



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: Lithuania**

Methodology used for filling out questionnaire <sup>1</sup>	
Who filled out the questionnaire	/
Was a national expert group set up to validate the reply?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Who were the members of the national expert group? (names and positions)	/

<sup>1</sup> 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 guaranteed <sup>2</sup> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
1b. If the answer to 1a. is yes, is this done in/by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Constitution or equivalent text <sup>3</sup> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law <sup>4</sup> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Constitutional court
1c. Are judges formally bound only by law?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
1d. If the answer to 1c. is yes, is this done in/by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Constitution or equivalent text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Constitutional court
1e. Are judges appointed permanently until retirement?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
1f. If the answer to 1e. is yes, is this guaranteed in/by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Constitution or equivalent text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Constitutional court
1g. Is the mechanism to fix the salary of judges determined by law?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
1h. If the answer to 1g is yes, is this guaranteed in:	<input type="checkbox"/> Constitution or equivalent text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law
1i. Is there a formal mechanism to adjust the salaries of judges to keep pace with the average development of salaries in the country and/or with inflation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
1j. Is the involvement of the Judiciary in law and judicial reform <sup>5</sup> formally guaranteed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
1k. If the answer to 1j. is yes, is this done in:	<input type="checkbox"/> Constitution or equivalent text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Constitutional court

<sup>2</sup> See question 1b.

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

<sup>4</sup> That can be changed by simple majority.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<b>1l. If the answer to 1j. is yes, does the Judiciary have:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> The right to put forward a formal proposal to change a law
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The right to advise on legislative proposals
<b>1m. Is the Judiciary involved in the formation and the implementation of judicial reform?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>1n. Has the Judiciary initiated judicial reform?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

2. Organizational autonomy of the Judiciary	
<b>2a. Does your country have a Council for the Judiciary<sup>6</sup>?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>2b. Is the position of the Council for the Judiciary formally guaranteed, and if so where?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Constitution or equivalent text (doctrine of the Constitutional Court) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the Law <input type="checkbox"/> No
2c. Is the Council organized in accordance with ENCJ Guidelines concerning:	
At least 50% of the members of the Council are judges who are (with the exception of ex-officio members) chosen by their peers <sup>7</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
The judicial members represent the whole judiciary (all tiers of the Judiciary are represented in the Council)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Former) Members of government are not a member of the Council <sup>8</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Former) Members of parliament are not a member of the Council <sup>9</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
The Council controls its own finances (including the administrative and human resources) independently of both the legislative and executive branches <sup>10</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No The budget in Lithuania is allocated to the National Courts Administration and not the Council for the Judiciaries

<sup>6</sup> 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.

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

<sup>8</sup> ENCJ Standards report on non-judicial members in judicial self-governance 2016

<sup>9</sup> Idem

<sup>10</sup> 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.

The Council controls its own activities independently of both the legislative and executive branches	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>2d. Is the Council responsible<sup>11</sup> for the following:</b>	
The appointment and promotion of magistrates	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
The training of magistrates	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Judicial discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Judicial ethics	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Complaints against the Judiciary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
The performance management of the Judiciary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
The administration of courts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
The financing of the courts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Proposing legislation concerning the courts and the Judiciary <sup>12</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No The Council does not have a formal right to propose legislative changes, therefore they are submitted through cooperation with actors, who have legal initiative
<b>2e. If the answer to question 2a. is no or if the Council is not responsible in the following areas do judges have decisive influence on decisions in the following areas?</b>	
The appointment and promotion of magistrates	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
The training of magistrates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Judicial discipline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Judicial ethics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Complaints against the Judiciary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
The performance management of the Judiciary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
The administration of courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
The financing of the courts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

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

<sup>12</sup> To the Parliament or the Ministry of Justice.

Proposing legislation concerning the courts and the Judiciary <sup>13</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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3. Funding of the Judiciary					
<b>3a. Is the funding of the Judiciary sufficient as to allow the courts: (not part of the formal indicators)</b>	[several answers possible]				
	<input type="checkbox"/> To handle their caseload				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To engage experts/translators/etc. in cases when necessary if fees paid by court				
	<input type="checkbox"/> To keep the knowledge and skills of judges up to date				
	<input type="checkbox"/> To keep the knowledge and skills of court staff up to date				
<b>3b. Who makes the decisions?</b> Please insert an "x" into the box that corresponds to the situation in your country.  Please note that executive in Lithuania refers to the Government in corpore and not separately to the Ministry of Justice or Minister of Justice.			<b>Judiciary</b>	<b>Executive<sup>14</sup></b>	<b>Legislature</b>
<b>a)</b> Involvement in the preparation of the "budget allocated to courts"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b)</b> Formal proposal on the budget allocated to courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>c)</b> Adoption of the budget allocated to courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>d)</b> Control of the budget allocated to courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>e)</b> Evaluation/audit of the budget allocated to courts  <i>Budget allocated to courts may also be audited by an independent national body – National Audit Institution, which is independent of all state powers.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

<sup>13</sup> To the Parliament or the Ministry of Justice.

<sup>14</sup> Such as the Minister of Justice

<b>3c. In case the government does not allocate sufficient funds, may the Judiciary address the parliament?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>3d. Is the funding of the Judiciary based upon transparent and objective criteria?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>3e. If the answer to 3d is yes, is the funding based on:</b>	<div>[several answers possible]</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Actual costs <sup>15</sup> (e.g. number of judges and court staff)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Workload of courts partially as far as postage expenses are concerned
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed percentage of government expenditure or GDP
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): ...
<b>3f. Where have these criteria been defined</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In well-established practice <input type="checkbox"/> In law <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)

4. Court management <sup>16</sup>			
Which authorities can take the following decisions? Please cross the box that corresponds to the situation in your country.	Judiciary	Executive	Legislature
General management of a court	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Appointment of court staff (other than judges)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Redeployment of judges to address temporary workload issues  Legislative branch is only involved in instances, when judges appointed by legislative branch are redeployed to address temporary workload issues.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other human resource management decisions on court staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decisions regarding the implementation and use of Information and Communication Technology in courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Decisions regarding court buildings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decisions regarding court security	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>15</sup> Figure based upon historic or realized costs.

<sup>16</sup> Court management also refers to non-budgetary decisions with impact on the functioning of the courts.

Decisions regarding outreach activities <sup>17</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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### Formal independence of the judge

5. Human resource decisions about judges			
5a. Selection, appointment and dismissal of <u>judges</u> and <u>court presidents</u> Which authorities can take the following decisions? Please cross the box that corresponds to the situation in your country.	Judiciary	Executive	Legislature
Proposal of candidates <sup>18</sup> for the appointment as judges (not supreme court judges)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision <sup>19</sup> on the appointment of a judge  Please note that judges and president of the Court of Appeals are appointed by the executive branch; judges and the president of the Supreme Court are appointed by the legislative.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposal for the dismissal of a judge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the dismissal of a judge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposal of candidates for the appointment as court presidents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the appointment of a court president	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposal for the dismissal of a court president	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the dismissal of a court president	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Decision <sup>20</sup> on the appointment of a Supreme Court judge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

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

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

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

Proposal for the dismissal of a Supreme Court judge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the dismissal of a Supreme Court judge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposal of the candidate(s) for the appointment of the President of the Supreme Court	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the appointment of the President of the Supreme Court	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposal for the dismissal of the President of the Supreme Court	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the dismissal of the President of the Supreme Court	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>5c. Is the appointment of judges in compliance with the ENCJ guidelines?</b>			
Is the appointment process open to public scrutiny and fully and properly documented?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  However, it should be noted that the President of the Republic is not required to provide reasoning for not following the order of the candidates as provided by the Selection Commission.		
Is the appointment process undertaken according to published criteria?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  Less transparent because of the President is not obliged to motivate his choice.		
Is the appointment of judges solely based on merit?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Is there in place a written policy designed to encourage diversity in the range of persons available for appointment?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Does the appointment process provide for an independent complaint procedure?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>5d. Evaluation, promotion<sup>21</sup> and training of judges. Which authorities can take the following decisions?</b>	<b>Judiciary</b>	<b>Executive</b>	<b>Legislature</b>
Decision <sup>22</sup> on the evaluation of a judge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evaluation of the performance management of courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the promotion of a judge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<sup>21</sup> 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.

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



Depending on the court level to which/at which judges are promoted			
Adoption of ethical standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Application of ethical standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the program/content of training for judges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>5e. Probationary periods after first appointment<sup>23</sup></b>			
Before permanent appointment do judges serve a probationary period?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
If yes, is the refusal to confirm the judge in office made according to objective criteria and with the same procedural safeguards as apply when a judge is to be removed from office?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Does the body that decides include a majority of Judges?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Is this body independent from the executive and legislature?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>5f. Is the promotion<sup>24</sup> of judges in compliance with the ENCJ standards?</b>			
Is the promotion process open to public scrutiny and fully and properly documented?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Except the President of the Republic is not required to give reasons behind his decision to deviate from the ranking provided by the Selection Commission		
Is the promotion process undertaken according to published criteria?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Is the promotion of judges solely based on merit?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Is there in place a written policy designed to encourage diversity in the range of persons available for promotion?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Does the promotion process provide for an independent complaint procedure?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

<b>6. Disciplinary measures</b>	
<b>6a. Are disciplinary measures against judges in accordance with ENCJ standards, namely</b>	
Is there a list of types of judicial conducts/ethics the breach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<sup>23</sup> Venice Commission 2010 report on the Independence of Judges

<sup>24</sup> 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, the making of a decision and the imposition of any sanction?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Is the name of the judge withheld prior to any sanction being imposed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Does a judge have the right to be legally represented or assisted by a person of her/his choosing?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Is there is a right of appeal by way of judicial review or cassation appeal?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>6b. Which is the competent body to make the following decisions in the context of disciplinary procedures against judges:</b>	<b>Judiciary</b>	<b>Executive</b>	<b>Legislature</b>
Proposal for the appointment of a member of the disciplinary body for judges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the appointment of a member of the disciplinary body for judges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Investigation of a complaint against a judge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposal for a disciplinary decision regarding a judge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disciplinary decision regarding a judge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision on the follow-up to a complaint against the Judiciary/a judge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>6c. Can disciplinary measures be initiated against a judge (except in cases where there has been malice or gross negligence) for the following reasons:</b>			
His/her interpretation of the law	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
His/her assessment of facts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
His/her weighing of evidence in determining a case	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
For exercising his/her freedom of expression in order to address threats to the independence of the judiciary, threats to judicial integrity, fundamental aspects of the administration of justice <sup>25</sup> and when fundamental rights and the Rule of Law are in peril <sup>26</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

## 7. Non-transferability of judges

<sup>25</sup> ICJ - <https://www.icj.org/judgesexpression2019/>

<sup>26</sup> ENCJ report on Judicial Ethics 2010

<b>7a. Choose one of the following three options:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Judges cannot be transferred to another court or location without their consent <a href="#">[go to Q7b]</a>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 <a href="#">[go to Q7c]</a>  <input type="checkbox"/> Judges can be transferred to another court or location without their consent also for other reasons <a href="#">[go to Q7c]</a>
<b>7b. If transfer without consent is prohibited, is the prohibition guaranteed in:</b> <a href="#">[go to Q7g]</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> Constitution or equivalent text <input type="checkbox"/> Law <input type="checkbox"/> Jurisprudence
<b>7c. Which authority or body decides on a (temporary or permanent) transfer of a judge without his/her consent?<sup>27</sup></b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Judiciary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The executive <input type="checkbox"/> The legislature Depending on the level of a judge to be transferred.
<b>7d. In case a judge is transferred (temporarily or permanently) without his/her consent is he/she guaranteed an equivalent post (in terms of a position, salary...)?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>7e. Can a judge appeal if he/she is transferred (temporarily or permanently) without his/her consent?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>7f. If yes, which authority or body decides on such an appeal?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Judiciary <input type="checkbox"/> The executive <input type="checkbox"/> The legislature
<b>7g. Can a judge be taken off a case without his/her consent?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>7h. If no, is the prohibition guaranteed in:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> The Constitution or equivalent text

<sup>27</sup> This relates to the allowed exceptions under 7a and to any other reasons.

	<input type="checkbox"/> Law <input type="checkbox"/> Custom
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8. Allocation of cases	
8a. Is there a well-defined mechanism for the allocation of cases?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8b. If yes, where have these criteria been defined?	<input type="checkbox"/> In well-established practice of the court <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In an act adopted by the court <input type="checkbox"/> In implementing regulations <input type="checkbox"/> In law <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Click or tap here to enter text.
8c. What are the criteria for the allocation of cases?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Random-based <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specialization <input type="checkbox"/> Experience <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workload <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Click or tap here to enter text.
8d. Who assigns the cases to judges at the courts?	<input type="checkbox"/> President of the court assigns cases <input type="checkbox"/> A member of the court staff assigns cases (e.g. listing officer) <input type="checkbox"/> A special chamber of the court assigns cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The cases are assigned randomly (e.g. through a computerized system) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Click or tap here to enter text.
8e. Is the allocation of cases subject to supervision within the Judiciary?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8f. Is the method of allocation of cases publicly accessible?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>8g. Are the parties entitled to be informed about the allocation of the case prior to the start of the hearing of the case?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>8h. Is the mechanism of allocation being applied uniformly within the country?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Cases are allocated through the same allocation system throughout the country. Certain deviations are possible on the court level, depending on the type of cases court is dealing with, so the allocation rules of a particular court may provide for certain changes.
<b>8i. Is the motivation for any derogation recorded?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Any derogation from the rules is motivated, including the basis of the rules, which allowed deviation. <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>9. Internal independence</b>	
<b>9a. In your system, can higher ranked judges change a verdict of a lower ranked judge (outside of an appeal system, the precedent doctrine or a preliminary ruling system)?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>9b. What kind of decisions can higher ranked judges deliver on their own initiative to ensure the uniformity or consistency of judicial decisions (outside of an appeal system or the precedent doctrine)?</b>	x None <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binding guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Binding guidelines
<b>9c. Can judges at the same level develop guidelines to ensure uniformity or consistency of judicial decisions?</b>	x None <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binding guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Binding guidelines
<b>9d. Can the management of the court exert pressure in individual cases on the way judges handle their cases with respect to the uniformity/consistency?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>9e. Can the management of the court exert pressure in individual cases on the way judges handle their cases with respect to the timeliness/efficiency of judicial decisions?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes The management of the court may review the timeliness of handling of cases of a particular judge <input type="checkbox"/> No

## 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 (2018) 'Perceived independence of the national justice systems in the EU among the general public' and**

**Flash Eurobarometer 462 (2018) 'Perceived independence of the national justice systems in the EU among companies'.**

Percentage of respondents that rate very good or fairly good.

**Score 461::** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Score 462:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Total Score:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**10b. Perceived independence according to the World Economic Forum Competitiveness Report 2018, item 1.07. Score on 7-point scale.**

**Score1.07:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**10c. Perceived independence according to the World Justice Rule of Law Index 2017/2018, average of Q1.2, Q7.4 and Q8.6.**

**Q1.2 Score:** Click or tap here to 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 three years which contain a question with respect to the perceived independence (impartiality) of the Judiciary?**

☒ Yes  
☐ No

<b>11b. If yes, please state the percentage of respondents that rate the perceived independence (impartiality) very good or fairly good.</b>	<b>Percentage: 94</b> Click or tap here to enter text.
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<b>12. Independence as perceived by lawyers</b> <i>Please don't answer these questions. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer.</i>	
<b>Perceived independence according to the CCBE survey, question 10</b> (figure 48 I,A&Q report 2019-2020)	<b>Score:</b> Click or tap here to enter text.

<b>13. Independence as perceived by judges</b> <i>Please don't answer these questions. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer.</i>	
<b>Perceived independence according to the ENCJ survey, question 16</b>	<b>Score:</b> Click or tap here to enter text.

<b>14. Perceived Judicial corruption</b> <i>Please don't answer this question. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer.</i>	
<b>Perceived Judicial corruption according to Special Eurobarometer 470 (2017) 'Corruption', QB7.</b> <b>Percentage of respondents that believe corruption is widespread.</b>	<b>Score:</b> Click or tap here to enter text.
<b>Perceived Judicial corruption according to WJP, Q2.2.</b>	<b>Score:</b> Click or tap here to enter text.

<b>15. Trust in Judiciary</b> <i>Please don't answer these questions. The data will be filled in by the secretary of the project group for each member and observer.</i>	
<b>Trust in judiciary, relative to trust in other state powers by citizens, according to EC Public Opinion, eu.europa.eu</b> Percentage that trusts the justice system vs percentages that trust national parliament and national government.	<b>Score:</b> Click or tap here to enter text.





## 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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
1b. If the answer to 1a is yes, who publishes the report?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judiciary <input type="checkbox"/> Executive
1c. If the answer on 1a is yes, does this report include data on:	<b>[several answers possible]</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The number of completed cases? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duration of cases? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary measures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Successful) complaints <input type="checkbox"/> (Successful) requests for recusal
1d. Are the courts periodically and publicly benchmarked with respect to their performance, e.g. timeliness?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

2. Relations with the press	
2a. Do officials (communication officers or press judges) of the courts explain judicial decisions to the media?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2b. Has the Judiciary established press guidelines?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2c. Does the Judiciary give authorization to broadcast court cases that draw particular public interest on television?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

3. Outreach activities aimed at civil society	
3a. Do Open Door days take place in the Courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3b. Are educational programmes conducted at schools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3c. Have television/radio/social media programme formats been developed with the relevant broadcast companies to provide insight in the work of the judge?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

4. External review	
4a. Is the performance of the courts regularly reviewed or evaluated by external bodies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4b. Who can commission an external review of the Judiciary?	<p>[several answers possible]</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Judiciary <input type="checkbox"/> The executive <input type="checkbox"/> The legislature <p>National independent audit institution may take upon itself to review the operation of the whole system of the courts, without commissioning of judiciary, executive or legislature.</p>

**Formal accountability of the Judiciary as a whole**  
**Involvement of civil society in judicial governance**

5. Participation of civil society in governance bodies of the judiciary			
Please fill in the table			
Governing body which is responsible for:	Are persons with a non-judicial background members? <sup>28</sup>	How many non-judicial persons are member of the governing body?	Are the non-judicial members appointed through a transparent procedure, based on merit?
Selection & Appointment of judges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> less than half <input type="checkbox"/> half <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> more than half	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Disciplinary measures against judges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> less than half <input type="checkbox"/> half <input type="checkbox"/> more than half	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Complaints about judges and the court(s) in general	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> less than half <input type="checkbox"/> half <input type="checkbox"/> more than half	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**Formal accountability of the judge and staff**  
**Mechanisms to promote and maintain ethical standards of the judiciary**

6. Complaints procedure	
6a. Does the Judiciary or do the individual courts have a complaint procedure?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6b. Is it admissible to complain about:	<p>[several answers possible]</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behaviour of judges

<sup>28</sup> Not being ex officio members, Minister of Justice or members of parliament.

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timeliness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Administrative mistakes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
6c. Is an appeal against a decision on a complaint possible?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

7. Withdrawal and recusal	
7a. Is a judge obliged to withdraw from adjudicating a case if the judge believes that impartiality is in question or compromised or that there is a reasonable perception of bias?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7b. If yes, what is the source of the obligation to withdraw from adjudicating a case?	<p>[one answer only]</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Well-established practice of judges <input type="checkbox"/> Set in an act adopted by a court <input type="checkbox"/> Set in an act adopted by the Council for the Judiciary <input type="checkbox"/> Set in an act adopted by the Minister of justice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Set in law <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):
7c. If a judge disrespects the obligation to withdraw from adjudicating a case, which sanctions could the judge be subjected to?	<p>[several answers possible]</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Oral warning <input type="checkbox"/> Written warning <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension <input type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary dismissal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <p>In some particular situations it could be evaluated as an ethical disorder</p>
7d. Which authority or body takes the first decision on a request for recusal by a party who considers that a judge is partial / biased?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Judiciary <input type="checkbox"/> The executive <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Click or tap here to enter text.
7e. Is an appeal against a decision on a request for recusal possible?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
7f. If yes, which authority or body decides on such an appeal?	<input type="checkbox"/> The Judiciary <input type="checkbox"/> The executive

	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Click or tap here to enter text.
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8. Admissibility of accessory functions and disclosure of interests	
8a. Are judges allowed to have other functions?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes A very limited scope of functions possible: pedagogical at the university or participate as experts in certain projects <input type="checkbox"/> No [if no go directly to Q. 8f]
8b. Is an authorisation for the exercise of accessory functions by judges necessary?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Traditionally president of the court is informed.
8c. If the answer to 8b. is yes, who gives authorisation?	<input type="checkbox"/> The Judiciary <input type="checkbox"/> The Executive <input type="checkbox"/> The Legislature
8d. If 8a is yes, is there a register of the other jobs and/or functions judges have?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
8e. If the answer to 8d is yes is this register public?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8f. Is there a register which discloses financial interests judges may have?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify the minimum amount which needs to be disclosed: Click or tap here to enter text. <input type="checkbox"/> No
8g. If the answer to 8f is yes, is this register public?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

9. Code or guidelines of judicial ethics	
9a. Does the Judiciary have a code or guidelines of judicial ethics?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes

	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>9b. If the answer to 9a. is yes, is it available to the public?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>9c. Is judicial training on judicial ethics available?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>9d. Is there a body with responsibility to provide judges with guidance or advice on ethical issues?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

### *Formal accountability of the judge and staff*

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

<b>10. Evaluation of judges</b>	
<b>10a. Existence of evaluation and its purpose</b>	
<b>Is the performance of judges evaluated on a systematic basis?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - <b>questions ends</b>
<b>Has the purpose and consequences of evaluation been made explicit in a binding document (primary legislation or court regulation)?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>10b. Purposes of evaluation</b>	
<b>A. Personal learning and professional development</b>	
<b>Is the purpose of evaluation personal learning and professional development of a judge? Decisions taken on the basis of the outcome of this type of evaluation are, in principle, only by the judge. Example: personal resolve to improve communication with parties or a request for specific training.</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: proceed to next question <input type="checkbox"/> No: Go to B
<b>Who evaluates?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peer(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>Is the Report of the evaluation available to only the judge or also management?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Only evaluated judge <input type="checkbox"/> Also management

	<b>This Report is used by Selection Commission and distributed to the members of Council for Judiciary in case of promotion of the judge.</b>
What is the frequency of the evaluation?	<input type="checkbox"/> More frequent <input type="checkbox"/> Every 2-4 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less frequent
<b>B. Performance evaluation by management, not aimed at individual human resource/career decisions.</b>	
Is the purpose of performance evaluation by management, not 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 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.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: <b>proceed to next question</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <b>go to C</b>
Is all information on which the evaluation is based documented?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are all documents available to the judge?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Has the judge the right to respond to any findings on him/her?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
What is the frequency of the evaluation?	<input type="checkbox"/> More frequent <input type="checkbox"/> Every 1-2 years <input type="checkbox"/> Less Frequent
<b>C. Performance evaluation by management or other responsible authority, aimed at individual human resource/career decisions.</b>	

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 court and vice versa)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes : <b>proceed to next question</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No : <b>questions ends</b>
Can evaluation in itself lead to the dismissal (demotion/transfer) of a judge?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the body that conducts the evaluation consist of a majority of judges?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the executive or legislative powers take part in the evaluation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (0)
What is the frequency of the evaluation, if it is conducted on a regular basis?	<input type="checkbox"/> More frequent <input type="checkbox"/> Every 2-4 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less frequent
Is all information on which the evaluation is based documented?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are all documents available to the judge?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the judge have the right to respond to any findings on him/her?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is a procedure of appeal in place which allows for an independent review of all materials?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

### Perceived accountability of the Judiciary and individual judge

#### 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 of the project group for each member and observer.

ENCJ survey, Q19

**Score:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**12. Adequacy of actions by judicial authorities to address judicial misconduct and corruption, 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.*

**ENCJ survey, average of Q20 and Q21.**

**Score:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**13 Adequacy of actions by judicial authorities to address judicial misconduct and corruption, 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.*

**CCBE survey, average of Q11 and Q12.**

**Score:** Click or tap here to enter text.