



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

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To the President of European Network of Councils for the Judiciary  
Ms. Madeleine Mathieu, e-mail: [office@encj.eu](mailto:office@encj.eu)

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**Subject: Explanation regarding on the proposed legislative amendments to laws concerning the Judicial Council and the Slovenian judiciary**

The European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (hereinafter – the ENCJ) was on 10 October 2025 informed about the proposed amendments to judicial legislation, in particular the Act on the Judicial Council (ZSSve), which had been adopted by the Committee on Justice with substantial changes compared to the original proposals.

In its letter of 20 October 2025, the ENCJ emphasises that the Judicial Council, as a constitutional body, must play a key role in ensuring the independence, accountability, and quality of the judiciary, and that the legislator must provide for proper consultation with the Judicial Council when amending legislation that affects the functioning of the judiciary.

According to the ENCJ, the proposed amendments that interfere with the powers of the Judicial Council could endanger its independence and the independence of the judiciary. Particularly problematic is the fact that essential amendments were adopted at a late stage of the legislative procedure, without giving the Judicial Council an opportunity to provide an opinion and assess their impact.

The ENCJ Executive Board therefore calls on the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia to halt the adoption of the proposed legislative changes until proper consultation and expert assessment of the new provisions have been carried out in cooperation with the Judicial Council.

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Slovenia clarifies in relation to the above that at the second reading of the amendments to the Act on the Judicial Council, new amendments were submitted that once again aligned the legislative changes with the

originally proposed text. Thus, the legal solutions follow the objectives of the changes, which are to ensure consistent respect for the position of the Judicial Council, which performs tasks as determined by law, protects the autonomy and independence of the judiciary, and ensures the quality of work of courts and judges and the public reputation of the judiciary. I would especially like to highlight the consultation of the executive branch with the Judicial Council and the judiciary, which I consider to be extremely constructive. The proposed solutions for the new judicial legislation are the result of several years of expert coordination and efforts to achieve the highest possible level of consensus.

A vote on the amendments to the Act on the Judicial Council is scheduled to take place during the third reading in the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia on Thursday, 20 November.

With Regards.

Andreja Katič  
Minister of Justice