

European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)

Reseau européen des Conseils de la Justice (RECJ)

Questionnaire indicators independence and accountability of the Judiciary 2022-2023

Country: Germany	
Methodology used for filling out questionnaire ¹	
Who filled out the questionnaire	
Was a national expert group set up to validate the reply?	⊠ Yes
	□ No
Who were the members of the national expert group?	
(names and positions)	
(manus and positions)	

¹ See paragraph 3.3 page 24 of the IA&Q report 2018-2019

INDEPENDENCE INDICATORS

Formal independence of the Judiciary as a whole

1. Legal basis of the independence of the Judiciary as a whole	
1a. Is the independence of the Judiciary or the judge formally	⊠ Yes
guaranteed ² ?	□ No
1b. If the answer to 1a. is yes, is this done in/by:	☐ Constitution or equivalent text ³
	☐ Law ⁴
	☐ Constitutional court
1c. Are judges formally bound only by law?	⊠ Yes
	□ No
1d. If the answer to 1c. is yes, is this done in/by:	⊠ Constitution or equivalent text
	☐ Law
	☐ Constitutional court
1e. Are judges appointed permanently until retirement?	⊠ Yes
	□ No
Af If the agreement of a factor is the agreement and in the con-	
1f. If the answer to 1e. is yes, is this guaranteed in/by:	☐ Constitution or equivalent text
	Law
	☐ Constitutional court
1g. Is the mechanism to fix the salary of judges determined by law?	⊠ Yes
	□ No
1h. If the answer to 1g is yes, is this guaranteed in:	☐ Constitution or equivalent text
	☐ Law
	Remark:
	Adequate remuneration is guaranteed by one of the constitutional principles of
	professional civil service in Germany. The protection of this
	principle also extends to judges.
	The state as employer has to
	provide appropriate remuneration
	for the assigned office, but also
	security in case of invalidity and an
	adequate pension.

² See question 1b.

³ Equivalence means here specifically that the position of the Judiciary cannot be changed by simple majority.

⁴ That can be changed by simple majority.

	T
	The remuneration of judges in federal courts and in the courts of the Länder are regulated in detail by statute law (for the federal level and each Land separately). The specific elements of the remuneration and the mechanism to fix the salary of judges is stipulated by law. The constitutionally indispensable criteria for a minimum salary of judges were set out in detail by several judgements of the Federal Constitutional Court (Bundesverfassungsgericht) since 2015.
1i. Is there a formal mechanism to adjust the salaries of judges to	□ Yes
keep pace with the average development of salaries in the country	⊠ No
and/or with inflation?	
1j. Is the involvement of the Judiciary in law and judicial reform ⁵	⊠ Yes
formally guaranteed?	□ No
1k. If the answer to 1j. is yes, is this done in:	☐ Constitution or equivalent text
	⊠ Law
	☐ Constitutional court
1l. If the answer to 1j. is yes, does the Judiciary have:	☑ The right to put forward a
	formal proposal to change a law
	☐ The right to advise on legislative
	proposals
1m. Is the Judiciary involved in the formation and the	⊠ Yes
implementation of judicial reform?	□ No
1n. Has the Judiciary initiated judicial reform?	⊠ Yes
	□ No

2.	Organizationa	l autonomy	of the .	Judiciary	,

⁵ The objective of a judicial reform process should be to improve the quality of justice and the efficacy of the Judiciary, while strengthening and protecting the independence of the Judiciary, accompanied by measures to make more effective its responsibility and accountability. See the ENCJ Report on Judicial Reform 2011-2012.

-		
2a. Does your country have a Council for the Judiciary ⁶ ?	☐ Yes	
	⊠ No	
2b. Is the position of the Council for the Judiciary formally	□ Constitutio	n or oquivalant taxt
		n or equivalent text
guaranteed, and if so where?	☐ In the Law	
	□ No	
2. L. I. C	•	
2c. Is the Council organized in accordance with ENCJ Guidelines concer	rning:	
At least 50% of the members of the Council are judges who are (with	☐ Yes	□ No
the exception of ex-officio members) chosen by their peers ⁷		
and checking is an emotion manually anomy pools		
The judicial members represent the whole judiciary (all tiers of the	□ Yes	□ No
Judiciary are represented in the Council)		
Judiciary are represented in the Council)		
(Farmery) Marchara of servers and are not a recomberration of the Courseil8		
(Former) Members of government are not a member of the Council ⁸	☐ Yes	□ No
(Farmer on) Marchard of regular contains and a record on of the Council?		
(Former) Members of parliament are not a member of the Council ⁹	☐ Yes	□ No
The Council controls its council for some (in all adians the advantation and		
The Council controls its own finances (including the administrative and	☐ Yes	□ No
human resources) independently of both the legislative and executive		
branches ¹⁰		
The Council controls its own activities independently of both the	□ Yes	□ No
legislative and executive branches		
registative and executive branches		
2d. Is the Council responsible ¹¹ for the following:		
and the country responsible for the renewing.		
The appointment and promotion of magistrates	□ Yes	□ No
The approximation of the second of the secon		
The training of magistrates	□ Yes	□ No
The training of magistrates	□ res	
Judicial discipline	□ Yes	□ No
Judiciai discipiirie	□ res	
Judicial ethics	□Voc	□ No
Judicial Etilics	☐ Yes	⊔ INU
Complaints against the Judiciary	□ Voc	□ No
Complaints against the Judicially	☐ Yes	□ INU
The performance management of the Judiciary	□ Yes	□ No
The performance management of the Judiciary	res	□ INU

⁶ See article 6 ENCJ Statutes. National institute which is independent of the executive and legislature, or which is autonomous and which ensures the final responsibility for the support of the Judiciary in the independent delivery of justice.

⁷ Only in case of a Council representing judges and prosecutors, please read magistrates.

⁸ ENCJ Standards report on non-judicial members in judicial self-governance 2016

⁹ Idem

 $^{^{10}}$ The finances of the Council for the Judiciary refer to the budget of the Council itself and not to the budget of the Judiciary as a whole.

¹¹ Responsible implies that the Council executes these tasks. But it can also mean that the Council has delegated these tasks to a separate body.

The advantage of accepts		□ N -
The administration of courts	☐ Yes	□ No
The financing of the courts	☐ Yes	□ No
Proposing legislation concerning the courts and the Judiciary ¹²	☐ Yes	□ No
2e. If the answer to question 2a. is no or if the Council is not responsible have decisive influence on decisions in the following areas?	ole in the follo	wing areas do judges
The appointment and promotion of magistrates	⊠ Yes	□ No
	at the level of appointed by minister, usure Justice. Howel level and in religions in the participates in Though judged directly in the promotion of considerable. 1. The German provides that involved in the selection of Ecouncils for advisory vote whether they not. They con President and their peers. Of Appointment at the federal Länder. How the Länder whow these shindividually. Federal Judge election of Judge election e	at federal level (1) and of the Länder (2) are at the competent cally the Minister of ever, at the federal roughly half of the respective parliament in the selection. The selection and finderect influence. The Judiciary Act the judiciary must be the process of the rederal Judges via Judicial Appointments and Judicial Appointments are on each candidate are competent or insist of the Court diguides elected by Councils for Judicial ts must be established all level and in the rever, the law provides with leeway in terms of the committee for the ladges ausschuss). It consists ctive ministers of the

 $^{^{\}rm 12}$ To the Parliament or the Ministry of Justice.

16 Länder and a same number of persons assigned by the German Parliament (Bundestag). The Committee decides on the appointment of judges at the Federal Supreme Courts in conjunction with the Federal Minister competent for the respective court. The Committee must take into account the assessment the Council for Judicial Appointments of the respective Federal Court as to whether or not the applicant appears sufficiently competent for the office.

2. In respect to the appointment and promotion of judges of the level of the Länder, there are considerable differences between the Länder. The Basic Law stipulates that the Länder may regulate by law that judges are appointed by the Land's Minister of Justice and selection by the Minister in conjunction with a Parliamentary Committee for the Election of Judges.. Such committees consist of parliamentarians, but may also include other members such as judges, lawyers or lay members. Going beyond the wording of this constitutional provision, the participation of a Committee for the Election of Judges can be stipulated not just for the (initial) recruitment of judges but also for their promotion. In half of the 16 Länder, there are such committees which participate at the recruitment stage, and others which are not involved until the stage of appointment for life (until retirement) and promotion. The Councils of Judicial Appointment on the Länder level are involved in the process of promotion of judges by commenting on the competence of every applicant.

	T
	In Länder where Parliament is not involved in the selection of judges, the competent minister formally selects and appoints judges. Still, judges are involved in the process. The selection of young applicants for a first appointment is in mostbut not all - of the Länder in fact made by judges who then propose the selected candidates for appointment.
	Decisions on the promotion of judges within the Länder are based on the results of a periodic evaluation of judges. This evaluation is conducted by the court presidents based on objective criteria which must be set up in a transparent manner in advance of every evaluation period.
	Decisions regarding the selection and appointment or promotion of a judge can be challenged in court. Each judge can also challenge the result of her or his evaluation in court.
	The German Judges Association (DRB) claims a yet more decisive participation of judges in the process of appointment and promotion of judges. Some, but not all the Länder have increased the participation of judges in recent years.
The training of magistrates	⊠ Yes □ No
Judicial discipline	⊠ Yes □ No
Judicial ethics	⊠ Yes □ No
Complaints against the Judiciary	⊠ Yes □ No
The performance management of the Judiciary	⊠ Yes □ No
The administration of courts	⊠ Yes □ No

	Remark:
	While judges work on and decide their cases independently, the administration of courts in Germany falls under the responsibility of the executive i.e. of the competent minister, usually the Minister of Justice of the respective Land or the Federation. Court administration is handled at each court by the court president. The court president is a judge and is supported by other judges in his or her administrative duties. When performing their administrative duties (but only then), judges who work in court administration do not enjoy judicial independence but act within the hierarchy of the executive. While German court administration is therefore handled by judges in close contact with their peers, the executive, not the judiciary is responsible for court administration.
	Where in the following questions both the boxes "Judiciary and Executive" are ticked, this area belongs to court administration in the sense described above.
	The question if a decision by the court administration affects or even infringes a judge's independence can be brought to court.
	It must be pointed out that the assignment of cases in Germany is not part of court administration but based on the roster issued by the Präsidium (see for details 8d) whose members are fully protected by judicial independence in performing their duties.
The financing of the courts	⊠ Yes □ No

	⊠ Yes	□ No
	Remark:	
	Regional Cour (Oberlandesg regarding the budget. Howe the Higher Re represent the or their court within their a	ts of the Higher rts erichte) are consulted preparation of the ever, the Presidents of egional Courts do not e judiciary of the Land district, but are, dministrative tasks, ourt administration of
Proposing legislation concerning the courts and the Judiciary ¹³	⊠ Yes	□ No

3. Funding of the Judiciary			
3a. Is the funding of the Judiciary sufficient as to allow the courts:	[several answers possible]		
(not part of the formal indicators)			
	Remark:		
	Yes for the federal courts.		
	Since the situation differs highly		
	between the Länder a general		
	answer to this question cannot be		
	provided. The so-called "pact for the		
	rule of law" mentioned in the		
	questionnaire of 2019-2020 was		
	implemented according to plan.		
	The German Judges Association still		
	claims that the funding of the		
	judiciary needs to be expanded		
	further in order to handle the		
	caseload adequately all over		
	Germany.		

 $^{^{13}}$ To the Parliament or the Ministry of Justice.

		ge		
	experts/translators/etc. in cases			
	when necessary if fees paid by court			
	□ To keep the knowledge and skills			
	of judges up	of judges up to date		
	⊠ To keep	the knowledg	e and skills	
	of court sta	ff up to date		
		ate judges and	d other	
	personnel in buildings et	n matters of IT c.	-systems,	
3b. Who makes the decisions?	Judiciary	Executive ¹⁴	Legislature	
Please insert an "x" into the box that corresponds to the situation in				
your country.				
a) Involvement in the preparation of the "budget allocated to	\boxtimes	\boxtimes		
courts"				
b) Formal proposal on the budget allocated to courts		⊠	№	
Tormal proposal on the budget allocated to courts			\boxtimes	
c) Adoption of the budget allocated to courts		×	\boxtimes	
d) Control of the budget allocated to courts		\boxtimes		
e) Evaluation/audit of the budget allocated to courts		⊠		
3c. In case the government does not allocate sufficient funds, may	☐ Yes	1		
the Judiciary address the parliament?	⊠ No			
3d. Is the funding of the Judiciary based upon transparent and	⊠ Yes			
objective criteria?	□ No			
3e. If the answer to 3d is yes, is the funding based on:	[several ans	swers possible]	
	⊠ Actual co	osts ¹⁵ (e.g. nur	mber of	
	judges and			
	⊠ Workloa	d of courts		
	☐ Fixed per	centage of go	vernment	
	expenditure	e or GDP		
	☐ Other (sp	oecify):		
3f. Where have these criteria been defined	⊠ In well-e	stablished pra	ctice	
	☐ In law			
	☐ Other (sp	pecify)		
		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		

 $^{^{14}}$ Such as the Minister of Justice $^{\rm 15}$ Figure based upon historic or realized costs.

4. Court management ¹⁶			
Which authorities can take the following decisions?	Judiciary	Executive	Legislature
Please cross the box that corresponds to the situation in your			
country.			
General management of a court	×		
Appointment of court staff (other than judges)	×	×	
Redeployment of judges to address temporary workload issues			
Other human resource management decisions on court staff			
Decisions regarding the implementation and use of Information	⊠	⊠	
and Communication Technology in courts			
Decisions regarding court buildings			
Decisions regarding court security	×	×	
Decisions regarding outreach activities ¹⁷		×	

Formal independence of the judge

5. Human resource decisions about judges			
5a. Selection, appointment and dismissal of <u>judges</u> and <u>court</u>	Judiciary	Executive	Legislature
<u>presidents</u>			
Which authorities can take the following decisions?			
Please cross the box that corresponds to the situation in your			
country.			
Remark: Since the competences for such decisions differ on the			
level of the Länder (see above question 2. e), the answers given			
below may not reflect precisely the competences in every Land.			
Remark: In Länder where a Parliamentary Committee decides on the			
appointment of judges and court presidents, judges are members of			
this Committee.			

 $^{^{16}}$ Court management also refers to non-budgetary decisions with impact on the functioning of the courts.

¹⁷ This includes all communication and promotional activities aimed to inform society about the Judiciary.

Proposal of candidates ¹⁸ for the appointment as judges	×	\boxtimes	
(not supreme court judges)			
Decision ¹⁹ on the appointment of a judge	\boxtimes	×	⊠
Proposal for the dismissal of a judge	\boxtimes	×	
Decision on the dismissal of a judge	⊠		
Proposal of candidates for the appointment as court presidents	⊠	×	
Decision on the appointment of a court president	\boxtimes	⊠	⊠
Proposal for the dismissal of a court president		⊠	
Decision on the dismissal of a court president			
5b. Selection, appointment and dismissal of Supreme Court judges and the President of the Supreme Court Which authorities can take the following decisions?	Judiciary	Executive	Legislature
Proposal of candidates for the appointment as Supreme Court judges	×	×	⊠
Decision ²⁰ on the appointment of a Supreme Court judge		×	⊠
Proposal for the dismissal of a Supreme Court judge	\boxtimes	⊠	
Decision on the dismissal of a Supreme Court judge	×		
Proposal of the candidate(s) for the appointment of the President of the Supreme Court	×	×	
Decision on the appointment of the President of the Supreme Court		⊠	
Proposal for the dismissal of the President of the Supreme Court		⊠	
Decision on the dismissal of the President of the Supreme Court	×		
5c. Is the appointment of judges in compliance with the ENCJ guideling			
	nes?		

¹⁸ The final proposal of candidate(s) which is transmitted to the body that appoints/elects them.

¹⁹ In the context of this question a decision includes a binding proposal addressed to the body which formally makes the relevant decision.

²⁰ In the context of this question a decision includes a binding proposal addressed to the body which formally makes the relevant decision.

and fully and properly documented?			
Is the appointment process undertaken according to published criteria?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
Is the appointment of judges solely based on merit?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
	Remark:		
	positions in be filled by (Prinzip der this princip by the Parli the Election process, ad	cluding judic the best can Bestenausle le binds also amentary Co of Judges, i ditional cons portional rep	ese). While the election ommittee for n the election
Is there in place a written policy designed to encourage diversity in	⊠ Yes	□ No	
the range of persons available for appointment?			
Does the appointment process provide for an independent	⊠ Yes	□ No	
complaint procedure?	Remark:		
	appointme	oncerning a j nt and promo rly are) chall	otion can be
5d. Evaluation, promotion ²¹ and training of judges.	Judiciary	Executive	Legislature
Which authorities can take the following decisions?			
Decision ²² on the evaluation of a judge	×	×	
Remark: see the explanation of court administration at 2e			
Evaluation of the performance management of courts			
Remark: see the explanation of court administration at 2e			
Decision on the promotion of a judge	×	×	
Remark: see the explanation of court administration at 2e			

 $^{^{21}}$ Promotion of judges in the sense of this sub-question and sub-question 5e also covers applications by judges to a new judicial position within the judicial system.

²² In the context of this question 5d) a decision includes a binding proposal addressed to the body which formally makes the relevant decision.

Adoption of ethical standards			
Application of ethical standards			
Decision on the program/content of training for judges		⊠	
5e. Probationary periods after first appointment ²³			
Before permanent appointment do judges serve a probationary period?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
If yes, is the refusal to confirm the judge in office made according to	⊠ Yes	□ No	
objective criteria and with the same procedural safeguards as apply when a judge is to be removed from office?			
Does the body that decides include a majority of Judges?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
Is this body independent from the executive and legislature?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
5f. Is the promotion ²⁴ of judges in compliance with the ENCJ standard	ds?		
Is the promotion process open to public scrutiny and fully and properly documented?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
Is the promotion process undertaken according to published criteria?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
Is the promotion of judges solely based on merit?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
Is there in place a written policy designed to encourage diversity in the range of persons available for promotion?	⊠ Yes	□ No	
Does the promotion process provide for an independent	⊠ Yes	□ No	
complaint procedure?	Remark:		
	Decisions concerning a judge's appointment and promotion can be – and regularly are – challenged in court.		
6. Disciplinary measures			
6a. Are disciplinary measures against judges in accordance with ENC.	J standards, r	namely	
Is there a list of types of judicial conducts/ethics the breach	⊠ Yes	□ No	

²³ Venice Commission 2010 report on the Independence of Judges

²⁴ Promotion of judges in the sense of this sub-question and sub-question 5d also covers applications by judges to new judicial position within the judicial system.

of which would be unacceptable?			
Is there a time limit for the conducting of the investigation,	⊠ Yes	□ No	
the making of a decision and the imposition of any sanction?			
Is the name of the judge withheld prior to any sanction	☐ Yes	⊠ No	
being imposed?		The judge con	
		•	cedure, but the
	public.	ie judge is no	ot mentioned in
Does a judge have the right to be legally represented or	⊠ Yes	□ No	
assisted by a person of her/his choosing?			
Is there is a right of appeal by way of judicial review or	⊠ Yes	□ No	
cassation appeal?			
6b. Which is the competent body to make the following decisions	Judiciary	Executive	Legislature
in the context of disciplinary procedures against judges:			
Proposal for the appointment of a member of the disciplinary body			П
for judges			
Remark: Such decisions are made by a specialised court			
(Richterdienstgericht).			
Decision on the appointment of a member of the disciplinary body		\boxtimes	
for judges			
Investigation of a complaint against a judge		⊠	
Proposal for a disciplinary decision regarding a judge		×	
Disciplinary decision regarding a judge	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
Decision on the follow-up to a complaint against the Judiciary/a	\boxtimes		
judge			
6c. Can disciplinary measures be initiated against a judge (except in gross negligence) for the following reasons:	cases wher	e there has l	peen malice or
His/her interpretation of the law	☐ Yes	⊠ No	
His/her assessment of facts	☐ Yes	⊠ No	
His/her weighing of evidence in determining a case	☐ Yes	⊠ No	
For exercising his/her freedom of expression in order to address	☐ Yes	⊠ No	
threats to the independence of the judiciary, threats to judicial			

integrity, fundamental aspects of the administration of justice ²⁵ and	
when fundamental rights and the Rule of Law are in peril ²⁶	

7. Non-transferability of judges	
7a. Choose one of the following three options:	☐ Judges cannot be transferred to another court or location without their consent [go to Q7b]
	✓ Judges cannot be transferred to another court or location without their consent except for: - a disciplinary sanction, - the lawful alteration of the court system and - a temporary assignment to reinforce a neighbouring court, the maximum duration of such
	assignment being strictly limited by the statute [go to Q7c]
	☐ Judges can be transferred to another court or location without their consent also for other reasons [go to Q7c]
7b. If transfer without consent is prohibited, is the prohibition	☐ Constitution or equivalent text
guaranteed in:	□ Law
[go to Q7g]	☐ Jurisprudence
7c. Which authority or body decides on a (temporary or	
permanent) transfer of a judge without his/her consent? ²⁷	∑ The executive
	☐ The legislature
7d. In case a judge is transferred (temporarily or permanently)	⊠ Yes
without his/her consent is he/she guaranteed an equivalent post	□No
(in terms of a position, salary)?	
7e. Can a judge appeal if he/she is transferred (temporarily or	⊠ Yes
permanently) without his/her consent?	□ No
7f. If yes, which authority or body decides on such an appeal?	☑ The Judiciary
	☐ The executive
	☐ The legislature

 ²⁵ ICJ - https://www.icj.org/judgesexpression2019/
 ²⁶ ENCJ report on Judicial Ethics 2010

 $^{^{\}rm 27}$ This relates to the allowed exceptions under 7a and to any other reasons.

7g. Can a judge be taken off a case without his/her consent?	☐ Yes
	⊠ No
7h. If no, is the prohibition guaranteed in:	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
	text
	☐ Law
	☐ Custom
8. Allocation of cases	
8a. Is there a well-defined mechanism for the allocation of cases?	⊠ Yes
	□ No
8b. If yes, where have these criteria been defined?	
	court
	☐ In an act adopted by the court
	☐ In implementing regulations —
	⊠ In law
	☐ Other (specify): Click or tap here
	to enter text.
8c. What are the criteria for the allocation of cases?	□ Random-based
	□ Specialization
	☐ Experience
	⊠ Workload
	☐ Other (specify): Click or tap here
	to enter text.
	to effect text.
8d. Who assigns the cases to judges at the courts?	☐ President of the court assigns
	cases
	☐ A member of the court staff
	assigns cases (e.g. listing officer)
	☐ A special chamber of the court
	assigns cases
	assigns cases
	☐ The cases are assigned randomly
	(e.g. through a computerized
	system)
	M Other (see 15.)
	☑ Other (specify):
	As a constitutional principle, the
	allocation of cases in Germany is not

entrusted to the discretion of

individual persons but must be based on objective criteria. These criteria are defined by the "Präsidium" of each court.

The Präsidium is established at every court and is composed of the court president and up to eight additional judges, depending on the size of the court. It is responsible for the court's internal organisation. Its decisions are protected by judicial independence. The Präsidium is tasked with determining the roster for the allocation of cases based on objective criteria. The roster allocating court business is set for the duration of one year and automatically expires at the end of the year.

The Präsidium is authorised to redistribute the allocation of court business (i.e. the distribution of cases and the assignment of judges to different panels) in the course of the business year if there is an objective reason to do so. However, the allocation plan may only be changed under conditions specified by law, namely where such a change becomes necessary due to the excessive or insufficient workload of one judge or panel of judges or as a result of the transfer or prolonged absence of an individual judge.

Both prior to the drawing up of the allocation plan and following a change in the original business allocation plan drawn up for a particular year in the course of that business year, all judges affected by the allocation plan or changes thereto must be heard.

8e. Is the allocation of cases subject to supervision within the	⊠ Yes
Judiciary?	□ No
8f. Is the method of allocation of cases publicly accessible?	⊠ Yes
	□ No
On Annaha manting anting also be informed about the allegation of	
8g. Are the parties entitled to be informed about the allocation of	⊠ Yes
the case prior to the start of the hearing of the case?	□ No
8h. Is the mechanism of allocation being applied uniformly within	⊠ Yes
	□ No
the country?	⊔ NO
8i. Is the motivation for any derogation recorded?	⊠ Yes
and the montaness for any decogation recorded.	□ No
9. Internal independence	
3. Internal independence	
9a. In your system, can higher ranked judges change a verdict of	□ Yes
a lower ranked judge (outside of an appeal system, the	⊠No
precedent doctrine or a preliminary ruling system)?	
9b. What kind of decisions can higher ranked judges deliver on	x□ None
their own initiative to ensure the uniformity or consistency of	☐ Non-binding guidelines
judicial decisions (outside of an appeal system or the precedent	
doctrine)?	☐ Binding guidelines
9c. Can judges at the same level develop guidelines to ensure	x□ None
uniformity or consistency of judicial decisions?	
dimornity of consistency of judicial decisions:	☐ Non-binding guidelines
	☐ Binding guidelines
9d. Can the management of the court exert pressure in individual	□ Yes
cases on the way judges handle their cases with respect to the	⊠ No
uniformity/consistency?	
9e. Can the management of the court exert pressure in individual	□ Yes
cases on the way judges handle their cases with respect to the	⊠ No
timeliness/efficiency of judicial decisions?	

Perceived independence

10. Independence as perceived by society Please don't answer these questions. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer. 10a. Perceived independence according to Flash Eurobarometer 461 Score 461:: Click or tap here to (2018) 'Perceived independence of the national justice systems in enter text. the EU among the general public' and Flash Eurobarometer 462 (2018) 'Perceived independence of the **Score 462:** Click or tap here to national justice systems in the EU among companies'. enter text. Percentage of respondents that rate very good or fairly good. **Total Score:** Click or tap here to enter text. 10b. Perceived independence according to the World Economic **Score1.07:** Click or tap here to Forum Competitiveness Report 2018, item 1.07. Score on 7-point enter text. scale. 10c. Perceived independence according to the World Justice Rule of **Q1.2 Score:** Click or tap here to Law Index 2017/2018, average of Q1.2, Q7.4 and Q8.6. enter text. **Q7.4 Score:** Click or tap here to enter text. **Q8.6 Score:** Click or tap here to enter text. **Total:** Click or tap here to enter text.

11. Independence as perceived by the clients of the courts	
11a. Are national client satisfaction surveys available of the past	⊠ Yes
three years which contain a question with respect to the perceived	□ No
independence (impartiality) of the Judiciary?	
	Remark:
	Since 2013, an annual survey on
	the public opinion of the German
	legal system is conducted by

Allensbach institute ("Roland Rechtsreport") upon request by insurance company "Roland" in cooperation with the German Judges Association. The survey records both the impressions of the public, and of judges and prosecutors and compares their views and opinions. The survey is published online. However, the survey does not ask specifically about the perceived independence, but people are asked to which degree they trust certain institutions, e.g. courts or the police. 11b. If yes, please state the percentage of respondents that rate the Percentage: Click or tap here to perceived independence (impartiality) very good or fairly good. enter text.

12. Independence as perceived by lawyers

Please don't answer these questions. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer.

Perceived independence according to the CCBE survey, question 10 (figure 48 I,A&Q report 2019-2020)

Score: Click or tap here to enter

13. Independence as perceived by judges

Please don't answer these questions. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer.

Perceived independence according to the ENCJ survey, question 16

Score: Click or tap here to enter text.

14. Perceived Judicial corruption

Please don't answer this question. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer.		
Perceived Judicial corruption according to Special Eurobarometer 470 (2017) 'Corruption', QB7. Percentage of respondents that believe corruption is widespread.	Score: Click or tap here to enter text.	
Perceived Judicial corruption according to WJP, Q2.2.	Score: Click or tap here to enter text.	

Please don't answer these questions. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer. Trust in judiciary, relative to trust in other state powers by citizens, according to EC Public Opinion, eu.europa.eu Percentage that trusts the justice system vs percentages that trust national parliament and national government.

ACCOUNTABILITY INDICATORS

Formal accountability of the Judiciary as a whole Transparency about the functioning of the Judiciary

1. Periodic reporting on the Judiciary	
1a. Is an annual report published on how the Judiciary has discharged its functions?	⊠ Yes □ No
1b. If the answer to 1a is yes, who publishes the report?	☑ Judiciary☑ Executive
1c. If the answer on 1a is yes, does this report include data on:	[several answers possible] ☑ The number of completed cases? ☑ Duration of cases? ☐ Disciplinary measures ☑ (Successful) complaints ☐ (Successful) requests for recusal
1d. Are the courts periodically and publicly benchmarked with respect to their performance, e.g. timeliness?	☐ Yes ☑ No
2. Relations with the press	
2a. Do officials (communication officers or press judges) of the courts explain judicial decisions to the media?	⊠ Yes □ No
2b. Has the Judiciary established press guidelines?	⊠ Yes □ No
2c. Does the Judiciary give authorization to broadcast court cases that draw particular public interest on television?	 ✓ Yes ☐ No Remark: Only the announcement of Supreme Court decisions, but not the whole hearing, may be broadcasted. In cases of public
	interest, pictures may be taken before and after the hearing.
3. Outreach activities aimed at civil society	
3a. Do Open Door days take place in the Courts	⊠ Yes

			T .	
			□ No	
3b. Are educational programmes conducted at schools		⊠ Yes		
μ - σ		□ No		
3c. Have television/radio/social med	. •		⊠ Yes	
developed with the relevant broadca	st companies to prov	ide insight	□ No	
in the work of the judge?				
4. External review				
4a. Is the performance of the courts	regularly reviewed or	evaluated	⊠ Yes	
by external bodies?			□ No	
4b. Who can commission an external	review of the Judicia	ary?	[several ar	nswers possible]
			☐ The exe	•
			☐ The legislature	
			1 - 1115 158	
Formal accountability of the Judiciary as a whole Involvement of civil society in judicial governance				
5. Participation of civil society in government of the property of the society in government of the society	ernance bodies of the	e judiciary		
Governing body which is	Are persons with	How many		Are the non-judicial
responsible for:	a non-judicial	judicial per member of		members appointed
	background members? ²⁸	governing l		through a transparent procedure, based on merit?
Selection & Appointment of judges	☐ Yes	☐ less than	half	☐ Yes
, ,	⊠ No	□ half		□ No
		☐ more tha	an half	
Disciplinary measures against	□ Yes	☐ less than half		□ Yes
judges	⊠ No	☐ half		□ No
		☐ more tha	an half	
Complaints about judges and the	☐ Yes	☐ less than	half	□ Yes
court(s) in general	⊠ No	☐ half		□ No
		☐ more tha	an half	
	l management whether the	ha inda	al atff	
Formal accountability of the judge and staff Mechanisms to promote and maintain ethical standards of the judiciary				
6. Complaints procedure				

 $^{^{\}rm 28}$ Not being ex officio members, Minister of Justice or members of parliament.

6a. Does the Judiciary or do the individual courts have a complaint	⊠ Yes
procedure?	□ No
•	
6b. Is it admissible to complain about:	[several answers possible]
·	⊠ Behaviour of judges
	☐ Imeliness
	│
	Other
	□ □Other
6c. Is an appeal against a decision on a complaint possible?	⊠ Yes
	□ No
=	
7. Withdrawal and recusal	
7a. Is a judge obliged to withdraw from adjudicating a case if the	⊠ Yes
judge believes that impartiality is in question or compromised or	□ No
that there is a reasonable perception of bias?	
F	
7b. If yes, what is the source of the obligation to withdraw from	[one answer only]
adjudicating a case?	☐ Well-established practice of
	judges
	☐ Set in an act adopted by a court
	☐ Set in an act adopted by the
	Council for the Judiciary
	☐ Set in an act adopted by the
	Minister of justice
	⊠ Set in law
	☐ Other (specify):
	die Gener (speemy).
7c. If a judge disrespects the obligation to withdraw from	[several answers possible]
adjudicating a case, which sanctions could the judge be subjected	□ Oral warning
to?	
	☐ Disciplinary dismissal
	□ None
7d. Which authority or body takes the first decision on a request for	☐ The Judiciary
recusal by a party who considers that a judge is partial / biased?	☐ The executive
	☐ Other (specify): Click or tap here
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	to enter text.
7e. Is an appeal against a decision on a request for recusal possible?	⊠ Yes
7 S. 15 S. 1 Specification of a request for recoon possible;	□ No

7f. If yes, which authority or body decides on such an appeal?	
	\square The executive
	☐ Other (specify): Click or tap here
	to enter text.

8. Admissibility of accessory functions and disclosure of interests			
⊠ Yes			
☐ No [if no go directly to Q. 8f]			
⊠ Yes			
□ No			
☑ The Judiciary			
☐ The Legislature			
⊠ Yes			
□ No			
☐ Yes			
⊠ No			
 ☑ Yes, please specify the minimum amount which needs to be disclosed: Depending on the kind of secondary employment it is necessary to inform the court administration or even ask for its formal approval. The duty of disclosure does not depend on a minimum amount. Thus any secondary employment of judges is registered internally. ☐ No 			

8g. If the answer to 8f is yes, is this register public?	□ Yes
	⊠ No

9. Code or guidelines of judicial ethics		
9a. Does the Judiciary have a code or guidelines of judicial ethics?		
	pinpointed provisions in the respective pieces of legislation governing each of these areas as a whole. This historically established system is purported to offer tailored rules for the individual context.	
	Furthermore, the German Judges Association (DRB) established a brochure on judicial ethics which is available to all German judges (see question 9 c).	
9b. If the answer to 9a. is yes, is it available to the public?	⊠ Yes □ No	
9c. Is judicial training on judicial ethics available?	⊠ Yes □ No	
9d. Is there a body with responsibility to provide judges with guidance or advice on ethical issues?	☐ Yes ☑ No	

Formal accountability of the judge and staff

Mechanisms to evaluate performance and promote and maintain ethical standards of the judiciary

10. Evaluation of judges	
10a. Existence of evaluation and its purpose	
Is the performance of judges evaluated on a systematic basis?	⊠ Yes
	☐ No - questions ends
Has the purpose and consequences of evaluation been made explicit	⊠ Yes
in a binding document (primary legislation or court regulation)?	□ No
10b. Purposes of evaluation	
A. Personal learning and professional development	
Is the purpose of evaluation personal learning and professional	☐ Yes: proceed to next question
development of a judge? Decisions taken on the basis of the outcome of this type of evaluation are, in principle, only by the	│ │ ⊠ No: Go to B
judge. Example: personal resolve to improve communication with	
parties or a request for specific training.	
Who evaluates?	☐ Peer(s)
	☐ Other
Is the Report of the evaluation available to only the judge or also	☐ Only evaluated judge
management?	☐ Also management
What is the frequency of the evaluation?	☐ More frequent
	☐ Every 2-4 years
	Every 2 4 years
	☐ Less frequent
B. Performance evaluation by management, not aimed at	
individual human resource/career decisions.	
Is the purpose of performance evaluation by management, not	☐ Yes: proceed to next question
aimed at individual human resource/career decisions? Examples: (1)	·
Development of the competences and skills of the judges of a court	

or a department of a court, in connection with the distribution of judges across areas of law, including their specialization and training	⊠ No: go to C
needs. Example of a decision by (knowledge) management: allocation of specialisations. (2) Promoting the quantitative and	
qualitative performance of the judges of a court in connection with	
the efficiency and effectiveness of the court. Example of decision by	
management: determination of individual case load and timeliness.	
Is all information on which the evaluation is based documented?	☐ Yes
	□ No
And all decomposite evidents at the index?	
Are all documents available to the judge?	☐ Yes
	□ No
Has the judge the right to respond to any findings on him/her?	☐ Yes
	□ No
What is the frequency of the evaluation?	☐ More frequent
	□ 5 · · · 4.2 · · · ·
	☐ Every 1-2 years
	☐ Less Frequent
C. Performance evaluation by management or other responsible	
authority, aimed at individual human resource/career decisions.	
Is the purpose of evaluation performance evaluation aimed at taking	
human resource/career decisions about judges such as promotion	·
and career steps (i.e. switch from a first instance court to an appeal	☐ No : questions ends
court and vice versa)?	
Can evaluation in itself lead to the dismissal (demotion/transfer) of	☐ Yes
a judge?	□ res
a Jaage.	⊠ No
Does the body that conducts the evaluation consist of a majority of	⊠ Yes
judges?	□ No
Does the executive or legislative powers take part in the evaluation?	⊠ Yes
	□ No (0)
	□ No (0)

What is the frequency of the evaluation, if it is conducted on a	☐ More frequent
regular basis?	⊠ Every 2-4 years
	☐ Less frequent
Is all information on which the evaluation is based documented?	⊠ Yes
	□ No
Are all documents available to the judge?	☐ Yes
Are an documents available to the judge:	Li res
	⊠ No
	57.
Does the judge have the right to respond to any findings on him/her?	⊠ Yes
nim/ner?	□ No
Is a procedure of appeal in place which allows for an independent	⊠ Yes
review of all materials?	□ No
Dougoised accountability of the hydiniam and	معادية المرادات
Perceived accountability of the Judiciary and	l individual judge
Perceived accountability of the Judiciary and 11. Adherence of judges to ethical standards, as perceived by judges	, ,
11. Adherence of judges to ethical standards, as perceived by judges	
11. Adherence of judges to ethical standards, as perceived by judges * Please don't answer this question. The data will be filled in by the secretary observer.	of the project group for each member and
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CCBE survey, average of Q11 and Q12.	Score: Click or tap here to enter
	text.