

Official name in original language	Súdna rada Slovenskej republiky
Official name in English	The Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic
Address	Hlavné námestie 8, 814 22 BRATISLAVA
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Brief history	<p>According to the Report of the European Commission Expert Mission and the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic from November 1997, one of the main shortcomings of the Slovak judiciary was the absence of judicial self-governance. At that time, the Slovak judiciary was entirely dependent on the executive branch. Based on this Report, an amendment to the Constitution of the Slovak Republic was adopted, enshrining the principles of judicial independence and the separation of judicial administration from the other branches of state power.</p> <p>The Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic was established by Constitutional Act No. 90/2001 Coll., which amended the Constitution of the Slovak Republic by inserting Article 141a into the Constitution of the Slovak Republic. On 11th April 2002 the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament) approved the Act No. 185/2002 Coll. on the Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic and the Judicial Council itself started its functioning. Significant changes to its status were introduced by the constitutional amendments adopted in 2014, 2020, and 2023.</p>
Constitutional or legal status/basis	Article 141a of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic Act No. 185/2002 Coll. on the Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic
Legal acts regulating the Status	Article 141a of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic Act No. 185/2002 Coll. on the Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic Act No. 385/2000 Coll. on Judges and Lay Judges Act No. 757/2004 Coll. on Courts
Composition:	
Total number of members	18
Term of office	5 years
Is there a possibility to be renewed as a member?	Yes, once

Do the members have a full-time position or not?	Only the President and Vice-President hold full-time positions.
Make up	<p>9 members - judges elected by their peers (1 member elected by the judges of the Supreme Court and Supreme Administrative Court and 8 members elected by districts)</p> <p>3 members elected by the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament)</p> <p>3 members appointed by the Slovak Government</p> <p>3 members appointed by the President of the Slovak Republic</p>
Is there a majority of Judges?	No, because according to the Art. 141a par. 3 of the Constitution, the Slovak Parliament, Slovak Government and the President of the Slovak Republic may appoint/elect only members of the Judicial Council who are not judges.
Presidency	The President and Vice-President are elected by the members of the Judicial Council and are members themselves.
Main Competences:	
Career of judges and / or prosecutors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adopts an opinion as to whether the candidate for the appointment of a judge meets the prerequisites of judicial competences which guarantee that the office of the judge will be properly performed; • submits to the President of the Slovak Republic proposals for candidates for the appointment of judges and proposals for the dismissal of judges; • decides on the assignment and transfer of judges; • submits to the President of the Slovak Republic proposals for appointment of the President and Vice-President of the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic and the President and Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court of the Slovak Republic and proposals for their dismissal; • submits to the Government of the Slovak Republic proposals for candidates for judges who should act for the Slovak Republic in the international judicial bodies; • supervises whether the judge meets the prerequisites for judicial competence, which guarantee that he or she will perform the office of a judge properly for the entire duration of the judge's office; • supervises and acts in matters of the financial situation of the judge.
Judicial training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determines, after agreement with the Minister of Justice, the content of judicial education and the preparatory training of candidates for judicial office; • elects a specified number of members of the Board of the Judicial Academy (judicial training body).
Discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensures the fulfilment of public judicial controlling tasks • elects members and lay members of disciplinary senates

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judicial Council (as a whole body) may also initiate disciplinary proceedings against a judge by filing a disciplinary motion.
Ethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • issues principles of judicial ethics in cooperation with the bodies of judicial self government
Opinions on legislation / other opinions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • submits to the Minister of Justice of the Slovak Republic proposals for the adoption of generally binding legislation regulating the organisation of the judiciary, proceedings before the courts and the status of judges; • takes opinions on draft general binding legislation governing the organisation of the judiciary, proceedings before courts and the status of judges; • takes opinions on draft conceptual documents relating to the judiciary which are submitted to deliberations of the National Council and the Government; • comments on the draft budget of the courts of the Slovak Republic when drawing up the draft of the state budget; • submits an opinion on the draft budget of the courts to the National Council of the Slovak Republic.
Status of decisions	Binding resolutions
Review	Under certain circumstances, a resolution of the Judicial Council may be subject to review by the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic.
Budget	The Office of the Judicial Council has its own budget and uses it independently.