning from the first day of such delegation, in addition to their salary as Judge pursuant to Para 1 they are also entitled to reimbursement of expenses laid down in special regulation.^{18b)} Ministry shall reimburse the Judge expenses laid down in special regulation.^{18b)} and it shall reimburse the personnel office of the Judge the difference between judicial salary increased pursuant to Section 88 Para 4 and the judicial salary prior to such increase.

(5) Responsibility for satisfaction of salary entitlements of Judge rests with the State.

Base judicial salary, salary groups and salary levels

Section 66

(1) Base judicial salary of Supreme Court Judge, Supreme Administrative Court Judge, and Specialised Criminal Court Judge is the salary equal to multiple of 1.3 that of salary of Member of the National Council monthly, which they are entitled to from the first day of the month, during which they were assigned or reassigned the Supreme Court, Supreme Administrative Court or Specialised Criminal Court.

(2) For the purpose of determining base salary, Judges of District and Regional Court are included into two salary groups and seven salary levels.

(3) District Court Judges and visiting Judges are included into salary group No. I and Regional Court Judges are included into salary group No. II.

(4) Judges referred to in Para 2 are included into salary levels in accordance with the length of their professional service, which is decisive for inclusion into appropriate salary level.

Section 67

(1) Average judicial salary pursuant to special regulation ¹⁹⁾ is understood salary in salary group No. I and 3rd salary level.

(2) Base judicial salary of Judges included into specific salary levels and individual salary groups is determined from average salary pursuant to special regulation in the following manner:

	I	II
1. until completion of 3 rd year of service	90 %	95 %
2. from beginning of 4 th year of service	95 %	100 %
3. from beginning of 8 th year of service	100 %	105 %
4. from beginning of 12 th year of service	105 %	110 %
5. from beginning of 16 th year of service	110 %	115 %
6. from beginning of 20 th year of service	115 %	120 %
7. from beginning of 24 th year of service	120 %	125 %

Section 68

Functional bonus for management work

(1) The following persons are entitled to a functional bonus monthly from average judicial salary for management work pursuant to Section 67(1):

- a) President of District Court with up to ten Judges in the amount of 8%, with more than ten Judges in the amount of 10%,
- b) Vice-President of District Court with up to ten Judges in the amount of 5%, with more than ten Judges in the amount of 8%,
- c) Presidents of Regional and Specialised Criminal Court in the amount of 15%,
- d) Vice-President of Regional and Vice-President of Specialised Criminal Court in the amount of 10%.

(2) While acting on behalf of President of the Court the Vice-President of appropriate Court is entitled to functional bonus for management work in the amount belonging to President of the Court or proportionate part thereof; the same applies to Judge of appropriate Court mandated to act on behalf of President of such Court, if no Vice-President is not appointed, is reassigned to another Court or is carrying out internship of Judge.

(3) President of the Court and Vice-President are not entitled to functional bonus for management work while they are temporarily assigned to execute judicial office at another Court or are carrying out internship of Judge.

(4) Vice-President acting on behalf of President of the Court or Judge mandated to act on behalf of President of the Court is entitled to functional bonus pursuant to Para 2 only in case the President of the Court has not been carrying out their function for longer period of time exceeding six weeks, beginning with the first day following the day after six weeks of such representation had passed.

(5) President of the Court is not entitled to functional bonus for management work if they have not been carrying out their function for longer period of time exceeding six weeks, beginning with the first day following the day after six weeks.

(6) Functional bonuses of President of the Supreme Court, President of the Supreme Administrative Court , Vice-President of the Supreme Court and Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court are regulated by special regulation.¹⁹⁾

Section 69

Functional bonus for function

(1) The following persons are entitled to functional bonus monthly from average judicial salary for higher judicial office:

- a) Chairman of Panel of Regional Court and Chairman of Panel of Specialised Criminal Court in the amount of 5%,
- b) Regional Court Judge and Specialised Criminal Court Judge ruling as single Judge in the amount of 3%,
- c) Chairman of Supreme Court College and Chairman of Supreme Administrative Court College in the amount of 25%,
- d) Chairman of Panel of Supreme Court Panel and Chairman of Supreme Administrative Court Panel in the amount of 20%,
- e) Chairman of Regional Court College in the amount of 8% and Chairman of District Court Board in the amount 5%.

(2) Specialised Criminal Court Judge and Supreme Court Judge, ruling on recourse in cases with jurisdiction of Specialised Criminal Court as the first instance Court, is entitled to monthly functional bonus for carrying out function in the amount equal to that of double of average nominal monthly salary of an employee in the economy of the Slovak Republic over the preceding calendar year.

(3) Chairman of Court Board and Chairman of College, if they are temporarily assigned to execute office at another Court, or is carrying out internship, is not entitled to bonus for executing function; during their absence such bonus belongs to Judge who is acting on their behalf.

(4) Supreme Court Judge who, in accordance with work schedule, is ruling on recourse in cases with jurisdiction of Specialised Criminal Court as the first instance Court, is entitled to bonus for executing function pursuant to Para 2 under the condition that during the preceding month they had a minimum of one case assigned to them on which the Specialised Criminal Court had proceeded as the first instance Court. Judge, acting on behalf of another Judge according to the previous sentence is only entitled to such bonus if circumstances occur due to which the Judge of the Panel, to which the case was randomly assigned, is unable to proceed in such case.

(5) Bonus for executing function pursuant to Para 1(c) or (e) also belongs to the Chairman of the Regional Court Panel, the Chairman of the Supreme Court Panel or the Chairman of the Supreme Administrative Court Panel, who is authorized by the President of the Regional Court, President of the Supreme Court or President of the Supreme Administrative Court to perform tasks under a special regulation until the election of a new President.19aa)

Section 69a

Functional bonus for execution of function of a member or a Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel

(1) Functional bonus for execution of function of a member or a Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel belongs to a Judge who is

- a) member of Disciplinary Panel in the amount of 44.26 EUR monthly,
- b) Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel in the amount of 66.39 EUR monthly

(2) Functional bonus pursuant to Para 1 does not belong to such member of Disciplinary Panel and Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel who is a proxy to the Disciplinary Panel.

Section 70

Concurrence of functional bonuses

In case of concurrence of functional bonuses pursuant to Section 68 and Section 6(1) Judge is entitled to the functional bonus, which is more beneficial to them.

Section 71

Functional salary

(1) Base salary of Judges and functional bonus pursuant to this Act comprise functional salary of Judge.

(2) Judge shall be notified in writing of functional salary, its amount and composition by the court administration.

Section 71a

Functional bonus for execution of judicial office as visiting Judge

Visiting Judge executing their judicial office as a Judge at a District Court shall receive functional bonus in the amount of 5% of base salary per month.

Section 72

Salary and bonus during temporary assignment

(1) During temporary assignment, Judge is entitled to functional salary in accordance with original assignment. That does not apply to temporary assignment of Judge to Specialised Criminal Court, in which case Judge is entitled to functional bonus pursuant to Section 69(2).

(2) If Judge is temporarily assigned to higher instance Court, they are entitled to functional bonus for the period of temporary assignment in the amount of 5% of base salary per month. If Judge is temporarily assigned to a Court higher by two instances, they are entitled to functional bonus for the period of temporary assignment in the amount of 10% of base salary per month; the sum of bonus for executing a function at court of certain instance together with bonus for the period of temporary assignment and base salary of Judge may not exceed 130% of base salary of Judge. That does not apply to temporary assignment to Specialised Criminal Court.

Section 72

Bonus for managing an intern

Judge, performing the activity of a trainer to an intern is entitled to a special bonus in the amount of 100 EUR monthly.

Section 73

Repealed as of 1.5.2011.

Section 74

Bonus for standby service

(1) For each hour of standby service mandated pursuant to Section 40 in accordance with work schedule, Judge is entitled to bonus for standby service in the following amount:

a) 50 % from the amount which is $1/165^{\text{th}}$ of their judicial salary if the standby service is carried out at the Court, and 100% from this amount, if carried out during public holiday,

b) 15 % from the amount which is $1/165^{\text{th}}$ of their judicial salary if the standby service is carried out at the permanent or temporary residence address, or at another agreed upon location, and 25 % from this amount, if carried out during public holiday.

(2) Judge is not entitled to standby service bonus for time during which he executed judicial office over the duration of standby service; such execution is execution of office overtime.

Section 75

Special bonus

Judge authorised with performing activity pursuant to Section 27(1), may be granted special bonus whose amount shall not exceed 165.97 Eur. Decision on granting such bonus and its amount shall be made by President of appropriate Court after the approval of Court Council.

Section 76

Pay for execution of office overtime

If Judge is not granted compensatory time pursuant to Section 40, for each hour of executing office overtime they are entitled to 1/165th of judicial salary increased by 20 %, and if is executing office during night, on Saturday, Sunday, or during public holiday, it is increased by 50 %.

Section 77

Additional salary

(1) Each half-year of a calendar year Judge is entitled to additional salary in the amount of judicial salary belonging to either May or November if by 31st of May and by 30th of November of appropriate half-year they:

- a) executed judicial office for minimum of 75 business days,
- b) special relationship of Judge to the State shall continue to apply; that does not apply if Judge died after meeting the condition pursuant to a),
- c) no disciplinary measure was imposed upon the Judge for serious disciplinary violation.
- d) no redistribution occurred in their instance of cases assigned to them due to long-term absence exceeding six weeks.19a)

(2) Salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on salary date designated to pay for salary for May and November. If the condition stipulated in Para 1a) is met by 30th of June or 31st of December, salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on the salary date for June and December.

(3) Execution of judicial office for the purposes of paying additional salary pursuant to Para 1a) is also the time of:

- a) drawing holiday,
- b) paid leave of absence,
- c) absence due to injury, which had occurred during execution of office or in relation with execution of office,
- d) temporary suspension of judicial office pursuant to Section 22 or 22a, if Judge shall become entitled to back pay of salary pursuant to Section 22(9) or 22a(7); in such case any additional salary shall be back paid together with back pay of the salary difference,
- e) deepening of qualification, drawing study leave of absence during increasing of qualification.

Section 78

Salary adjustment

If Judge was relieved from higher judicial office upon their own request, during which they were entitled to functional bonus, they are entitled to salary adjustment in the amount of the difference between the previous and current judicial salary for the period of three months. That does not apply if Judge was disqualified from office as result of decision of Disciplinary Panel.

Section 79

Repealed as of 1.5.2011.

Section 80

Repealed as of 1.5.2011.

Section 81

Reimbursement of costs and material benefits

(1) During execution of their office, the President of the Supreme Court as well as the President of the Supreme Administrative Court have the right to use appropriately equipped apartment only if their permanent residence is outside of the seat of the Supreme Court or Supreme Administrative Court. Flat rate reimbursement and reimbursement during trips abroad, which relate to execution of function, shall belong them in the same amount as to the Member of the Government. During execution of their function, they have the right to use official motor vehicle free of charge and the right to activation and use of subscription telephone station free of charge.

(2) Vice-President of the Supreme Court and Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court has the right of use of one official mobile telephone free of charge.

(3) During mandated standby service, Judge shall be allocated mobile telephone.

Section 82

Contributing service

(1) The following time shall be counted towards work experience (hereinafter only as : “contributing service”) in order to determine inclusion of Judge into appropriate salary level:

- a) preparation of judicial candidate and professional judicial internship,
- b) execution of judicial office pursuant to Section 62,
- c) other legal work experience proven by the Judge after having obtained university law degree in function or occupation prescribed for such education attained.

(2) The following time shall also be counted towards contributing service:

- a) carrying out of mandatory military service in scope stipulated by special regulation applicable at the time of such military service or carrying out substitute civilian service in the maximum duration of 12 months,
- b) taking care of child in duration equal to that of maternity leave and additional maternity leave stipulated by special regulation, no longer than over six years from the sum of these years,
- c) during which Judge was unable to execute their office due to reasons stipulated in special regulation,²¹⁾
- d) suspension of office due to some of the reasons pursuant to Section 24(1)b) and (3),
- e) temporary suspension of office pursuant to Section 22 or 22a, if Judge shall become entitled to back pay of salary pursuant to Section 22(9) or 22a(7).

(3) Due to reasons worthy of special consideration, Minister, with the approval of Judicial Council, may decide on counting other time after obtaining university degree towards contributing service.

Section 83

Granting base salary and bonus

(1) District Court Judge is entitled to base salary from the day of administering oath. Regional Court Judge is entitled to base salary from the day of reassignment to Regional Court.

(2) First instance Court Judge is entitled to base salary of Judge assigned to higher salary level from the first day of the month following the day, on which the determining fact had occurred for awarding such salary; if such day is the first day of the month, this day shall apply.

(3) Judge is entitled to functional bonus and bonus pursuant to Section 72 from the day, on which the determining fact had occurred for awarding such bonuses.

Section 84

Decreasing judicial salary

Judge may have their official salary reduced only pursuant to final decision of Disciplinary Panel.

Section 85

Repealed as of 1.1.2011.

Section 86

Reduction of judicial salary

(1) If Judge is provided unpaid leave of absence their salary shall be reduced proportionally to the number of days during which they did not execute their office.

(2) Judge with reduced working hours is entitled to judicial salary appropriate to such working hours.

Payability and payment of salary

Section 87

(1) Salary particulars of Judge pursuant to this Act (hereinafter only as "salary"), unless stipulated otherwise, are payable in arrears for monthly period, namely no later than by 15th day of the following calendar month. Before the end of calendar month, Judge has the right to advance pay.

(2) If salary is payable at the time of drawing holiday of Judge, it shall be paid upon written request prior to commencing holiday. The same applies to commencing extraordinary service or alternative service.

(3) Personnel office of Judge shall pay their payable salary in case of expiry of judicial office on the salary day designated for payment of salary for that particular calendar month.

Section 88

(1) Salary is paid in Euros.

(2) Salary is paid during working hours stipulated by work schedule at the appropriate Court, except as otherwise stipulated by special legislation. Upon written request of Judge the personnel office

is obliged to remit their salary or any other performance to their bank account in the Slovak Republic or to mail it to them via postal services. Judge may authorise another person to take their salary.

(3) Salary of Judge commissioned to perform duties in body of European Union shall be paid by personnel office of Judge in two instalments. First instalment, comprising 25% of salary multiplied by salary index pursuant to special regulation^{21a)} shall be remitted to their bank account opened at the location of their temporary assignment after making salary deductions, and second instalment, comprising 75% of salary shall be remitted to their bank account in the Slovak Republic after making salary deductions.

(4) Salary of Judge delegated to perform crisis management-related work outside of the territory of the Slovak Republic shall be paid by personnel office of Judge in two instalments. First instalment, comprising 50% of salary multiplied by salary index pursuant to special regulation^{21a)} shall be remitted to their bank account opened at the location of crisis area after making salary deductions, and second instalment, comprising 50% of salary shall be remitted to their bank account in the Slovak Republic after making salary deductions.

Section 89

If laid down by special regulation, Judge is obliged to designate bank account to which their salary shall be remitted; otherwise, their salary shall be mailed to them via postal service. Costs of such payment of salary may not be borne by Judge.

Section 90

(1) Personnel office of Judge is obliged to issue to Judge a receipt listing the breakdown of individual components of their salary and deductions made. Upon their request, the personnel office of Judge is obliged to enable them to examine the background papers used to calculate their salary.

(2) Decisions on matters of salaries are made by President of the Court, at which the Judge is executing their office.

Section 91

Deductions from salary

(1) Deductions from salary may only be made based on written consent of Judge on salary deductions. Otherwise, the personnel office of Judge may only deduct the following from the salary:

- a) premium for medical insurance, pension premium, and premium for health insurance, which they are obliged to pay, eventually contribution to unemployment benefit insurance, if Judge is a payer thereof,
- b) advance on income tax,
- c) advance on salary, which the Judge is obliged to pay back because conditions were not met to awarding such salary,
- d) amounts affected by enforcement of decision or by execution pursuant to special regulation,²²⁾
- e) salary for holiday the Judge had lost their entitlement to or which they were not entitled to,
- f) unaccounted advance payments for travel expenses reimbursement pursuant to special regulation,
- g) amounts accrued to the State as a result of disciplinary measure, pecuniary penalty, or compensation imposed by enforceable decision of appropriate bodies.

(2) Order of salary deductions is stipulated by special regulation.

Section 92

Title repealed as of 1.1.2009.

(1) Protection of personal data of Judge is provided by personnel office of Judge.^{14a)}

(2) Protection of personal data stated in asset declarations of Judges is provided by Judicial Council.^{14a)}

TITLE EIGHT

SOCIAL WELFARE OF JUDGE

Section 93

Salary compensation bonus and sickness benefit bonus

(1) If, due to illness or injury, Judge is declared as temporarily unfit to execute their office, they are entitled to salary compensation²⁰⁾ or to sickness benefit pursuant to special regulation,^{20a)} they are entitled to salary compensation bonus or sickness benefit bonus in the amount of the difference between judicial salary, after making deductions for advance income tax, health insurance premium, medical insurance premium, pension insurance premium, disability insurance premium, and provided salary compensation or sickness benefit.

(2) Judge is not entitled to salary compensation bonus and sickness benefit bonus if temporarily inability to execute their office had occurred due to injury inflicted during execution of their office or due to occupational illness.

(3) Judge is entitled to salary compensation bonus and sickness benefit bonus during sick leave, however no longer than for 60 days.

Section 94

Maternity compensation bonus

If Judge becomes entitled to maternity compensation, they shall be entitled to maternity compensation bonus in the amount of 55 % of judicial salary.

Section 95

Bonus for execution of judicial office and widower pension bonus

(1) For each year of executing judicial office, Judge is entitled to bonus for execution of judicial office, if they are entitled to pension, early pension, or disability pension pursuant to special regulation^{20a)} and

a) at the same time had requested the Minister to suspend the execution of their judicial office pursuant to Section 24(4) and the Ministry to grant them bonus for execution of judicial office, or

b) at the same time had requested the Ministry to grant them bonus for execution of judicial office if their judicial office had expired as a result of:

1. disqualification from judicial office pursuant to Section 18(2),
2. Abdication from judicial office pursuant to Section 19.
3. Pursuant to Section 17g.

(2) The following persons are entitled to widower pension bonus:

a) wife to her widower pension after her deceased husband who was a Judge, in the amount 60% of bonus for execution of judicial office, the Judge was entitled to as of the day of their death,

b) husband to their widower pension after their deceased wife who was a Judge, in the amount 60% of bonus for execution of judicial office, the Judge was entitled to as of the day of her death,

c) unsupported child to orphan's annuity after their deceased parent or adoptive parent who was a Judge, in the amount 30% of bonus for execution of judicial office, the Judge was entitled to as of the day of their death. If it concerns such unsupported child which had no second parent, the amount of their orphan's annuity bonus is 60 % from the bonus for execution of judicial office, the Judge was entitled to as of the day of their death.

(3) Condition stipulated in Para 1a) and b) is not required to be met for the purposes of widower pension bonus pursuant to Para 2 if the judicial office had expired as a result of death or declaration of person as dead.

(4) The amount of monthly bonus for execution of judicial office for each year of execution of judicial office is 0.8% of the average judicial salary.¹⁹⁾ If the execution of judicial office did not last the entire year, Judge is entitled to proportional part of bonus for execution of judicial office for each month, including each month which had begun, of execution of judicial office.

(5) Judge is entitled to bonus for execution of judicial office for maximum of 35 years of service.

(6) Bonus for execution of judicial office and widower pension bonus shall be increased if the average salary of Judge is increased. Eligible persons shall be entitled to increased bonus from the day of increase of average salary of Judge.

(7) Ministry shall decide on bonus for execution of judicial office and widower pension bonus within 30 days from the day of receiving the application for granting thereof. Bonus for execution of judicial office and widower pension bonus shall be paid by bank transfer to bank account or branch of foreign bank designated by the beneficiary.

(8) For the purpose of calculating bonuses pursuant to Paras 1 and 2, pension pursuant to special regulation^{20a)} is also considered retirement pension or disability retirement pension, including retirement pensions of surviving relatives pursuant to special regulation.^{23a)} Retirement pension or disability retirement pension together with bonus for execution of judicial office may not exceed the amount of judicial pension together with bonus for execution of judicial office, which that Judge had been executing over the same number of years.

Procedure on Salary compensation bonus and sickness benefit bonus, on maternity compensation bonus and on bonus for execution of judicial office

Section 96

The total of salary compensation bonus and salary compensation, total of sickness benefit bonus and sickness benefit, and total of maternity compensation bonus and maternity compensation may not exceed the amount of judicial salary after making deductions for advance income tax, health insurance premium, medical insurance premium, pension insurance premium, disability insurance premium, and unemployment benefit insurance premium, if Judge is payer of unemployment benefit insurance.

Section 97

Decisions on bonuses pursuant to Section 93 and 94 (hereinafter only as "bonus") are made by personnel office of Judge.

Section 98

(1) Entitlement to bonus shall rise by meeting the conditions laid down by this Act.

(2) Procedure on awarding bonus shall commence upon written application of Judge, or surviving relative of Judge; application is submitted on a form designated by the Ministry.

(3) If it is discovered afterwards that bonus was awarded or paid in lower amount as the amount the Judge was entitled to, or that the bonus was unjustly refused, or that it was awarded from later date as the entitlement date, the bonus shall be increased or awarded on the day, from which the bonus of its increase belongs the Judge, however up to the maximum of three years in arrears from the day of such discovery or enforcement of the bonus or increase thereof.

(4) If entitlement to bonus had expired or if it is discovered that bonus was awarded unjustly, bonus shall be lifted.

(5) If it is discovered that bonus was awarded in a higher amount as the amount the Judge was entitled to, such bonus shall be decreased. Judge or surviving relative is obliged to return the bonus or part thereof, if it discovered that bonus was awarded unjustly or in a higher amount, however up to the maximum of three years in arrears from the day of such discovery.

(6) If circumstances determining for entitlement of receiving bonus shall change, its payment shall be stopped or renewed, or the bonus shall be paid in smaller or higher amount.

(7) Entitlement to bonus does not expire by elapsed time.

(8) Entitlement to bonus or a part thereof shall lapse after three-year period of limitation from the day, from which the bonus or a part thereof belongs.

Section 99

(1) Salary compensation bonus, sickness benefit bonus and maternity compensation bonus is paid in arrears for appropriate calendar year together with salary.

(2) Bonus for execution of judicial office is paid by the Ministry in advance in regular monthly terms scheduled by the Ministry, however no later than the 15th day of such calendar month in which the bonus is payable.

(3) Amount of bonuses stipulated in Paras 1 and 2 is rounded up to the next 50 Euro cents.

(4) Bonus stipulated in Para 2 is paid to abroad in arrears in three-monthly terms after having provided proof that the Judge or their surviving relative is permanently residing abroad.

(5) Beneficiary of bonus to retirement pension of surviving relatives after Judge is either the surviving relative or their legal guardian.

Section 100

(1) The right to bonus expires on the day of death of Judge or surviving relative, if they are entitled to bonus.

(2) If Judge died after having enforced their entitlement to bonus, persons included in further procedure on bonus and acquiring entitlement to amounts payable before the death of Judge are progressively husband (wife), children and parents, if they shared the same household with the Judge at the time of their death.¹³⁾ Condition of shared household does not have to be met by children who are entitled to orphan's annuity bonus after deceased Judge.

(3) If bonus was granted before the death of Judge, payable amounts shall be paid, which were not paid before the day of death of Judge to their relatives according to progression and under conditions stipulated in Para 2.

(4) Entitlements passing onto persons stipulated in Paras 2 and 3 are not subject to inheritance; they become subject to inheritance if there are no such persons.

Section 101

(1) Appeal against decision of personnel office of Judge pursuant to Sections 93 and 94 may be lodged within 15 days from delivery of decision, which shall be decided by the Ministry.

(2) Remonstrance may be lodged against decision of Ministry concerning entitlement to bonus pursuant to Section 95(5), which shall be decided by the Minister.

(3) Judge and persons listed in Section 100(2) may lodge motion at Court on examination of decision concerning matters of bonuses within 30 days from delivery of final decision.

Section 102

(1) For the purposes of health insurance²⁴⁾, medical insurance, and pension insurance²⁵⁾, Judge is considered an employee; personnel office of Judge is considered an employer.

(2) Judge does not make contributions to unemployment benefit insurance. Personnel office of Judge is not paying contributions to unemployment benefit insurance on behalf of Judge.

TITLE NINE

INDEMNITY

Section 103

Preventing damage

court administration is obliged without undue delay to arrange for removing circumstances threatening life, health, or property of persons, of which the Judge shall notify court administration in relation to procedure before Court.

Section 104

Indemnity for damage caused by decision or undue administrative procedure

Indemnity for damage caused by decision or undue administrative procedure of the Court is borne by the State. If the State pays compensation for damages based on a decision of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic or the European Court of Human Rights concerning the decision-making activity of a Judge and by which the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic or the European Court of Human Rights pronounced a violation of the right to hear a case without undue delay or a violation of other fundamental rights and freedoms, including as a result of the Judge's action or inaction, and the Judge's culpability has been legally established in disciplinary proceedings, it shall claim the Judge's regressive compensation or a part of it in accordance with the conditions laid down by this Act.

Section 105

Claiming indemnity and determining its amount

(1) court administration is obliged to recover from Judge indemnity they are liable for.

(2) Amount of indemnity caused by negligence may not exceed by individual Judge an amount equal to multiple of three of their judicial salary prior to neglecting their obligations, by which they caused damage.

(3) Decision concerning the obligation of redress and the amount of required indemnity is made by President of the Court. If the damage was caused by President of the Court alone or jointly with Judge and subordinate employee, decision concerning the obligation of redress and the amount of required indemnity is made by President of Regional Court. Decision concerning the obligation of redress and the amount of required indemnity of Presidents of higher Courts is made by the Ministry.

Liability of the State

Section 106

(1) Liability for damage incurred by Judge during execution of their office in relation therewith is borne by the State. State is also liable for damage the Judge and their relatives incurred due to execution of judicial office.

(2) Acting on behalf of the State is appropriate court administration.

Section 107

State may not be relieved from liability if Judge had incurred damage:

- a) during court hearing or another public act,
- b) during questioning of party to hearing outside of court hearing within facilities of the Court or at another location, where the act took place,
- c) when deciding on detention,
- d) when averting danger threatening life, or health, or damage to property, if they did not cause such situation himself,
- e) for execution of judicial office.

Section 108

Indemnity for damage to stowed items

For items not customarily carried during execution of office, for instance larger sum of money, jewellery, or other valuables, and which were not accepted by the court administration for safe keeping, Judge has the right to indemnity only up to the amount of 497.91 Euros. If it is discovered that damage to such items was caused by another Judge or court employee, or if court administration had accepted such items for safe keeping, court administration shall indemnify the damage without any limit.

Section 109

Indemnity for damage caused by injury or occupational illness

Judge has the right to indemnity if during execution of judicial office or in direct relation therewith any damage to their health or their death is caused due to injury (hereinafter only as "injury"). The same applies if damage to health was caused as a result of execution of judicial office.

Section 110

Compensation for lost income

(1) Compensation for lost income during temporary inability to execute office is the difference between the last judicial salary of Judge prior to damage caused by injury or occupational illness and the amount of sickness benefit and sickness benefit bonus.

(2) Compensation pursuant to Para 1 shall also apply for continued inability to execute office caused by the same injury or occupational illness; calculation thereof is based on judicial salary of Judge prior to such damage having incurred.

(3) Compensation for lost income after the end of temporary inability to execute office when Judge is declared as disabled shall be rendered to Judge in such amount as to attain the last prescribed salary together with disability pension and bonus for execution of judicial office. Increased disability pension due to paralysis is not taken into consideration.

(4) If Judge is incapable of executing their office, despite of exemption and shorter working hours, they are entitled to compensation pursuant to Para 1 even if they are capable of making income.

(5) Judge is entitled to compensation for lost income pursuant to Paras 1 and 2 until the end on calendar month in which the Judge shall reach 65 years of age.

Section 111

Indemnity for suffering pain and aggravated social status

If Judge suffered injury due to criminal offense committed by another person due to execution of judicial office or due to actions aimed against execution of judicial office, they are entitled to damages for suffering pain in the minimum of double amount thereof.

Section 112

Lump sum extraordinary damages

Judge, who due to injury caused by criminal offense committed by another person due to execution of judicial office or due to actions aimed against execution of judicial office, had lost their ability to execute judicial office, is entitled to lump sum extraordinary damages in the amount of hundred-fold of minimum salary.

Section 113

Damages to surviving relatives and relatives

(1) If Judge, who due to injury caused by criminal offense committed by another person due to execution of judicial office or due to actions aimed against execution of judicial office, had died, lump sum damages to surviving relatives shall be due to surviving spouse and each child, who is entitled to orphan's annuity in the amount fifty-fold of minimum salary. In justified cases such lump sum damages are also granted to parents of the deceased Judge in the amount of twenty-fold of minimum salary.

(2) Damages for material damage are due to heirs of the deceased Judge.

(3) Costs of funeral are understood mainly costs billed by funeral house, cemetery fees, costs of erecting a tombstone or grave plaque up to 829.85 Euro, costs of grave maintenance, travel expenses, and on third of appropriate costs for mourning clothing and funeral wake. Costs of mourning clothing and travel expenses are reimbursed only to spouse, children, parents, and grandparents, or other persons who were sustenance-dependent on the deceased.

(4) Entitlements regulated by Sections 109 to 112 also belong wife and children of Judge in they suffered damage due to execution of judicial office.

Section 114

Procedure in indemnity cases

(1) Decision on damages pursuant to this Act at first instance is made by President of the Court, at which Judge is executing office or at which they executed office prior to their death, except if stipulated otherwise. Court Council shall provide its position on manner and scope of damages.

(2) Decision on appeal against the decision of the President of the District Court is made by President of appropriate Regional Court, on appeal against the decision of the President of the Regional Court and Specialised Criminal Court is made by the Ministry. Remonstrance against the decision of President of the Supreme Court and President of the Supreme Administrative Court is admissible.

(3) Procedure on damages is governed by general regulations on administrative proceedings.

(4) Judge has the right to lodge motion on examination of appeal (remonstrance) within 30 days from delivery thereof.

(5) If it concerns indemnity for damage caused by injury or occupational illness, decision at first instance is always made by President of the Regional Court, President of the Specialised Criminal Court, President of the Supreme Court or President of the Supreme Administrative Court.

PART THREE

DISCIPLINARY LIABILITY

TITLE ONE

GENERAL PROVISIONS ON DISCIPLINARY LIABILITY

Section 115

Scope of disciplinary liability of Judge

Judge is disciplinary liable for disciplinary offense.

Section 115a

(1) For liability for disciplinary offences, negligence shall be sufficient, unless the law expressly provides that wilful misconduct is required.

(2) For the purposes of this Act, negligence means conduct by a Judge where the Judge knew or ought to have known that they were likely to violate or jeopardize an interest protected by this Act, but relied without reasonable cause that such violation or jeopardy would not be caused by such violation or jeopardy.

Section 116

Disciplinary offense

(1) Disciplinary offense is the following:

- a) causing failure to meet or infringement of obligations of Judge,
- b) actions, which evoke valid doubt about independence and impartiality of Judge during decision-making, about non-bias against parties to the proceedings, and about effort to conclude court hearing fairly, and without undue delays,
- c) failure to show expected work results as a Judge based on evaluation of Judge with the verdict “unfit”,
- d) failure to meet the obligation of lodging asset declaration pursuant to Section 32(1) even within extended deadline stipulated by Judicial Council,
- e) presence at workplace under the influence of alcohol, intoxicating, or psychotropic substance, except if it concerns a disciplinary offense pursuant to Para 3a); if Judge, upon the request of the President of the Court or President of the Court of higher instance court, will refuse to take a breath test to determine alcohol content in their blood or have their blood or other biological material taken for examination, it has the same legal consequence as though they were under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substance,
- f) failure to meet the obligation of lodging written statement pursuant to Section 31(1) within the laid down deadline or providing incomplete data or false data in the statement pursuant to Section 31(1).

(2) Serious disciplinary offense is the following:

- a) wilful infringement of obligation of Judge to rule independently and without bias,

- b) actions stipulated in Para 1 except for actions stipulated in Paras c) and d), if due to the nature of infringed obligation, manner of actions, degree of guilt, repeated infringement, or other aggravating circumstances, the harmfulness of such actions is increased,
- c) repeated infringement of obligation to lodge asset declaration pursuant to Section 32(1) even within extended deadline stipulated by Judicial Council, wilful provision of incomplete data or false data in asset declaration or declaration on oath pursuant to Section 32,
- d) actions caused by Judge having the consequence of delays in disciplinary proceedings,
- e) arbitrary decision of Judge, which is in contradiction with law, if by such decision Judge caused considerable damage or another especially serious consequence,
- f) actions caused by Judge having the consequence of delays in Court proceedings,
- g) repeated infringement of obligation to lodge written statement pursuant to Section 31(1) within the laid down deadline or providing incomplete data or false data in the statement pursuant to Section 31(1).
- h) repeated failure to show expected work results as a Judge based on evaluation of Judge with the verdict "unfit", if it concerns evaluation of Judge pursuant to Section 27a(1)(e).
- i) infringement of obligation to fulfil the requirements of judicial competence for the entire duration of the term of office of the Judge.

3) The following serious disciplinary offenses are incompatible with judicial office:

- a) execution of judicial office during mandated standby service and during working hours under the influence of alcohol, intoxicating, or psychotropic substances,
- b) committing serious disciplinary offense despite the fact that disciplinary measure was already imposed for disciplinary offense,
- c) inability of Judge to provide a trustworthy proof of honesty of the origin of asset increase or the honesty of the origin of assets themselves in proceedings under a special regulation, 12)
- d) actions stipulated in Para 2 a), c), and i), if due to the nature of infringed obligation, manner of actions, degree of guilt, repeated infringement, or other aggravating circumstances, they are incompatible with judicial office,
- e) infringement of lawful conditions of random case assignment to panels, Judges, and court clerks, and of random redistribution of cases already assigned,
- f) failure to show expected work results as a Judge based on evaluation of Judge with the verdict "unfit", if two preceding evaluations of Judge were with the verdict "unfit".
- g) infringement of obligation to fulfil the prerequisites of judicial competence consisting in business, property or financial relations with persons from the organised crime environment resulting from an opinion of the Judicial Council adopted in the framework of the supervision of the Judicial Council pursuant to special regulation. 12)

Section 117

Disciplinary measure

(1), Disciplinary panel shall impose some the following disciplinary measures for disciplinary offenses:

- a) admonition,

b) reduction of functional salary by up to 30 % for maximum of three months and with repeated disciplinary offense Judge had committed during the time prior to expunging of disciplinary sanction, for maximum of six months,

c) issuing and publishing of decision on the fact that the Judge under consideration failed in that particular year to submit in lawfully prescribed manner the source of increase of their assets.

(2) Disciplinary measure pursuant to Para 1 may be imposed individually or in parallel. For committing disciplinary offense pursuant to Section 116(1)d) Disciplinary Panel shall also impose disciplinary measure pursuant to Para 1c).

(3) Disciplinary panel shall impose some the following disciplinary measures for serious disciplinary offense:

a) reassignment of Judge to lower instance Court,

b) reduction of functional salary by 50 % to 70 % for the period of three months to one year,

c) issuing and publishing of decision on the Judge under consideration failed in that particular year to submit the source of increase of their assets in lawfully prescribed manner, by which they could have harmed the seriousness and dignity of judicial office or threaten the confidence in independent, impartial, and fair decision-making of Courts.

(4) Disciplinary measure pursuant to Para 3 may be imposed individually or in parallel. Recall from the function of President of the Court or Vice-President, except for serious disciplinary offense pursuant to Section 116(2)c), may not be imposed together with another measure pursuant Para 3. For serious disciplinary offense pursuant to Section 116(2)c) Disciplinary Panel shall also impose disciplinary measure pursuant to Para 3.

(5) Disciplinary measure for serious disciplinary offense incompatible with judicial office is always a disqualification from judicial office.

(6) When imposing disciplinary measures, Disciplinary Panel takes into consideration mainly the scope and nature of infringed obligation, manner of actions, consequences and degree of guilt.

(7) Work-related shortcomings of smaller significance may be handled by body, which is authorised to lodge motion for commencing disciplinary proceedings, if sufficient, by admonishing the Judge in writing.

(8) Judge in question may, within 15 days from the day of having learned of imposing admonition, turn to appropriate Disciplinary Panel with motion to render the admonition invalid.

Section 118

Expiry of disciplinary liability of Judge

(1) Liability of Judge for disciplinary offense shall expire by lapse of period of limitation stipulated in Section 120(4).

(2) Limitation of disciplinary offense shall be interrupted by:

a) lodging motion for commencement of disciplinary proceedings for disciplinary offense, which the limitation pertains to, and after subsequent procedural steps of Disciplinary Panel aimed at closing disciplinary proceedings, or

b) if Judge shall commit another disciplinary offense during the period of limitation.

(3) As a result of interruption of limitation, new period of limitation shall begin to lapse.

TITLE TWO

DISCIPLINARY PANEL

Section 119

(1) Disciplinary liability is discovered by and disciplinary measures are imposed by Disciplinary Panel. Disciplinary proceedings against the President of the Supreme Court and President of the Supreme Administrative Court and Vice-President of the Supreme Court and Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court are conducted by Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic.

(2) Disciplinary panel of first instance is a three-member panel and its chairman and one member must be Judges and one member another person than Judge. Appellate Disciplinary Panel is a five-member panel and its chairman and two members must be Judges and two members other persons than Judge.

(3) Lawful Judge for the purposes of disciplinary proceedings is the Chairman of disciplinary Panel and a member of Disciplinary Panel selected into Disciplinary Panel pursuant to this Act. The Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel and members of the Disciplinary Panel shall be subject to the provisions of Article 30(10); the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or member of the Disciplinary Panel shall be relieved of their confidentiality by the President of the Judicial Council.

(4) Operation of Disciplinary Panels in terms of organisational and technical support is provided by the Office of the Judicial Council.

(5) The Judicial Council shall see to it that the principles of dignity of disciplinary proceedings and smooth running of disciplinary proceedings are observed and, to that end:

(a) oversee the proper functioning of the Disciplinary Panels,

(b) monitor and evaluate the regularity of work of Chairmen of the Disciplinary Panels and members of the Disciplinary Panels as regards the organisation and efficiency of the work of the Disciplinary Panels, the efficiency of use of resources allocated to them and efficiency of use of the hearing days,

(c) carry out vetting of files of the Disciplinary Panels and the handling thereof,

(d) attend certain hearings,

(e) monitor the decision-making activity of the Disciplinary Panels in terms of continuity of disciplinary proceedings, in particular monitor the continuity of disciplinary proceedings in cases of decisions of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic concerning decision-making activity of Disciplinary Panels and by which the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic has pronounced a violation of the right to a hearing of the case without undue delay or a violation of other fundamental rights and freedoms.

(6) If the Judicial Council finds that the principles of dignity of disciplinary proceedings and continuity of disciplinary proceedings have been violated, it shall be obliged to discuss the deficiencies found with the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or a member of the disciplinary chamber concerned and, if necessary, to impose measures leading to the rectification of the deficiencies found and to the elimination of their causes. The Chairmen of the Disciplinary Panels and members of the Disciplinary Panels shall, within the scope of their duties, comply with measures imposed by the Judicial Council pursuant to first sentence.

Section 119a

(1) Judicial Council shall elect for a period of three years 10 Chairmen of Disciplinary Panels and 30 members of Disciplinary Panels, who, for the purpose of creating Disciplinary Panels, are listed in three following databases:

a) database of Chairmen of panels elected from candidates proposed by Court Councils,

b) database having 15 members of panels elected from candidates proposed by the Minister, of which eight are Judges pursuant to Section 119b(1),

c) database having 15 members of panels elected from candidates proposed by the National Council, of which eight are Judges pursuant to Section 119b(1).

(2) Court Councils, Minister, and the National Council shall propose to Judicial Council candidates upon request of the Judicial Council. In the request to submit proposed candidates the Judicial Council shall specify:

a) number of members of Disciplinary Panels or Chairmen of Disciplinary Panels, which shall be elected based on proposals of individual submitters,

b) database, they are to be elected into,

c) whether it is necessary to elect a Judge or other person than Judge, and

d) deadline for submitting proposed candidates, which may not be shorter than 45 days from the day of delivery of the request.

(3) Court Councils, Minister, and the National Council shall submit to the Judicial Council twice the number of candidates for members of Disciplinary Panels or candidates for Chairmen of Disciplinary Panels, which shall be elected by the Judicial Council. If the same candidate was proposed by several submitters, Judicial Council shall request that party, which had submitted such candidate as last, a new proposed candidate forthwith.

(4) If sufficient number of Chairmen of Disciplinary Panels or members of Disciplinary Panels were not elected in individual databases, President of the Judicial Council shall declare supplementary elections forthwith in the necessary scope.

(5) President of the Judicial Council is obliged to arrange for publication of databases pursuant to Para 1 at the website of the Judicial Council and publication of all changes in those databases without delay.

Section 119b

(1) Elected as a Chairman of Disciplinary Panel or member of Disciplinary Panel may be only Judge, including a Judge who has the execution of their office suspended and is receiving bonus for execution of judicial office or whose function as a Judge has ceased to exist pursuant to Article 146 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic,

a) who has been serving in the judicial office for minimum of five years,

b) against whom no disciplinary proceedings, nor criminal prosecution, is held,

c) who had no disciplinary measure imposed against them,

d) who is not a member of Judicial Council, President of the Court, or Court Vice-President.

(2) Elected as a member of Disciplinary Panel may be also other person than Judge, who:

a) meets the conditions for appointment as a Judge pursuant to Section 5(1)a), d), f),

b) has been carrying our legal practice for minimum of ten years,

c) is not a member of Judicial Council.

(3) Judge may be elected as Chairman of Disciplinary Panel or member of Disciplinary Panel and other person than Judge as member of Disciplinary Panel for maximum of two consecutive terms of office.

(4) Other person than Judge elected as member of Disciplinary Panel, shall execute the office of member of Disciplinary Panel for salary, while they are also entitled to reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with execution of office of member of Disciplinary Panel pursuant to special regulation;¹⁶⁾ details shall be stipulated by the Ministry by a generally binding legal regulation.

Title repealed as of 1.9.2014

Section 119c

Number and composition of Disciplinary Panels

(1) The composition of the Disciplinary Panel of first instances and appellate Disciplinary Panels shall be determined annually by the Judicial Council in the work schedule of Disciplinary Panels. The Chairmen of the Disciplinary Panels and members of the Disciplinary Panels not included in any Disciplinary Panels in the work schedule shall be alternates of the Disciplinary Panels.

(2) Judicial Council creates at least four first instance Disciplinary Panels and determines their compositions so that:

- a) Chairman of Disciplinary Panel is selected from database pursuant to Section 119a(1)a),
- b) one member of Disciplinary Panel be selected from database pursuant to Section 119a(1)b),
- c) one member of Disciplinary Panel be selected from database pursuant to Section 119a(1)c).

(3) Judicial Council creates at least two appellate Disciplinary Panels and determines their compositions so that:

- a) Chairman of appellate Disciplinary Panel is selected from database pursuant to Section 119a(1)a),
- b) two members of Disciplinary Panel be selected from database pursuant to Section 119a(1)b),
- c) two members of Disciplinary Panel be selected from database pursuant to Section 119a(1)c).

Section 119d

Assigning cases to Disciplinary Panels

(1) Unless this Act lays down otherwise, motion to commence disciplinary proceedings to temporarily suspend execution of judicial office, if such motion is not lodged together with motion to commence disciplinary proceedings, objection of bias, and appeal against the decision of Disciplinary Panel of first instance are assigned according to work schedule to individual Disciplinary Panels by random selection utilising technology equipment and software approved by the Ministry so that any possibility to influence case assignment be ruled out.

(2) Application to issue certificate of expunging of disciplinary sanction is issued by random selection to Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel.

(3) Assignment of cases pursuant to Paras 1 and 2 is done upon their registration in the mailroom of Disciplinary Panel office. Condition for random selection pursuant to Para 1 is met when a case is to be assigned to one of at least two Disciplinary Panels, and pursuant to Para 2 when a case is to be assigned to one of at least two Chairmen of the Disciplinary Panels.

(4) If case will be returned to Disciplinary Panel of first instance for further proceedings, it will be assigned to the same Disciplinary Panel of first instance, it was originally assigned to.

(5) Each additional appeal lodged within disciplinary proceedings in the same disciplinary case shall be assigned to such appellate panel, to whom the first appeal was lodged in the same disciplinary proceedings; that applies equally for proceedings on appeal against decision on temporary suspension of judicial office.

(6) Each further objection of bias lodged within disciplinary proceedings in the same disciplinary case shall be assigned to such appellate panel, to whom the first appeal of bias was lodged in the same disciplinary proceedings; that applies equally for proceedings on appeal against decision on temporary suspension of judicial office.

(7) Excluded from decision-making within appellate Disciplinary Panel is the Chairman of Disciplinary Panel and member of Disciplinary Panel who in the case under consideration had participated in the decision-making in Disciplinary Panel of first instance, and vice versa.

Section 119da

Work schedule of Disciplinary Panels

(1) The work schedule of Disciplinary Panels shall include the following

a) composition of the Disciplinary Panels, indicating the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel and other members of the Disciplinary Panel,

b) the manner of proxy representation of the Disciplinary Panels shall be determined so as to ensure that the proceedings and decisions in the case under consideration can be conducted pursuant to this Act in the event of exclusion of the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or of a member of the Disciplinary Panel and in the event of a sudden impediment preventing them from carrying out their respective acts,

c) the manner and conditions for making changes to the work schedule in the event of prolonged absence of Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or a member of the Disciplinary Panel and if membership in the Disciplinary Panel changes,

d) the method of assigning cases to the Disciplinary Panel in the event of inability to use technical means and software due to a malfunction preventing access to the data necessary for the assignment of cases for at least two working days.

(2) President of the Judicial Council shall be obliged to discuss the draft work schedule of the Disciplinary Panels with Chairmen of the Disciplinary Panels and members of the Disciplinary Panels before submitting it to Judicial Council pursuant to Para 3.

(3) The work schedule of the Disciplinary Panels and amendments thereto shall be approved by the Judicial Council on a proposal of the President of the Judicial Council. President of the Judicial Council shall submit a draft work schedule of the Disciplinary Panels for the following calendar year to the Judicial Council no later than by 1 December of the calendar year, together with comments made pursuant to Para 2; if the President of the Judicial Council fails to submit it within that time limit, the Vice-President of the Judicial Council or any three members of the Judicial Council shall do so.

(4) If the Judicial Council does not approve the work schedule in time, the organisation of the work of the Disciplinary Panels shall be governed by the original work schedule until a new work schedule is issued in order to ensure proper conduct of disciplinary proceedings.

(5) The Office of the Judicial Council shall be obliged to publish the approved work schedule of the Disciplinary Panels on the website of the Judicial Council without delay after its approval; it shall also be obliged to publish its changes and its full text after each change is made.

Section 119e

Expiry of function of Chairman of Disciplinary Panel and member of Disciplinary Panel

(1) Function of Chairman of Disciplinary Panel and member of Disciplinary Panel shall expire upon:

- a) lapse of term of office,
- b) expiry of judicial office,
- c) appointment of Judge as President or Vice-President of Court,
- d) election of Judge as member of Judicial Council,
- e) entering into force of decision of Disciplinary Panel on imposing disciplinary measure,
- f) if member of Disciplinary Panel or Chairman of Disciplinary Panel who is a Judge no longer meets the conditions pursuant to Section 119b(1),
- g) if member of Disciplinary Panel who is not a Judge, no longer meets the conditions pursuant to Section 119b(2), or
- h) abdication on the function of member of Disciplinary Panel or Chairman of Disciplinary Panel.

(2) If, within disciplinary proceedings commenced before the lapse of term of office of Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or any of its members, motion to commence disciplinary proceedings was introduced in verbal hearing, Disciplinary Panel shall conclude the disciplinary proceedings in the same composition even if the term of office of Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or any of its members had lapsed.

(3) If the function of Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or member of the Disciplinary Panel shall lapse and if Para 2 does not stipulate otherwise, vacant position shall be filled by substitute member, if such is not available it shall be proceeded pursuant to Section 119s(4).

TITLE THREE

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

Section 120

Commencement of disciplinary proceedings

(1) Disciplinary proceedings shall commence upon motion.

(2) The following persons are authorised to lodge motion to commence disciplinary proceedings:

- a) Minister,
- b) President of the Judicial Council,
- c) Ombudsman,
- d) President of the Regional Court also against Judge within their circuit and against a visiting Judge executing their function at a designated District Court within their circuit,
- e) President of Court against Judge of appropriate Court and against a visiting Judge executing their function at a designated Court even after such execution of judicial office as a visiting Judge at this court has been concluded,
- f) Court Council against Judge of appropriate Court including the President of such Court and against a visiting Judge executing their function at a designated Court even after such execution of judicial office as a visiting Judge at this court has been concluded.

(3) If the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings is lodged by authorised body pursuant to Para 2 b) to f), it is obliged to notify the Minister forthwith of lodging motion to commence disciplinary proceedings; attached to such notification shall be a copy of motion to commence disciplinary proceedings. Authorised body pursuant to Para 2 b) to f) is obliged to notify the Minister forthwith of having admonished the Judge in writing pursuant to Section 117 Para 7; attached to such notification shall be a copy of written admonishment pursuant to Section 117 Para 7.

(4) Motion to commence disciplinary proceedings may be lodged at Disciplinary Panel within one year from the day when the body authorised to lodge such motion had learned of misdemeanour offense, up to the maximum of three years from the day the misdemeanour was committed on, and if it concerns a misdemeanour offense the Judge had committed by fault, which had the consequence of delays in judicial proceedings, no later than within five years from the day the misdemeanour was committed on.

(5) Motion shall include first name and family name of the Judge against whom the motion is directed, description of the conduct, due to which it is proposed to commence disciplinary proceedings, and identification of evidence the motion is based on, including facts giving proof that the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings is lodged in time.

(6) Description of the act for which disciplinary proceedings are commenced must, in the light of particular circumstances, include an indication of the place, time, manner of its commission, the consequence caused, or other facts, so that the act is sufficiently specific and cannot be confused with another act, and so as to justify the application of a particular disciplinary measure. The motion shall also include legal qualification of the act, indicating the relevant legal provision.

(7) Motion to commence disciplinary proceedings may be withdrawn before the Disciplinary Panel, and if an appeal was lodged, the appellate Disciplinary Panel shall have adjourned to deliberation. He who had withdrawn motion to commence disciplinary proceedings may not lodge new motion in such case. Withdrawal of motion to commence disciplinary proceedings must be substantiated.

(8) Where necessary for the assessment of disciplinary liability of a Judge for a disciplinary offence pursuant Section 116(2)(e), the authorised body pursuant to Para 2 shall open the envelope containing the minutes of the vote of the Panel; on inspection, the minutes shall be resealed in the envelope and the body authorised to open the envelope shall endorse such act with its signature on the envelope.

Section 121

Deciding on objection of prejudice

(1) If such circumstances occur, which may give ground to prejudice of Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or its members, the defendant in such proceedings may object on their prejudice.

(2) Prejudice is decided by another Disciplinary Panel of the same instance.

(3) Repealed as of 1.1.2012

Section 122

Notification of commencement of disciplinary proceedings and on temporary suspension of judicial office

Judge, who is defendant in disciplinary proceedings shall be notified of commencement of disciplinary proceedings against them by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel, by serving the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings to their own hands within 10 days from the day the motion to

commence disciplinary proceedings was lodged, and in case of decision on temporary suspension of judicial office, such decision is delivered together with the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings. At the same time, the Judge shall be advised of their right to select legal counsel from amongst attorneys or Judges, to respond to facts, which are laid to their charge, and propose evidence for their defence.

Section 123

Preliminary inquiry

If the content of the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings shall require preliminary clarification of stated facts, Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or member of Disciplinary Panel authorised by them shall conduct the necessary inquiry. They may discover the position of the Judge, who is defendant in disciplinary proceedings, discover further necessary facts and evidence, which are not included in the motion, and if it concerns documents or other things, to obtain them to develop evidence.

Section 124

Closing disciplinary proceedings

(1) Disciplinary panel shall close proceedings without verbal hearing if:

- a) motion to commence disciplinary proceedings was lodged late or it was withdrawn,
- b) if Judge is disciplinarily prosecuted for misdemeanour or conduct, which is sanctionable pursuant to special regulation, Disciplinary Panel shall refer the case in such event to a body having jurisdiction to proceed on such case,
- c) Judge was recalled from their function, had resigned or their function had ceased to exist,
- d) liability for disciplinary offense had expired,
- e) act, for which disciplinary proceedings are conducted, was ruled on in criminal proceedings with final verdict.

(2) If any of the grounds for discontinuance pursuant to Para 1(a) arise after the oral hearing has begun, the Disciplinary Panel or appellate Disciplinary Panel shall invite the Judge against whom the disciplinary proceedings are pending to state, within a period of three days, whether they consent to the discontinuance of the proceedings. If, within that period, the Judge declares that they insist that the case be heard, the Disciplinary Panel shall continue the proceedings. If the Judge does not make a statement or if the Judge states that they consent to the proceedings being discontinued, the Disciplinary Panel shall proceed pursuant to Para 1(a).

Section 125

Stay of disciplinary proceedings

(1) If Disciplinary Panel surmises that the facts, which are laid to the Judges' charge, have the signs of criminal offense, disciplinary proceedings shall be stayed and the case be referred to law enforcement body with jurisdiction.

(2) Disciplinary Panel shall also stay disciplinary proceedings when it discovers that the act, for which the disciplinary proceedings were commenced, is subject to criminal proceedings against the Judge.

(3) Stay of disciplinary proceedings shall continue until final verdict is available in criminal proceedings. If the conditions for continuing disciplinary proceedings or proceedings in extraordinary cases were not met, Disciplinary Panel shall close disciplinary proceedings.

(4) Disciplinary Panel shall also stay disciplinary proceedings if it becomes aware that the Judge against whom disciplinary proceedings are pending has been suspended from the exercise of their judicial office pursuant to Section 24; during the stay of disciplinary proceedings, the limitation periods pursuant to Section 118 shall not run. The disciplinary proceedings shall continue if the Judge resumes their judicial office.

Section 126

Ordering of verbal hearing

(1) After having conducted preliminary inquiry, or such inquiry is not necessary, Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel shall schedule a date of verbal hearing, shall notify of it the body, which had lodged the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings, Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, and if the Judge has legal counsel, their counsel. Legal counsel of the Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, shall receive the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings together with instruction concerning their rights.

(2) If witnesses need to be questioned, Chairman of Disciplinary Panel shall summon them to verbal hearing.

(3) Date of verbal hearing is scheduled in such manner as to provide the Judge and their legal counsel notice of minimum of five business days to prepare defence. The same deadline shall be provided to the body, which had lodged the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings.

(4) President of the Court, at which the Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, is active, shall be notified of the date of verbal hearing, unless they were notified already as a petitioner.

(5) Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, and body, which had lodged the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings are obliged to identify evidence to substantiate their claims no later than at the verbal hearing. Disciplinary panel may also develop such evidence, which was not proposed. Disciplinary panel shall decide upon facts discovered from developed evidence, and also upon facts, which were not disputable, if it had no reasonable and serious doubts concerning the facts or authenticity thereof.

(6) If necessary for the assessment of disciplinary liability of a Judge for a disciplinary offence pursuant to Section 116(2)(e), the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel shall open the envelope containing the minutes of the vote of the Panel; in such a case, they shall inform the other members of the Disciplinary Panel of the minutes, which may be used as documentary evidence at the oral hearing. After the evidence referred to in the preceding sentence has been seen or taken, it shall be sealed again in an envelope and the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel shall certify such action by signing the envelope.

Section 127

Verbal hearing

(1) As a principle, verbal hearing shall be conducted in the presence of Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings. Case may be heard during their absence only if they were duly notified of the date of verbal hearing, and if they are refusing to appear before the Disciplinary Panel, or if they shall not appear without reasonable excuse, or if they shall expressly waive their right to appear at verbal hearing. If Judge appoints legal counsel, the counsel has the right to attend the verbal hearing.

(2) At the beginning of the verbal hearing the petitioner shall present their motion to commence disciplinary proceedings and shall justify it. If the petitioner is not present, the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings shall be presented by Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or member of the Disciplinary Panel designated by them; similar procedure applies if the case was reported to the Disciplinary Panel by appropriate body.

(3) If preliminary inquiry was conducted, Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel or member of Disciplinary Panel designated by them shall instruct the Disciplinary Panel and parties to the hearing of its results.

(4) Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel shall question the Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, and shall develop further necessary evidence. Judge has the right to refuse to testify. Persons summoned as witnesses or court experts, are obliged to appear at verbal hearing and to testify before the Disciplinary Panel.

(5) Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, their defence counsel, and party which had lodged the motion have the right to present their position concerning developed evidence, ask witnesses and court experts questions and to lodge motions for additional evidence.

(6) After completion of presenting evidence, the party which had lodged the motion, legal counsel, and Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, may present their position concerning the case. Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, shall always have the last word.

(7) Verbal hearing before Disciplinary Panel is public; that does not apply for such part of the hearing in which procedure is applied pursuant to Section 126(6).

Section 128

Record of verbal hearing and of deliberation

Record is made of hearing before the Disciplinary Panel and of deliberation of the Disciplinary Panel. Record of verbal hearing shall be signed by Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel and by Court Clerk, record of deliberation of the Disciplinary Panel shall be signed by Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel, members of Disciplinary Panel and by Court Clerk.

Section 129

Decision of Disciplinary Panel

(1) As a rule, Disciplinary Panel is obliged to decide on disciplinary offense of Judge within three months from lodging motion to commence disciplinary proceedings.

(2) If the Disciplinary Panel arrives at the conclusion that the Judge had committed disciplinary offense, it shall decide that they are guilty and shall impose on them disciplinary measure pursuant to this Act.

(3) If the Disciplinary Panel arrives at the conclusion that the Judge had not committed disciplinary offense or that no disciplinary offense may be proven to them, it shall acquit the Judge.

(4) If the Disciplinary Panel had acquitted the Judge, the Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, is entitled to reimbursement of expenses they had purposefully incurred in relation with the disciplinary proceedings. Disciplinary panel shall decide on such entitlement by its decision. If further investigation is required, the entitlement of Judge shall be decided by separate decision.

(5) Disciplinary Panel shall close the disciplinary proceedings if some of the reasons to close proceedings stipulated in Section 124(1) shall emerge during verbal hearing.

(6) If the disciplinary proceedings had been discontinued due to reasons stipulated in Section 124(1)(a) and the Disciplinary Panel continued in proceedings because the Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, insisted on their case to be heard, the Disciplinary Panel, unless they have found any grounds for acquittal of the Judge, shall pronounce them guilty, however shall not impose any disciplinary measure.

(7) Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel shall announce the decision at the verbal hearing and always publicly. Decision shall be made out in writing within 30 days from the day of its announcement. In addition to the verdict, such decision shall include a brief reasoning thereof and instruction on appeal. If the decision of the Disciplinary Panel was not reached unanimously, the decision shall also include the minority position, which is different from that of the majority including brief reasoning thereof. Publication of the decision of the Disciplinary Panel shall be governed by special regulation.28c)

Section 130

Delivery of decision

Decision of the Disciplinary Panel shall be delivered to the Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings, into their own hands. The decision shall be further delivered to defence counsel, if Judge has appointed one, the body which had lodged the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings, and if they did not lodge the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings, to President of the Court, the Judge is active at and to the Minister.

Section 131

Appeal

(1) Appeal may be lodged against the decision of the Disciplinary Panel within 15 days from the day of the decision being delivered to the appellant. Appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Panel on temporary suspension of judicial office and on cancellation of temporary suspension of judicial office may be lodged within 5 days from the from delivery of the decision. Disciplinary Panel shall decide on such appeal forthwith and deliver its decision to the Judge to their own hands within three days from announcement of its decision on appeal. Appeal shall be lodged at the Disciplinary Panel. Appeal lodged in time has deferring effect.

(2) Appeal may be lodged by:

- a) Judge, who is defendant in the proceedings,
- b) President of appropriate Court who had lodged the motion to commence disciplinary proceedings or to whom the case was referred by law enforcement body,
- c) also the body which had lodged the motion.

(3) Appeal is decided by appellate Disciplinary Panel.

(4) If appellate Disciplinary Panel shall not dismiss the appeal, it shall cancel the appealed decision in full or in part and shall decide alone, as a rule, or shall return the case to new hearing and decision.

Section 132

Renewal of disciplinary proceedings

(1) Within three years of decision of the Disciplinary Panel becoming effective, Judge may lodge motion to renew disciplinary proceedings.

(2) No other extraordinary remedy is admissible against final decision of the Disciplinary Panel.

Section 133

Enforcement of decision

(1) Measures necessary for enforcement of imposed disciplinary measure shall be conducted by personnel office of Judge.

(2) Revenue from fines imposed within disciplinary proceedings is an income of State Budget. State is becoming the owner of forfeited things.

(3) Decision concerning the obligation of Judge to indemnify damage may be executed pursuant to special regulation.²⁹⁾

Expunging disciplinary sanction

Section 134

(1) Expunging disciplinary sanction for disciplinary offense or for other violation of law shall occur after lapse of one year from the execution of disciplinary measure, and if imposing of disciplinary measure was dropped, from the day the imposing of disciplinary measure became effective.

(2) Expunging of disciplinary sanction for serious disciplinary offense, for which the disciplinary measure of disqualification from judicial office was not imposed, shall occur after lapse of three years from the execution of disciplinary measure.

(3) If conditions pursuant to Paras 1 and 2 are met, upon the request of the Judge the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel shall issue forthwith a certificate of Expunging of disciplinary sanction.

Section 135

Judge, upon whom a disciplinary measure was imposed pursuant to Section 117(1)(c) and Section 117(3)(d), shall be regarded after the lapse of six years from the day the decision to impose disciplinary measure became effective, as though they were not prosecuted for disciplinary offense.

TITLE FOUR

PROCEEDINGS OF DISCIPLINARY PANEL IN SPECIAL CASES

Section 136

Repealed as of 16.4.2002

Section 137

Repealed as of 1.1.2009

Section 138

(1) If Judge was sentenced with final verdict for criminal offense committed under negligence, the Disciplinary Panel shall decide whether it concerns a criminal offense, which is incompatible with the execution of the judicial office. If the panel decides that it concerns such offense, it may impose on the Judge disciplinary measure of disqualification from judicial office, otherwise it shall close the proceedings.

(2) Proceedings shall commence upon motion of a body stipulated in Section 120(2).

(3) Decision on disqualification from judicial office shall be made by the President.

PART FOUR

LAY-JUDGE

Section 139

Conditions for election as Lay-Judge

(1) Elected as Lay-Judge may be a citizen, who:

- a) had reached a minimum age of 30 on the day of election,
- b) is capable of executing legal acts, and is medically capable to execute the office of Lay-Judge,
- c) is beyond reproach and their moral standing provides a guarantee that they shall duly execute the office of Lay-Judge,
- d) has permanent residency within the territory of the Slovak Republic,
- e) agrees with their election at specific Court.

(2) Conditions to be elected and execute the office of Lay-Judge laid down in Para 1 b) to e) and the condition of citizenship of the Slovak Republic must be met by the Lay-Judge throughout the entire duration of office of Lay-Judge.

(3) Proof of a Lay-Judge being beyond reproach is made pursuant to Section 5(5); copy of criminal record is arranged for by President of the Court.

Election of Lay-Judges

Section 140

(1) Lay-Judges shall be elected by municipal councils within the circuit of the appropriate Court from amongst citizens having permanent residence within the circuit of such Court. Lay-Judges are proposed by mayors of municipalities and Lord-Mayors of cities. Municipal council shall request the President of the appropriate Court a position concerning candidates for election.

(2) Municipal council and assembly shall issue to elected Lay-Judge certificate of election.

Section 141

(1) Lay-Judges are elected for the period of four years. Office of Lay-Judge shall continue also after the lapse of such period until Judgement in a case has become final, if it is necessary for closing such case, in which the Lay-Judge is serving.

(2) Lay-Judge shall assume office on the day of administering an oath.

Section 142

Oath

(1) After election or appointment to office Lay-Judges shall administer an oath pursuant to Section 10(1). Refusal to administer an oath or administering an oath with reservation shall result in loss of office.

(2) Administering an oath shall not be repeated if Lay-Judge was re-elected.

(3) Lay-Judge shall administer an oath to the hands of President of appropriate Court and shall confirm if by their signature.

Section 143

Disqualification from office of Lay-Judge

(1) Upon the proposal of the President of appropriate Court the municipal council, which had elected the Lay-Judge, shall disqualify them from office, if:

- a) they had seriously violated obligations of Lay-Judge,
- b) they ceased to meet the conditions laid down by this Act for execution of the office of Lay-Judge.

(2) Prior to making decision on disqualification the municipal council shall request the position of the Lay-Judge.

(3) The office of Lay-Judge shall expire on the day of delivery of decision concerning their disqualification.

Section 144

Abdication on office of Lay-Judge

Lay-Judge may abdicate from their office. The office of Lay-Judge shall expire after lapse of three months following the month, in which the notice of abdication from office was delivered to President of the Court.

Section 145

Expiry of office of Lay-Judge

(1) Term of office of Lay-Judge shall expire on the day, on which a Judgement became effective, by which Lay-Judge was sentenced for premeditated criminal offense, deprived of ability to perform legal acts, or by which their ability to perform legal acts was limited, upon death or declaration of death, or if otherwise stipulated by law.

(2) Term of office of Lay-Judge shall expire on the last day of the month, in which the Lay-Judge reached the age of 65 years. However, the term of office of Lay-Judge shall continue even after this period had lapsed until Judgement in a case has become final, if it is necessary for closing such case, in which the Lay-Judge is serving.

Section 146

Conditions of execution of office

(1) Lay-Judges, who are in an employment or similar work-related relationship, are entitled to compensation for salary in the amount of average salary during the execution of office of Lay-Judge or fulfilling other duties related to this office.

(2) Lay-Judges, who are not in an employment or similar work-related relationship, are entitled to compensation during the execution of office of Lay-Judge or fulfilling other duties related to this office.

(3) Compensation for salary pursuant to Para 2 shall be provided by the State through administration of appropriate Court. Lay-Judges are also entitled to reimbursement of ready expenditures, which shall incur as a result of execution of office of Lay-Judge or fulfilling other duties related to this office.

(4) In addition to compensation pursuant to Paras 1 to 3, Lay-Judges are also entitled to flat-rate remuneration for each day of execution of their office.

(5) Compensations for execution of office of Lay-Judge shall be laid down by generally binding legal regulation, issued by the Ministry.

(6) Participation in professional training of Lay-Judges is also considered execution of office of Lay-Judge.

(7) Lay-Judge shall execute their office for maximum of 12 business days within calendar year, unless higher number of days is required by the nature of the case they were assigned to, according to work schedule.

Section 147

Fundamental rights and obligations of Lay-Judges

(1) In relation to execution of their office, Lay-Judge has the right to be provided literature and legal regulations necessary for proper execution of their office, and to judicial gown free of charge. Provision of this Act concerning protection of Judges shall also appropriately apply to protection of Lay-Judges.

(2) Lay-Judges are obliged to duly perform their duties and during execution of their office and during their civil life to refrain from anything that could deprave the authority and dignity of office of Lay-Judge or could jeopardize the confidence in independent, impartial, and fair decision-making of Courts.

(3) Lay-Judges are obliged to maintain secrecy, which also applies after expiry of office, concerning matters they had learned during the execution of their office, unless they were relieved of this duty pursuant to this Act or by person in whose interest, they are maintaining this duty. The obligation to maintain secrecy does not apply to reporting on crime or other anti-social activity. On serious grounds also the President of the Court, at which the Lay-Judge is active, may relieve the Lay-Judge of this duty to maintain secrecy.

(4) Lay-Judge, who was notified at least ten days in advance of their duty to attend a meeting of panel and did not explain their absence due to serious reasons in time, is obliged to indemnify the State for damage, which had incurred by having to compensate expenses incurred as a result of debauched hearing caused by absence of the Lay-Judge. Provision of Section 114 of this Act shall apply accordingly to proceedings on indemnification.

PART FIVE

SPECIAL PROVISIONS ON INTERNS

Section 148

Title repealed as of 1.1.2020

An intern is a civil servant,³⁰⁾ who is preparing to participate in selection procedure for a vacant position of a Judge. Unless this Act stipulates otherwise, legal relations of interns are governed by special regulation.³⁰⁾

Section 149

Only the following person may be taken into service as an intern:

- a) who meets the conditions to be appointed a Judge pursuant to Section 5(1) a) to d) and g) and (2)a)
- b) had successfully passed the selection procedure for the position of intern.

Title repealed as of 1.5.2011

Section 149a

(1) The selection procedure for the position of intern shall verify skills, professional knowledge, language skills and state of health of the candidate for the post of intern and such other facts as are necessary or appropriate to be verified with regard to the nature of the office of Judge; provisions of Section 28(5) and (6) shall apply equally.

(2) The selection procedure for the office of intern shall be announced by the President of the Judicial Council for the circuit of the Regional Court at least once a year in the spring or autumn term; provision of Section 28a(2) shall apply equally.

(3) The selection procedure for the post of intern shall be administratively and organisationally ensured by the President of the respective Regional Court.

Section 149b

(1) The selection procedure for the position of intern shall be open only to those who fulfil the prerequisites pursuant to Section 149(1)(a) and (b) and who submit an application for inclusion in the selection procedure for the post of intern, together with the required annexes, within the specified time limit.

(2) A candidate for the position of intern shall submit a written declaration together with the application for inclusion in the selection procedure for the position of intern, in which they shall provide a list of persons close to them who are Judges, employees of courts, the Ministry, including budgetary organisations or contributory organisations under the competence of the Ministry, or members of the selection committee, in the scope of name, surname, functional rank and designation of the institution. The declaration shall be published together with the application for inclusion in the selection procedure for the position of intern pursuant to Para 3.

(3) President of Regional Court shall ensure that all applications for inclusion in the selection procedure for the position of intern, professional CVs of applicants for the position of intern and their motivation letters are published on the website of the Ministry at least 30 days prior to the selection procedure for the position of intern is held. Within 20 days of the publication of the applications referred to in the previous sentence, anyone may raise reasoned objections to the Ministry against the intern applicants; the Ministry shall submit them to the selection board. The selection board shall seek the views of the persons concerned by the objections raised.

(4) President of the Judicial Council shall ensure that the date and place of the selection procedure for the post of intern and the list of the members of the selection committee are published on the website of the Judicial Council at least 15 days before the procedure is held.

Section 149c

(1) The selection procedure for the position of intern consists of a written test, a translation from a foreign language, a psychological assessment and an oral part. Written test and translation from a foreign language shall be drawn by lot on the day of the selection procedure for the position of intern by the selection board from databases designated for that purpose, which are created and administered by the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic. The psychological assessment shall be carried out by applying psychodiagnostic methods determined by the Ministry.

(2) The oral part of the selection procedure for the position of intern shall also be recorded with the use of technical equipment designed for sound recording.

(3) At the end of the selection procedure for the position of intern, the chairman of the selection board shall ensure that a list of candidates for the position of intern is ranked in the order of success. In the event of a tie, the order shall be decided by lot. The number of successful candidates for the position of intern shall be determined according to the number of internship positions to be filled for the circuit of the Regional Court concerned.

(4) The chairman of the selection board shall ensure that the minutes of the selection procedure for the position of intern, the audio recording pursuant to Para (2) and the list pursuant to Para (3) are published on the Ministry website within 24 hours of the end of the selection procedure for the position of intern.

Section 149d

(1) The selection procedure for the position of intern shall be carried out by a five-member selection board. The members of the selection board shall be appointed by the President of the Judicial Council from the database of candidates for members of the selection board established pursuant to Section 29(2), after the call for applications for the position of intern, in such a way that two members are appointed from among the candidates proposed by the Judicial Council and two members are appointed from among the candidates proposed by the Minister; the fifth member of the selection board shall be elected by the competent College of Presidents of Court Councils at the request of the President of the Judicial Council.

(2) The provisions of Section 29(4) and (5) shall apply equally to the selection board referred to in Para (1).

Section 149e

Repealed as of 1.1.2021

Section 149f

(1) Professional judicial internship shall last one year.

(2) The content of the professional judicial internship shall be approved by the Judicial Council after agreement with the Minister.

(3) Professional judicial internship shall be carried out by the intern at District Courts in the circuit of Regional Court and at Regional Court, in civil law agenda, commercial law agenda, criminal law agenda and administrative justice agenda.

(4) During professional judicial internship, the intern shall, in particular, prepare decisions for the Judge, participate in hearings, prepare legal analyses for the Judge and shall be obliged to participate in educational activities. During the professional judicial internship, the intern participates in the administration of justice by carrying out acts at the hearing, under the direction of the lawful Judge, in addition to opening the hearing and announcing the decision on the merits of case.

Section 149g

Repealed as of 1.1.2021

Section 149h

The President of the Court in which the intern is executing their professional judicial internship shall assign the intern a supervisor in the relevant judicial agenda from among the Judges of that court. Only a Judge who has been a Judge for at least five years may be assigned as a trainer.

Section 149i

Repealed as of 1.1.2021

Section 149j

(1) Before completion of the professional judicial internship, President of the Regional Court shall draw up a final evaluation of the intern.

(2) The final evaluation of the intern shall be prepared on the basis of input from trainers and presiding Judges pursuant to Section 149f(3), who have been requested by the President of the Regional Court to do so.

(3) The intern shall comment in writing on the final evaluation.

(4) Provisions of a special regulation³⁰⁾ on career evaluation shall not apply to a professional judicial intern.

Section 149k

(1) The course of professional judicial internship shall be indicated in the internship report issued to the intern by the President of the Regional Court.

(2) The trainer shall keep a record of the internship report in which they shall make a record of the interns' activities.

(3) The internship report shall be submitted by the intern to the President of the Regional Court at their request.

Section 149l

Repealed as of 1.1.2021

Section 149m

Temporary civil service of intern lasts at the latest until the end of the professional judicial internship (Section 149f(1)).

Section 149n

The civil service of intern shall terminate by law on the day preceding the date of the interns' appointment as a Judge.

Section 149o

A general binding legal regulation to be issued by the Ministry shall lay down:

- a) the particulars of the announcement of selection procedure for the position of intern,
- b) the list of documents to be submitted by the applicant for the position of intern,
- c) the manner in which the selection procedure for the position of intern shall be conducted,
- d) details of written test, translation from a foreign language, psychological assessment and oral part of the selection procedure for the position of intern,
- e) the manner of evaluating the results of the selection procedure for the position of intern,
- f) the details of the minutes of the selection procedure for the position of intern,
- g) the remuneration of the non-judicial members of the selection board,
- h) the details of the final evaluation of the intern,
- i) the particulars of internship report.

PART SEVEN COMMON, TRANSITORY AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 150

Common provisions

(1) Provision of special regulation³³⁾ shall apply accordingly to special relationship of Judge, except if this Act stipulates otherwise.

(2) Part one of [Criminal Code](#) shall apply accordingly when judging disciplinary liability of Judge, and [Criminal Code of Procedure](#) shall apply accordingly to disciplinary proceedings, except if this Act stipulates otherwise or, when judging the case, something else would result from the nature of the case.

(3) A person who has ceased to hold judicial office may be elected as a member of the evaluation commission if a vacancy is designated for the performance of the function of a member of the evaluation commission, normally at the court at which they last executed judicial office. A member of the evaluation commission referred to in the first sentence shall be paid a salary equal to the basic salary of a Judge, shall not be paid an allowance for execution of judicial office and the provisions of Titles Four and Six of Part Two shall apply to them accordingly; the function of their personnel office shall be exercised by the court in which the vacancy of a Judge referred to in the first sentence is determined.

Section 150a

Repealed as of 17.7.2009

Section 151

Transitory provisions

(1) Judges and Lay-Judges appointed to office pursuant to regulation in force hitherto shall be considered as Judges and Lay-Judges appointed pursuant to this Act.

(2) Chairmen of Panels appointed to function pursuant to regulation in force hitherto shall be considered as Chairmen of panels appointed pursuant to this Act.

(3) Chairmen of Regional and Supreme Court Colleges shall be appointed pursuant to this Act within three months from the day this Act came into force. By appointment of Chairmen of Colleges, the function of Chairmen of Colleges appointed pursuant to regulation in force hitherto shall expire.

(4) Administering judicial oath pursuant to regulation in force hitherto shall be considered as administering judicial oath pursuant to this Act, unless Judge would renounce it within 30 days from the day this Act came into force.

(5) Duration of execution of office of arbiter, and notary public, duration of execution of function within administration of courts, and duration of execution of office of prosecutor, including the duration of performing another legal activity, if the authorised person had become Judge prior to the day this Act came into force, shall be also considered as duration of execution of judicial office for purposes stipulated in Section 21(2), Section 50(1), Section 95(4). The time, during which Judge was unable to execute office due to reasons stipulated in special regulation, is also included in the same manner.²⁰⁾

(6) With the approval Judicial Council, and for the purpose of lightening the strictness of the law, the Minister may include other legal activity, into the duration of execution of judicial office.

(7) Where in this Act the following term is used:

a) parent leave, it is understood for the purposes of financial assistance during motherhood as maternity leave,

b) additional parent leave, it is understood for the purposes of maternity benefit as additional maternity leave.

(8) Professional examination, which was the condition of execution of office pursuant to regulations in force hitherto, and was passed prior to this Act coming into force, shall be considered as test pursuant to this Act. Provision of Section 5(1)a) shall not apply to judicial intern who had passed professional judicial examination prior to the day this Act came into force.

(9) Functional salary prior to 1 January, 2003 for the purposes of Section 22(5), Section 24(8), Section 36(2), Section 37(5), Section 47(3), Section 48, Section 58(5), Section 63(4), Section 64, Section 84, Section 86(1) and (2), Section 93(1), Section 94, Section 96, Section 105(2), Section 110, and Section 117(1)b) is understood salary designated pursuant to regulation in force hitherto.

(10) Disciplinary proceedings commenced prior to the day this Act came into force, and disciplinary offences and misdemeanours committed prior to the day this Act came into force shall be completed and Judged pursuant to this Act.

(11) Judge may not have sanction imposed on them for disciplinary offence, which they had committed prior to the day this Act came into force, more strict disciplinary measure than the one applicable pursuant to regulations in force hitherto.

(12) Legal education pursuant to Section 5(1)b) is also considered university education obtained at faculty of law having seat at the territory of Czech and Slovak Federative Republic.

Section 151a

Temporary provisions on legal regulations in force from 16 April, 2002

(1) Principles adopted by Council of Judges of the Slovak Republic pursuant to regulations in force hitherto shall be included into principles adopted by Judicial Council pursuant to special legislation³⁵⁾.

(2) Judge appointed to four-year term of office pursuant to regulations in force hitherto after lapse of one such term of office shall be appointed by the President upon motion by Judicial Council as Judge to an indefinite term of office even if on the day of appointment, they did not reach 30 years of age. As execution of judicial office for the purposes of this Act shall be also considered the time from lapse of four-year term of office until their appointment by the President to an indefinite term of office.

(3) Judge appointed pursuant to regulations in force hitherto as Judge to an indefinite term of office shall be considered as Judge appointed by the President.

(4) Judge appointed pursuant to Paras 2 or 3 may exercise, within 30 days from this Act coming into force, reservation to judicial oath. Such reservation shall result in expiry of judicial office.

(5) Judge of Disciplinary Panel appointed pursuant to regulations in force hitherto shall remain in office until the lapse of period to which they were appointed.

Section 151b

Temporary provisions on legal regulations in force from 1 November, 2003

(1) Judge appointed to office prior to this Act coming into force does not have to provide proof of being beyond reproach pursuant to this Act.

(2) If vacant position of Judge designated by the Minister pursuant to special legislation may be filled by judicial candidate, who had become judicial candidate prior to this Act coming into force, the provision of Section 28(1) shall not apply. If vacant position may be filled by several judicial candidates, who had become judicial candidates prior to this Act coming into force, President of the Court, at which Court Council is established, shall announce selection procedure for such judicial candidates only.

(3) Judges of Disciplinary Panel appointed pursuant to regulations in force hitherto shall remain in office until Judges of Disciplinary Panel shall be appointed pursuant to this Act, except if this Act stipulates otherwise.

(4) Judicial Council shall request Court Councils, Minister, and the National Council to submit candidates to Judges of Disciplinary Panel appointed pursuant to Section 119 Para 3 within 45 days from this Act coming into force. Deadline for submitting candidates to Judges of Disciplinary Panel is 30 days. Judicial Council shall appoint members of Disciplinary Panel pursuant to this Act within 75 days from this Act coming into force.

(5) Disciplinary offences and misdemeanour committed prior to this Act coming into force shall be judged pursuant to legal regulations in force hitherto.

(6) Disciplinary proceedings commenced prior to this Act coming into force shall be closed pursuant to legal regulations in force hitherto.

(7) Disciplinary proceedings commenced prior to this Act coming into force shall be closed at the first instance by Disciplinary Panels of the first instance. Decision on appeal against decision made by Disciplinary Panel of the first instance lodged prior to this Act coming into force shall be decided by appellate Disciplinary Panel acting hitherto. Decision on appeal against decision made by Disciplinary Panel of the first instance lodged after this Act came into force shall be decided by appellate Disciplinary Panel pursuant to this Act.

(8) Judge may not have sanction imposed on them for disciplinary offence, which they had committed prior to the day this Act came into force, more strict disciplinary measure than the one applicable pursuant to regulations in force hitherto.

Section 151c

(1) Until Court Council is appointed at the Special Court the selection procedure to Special Court to the function of Chairman of Panel and judicial office shall be conducted by selection commission, whose members shall be appointed by the Minister of Justice after prior approval of the Judicial Council. Provisions of Section 28 and 29 shall apply accordingly for selection procedure to Special Court. Selection procedure shall be promulgated by the Minister of Justice within 30 days from this provision coming into force.

(2) Date of selection procedure pursuant to Para 1 shall be scheduled in such manner as to enable the selection commission to also have at its disposal, when making selection, the position of National Security Authority concerning the fact whether a candidate may have access to classified information, classified at the level Top Secret. Selection commission shall conduct selection procedure to Special Court to the function of Chairman of Panel and judicial office also if the selection commission does not have at its disposal the position of National Security Authority concerning all candidates whether they may have access to classified information, classified at the level Top Secret, and a minimum of 7 months had passed since the promulgation of the selection procedure; only such candidate may participate in the selection procedure who meets legal conditions to assignment or reassignment to Special Court.

(3) Decision of recourse against decisions of Special Court shall be made by panel of the Supreme Court designated by work schedule; its member may be only Judge who meets the conditions pursuant to Section 11(3). Until the panel, which shall decide on recourse against decisions of Special Court, is appointed, such recourse shall be decided by any panel of the Supreme Court, designated by work schedule; such Judges are not entitled to functional bonus pursuant to Section 69(2).

(4) If, pursuant to special legislation³⁶⁾, the Regional Court in Banská Bystrica is executing the powers of pursuant to, such Judge of Regional Court in Banská Bystrica, who is ruling on cases within the jurisdiction of the Special Court, is also entitled to functional bonus pursuant to Section 69(2).

Section 151d

Temporary provisions on legal regulations in force from 1 January, 2004

(1) Judge is entitled in the year 2004 to additional salary in the amount judicial salary belonging the November, if in the year 2004:

- a) they had executed judicial office for minimum of 180 working days,
- b) special relationship of Judge to the State continues,
- c) no disciplinary measure was imposed on them for serious disciplinary offense or no disciplinary proceedings is held against them.

(2) Salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on maturity day designated for payment of salaries for November 2004. If the condition laid down in Para 1 a) shall not be met by Judge before 31 December, 2004, the salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on maturity day for December 2004.

(3) As execution of judicial office for the purposes of paying additional salary pursuant to Para 1 a) is also considered the following time:

- a) drawing holiday,
- b) paid leave of absence,
- c) absence caused by injury, which had been suffered during execution of office or in relation with execution of office,
- d) temporary assignment and delegation of Judge to conduct duties in body of European Union,
- e) deepening of qualification, drawing of study holiday during increasing qualification.

Section 151e

Temporary provision in force from 1 November, 2004

(1) Execution of judicial office by Judge who was commissioned to conduct duties in body of European Union after 1 May, 2004 and prior to the day this Act came into force is considered as execution of judicial office also during the period after 1 May, 2004 until the day this Act came into force.

(2) Salary and reimbursement of expenses of Judge who was commissioned to conduct duties in body of European Union, paid pursuant to regulations in force hitherto until the day this Act came into force shall be considered as determined and paid pursuant to this Act, and from the day this Act came into force shall be adjusted to the level pursuant to this Act.

Temporary provisions on legal regulations in force from 1 January, 2005

Section 151f

(1) Amount of bonus for execution of judicial office since the year 2005 is 1% from average judicial salary. If the execution of judicial office did not last throughout the entire year, the Judge is entitled to proportional part of bonus for execution of judicial office for each month, even commenced month, of execution of judicial office. Judge is entitled to bonus for execution of judicial office for maximum of 35 years of service.

(2) Amount of bonus for execution of judicial office since the year 2006 is 0.9% from average judicial salary. If the execution of judicial office did not last throughout the entire year, the Judge is entitled to proportional part of bonus for execution of judicial office for each month, even commenced month, of execution of judicial office. Judge is entitled to bonus for execution of judicial office for maximum of 35 years of service.

(3) Amount of allowance to survivorship annuity for the year 2005 shall be determined pursuant to Para 1 and Section 95(2).

(4) Amount of allowance to survivorship annuity for the year 2006 shall be determined pursuant to Para 2 and Section 95(2).

Section 151g

(1) Right to allowance to survivorship annuity, which the Judge became entitled to prior to 1 January, 2005 and continues as of this day, shall change as of the day this Act came into force to the right to bonus for execution of judicial office.

(2) Right to widower pension bonus, widower pension or orphan's annuity, which the surviving relatives after the Judge became entitled to prior to 1 January, 2005 and continues as of this day, shall change as of the day this Act came into force to the right to allowance to survivorship annuity.

(3) Judge, which had met the conditions of entitlement to bonus to pension for execution of judicial office prior to 1 January, 2005 and continues as of this day, shall be entitled, as of the day this Act came into force, to bonus for execution of judicial office laid down pursuant to this Act; the entire duration of work experience, which was included for the purposes of calculating the bonus to pension pursuant to regulation in force hitherto, shall be used for the purposes of calculating the amount of the bonus.

(4) Surviving relatives after a Judge or female Judge who became entitled to widower pension bonus, widower pension or orphan's annuity, prior to 1 January, 2005 and their entitlement continues as of the day this Act came into force, shall be entitled, as of the day this Act came into force, to widower pension bonus in the amount calculated pursuant to this Act; the entire duration of work experience, which was included for the purposes of calculating the widower pension bonus to pension pursuant to regulation in force hitherto, shall be used for the purposes of calculating the amount of the widower pension bonus, widower pension or orphan's annuity.

(5) Suspension of judicial office due to the Judge leaving to retirement pension or due to granting them disability pension pursuant to regulation in force hitherto is considered as suspension of judicial office pursuant to Section 24(4) of this Act.

Section 151h

Temporary provision in force from 1 January, 2005

(1) Judge in entitled in the year 2005 to additional salary in the amount of judicial salary for November, if in the year 2005:

- a) had executed judicial office for at least 180 working days,
- b) special relationship of Judge to the State continues,
- c) no disciplinary measure was imposed on them for serious disciplinary offense.

(2) Salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on maturity day designated for payment of salaries for November 2005. If the condition laid down in Para1 a) shall not be met by Judge before 31 December, 2005, the salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on maturity day for December 2005.

(3) As execution of judicial office for the purposes of paying additional salary pursuant to Para 1 a) is also considered the following time:

- a) drawing holiday,
- b) paid leave of absence,
- c) absence caused by injury, which had been suffered during execution of office or in relation with execution of office,
- d) temporary assignment,

e) deepening of qualification, drawing of study holiday during increasing qualification.

Section 151i

Temporary provisions in force from 1 January, 2006

(1) Judge is entitled in the year 2006 to additional salary in the amount of judicial salary for November, if in the year 2006:

- a) had executed judicial office for at least 180 working days,
- b) special relationship of Judge to the State continues,
- c) no disciplinary measure was imposed on them for serious disciplinary offense.

(2) Salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on maturity day designated for payment of salaries for November 2006. If the condition laid down in Para 1 a) shall not be met by Judge before 31 December, 2006, the salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on maturity day for December 2006.

(3) As execution of judicial office for the purposes of paying additional salary pursuant to Para 1 a) is also considered the following time:

- a) drawing holiday,
- b) paid leave of absence,
- c) absence caused by injury, which had been suffered during execution of office or in relation with execution of office,
- d) temporary assignment,
- e) deepening of qualification, drawing of study holiday during increasing qualification

Temporary provisions on legal regulations in force from 1 January, 2009

Section 151j

(1) If disciplinary proceedings were held against Judge pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2008 and as a result, they were not entitled to additional salary, they are entitled to back pay in scope, which would normally belong him within the appropriate calendar six-month period pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2008. That does not apply if final disciplinary measure was imposed on them in disciplinary proceedings.

(2) Salary pursuant to Para 1 is payable on the nearest payday following the day after this Act came into force.

Section 151k

(1) Judges of Disciplinary Panels and Chairman of Disciplinary Panels elected pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2008 shall be considered as appointed into judicial office of Disciplinary Panels and Chairman of Disciplinary Panels pursuant to this Act.

(2) Chairman of Regional and Supreme Court Colleges elected pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2008 shall be considered as appointed pursuant to this Act until the end of their term of office.

(3) Chairmen of District Court Colleges elected pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2008 shall be considered as appointed pursuant to this Act until the end of their term of office, if President of the Regional Court shall decide pursuant to special regulation³⁷⁾ on continuation of operation of the District Court College at this Court; however, if President of the Regional Court shall create joint District Court College for several District Courts, the functions of Chairmen of District Court Colleges elected pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2008 shall expire at Courts in question.

Section 151l

(1) Internship of Judge pursuant to Section 13 conducted pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2008 shall end no later than by 31 December, 2012.

(2) Permits to execute office in household environment issued pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2008 shall cease to apply no later than by 31 March 2009.

Section 151m

Minister may, upon request of judicial candidate, include into preparatory practical experience of judicial candidate:

- a) maximum of two years of activity as Higher Court Clerk, which they commenced to execute no later than by 31 December, 2008, if the judicial candidate had obtained during such tenure necessary experience necessary for execution of judicial office,
- b) execution of judicial office, if judicial candidate had executed judicial office; that does not apply if judicial office expired pursuant to Section 18(1).

Section 151n

Temporary provisions on legal regulations in force from 1 April, 2009

(1) If not stipulated further otherwise, the office of Lay-Judge of Military Circuit Court shall expire as of 1 April, 2009. Lay-Judge of Military Circuit Court shall continue execution of office at District Court laid down by special regulation,³⁸⁾ if it is necessary for closing case, in which they are Lay-Judge; in this instance the office of the Lay-Judge shall expire by the time the case, in which they are Lay-Judge, had become final.

(2) Oath of judicial candidate administered into the hands of President of Higher Military Court prior to 1 April, 2009 is considered as oath administered into the hands of President of the Regional Court pursuant to this Act and such judicial candidate shall be appointed as of 1 April, 2009 into civil service pursuant to special regulation.³⁹⁾ Preparatory practical experience the judicial candidate had conducted prior to 1 April, 2009 at former Military Court is included into preparatory practical experience pursuant to this Act.

Section 151o

Temporary provision in force from 1 January, 2011

Female Judge, who had commenced maternity leave prior to 1 January, 2011 and Judge who had commenced maternity leave pursuant to Section 56 Para 1 prior to 1 January, 2011, whose entitlement to such leave continues as of 1 January, 2011, shall be entitled to such leave pursuant to regulations in force prior to 1 January, 2011.

Temporary provisions on legal regulations in force from 1 May, 2011

Section 151p

If Judge was temporarily assigned pursuant to regulations in force prior to 1 May, 2011 to judicial office to a higher instance Court, such temporary assignment shall expire as of 1 May, 2011.

Section 151q

Repealed as of 1.8.2014

Section 151r

First candidates to members of selection commissions pursuant to Section 29 shall be elected no later than by 31 July, 2011; if they are not elected before 31 July, 2011, they shall be elected by the Minister.

Section 151s

In disciplinary proceedings commenced on application by Judicial Council, which is not closed with final decision by 30 April, 2011, the Minister shall replace the Judicial Council as party to proceedings from 1 May, 2011.

Section 151t

If no decision, concerning motion to dismiss decision of the Minister or of Judicial Council on temporary suspension of judicial office issued prior to 1 May, 2011, was made pursuant to regulations in force before 30 April, 2011, it shall be decided in disciplinary proceedings under way by Disciplinary Panel, which shall also decide about to dismiss such decision, lodged after 30 April, 2011; Disciplinary Panel shall make decision on such motion by 31 May, 2011 and shall deliver its decision to the Judge pursuant to Section 131 Para 1.

Section 151u

(1) Judicial candidate, who as of 30 April, 2011 had been executing civil service, since 1 May, 2011 is Higher Court Clerk at such Court, at which they had been conducting preparatory practical experience or at which they had been undergoing professional training for judicial office after completion of preparatory practical experience; that does not apply if they request no later than by 15 May, 2011 their release from civil service.

(2) If judicial candidate requests their release from civil service pursuant to Para 1, it shall expire as of 31 May, 2011; in such case the judicial candidate is entitled to severance pay as a civil servant, whose civil service had ended due to expiry of civil service job position.

Temporary provisions on legal regulations in force from 1 January, 2012

Section 151v

(1) Chairmen of Disciplinary Panels elected into this office prior to 1 January, 2012 shall be considered from 1 January, 2012 as Chairmen of Disciplinary Panels elected pursuant to Section 119a(1) and from 1 January, 2012 shall be included into database pursuant to Section 119a(1)a); their term of office shall expire by lapsing their term of office laid down pursuant to regulation in force prior to 31 December, 2011.

(2) Members of Disciplinary Panels elected prior to 1 January, 2012 from amongst candidates proposed by the Minister shall be considered from 1 January, 2012 as members of Disciplinary Panels elected pursuant to Section 119a(1) and from 1 January, 2012 shall be included into database pursuant to Section 119a(1)b); their term of office shall expire by lapsing their term of office laid down pursuant to regulation in force prior to 31 December, 2011.

(3) Members of Disciplinary Panels elected prior to 1 January, 2012 from amongst candidates proposed by the National Council shall be considered from 1 January, 2012 as members of Disciplinary Panels elected pursuant to Section 119a(1) and from 1 January, 2012 shall be included into database pursuant to Section 119a(1)c); their term of office shall expire by lapsing their term of office laid down pursuant to regulation in force prior to 31 December, 2011.

(4) Members of Disciplinary Panels elected as Judges of Disciplinary Panels and designated as of 31 December, 2011 by work schedule of the Disciplinary Court as proxies shall be considered from 1 January, 2012 as members of Disciplinary Panels elected pursuant to regulations in force from 1 January, 2012 and from 1 January, 2012 shall be included into database:

a) pursuant to Section 119a(1)a), if the member of Disciplinary Panel was elected before 1 January, 2012 from amongst candidates proposed by Court Councils,

b) pursuant to Section 119a(1)b), if the member of Disciplinary Panel was elected before 1 January, 2012 from amongst candidates proposed by the Minister,

c) pursuant to Section 119a(1)c), if the member of Disciplinary Panel was elected before 1 January, 2012 from amongst candidates proposed by National Council.

(5) Term of office of members of Disciplinary Panels pursuant to Para 4 shall end by lapsing of their term of office laid down pursuant to regulations in force prior to 31 December, 2011.

(6) Disciplinary proceedings commenced prior to 1 January, 2012 shall be closed by Disciplinary Panel in composition as of 31 December, 2011; upon change in personal composition of the Disciplinary Panel the panel shall fill up their numbers pursuant to regulations in force from 1 January, 2012.

Section 151w

(1) President of the Court shall make out first annual report pursuant to Section 27 as of 31 March, 2012, namely for the period of the year 2011, and shall arrange for its publication pursuant to Section 27 Para 5 no later than by 30 April, 2012.

(2) First evaluation of Judge pursuant to Section 27a(1)a) shall be made out pursuant to regulation in force from 1 January, 2012:

a) by 31 December, 2013, if it concerns Judge, who as of 1 January, 2012 had been executing judicial office for 25 and more years; the evaluation period shall be the period from 1 January, 2012 to 31 December, 2013,

b) by 31 December, 2014, if it concerns Judge, who as of 1 January, 2012 had been executing judicial office between 15 to 25 years; the evaluation period shall be the period from 1 January, 2012 to 31 December, 2014,

c) by 31 December, 2015, if it concerns Judge, who as of 1 January, 2012 had been executing judicial office between 5 to 15 years; the evaluation period shall be the period from 1 January, 2012 to 31 December, 2015,

d) by 31 December, 2016, if it concerns Judge, who as of 31 December, 2016 had been executing judicial office for minimum of five years and who as of 31 December, 2016 was not evaluated.

(3) If, during the period from 1 January, 2012 to 31 December, 2016 Judge shall request pursuant to Section 27a(1)d) evaluation to be made out, the evaluation period shall be the five-year period preceding the evaluation of Judge.

(4) Evaluation of Judge pursuant to Section 27a(1)c) may be done after 1 January, 2012 only for period, which shall begin to lapse from 1 January, 2012.

Section 151x

Temporary provision in force from 1 January, 2013

(1) For the purposes of determining the basic salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court and a Judge of the Specialised Criminal Court in 2013, the basic salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court or a Judge of the Specialised Criminal Court shall be deemed to be the basic salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court or a Judge of the Specialised Criminal Court awarded under this Act in 2012.

(2) In 2013, a Judge of the Specialised Criminal Court and a Judge of the Supreme Court who decides on appeals in cases over which the Specialised Criminal Court has jurisdiction in the first instance shall be entitled to a functional allowance pursuant to Section 69(2) and (4) in the amount of the functional allowance granted pursuant to this Act in 2012.

Section 151y

Temporary provision in force from 1 January, 2014

(1) For the purposes of determining the basic salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court and a Judge of the Specialised Criminal Court in 2014, the basic salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court or a Judge of the Specialised Criminal Court shall be deemed to be the basic salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court or a Judge of the Specialised Criminal Court awarded under this Act in 2012.

(2) In 2014, a Judge of the Specialised Criminal Court and a Judge of the Supreme Court who decides on appeals in cases over which the Specialised Criminal Court has jurisdiction in the first instance shall be entitled to a functional allowance pursuant to section 69(2) and (4) in the amount of the functional allowance granted pursuant to this Act in 2012.

Section 151z

Temporary provisions to regulations in force from 1 January, 2014

(1) Permits to execute functional duties of a Judge in the home environment issued under regulations in force before 31 August 2014 are revoked from 1 September 2014.

(2) Unless Para 3 stipulates otherwise, disciplinary proceedings commenced before 1 September 2014 shall be completed by the Disciplinary Panel established under the regulations in force on 31 August 2014.

(3) If the Disciplinary Panel pursuant to Para 1 has not decided on the disciplinary offence of the Judge by 30 November 2014, the disciplinary proceedings shall be completed by the Disciplinary Panel established pursuant to regulations in force on 1 September 2014, determined by random selection in accordance with section 119d(1) and (3).

(4) The draft of the first work schedule of Disciplinary Panels shall be submitted to the Judicial Council by the President of the Judicial Council by 30 September 2014. The Judicial Council shall approve the first work schedule of the Disciplinary Panels by 31 October 2014.

(5) If the President of the Judicial Council does not submit the draft first work schedule to the Judicial Council within the time limit referred to in Para 4, the Vice President of the Judicial Council or any three members of the Judicial Council shall submit it to the Judicial Council without delay.

Section 151za

Temporary provisions to regulations in force from 1 January, 2017

(1) Selection procedure announced pursuant to regulations in force before 30 June 2017 shall be completed in accordance with regulations in force before 30 June 2017.

(2) The first mass selection procedure shall be announced by the President of the Judicial Council by 30 September 2017 so as to be held by 30 November 2017. If the President of the Judicial Council is not elected, the first mass selection procedures shall be announced by the Vice President of the Judicial Council on the dates pursuant to the preceding sentence; if the Vice President of the Judicial Council is not elected, the first mass selection procedures shall be announced by the most senior member of the Judicial Council on the dates pursuant to the preceding sentence.

(3) The Judicial Council shall elect the first members of the evaluation committees by 31 October 2017.

(4) The database of candidates for members of the selection board established by the National Council pursuant to regulations in force until 30 June 2017 shall be abolished as of 1 July 2017; the provision of Para 1 shall not be affected thereby.

(5) The database of candidates for members of the selection board created by the Judicial Council and the Minister pursuant to regulations in force until 30 June 2017 shall be deemed to be the database created pursuant to regulations in force on 1 July 2017. The Judicial Council shall elect and the Minister shall appoint the necessary number of candidates for members of the selection board (Section 29(2)) by 31 October 2017.

(6) Preparatory training completed pursuant to regulations in force until 30 June 2017 shall be deemed to be the preparatory training completed pursuant to regulations in force from 1 July 2017.

(7) Where a disciplinary offence or conduct that may be sanctioned pursuant to special regulations was committed before 1 July 2017, the time limits for filing a petition for disciplinary proceedings shall be considered pursuant to regulations in force before 30 June 2017.

Section 151zb

Temporary provisions to regulations in force from 1 January, 2018

President of the Court must deliver to the Ministry judicial evaluation conducted pursuant to Section 151w(2) to (4) to the extent required by Section 27h by 31 January 2018, and the Ministry must publish the judicial evaluation to the extent and in the manner required by Section 27h by 28 February 2018.

Section 151zc

Temporary provisions to regulations in force from 1 January, 2019

For purposes of Section 28(d)(3), as in effect on November 15, 2018, candidates for judicial office included in the database of candidates for judicial office as of November 14, 2018, shall be candidates for judicial office from a single mass selection process.

Section 151zd

Temporary provisions to regulations in force from 1 January, 2019

Internship of a Judge pursuant to Section 13(1) as in force until 14 October 2019 shall be terminated in accordance with this Act as in force until 14 October 2019.

Section 151ze

Temporary provisions to regulations in force from 1 January, 2020

This Act, as in force until 31 December 2019, shall apply to a judicial candidate who is executing civil service on 31 December 2019.

Section 151zf

Temporary provisions to regulations in force from 1 January, 2021

(1) The first total number of positions of Judges of the Supreme Administrative Court and vacancies of Judges of the Supreme Administrative Court shall be determined by the Minister after consultation with the Judicial Council by 31 January 2021.

(2) Vacancies of Judges referred to in Para 1 shall be filled on the basis of the results of a selection procedure to be conducted by the Judicial Council by 31 July 2021.

(3) Selection procedure pursuant to Para 2 shall consist of a public hearing in the Judicial Council and verification of the conditions for judicial competence; the selection procedure shall be announced and administratively and organisationally arranged by the President of the Judicial Council.

(4) The public hearing pursuant to Para 3 shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the public hearing of candidates for judicial office of the Constitutional Court;⁴⁰⁾ provisions of a special regulation on the organisation and conduct of meetings of the Judicial Council, including the publication of their results⁴¹⁾ shall not be affected thereby.

(5) The first selection procedure pursuant to Para 2 shall be announced by the President of the Judicial Council so that it takes place by 31 March 2021.

(6) If Paras 2 to 5 do not stipulate otherwise, Sections 28 to 29 shall apply to the selection procedure for the vacancy of a Judge of the Supreme Administrative Court pursuant to Para 1.

(7) Provisions of Section 145(2) as in force on 1 January 2021 shall not apply to a Lay-Judge elected before 31 December 2020.

(8) Where a Judge has been temporarily assigned pursuant to regulations in force until 31 July 2021 to execute judicial office in a higher court, such temporary assignment of Judge shall terminate no later than by 31 October 2021.

(9) From 1 January 2021, to 31 December 2021, the evaluation of a Judge may be conducted by any evaluation committee.

Section 151zg

Temporary provision

A member of evaluation commission may also be a person who, by 31 December 2020, has ceased to be a Judge by reason of having reached the age of 65.

Section 152

Cancelling provisions

Cancelled are:

1. Act No. [412/1991 Coll.](#) on disciplinary liability of Judges as amended by Act of National Council of the Slovak Republic No. [149/1993 Coll.](#) and Act of National Council of the Slovak Republic No. [307/1995 Coll.](#),

2. [Section 4\(3\) of Act No. 420/1991 Coll.](#) on salaries of Judges and judicial candidates as amended by Act of National Council of the Slovak Republic No. [148/1993 Coll.](#),

3. [Section 2](#), [Section 3](#), [Section 4\(1\)](#) and [2](#), [Sections 5 to 14](#), [Sections 16 to 20 Act No. 420/1991 Coll.](#) on salaries of Judges and judicial candidates as amended by Act of National Council of the Slovak Republic No. [148/1993 Coll.](#), Act of National Council of the Slovak Republic No. [374/1994 Coll.](#) and Act No. [57/1999 Coll.](#),
4. [Section 28](#), [Sections 30 to 33](#), [Section 36 of Act of the Slovak National Council No. 80/1992 Coll.](#) on seats and circuits of Courts of the Slovak Republic, State Administration of Courts, on handling complaints and on elections of Lay-Judges (Act on State Administration of Courts).